

# THE LEAGUE.

No. 67.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newell's-building, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

Persons wishing to be on the Register next year, as Freeholders for County Votes, must be in possession of the property, or in the receipt of the rents and profits, before the 31st of January.

## QUALIFY, QUALIFY, QUALIFY.

### PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTORAL QUALIFICATION.

The electors for counties are as follows:—Freeholders, copyholders, leaseholders, occupying tenants.

**Freeholders.**—The following persons are entitled to vote as freeholders:—1. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for himself and his heirs, or, as it is called, an estate of inheritance, of the yearly value of 40s. 2. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for life or lives of the yearly value of £10. 3. Any person possessed of such an estate for life or lives of the yearly value of 40s., under any one of the following circumstances:—If the estate was acquired on or before the 7th of June, 1832; or since, if by marriage or marriage settlement, by devise (i.e., by will), or by promotion to any benefice or office, or if the freeholder is himself the actual occupier of the property. In any of these cases it is sufficient if the property be of the yearly value of 40s. Parish clerks, sextons, schoolmasters, Dissenting ministers, and holders of offices have a right to vote if entitled to emoluments of 40s. per annum, arising out of, or charged upon, land, and may be registered as voters in the parish wherein the land is situate. The appointment must, however, be for life, not for a temporary purpose, or at the pleasure of any other party; but an appointment during good behaviour is considered to be an appointment for life. If the freeholder occupy his own freehold property in a borough, of such a nature and value as would confer upon him the right to vote for the borough, he will not be entitled, in respect of that property, to vote for the county. But if the freehold will not confer the right of voting for the borough, that is, if it be not of the annual value of £10, or if it be land without building, the freeholder may vote for the county, though he occupy it himself. And if the freeholder do not occupy his freehold situate within a borough, he may then vote in respect of it for the county, and his tenant may also vote for the borough. Six months' possession prior to the 31st of July will entitle a freeholder to be registered. And if the freehold lands or tenements should have come to him by descent, succession, marriage, marriage-settlement, will, or promotion to any benefice in a church, or to any office, no definite period of previous possession will be necessary.

**Copyholders.**—Any person possessed of any lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of £10, whether of copyhold or any other tenure than freehold, is entitled to vote. Tenants in ancient demesne may in general vote as freeholders, if they do not hold by copy of court-roll, but otherwise they will be entitled as copyholders. As freeholders, 40s. per annum will be sufficient; but as copyholders, £10 a year is required. The same period of possession previous to registration is required, in respect to copyholders, as in respect to freeholders. Copyhold property within a borough, if of such a nature as would qualify any person to vote for the borough, will not, under any circumstances, give a right to vote for the county.

**Leaseholders.**—The right of voting in respect of leasehold property extends to—1. Any person who is entitled by virtue of a lease made or assigned to him of any

lands or tenements for the unexpired residue of any term originally created for a period of not less than 60 years, if the property is of the clear yearly value of £10 above all rents and charges. 2. Any person who is in like manner entitled to the unexpired residue of a term originally of 20 years, if the lands and tenements are of the clear yearly value of £50. The party to whom the lease was originally made, or a party to whom such lease may have assigned the original lease, may vote, though not in occupation of the premises. Any sub-lessee or assignee of an under-lease may also vote, but only when in occupation of the premises. Lessees or assignees must have been in actual possession for 12 months previous to the 31st of July, unless the qualification is acquired by any of the modes before mentioned as excepted; that is to say, by the death of a relative, by marriage, by will, or by promotion to any benefice or office. Leasehold property in a borough, if of such nature and value as will give any person a vote for the borough, will not give a vote for the county.

**OCCUPYING TENANT.**—Any person occupying lands or tenements for which he is liable to pay a yearly rent of £50 is entitled to vote, if not within a borough, and not of such nature as would qualify a person to vote for the borough. In respect of the period of previous possession required, occupying tenants are placed on the same footing as leaseholders; but it is not requisite that the occupation be of the same lands or tenements: different lands and tenements occupied in immediate succession for twelve months previous to the 31st of July in each year will give the qualification.

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**—Besides lands, houses, buildings, and the like, property and interests of the following description will entitle the owner to be registered and to vote, viz.—tithes, an annuity charged on land, a rent-charge, a fee-farm rents issuing out of an estate in fee; shares in navigable rivers, canals, &c., where the shareholders possess an interest in the soil; tolls of bridges, tolls of fairs and markets, purchases of unredeemed land-tax. Persons who have entered into an agreement of purchase of property, or who have paid any part of the purchase-money, or done any other act in part performance of the agreement, are considered to have equitable estates, and are entitled to vote and to be registered. Joint tenants and tenants in common have each a right to vote, provided the property be of sufficient amount to give to the share of each the value required. Mortgagees may vote, if in actual possession or in receipt of the rents and profits, but not otherwise. Trustees are expressly excluded from voting for any trust estate; the right of voting in respect of trust property is reserved for the cestui que trust. In estimating the value of freehold or copyhold property, the marketable value of the property is to be the criterion to be attended to. If, owing to accidental circumstances, the rent should be less than might be obtained, the property will still give a right to vote. As regards leaseholds, the value required does not depend on the amount of rent, it is to be estimated by the profit which the tenant can make of the property, over and above the amount of rent reserved and any other charge on the property. The value required is to be "above all rents and charges." Under these words are included all encumbrances affecting the property, but not any public or parliamentary taxes.

## BOROUGH FRANCHISE FOR 1845.

In order to secure a borough vote next year, those who occupy premises giving a qualification should immediately see that their names are placed on the poor's rate-book.

A claimant must be rated, or have claimed to be rated, to all rates made during the year ending the 31st of July. If, therefore, his name is omitted from any rate made during that time, he should immediately claim to be rated. The overseers are required to put the name of a person so claiming on the rate list made; consequently, if the claimant suffers two rates to be made before he claims, he will be unable to get upon the former one, and will thereby lose his vote for one year.

No particular form of claim to be rated is prescribed by the Reform or Registration Acts; but the following form may be adopted:—

### "CLAIM TO BE RATED."

"To the Overseers of the Parish of \_\_\_\_\_  
"I hereby give you notice that I occupy a \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Street, in your parish, and I claim to be rated to the relief of the poor in respect of such premises, in order that I may be entitled to vote in the election of a member (or members) of Parliament for the city (or borough) of \_\_\_\_\_  
"Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1844.  
"(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_"

Insert the name of the parish, the nature of the premises, as house, shop, room, or as the case may be, and the name of the street, &c., and of the city or borough, also the date. The Christian and surname and place of residence of the claimant should be inserted at full length. Give the claim to an overseer, keeping a correct copy, on which should be written the date when, and the name of the overseer on whom, it was served. If any poor's rates are due for the premises at the time of making the claim they must be paid, or the amount due tendered. Should the overseer refuse to accept the money, or omit to enter the claimant's name in the rate-book, he will be deemed to be rated notwithstanding; but, if the claimant's name be omitted from any future rate, he should again claim to be rated.

## THE NEW YEAR.

Another year of active exertion has begun for the Leaguers: they commence it under circumstances well calculated to foster hope and inspire confidence.

\* No registration of claimants or rent-charges with the clerk of the poor is required. The Reform Bill, &c., is required.

In the space of twelve months the armoury of monopoly has been deprived of nearly all the hackneyed sophistries which they had furnished up to disguise cupidity and deceive ignorance. Rigby's mathematical statement of the falsehood that cheap bread was equivalent to low wages has been decisively refuted in every branch of manufacturing industry; and the fact that the natural price of food raises the rate of reward for labour, both mediately and directly, has been substantiated beyond the possibility of contradiction. The attempt made by the corn monopolists, in conjunction with a section of the Chartists, to show that the rate of wages depended on the will of the masters, has failed most signally, in spite of the insinuations of the *Standard-Herald*, and its zealous efforts to create dissension between the employers and the employed. It is probable that this precious piece of false economy and worse morality has not been approved by the masters of the "Goose and Shadow," for there are indications that ministerial confidence is given more freely to the *Times* than to the *Standard-Herald*. Sir Robert Peel is not always tolerant of the *Falstaffs* that "misuse the Queen's press most shamefully." The operatives themselves have protested against the deception, and declared in their memorial to Sir Robert Peel, "that other causes besides the will of the masters regulate the rate of wages."

When the ministers of religion met in Manchester, and solemnly declared that restrictions on food produced destitution, and that destitution necessarily generated depravity, there was a unanimous howl from the monopolist press, and every abusive epithet which the vocabulary of vituperation could furnish was hurled against these reverend gentlemen. In the statistical report presented to the Anti-Corn Law Conference of 1842, by Mr. Henry Ashworth, it was shown by the returns of infirmaries, work-houses, and prisons throughout the country, that the then high price of provisions was accompanied by an increasing amount of disease, pauperism, and crime. The monopolist press had the boldness to deny that there was any necessary connexion between these concomitant circumstances; but in the *Standard* of January 1st we find that in this year of cheaper food and increased employment the current of crime, which had been previously increasing, has not only been effectually checked, but has even been made to retrograde. The bounty of Providence has baffled the wicked policy of war to afflict the nation with artificial scarcity. He has given us plenty, and peace and order have followed in its train. Who will henceforth deny that the Corn Laws inflict a moral blight on the community, when their staunchest supporters confess that their partial defeat by an abundant harvest has unlocked the progress of that guilt which was in a process of continuous increase so long as the starvation laws had free scope of action?

The fallacy that the Corn Laws were devised for the protection of the agricultural labourers has been unfortunately refuted by the miserable condition to which this meritorious class has been reduced; and has been scouted at the spontaneous meetings of the peasantry in Wiltshire. It has been incontrovertibly established, that under the operation of the corn monopoly the physical, and consequently the moral, condition of the agricultural labourers has been fearfully deteriorated. The bad pre-eminence of the county of Dorset in this respect has forced public attention to the consideration of the value of that philanthropy which extends its benevolence to distant objects but shuts up its bowels of compassion against the needy and the suffering in its immediate neighbourhood.

The farmers' doubts of the advantages of pretended protection are fast ripening into a conviction that the system is equally delusive and destructive. They have discovered that under its influence they have been degraded into vassals and dependents; that their votes have been made the subject of base traffic by parliamentary jobbers; and that their tenures have been kept uncertain to render their subservience secure. The protection for which farmers begin to look, is not an artificial price for their produce, but such security of holding as will ensure them a fair return for the outlay of the capital employed in cultivation. Their attention has also been directed to a grievance of minor, but still of great magnitude—the destruction caused by the vast amount of game which titled poulterers are raising for the London markets. They have been taught by bitter experience that the hollow pretext of protection has yielded them no profit, while it has placed fetters on their limbs and yokes upon their necks.

The exertions made to advance agricultural improvements in England are mainly owing to the law.

hours of the League. Mr. Cobden's exposure of the slovenliness and mismanagement of English farms, as compared with those of Scotland, has produced a most beneficial effect: the aid of science is invoked to increase the fertility of the soil. Drainage and manures are carefully investigated; there is even a talk of founding agricultural colleges, while the *Post* (*Ultimus Romanorum*) vainly calls upon the advocates of the Corn Law to be consistent in asserting the beneficence of scarcity and the blessings of famine. The *Times* says that "the League has been stroked down to civility, and almost to silence, by some concession and much prosperity." We may fairly confess that we do feel somewhat of the complacency of prophets who have seen their predictions accurately fulfilled; that we take credit for the civility which abates from the phraseology of Puddle-dock; and that, if this tranquil delight at witnessing the triumphant march of the great principles we advocate be deemed comparative silence, we should be glad to know what word in our language would adequately express the minimum of noise made by the Central Agricultural Protection Society.

In the manufacturing districts, the cradle of the League, our cause has not only advanced beyond all former precedent, but former adversaries have paid public homage to the rectitude of our principles and the validity of our arguments. The Pottinger banquets to celebrate the triumph of Pottinger policy were as good Free-Trade meetings as ever assembled in Covent-garden, or the Leaguers-hall at Manchester. But in these districts a more important movement has developed for Free-Traders new elements of strength in the county constituencies. We have assailed the monopolists in what they deemed the very citadels of their strength, and have made good our lodgment in more than one of their fortresses. South Lancashire is won. The West Riding of Yorkshire, North Cheshire, and the other districts which owe their prosperity to trade and manufacture are, like the metropolitan county of Middlesex, certain to be gained if the vigorous exertions by which they are assailed be continued.

It is to the large constituencies, not to such as that of the borough of Dartmouth, that we must look for the triumph of great principles. In the election for Dartmouth the League took no part, because some men on Mr. Moffatt's committee objected to make the contest one purely of principle. Mr. Moffatt is, indeed, a subscriber to the League, but, being in the hands of his committee, he yielded to the timidity of some of them, and allowed the great question of Free Trade to be kept in the background. Under such circumstances the League could not and did not interfere in the struggle. Not a lecturer or any other person connected with the League appeared at Dartmouth while the election was pending; and its issue shows the futility of any candidate attempting to stand on the popular side unless he boldly avows the broad principles of Free Trade. No other watchword will, for the future, command the response of popular sympathy—the lovers of truth and justice will rally round no other standard. Had Mr. Moffatt's committee stood up manfully and boldly to their principles—and had they sought the aid of our lecturers to inform, instruct, and excite the feelings of the people—a show of hands in favour of Mr. Somers would have been as impossible at Dartmouth as it was for the bread-taxer at Salisbury.

The monopolists exult in their triumph at Dartmouth, with its two hundred and forty voters, where the League did not appear. What do they say to the victory of the League in London, with its nineteen thousand electors? One hundred such boroughs as Dartmouth, won or lost, are but as dust in the balance when compared with the return of Mr. Pattison, the avowed Leaguer, for London. The small boroughs must follow in the wake of the large constituencies, or prepare to be swept away by another Schedule A. To such constituencies as the two divisions of Lancashire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, North Cheshire, Middlesex, &c., we must for the future direct all our energies. An auspicious beginning has been made, and perseverance is only necessary to make the coming year of action herald a coming year of triumph.

#### MRS. PARTINGTON'S BROOM.

Our readers have all heard of the celebrated Mrs. Partington—that excellent and stout-hearted old lady, whose energetic defence of her native soil against the invasion of an Atlantic spring-tide with south-wester has been immortalized in the panegyric of the Rev. Sydney Smith. How the dame sallied out, broom in hand, and patriotism in her heart—planted herself in front of the foe, and vigorously swept and swept as each intruding wave foamed uproariously above his predecessor,—and how, with all her exertions, the waves got their own way in the end, and forced the old lady to retreat, leaving the enemy in full possession of the field;—all this has long been familiar to the world as an affecting and instructive instance of the inefficiency

of good intentions unaccompanied by a clear perception of the relation of means to ends. Mrs. Partington's only fault was an error of judgment. We never heard any doubt intimated as to the purity and excellence of her "motives," and are not aware that malice itself ever cast a slur on her sincerity. Nor could there be possibly be two opinions as to the great practical importance and desirableness of the end which she and her broom had in view. At the same time, the soundness of the dame's understanding remains fairly open to criticism; and we may surely be allowed to smile or sigh at the egregious futility of her "good works," without incurring any imputation of "intolerance."

We have been irresistibly reminded of poor Mrs. Partington by an advertisement which appeared in Wednesday's *Herald*, from the "Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Labouring Classes," backed by a leading article written with all the force and vivacity usually characteristic of the ministerial organ. Among the various plans which that society has in view for the promotion of the great object which its name indicates, the first in order is the very important one of improving the dwellings of the poor; which they propose to effect, in the first instance, by the (in itself considered) judicious method of experimentally showing that wholesome and comfortable working men's houses may be erected at moderate cost, and let at rents not exceeding working men's ability to pay. Some six weeks ago, the sub-committee charged with the execution of this plan reported that an eligible plot of ground had been taken, on reasonable terms, between Gray's Inn-road and the Lower-road, Pentonville, with the view of building a certain number of model houses; and that ten of such houses were already contracted for, and were "proceeding as rapidly as the state of the weather would admit." More recently, the scheme has, it appears, been still further matured; and we are now informed by advertisement that

"This society is now raising, near the Lower-road, Pentonville, a range of buildings for the use of the labouring classes, consisting of:—

1. Eight dwellings, having a living-room, two sleeping-rooms, and a closet.
2. Twelve others, for smaller families, affording to each two rooms, with all requisite conveniences; and
3. A widows' house, affording thirty convenient rooms, for a like number of widows, or single women of advanced age.

"The society expects to be enabled to furnish the working classes, in this experimental building, with lodgings in all respects superior to those at present supplied to them, and at less than half the usual cost."

"But to confer this great boon on the labouring classes, it is requisite that the society should receive adequate support. At present the funds at the disposal of the committee are not sufficient for the above purpose; but they cannot doubt the willingness of the wealthier classes to encourage an attempt so evidently fraught with benefits to their poorer brethren. They appeal with confidence to those who, at this period, are enjoying every comfort, to impart some portion of their abundance in aid of an effort which promises to ameliorate, if successful, one of the greatest hardships to which the poor are subject."

Now, we have no wish to say needlessly harsh or disrespectful things either of the Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Labouring Classes or of their plan for giving poor men better and more comfortable homes. The society has on its books some names "honourable" and "right honourable" otherwise than by courtesy—names with which "improvement of the condition of the labouring classes" is naturally and legitimately connected; and improved dwellings for working men are an object the importance of which it is impossible to overrate. We like, moreover, the experimental mode of proceeding which the society has adopted in this department of its operations. If it can be demonstrated by *voie de fait* that wholesome and comfortable tenements can be built and let at less cost than the poor now pay for unwholesome and comfortless ones, a valuable practical service will have been rendered to the community. The work is, beyond all doubt, a "good work" (in itself), deserving not only of "toleration," but of hearty sympathy, and of any amount of co-operation that may really tend to its promotion. What we object to the society in general and to this building project in particular is, that, under the present circumstances in which legislation has placed the working classes, this effort to improve their homes is a beginning at the wrong end. It is putting the cart before the horse. It is a Dame Partington's broom uplifted against a Noah's Deluge. It is an attempt to do something which, in the very nature of things, cannot be done unless and until something else is done—to which "something else" the ruling powers of this society of philanthropists are obstinately opposed. The society may plan and build its model houses in model streets—may eloquently appeal to the "wealthier classes" for contributions towards the "great boon," and may get its appeal responded to with lavish and wholesale liberality; but the dwellings of the working classes will not be effectually improved until those laws are repealed which rob the working classes of work, dock their wages, and

make them buy their bread short weight. As a scheme for practically experimenting in domestic architecture, with a view to ascertain the maximum of comfort procurable by a minimum of outlay, we cordially wish it well—though we do not exactly see why it need be made so very costly a charity as the society's appeals to the public imply. The experiment may very probably show results which, at some future day, may be made generally available. But as an effort for "improving" on the "comprehensive scale" announced by the society in their prospectus, the "condition of the labouring classes," our good wishes for its success are stifled in their birth by the conviction of its utter and irremediable futility.

For, compare the society's end with its means. Measure the evil to be remedied with the remedy which they talk of applying, and mark how enormously, how desperately, the one is out of proportion to the other. What is the evil? *Population increasing naturally—with work, wages, and food restricted artificially.* Population increasing at the rate (taking the whole United Kingdom) of from a thousand to twelve hundred *per diem*. This increase of population—as regards the proportion of births to deaths—going on the most rapidly in the agricultural counties, where work, wages, and food are the hardest to come by; where, as the late occupation returns show, the sources of these are, not merely relatively but absolutely, on the decline. Consequently, shoals of pauper immigrants annually poured into the metropolis and the large towns, where work, wages, and food are still to be had, more or less. Consequently (as even paupers must sleep under roofs, in this climate), a horribly filthy and pestilential crowding of large families into the small rooms of rickety and rotten houses, in undrained streets, at rents forced up to an extravagant height by the strain of competition, and by landlords' frequent experience of bad debts.

This is the evil—a stunted and starving rural population swarming, by the myriad, on the large towns—driven, by stress of hunger and misery, to the seats of commerce and manufactures—law saying, the while, that commerce and manufactures shall not more than half-feed them. It is not with St. Giles's "rookeries" that we have to deal, but with that which renders those dens of squalor and famine acceptable residences to human beings.

And what is the remedy?

Comfortable domestic accommodation for twenty families and thirty single persons, in a range of buildings near the Lower-road, Pentonville: the whole "proceeding as rapidly as the state of the weather will admit," and to be "completed" (so, at least, the committee trust) "by the approaching spring," should the public give its aid in "a prompt and liberal increase of contributions." Why, by the approaching spring the population of the United Kingdom will have increased by another hundred thousand—the population of London, to which that of the whole United Kingdom sends its daily tribute, will have increased by another eight or ten thousand! Truly, the increase of subscriptions had need be "prompt and liberal," to keep pace with Nature's prompt and liberal increase of claimants. We have always understood, however, that it was not any lack of promptitude and liberality in the application of the broom that caused Mrs. Partington's failure, but the intrinsic inefficiency of that mode of dealing with such an enemy as the Atlantic Ocean.

We confess we see not the shadow of a possibility of permanently and extensively improving the dwellings of the labouring classes in the metropolis by any such scheme as this, though it were enlarged to the widest conceivable amplitude. Though the society had funds at their disposal for building a hundred houses in every parish within the three or the twelve-mile circle—though the whole charity of the empire could be got to flow in this single channel,—the rookeries would still fill as before. Rural and Irish pauperism would rush in to occupy any vacuum in St. Giles's or Bethnal-green. Open new markets for labour; raise the price of labour; enhance the worth of the labouring man; give him self-dependence and self-respect; extend his command of the means of health and enjoyment; raise his standard of comfort; create those conditions under which the desire of a comfortable and wholesome dwelling naturally grows up in a man's mind,—and perhaps the society may be able some day to give us useful, practical information as to how that desire may be most thoroughly and economically gratified. But try to "give" him a comfortable and wholesome dwelling as a "boon," and the experiment must fail. The benefit will be limited to the "twenty families and thirty individuals," with such other families and individuals as may, in the course of years, should the society last so long, come within the range of its bounty. Rookeries will live while the Corn Law and its consequences live. No society nor Parliament can help it. Give pauper immigrants new and good lodgings, at "less than half" the usual rent of the old bad ones, and the only consequence will be that the rents of the old bad ones will come down in proportion, so as to be

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crease the facilities and inducements to pauper immigration. Or, let St. Giles's be bought up, pulled down, and cleared out by act of Parliament, and all men compelled to live only in model houses, the consequence will be that the model houses themselves will swarm with filthy pauper families, at the old extortionate rents; and if Parliament should interfere further, and prohibit over-crowding, then, as Parliament cannot prohibit population, we should want, in the last resort, larger union-houses.

Turn it which way we will, we see not how it is possible to improve the dwellings of the working class, as a class, by any imaginable extension or success of the plan of this society—other things remaining as they are. The case is altogether out of the reach of any charity, however earnest, enterprising, or judicious. Nothing can give working men clean, wholesome, and decent dwellings but their own self-respect; and the basis of a working man's self-respect is work and wages. When domestic cleanliness and comfort are felt by the working man to be necessities of life, he will have them, according to the utmost measure of his power to pay for them; but he will not feel this while prior and more pressing necessities remain unsatisfied. Misery does not know what self-respect means. Misery is not nice about the decencies. Misery will economise in the decencies, and spend the difference in bread or gin. Misery will breed filth and pestilence even in a model house near the Lower-road, Pentonville. All schemes for "improving the condition of the labouring classes" are rotten at the core, which do not go on the basis of improving the market value of labour.

In saying this we are not conscious of any feeling of "intolerance" towards the "good works" of the Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Labouring Classes. We freely recognise the importance and possible prospective value of some of the experiments which they are trying. The broom really has its uses after all, though Mrs. Partington sadly deceived herself in her estimate of its powers; it is quite inadequate to sweep back an advancing tide, but, after the turn of the tide, it may be of service in clearing away any filthy and pestiferous deposits that may have been left behind. When the great work of national justice and policy shall have been done, we shall be in a position for judging better than now, how much or how little of associated or legislative interference may be requisite for the realization of important secondary objects of public utility. Let industry be free to earn and eat, and we shall then find ourselves at leisure to attend to the society at No. 20, Exeter-hall, and turn to account any well-authenticated facts of which they may happen to be in possession, relative to domestic architecture or any other of the arts and sciences. For the present we have nothing further to say of or to this Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Labouring Classes, except to express our amazement at the enormous incongruity between their professions "in the abstract" and their concrete designs. They tell us, in their prospectus, that "associations for some one particular object" have "generally failed," and that it is "next to impossible to work efficiently, except upon a comprehensive scale." Their "comprehensive scale" turns out to mean comfortable houses for twenty families and thirty individuals, to be got ready some time next spring. They avow a readiness to take into consideration "other matters involving the general and permanent welfare of the labouring classes;" and they systematically neglect such matters as work, wages, and food. They proclaim that "the word of God must be taken for a guide;" and they ignore the only great social question of the day on which we have anything approaching to specific and textual scriptural guidance. With all possible "tolerance" for any "good works" with which these philanthropists may favour the world, we freely confess an impatience, verging on intolerance, of this jumble of maguiloquent profession and shabby performance.

#### ZEAL UNGUIDED BY WISDOM.

##### THE SUGAR MONOPOLY AND THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The article in our number of the 23rd November last, on "The bitter fruits of ignorance, the sugar monopoly, and the Anti-Slavery Society," we are gratified to perceive has excited considerable interest among our friends connected with that society; and, as we appear to have been misapprehended by some of our correspondents, we feel called upon to enter more fully into the question. We may premise that, whilst we differ from some of our warmest friends, we are prepared to do full justice to the purity of their intentions and active benevolence; but duty forbids us to shrink from the exposure in the most forcible language of the appalling cruelty, suffering, and injustice which have resulted from their falsely-directed efforts to put down slavery and the slave trade. We may say with Luther, "Though it offend, we dare but speak the truth unto you."

When we call to mind the acknowledged disappointments of the friends of the African race that hitherto their efforts to extinguish the slave trade have not only utterly failed, but that the traffic has fearfully increased, does it not become all good men earnestly to inquire into the causes of these failures, and diligently to search if their proceedings have been in accordance with sound principles? This important inquiry we recommend to the consideration of every philanthropist.

The course hitherto pursued to put down the slave trade has been—1. To endeavour to suppress the traffic by force of arms. 2. To enter into treaties with foreign powers to unite with us in these efforts, and to put it down in their own dominions. 3. To adopt fiscal regulations to prohibit slave-grown sugar.

That the slave trade is a great moral evil and sin is acknowledged by every Christian mind; but we are not, therefore, justified in adopting immoral means to put it down: this is doing evil that good may come; but unfortunately such have been the means adopted, and we cannot be surprised that they have failed. Although this country has expended upwards of £15,000,000, and laboured for nearly forty years to put down the traffic,—and although, says Sir Fowell Buxton, "an infinitely more important sacrifice has been made in the loss of British life which has necessarily been incurred in pursuing this object,—the traffic has not been extinguished, has not been diminished, but, by the latest accounts from which any estimate can be correctly formed, the numbers exported have increased, the destruction of human life and all the guilt and misery consequent thereon have been fearfully augmented; and at the same time it may be stated that the numbers exported from Africa are, as compared with the year 1807, as two to one, and that the annual loss of life has risen from seventeen to twenty-five per cent." Is it not surprising, in this age of Christian benevolence, that the system which has been so long tried, and which has only aggravated the evil it was intended to put down, should, up to the present moment, exist in full force;—that with the knowledge that Africa is annually robbed of 400,000 of her children, and of this number 150,000 perish victims to our armed interference to repress the trade, no efforts should be made to put an end to this devouring evil;—that the men whose zealous appeals to the hearts and consciences of their countrymen carried Negro emancipation—whose religious principles are opposed to the very system by which there is every year entailed on afflicted Africa more misery and distress than all the ills endured by the slave population in our colonies since slavery began, and which every year sweeps into eternity victims to this system equal in number to one-half the population of Jamaica—should rest satisfied with the mere expression of their disapprobation of it in memorials to the Government? This is an anomaly for which we confess ourselves unable to account, except it be that blind and misdirected zeal which sometimes misleads even good men "to strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

Our efforts to put down the slave trade by treaties with foreign powers have been characterized by a little wisdom as those to suppress it by force. We have induced them to enter into the most solemn engagements for its abolition, and have squandered immense subsidies to compensate for its surrender; but had the money been thrown into the sea it would have been equally efficacious in obtaining the object for which it was paid. We exacted terms in our treaties which we ought to have known—with the most honourable intentions of fulfilling them—the contracting parties were utterly unable to comply with. Sir Fowell Buxton has shown, that even in our own colonies, during the existence of slavery, we were unable to prevent an illicit slave trade to a vast extent; that thousands of slaves were feloniously introduced into the Mauritius in spite of the utmost vigilance on the part of the naval force on the coast and the British authorities on the island; and that for ten years, as is asserted by Captain Moreau in his evidence before the House of Commons, the trade prevailed there as "plain as the sun at noonday." If in an island like Mauritius, only 150 miles in circumference, we were unable to put down the slave trade (which was, in other terms, a smuggling trade) during the existence of slavery, how can we expect other countries will be able to put it down on an extended line of coast, with a thinly-scattered population, and without the aid of large naval forces? Sir Fowell forcibly observes:—"It is an axiom at the Custom-house that no illicit trade can be suppressed whose profits exceed 30 per cent.; the ordinary profits of a slave voyage are about 180 per cent." The conclusion, therefore, is inevitable that we may enter into treaties with all the powers of the earth, and cover the sea with our cruisers, but we shall still be baffled and defeated in our efforts to suppress the trade by the enormous gains of the slave-trader. We think it tolerably evident that it is vain to look to the suppression of the slave trade by the sword, or by treaties with foreign powers; but there is still another expedient which is the favourite scheme of the Anti-Slavery

Society, viz., "the adoption of fiscal regulations in favour of the productions of free labour;" or, in other words, to prohibit the use of slave-grown sugar. To attain this object that society has formed an alliance with the wooden-bible monopolists, of whom Lord Sandon\* is the representative—an alliance more unholy or unnatural never was formed, or one where the objects sought by each were more dissimilar. The object of the Anti-Slavery Society is a sincere desire to put an end to slavery, whilst that of the wooden-bible monopolists is merely to obtain for their sugar double the price it is worth in the markets of the world. Is it not surprising that the shrewd men of the Anti-Slavery Society should so easily have become the blind dupes of ex-slaveowners, and should never have asked themselves, Will the extraordinary course we are pursuing attain the end we have in view? Will our union with these men in the prohibition of slave-grown sugar put an end to slavery or the slave trade? Simple delusion! If all the nations of the earth were guilty of the like folly with ourselves, perchance the experiment might succeed at the expense of a thousand times more evil than it would cure; but they know better. We stand alone in our folly the laughing-stock of the world. The attempt to put down slavery by the admission of free-labour sugar and the prohibition of slave-grown sugar, is as vain as would be the attempt to empty the sea with a bucket: every vacuum created by the bucketful of water taken out would be filled up by the succeeding wave; for the quantity of free-labour sugar now exported to foreign countries will come here and be replaced there by the like quantity of slave-grown sugar. But, inasmuch as the total consumption of sugar will be increased by our admission of foreign free-labour sugar, sugar will rise in price, and a new impulse will be given to the growth of slave-grown sugar, and a new demand for slaves; so that the very measure which the Anti-Slavery Society are so anxious to see effected will increase the evil they deplore—the slave trade. But the folly and evil will not end here. By the prohibition of a direct trade in slave-grown sugar, a temptation to fraud and perjury is created—the honest, respectable, and conscientious will be driven from the trade in what will be represented as free-labour sugar, and it will be thrown into the hands of the profligate and unscrupulous, like the slave trade.

But, say the anti-slavery organs—"The exclusion of slave-grown sugar will raise the moral standard of Britain more than any measure yet adopted by the Legislature." "It will prove to slave-owning countries that we are willing to suffer loss rather than be on friendly terms with them." No such thing. On the contrary, it will expose us to the just imputation by other countries of hypocrisy and fanaticism. Who will believe that we act from principle in prohibiting slave-grown sugar on the ground of its being stolen goods, when we supply our own colonies with refined sugar made from slave-grown sugar (stolen goods), and foreign countries with still larger quantities of raw sugar (stolen goods), but not a pound may we eat at home? We may carry on any amount of trade in, and consume all or any of, the products of Brazil—her coffee (stolen goods), or her hides (stolen goods), or her tobacco (stolen goods), and even her sugar—provided not a particle of the latter finds its way into the tea or coffee of the labouring classes of this country! And beyond even this, we may import free-labour sugar, as it is called, from Java, which now competes with the slave-grown sugar of Brazil in continental markets, and thus increase the demand for the sugar of Brazil and Cuba there; but to consume ourselves, that which our policy forces others to consume, is forbidden by the dictates of humanity! Hence, as Mr. McCulloch observes, "Though we do not sweeten our tea with sugar produced by Brazilian or Cuba slaves, we clothe ourselves with wool, manure our lands with bones, and manufacture our paper of rags, which are paid for with this very sugar (stolen goods). It is obvious, therefore, that, in so far as buying their products goes, we are direct encouragers of slavery in Brazil. And thus it is, that while our present system lays our trade with Brazil and Cuba under a disadvantage, and obliges our people to pay double its natural price for an important necessary of life, it promotes that very slavery we affect to deprecate!" Those must be blind indeed who do not see that the sophistries of the Anti-Slavery Society have only to be stated in order to be scouted by every intelligent and honest mind.

But, say the anti-slavery organs again—"We cannot have, perhaps, a more fearful instance of the effects of our country taking slave produce than in the article of cotton, the import of which into this country has added, probably, at least two millions to

\* Lord Sandon opposed the proposal of the late Government for the reduction of the sugar duties, and succeeded in throwing out the Ministry on that measure. At the Liverpool election which followed, the noble lord was paraded through the principal streets of that town preceded by a flock of vultures splendidly painted and gilt, to represent the "Holy Bible," which was borne on a crimson velvet cushion before him. A fitting emblem of the policy of ex-slaveowners.





Batley for the services he had rendered to the cause, presented him with the testimonial. The inscription on the cup was as follows:—"Batley, Dec. 27, 1844. Presented to Mr. C. R. Greenwood by his friends in Batley, in acknowledgement of his unwearied exertions in the cause of Free Trade."

Mr. GREENWOOD made the following reply:—"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—My worthy friend has placed me in rather an awkward position, by the very complimentary manner in which he has presented to me the testimonial of the approbation of my friends for my past exertions in the cause of Free Trade. Not being used to speaking in public I am at a loss how to express my feelings for their kindness, but I can assure them, if they think my humble services for the past have deserved this token, they may depend on this, it will be a stimulus for the future. The little I have done in the cause of Free Trade has always been prompted by one motive, the good of our common country, for I am fully convinced that all classes will receive benefit from it, and none more than the working class. It is both reasonable and just that we should have the markets of the world open to send our labour to, and in return to receive what is offered in exchange. (Cheers.) The Almighty has said in one of His first title-deeds to man, 'By the sweat of thy brow thou shalt eat bread,' and, further, 'Cursed is he that withholdeth corn from the poor.' I ask, what man or set of men has any right to interfere to prevent our having it from the different granaries of the world? (Loud cheers.) My advice to you all is, that every man among you who is not yet on the register should take steps to put himself upon it, that when another contest comes we may wipe off the stain we suffered to rest upon us at the last election; and recollect that one vote gained in the revision court will go further than all the applause you have bestowed on our honourable friends, however fully deserved that applause may have been. (Cheers.) In this township, at the last election, we polled nearly three to one; the majority in the Birstall polling district, consisting of eleven townships, has about two hundred, and this township had one hundred of that majority; and now we are in a far better position than we were then. And as to the future, I have already sixteen names to put on the register, and thirteen more ready to qualify as soon as property can be secured; yet the township has only been partially canvassed. (Cheers.) And, Sir, I can assure these hon. gentlemen that, if we are not orators, there are many friends in this hamlet who are ever ready to make sacrifices of both time and money in this great cause, satisfied that it is the cause of truth and justice. (Cheers.) I again return my most grateful thanks to my friends, and particularly to those who have been the cause of my standing here to-night, and assure them that this more than repays me tenfold for all the scorn and sneers and rebuffs I have had to meet for years in following out what I have believed to be a useful and consistent path of labour; and I hope this token of your kindness may go down to my children's children, to remind them that, however humble may be their sphere of life, they may yet be of some service to their fellow-men. (Repeated cheering.)

A vote of thanks to the deputation was then moved by Mr. BURNLEY and seconded by Mr. JACKSON, and carried unanimously; as also a vote of thanks to the Chairman, whose consistent advocacy of Free Trade has done great service to the cause. The meeting then broke up. We may add that, both at Cleckheaton and Batley, the committees meet frequently, and are untiring in their labours to secure a large addition to the register; and, from the steady perseverance of the men of this district, great results are sure to follow.

The following spirited placard has been widely distributed in Sheffield and the neighbourhood, a district known in old Saxon times under the name of Hallamshire:—

#### "QUALIFY AND REGISTER!"

"Men of Hallamshire,—We inhabit a district renowned in history for the stand which its people have made against tyranny. The love of freedom which animated our forefathers lives in us: their oppressors were foreigners; ours (shame to say it) are our countrymen. They contended on the field of battle amid the horrors of war; we strive in the courts of registration for a peaceful triumph. The progress of their enemies was marked by famine, and the depopulation of their towns."

"Our adversaries inflict the like misery by cramping our industry, by closing our markets, and making our food scarce. The power of their enemies was upheld by strong castles and armed retainers; that of ours by wrapping the honest electors with £50 tenants-at-will. We shall be free from their thraldom when at the poll our votes outnumber theirs and their vassals."

"Do you desire to be free? Do you wish to enjoy the right to live by your honest industry, sold in the best markets, and to transmit this right to your children?—then you must strive to become electors for the county! Buy a qualification! You can have one for £50 or £60, and your purchase will yield you interest. Look what has been done in Lancashire—cannot Yorkshire do as well?"

"Cannot the men of Hallamshire show themselves in spirit and independence worthy of their descent? Your cause is an honest one; your weapons are peaceful and constitutional. Arouse yourselves now, and secure the triumph that is within your reach, or else sit down for ever under the poll-tax that is levied on you, on your wives, and your children; and so leave the markets of the world closed against you, and (your country to be a byword and a reproach."

"Lost no time; but qualify and register!"  
"A BOROUGH ELECTOR."

#### LETTERS FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

(From a known Correspondent.)

##### NINTH LETTER.

Blandford, Dorset, Dec. 31, 1844.

Pleasant things may be written of Blandford. And I respect to have pleasant things to write of it, and of its people, and of its excellent neighbours, the nobility and gentry who live near it.

It has its poor people and its poor neighbours, who have all their difficulties. And Blandford, like other places, has its difficulties. But it begins to understand them. Its neighbours, who speak in its name, do not say now what they said two years ago.

At that period there were noblemen and squires, I may mention Lord Portman and Mr. Sturt, M.P., without invidiousness, who had long felt that the necessities of their poorer fellow-creatures, and their own ability to do good, demanded of them to improve the habitations and condition of the working poor; and they had been doing so. But there were also at that time those who doubted and denied that the labouring classes of Dorset needed commiseration or assistance. Lord Ashley doubted if any such tales were true as had been told of Dorset distress. He spoke of the remedy being easy and entirely within their own reach—if such distress existed. A year afterwards, just twelvemonths ago, his lordship still seemed to doubt. He does not even admit the evil this year, unless we suppose his silence to be an admission. He has appeared at none of the usual meetings, neither to deny nor affirm.

But his honourable colleague, George Banks, Esq., M.P., has this year admitted what he, bolder than Lord Ashley, denied. He denied that the labourers of Dorset were the worst paid, worst fed, worst clothed, and worst housed in England. He does not deny this now. Mr. Banks having had his attention particularly directed to this painful subject, which was not the case with him two years ago, has the magnanimity to admit that he was then wrong. He does so with certain qualifications, some of which might have been as well omitted. But, upon the whole, his last speech at Blandford is highly creditable to him. Had he known as practically as he knows now what wages were then and had long been on his estate before he got the management of it, and what wages were in the county generally, he would not have suffered himself to be so misled as to assert in Parliament that 10s. and 11s. a week were common wages in Dorset. Neither would he have said so much of the cheerful firesides of the labourers and the jollity of their Christmas cheer as he then did. At least I think not.

But the speech of Mr. Sturt, the other county representative, is more noticeable than that of Mr. Banks. Both gentlemen assume that those who write or speak in public of wages being low in Dorset, do so to give the landlords and farmers of Dorset a bad name. This is a wrong assumption. At any time when I have written of the low wages of this county my object has been to prove that, whether a county or whether a nation be far removed from commerce, employment is less plentiful and less profitable, and wages fall.

Dorset is a county far removed from English commerce and manufactures, and, with much excellent land, it is poor. For why? Because its people cannot get profitable employment. Hear what Mr. Sturt says:—

"One thing I have particularly noticed, the inequality of wages, which is very striking. (Hear, hear.) Is it not remarkable that there should be districts of very considerable extent, throughout which the farmers cannot obtain a labourer for less than 2s. or 2s. 2d. per day, or from 12s. to 13s. a week, while we obtain a labourer for 7s., 8s., or 9s. to the utmost? (Hear.) What causes this inequality? Is it that the landlord in the west exacts a higher rent than the landlord in the north, and so cripples the farmer? ('Hear,' and 'No.') Certainly this is not the case, for land in those districts, of the same productive power as land here, will command, in the north, a somewhat higher rent. (Hear.) In other words, if we could transplant our farms to the north, they would obtain a somewhat higher rent. ('Not with the same burdens,' by a farmer.) 'Yes; their burdens will be found to be about equal. (Hear.) If this be so, the inequality of wages is now owing to the rapacity of the landlords in the west. (Cheers.) Does it not seem, then, extraordinary that farmers in one district, carrying on the same business as yourselves, raising wheat, and barley, and oats, growing turnips and feeding sheep and oxen, with the produce selling at about the same prices, should pay a rate of wages so much higher—that wages should be 12s. or 13s. a week in one district, and 7s., 8s., and 9s. in another? (Hear, hear.) It would seem, in this case, if land was about the same productive power, and the rent similar, that the difference of the price of labour—the difference between 12s. or 13s. a week, and 7s., 8s., or 9s.—must be additional profit in the pocket of the western farmer. (No.) Well, I was about to say it is not so; I am confident such is not the case. (Cheers.) I am satisfied that the sum paid by you in the west, in cultivating a farm of equal quality to one in the north, is, at the least, equal to that paid by the farmer in the north. (Hear, hear.) Now, I do not pretend wholly to explain these facts; I cite them as facts for your further inquiry and consideration; but I am confident that, in raising a quarter of corn in the west, the sum paid for the labour of raising it is, at the least, equal to the sum paid in the north. (Hear, hear.) And I am further assured that if, under the present state of things, we were to pay 12s. and 13s. a week to our labourers, every farmer but him with extra capital would be ruined by the end of the year. (Hear, hear.) I am unable to explain the causes to my own satisfaction, but I know that in some districts of high wages large tracts of land have been brought into high cultivation more rapidly than the population has increased—that the demand for labour has been great, and consequently wages high. From the nature of the case the labourer has become extremely skillful, so that the farmer gets a full equivalent for his money in the extent and goodness of the work done. In other districts I think the great manufacturing establishments have had an effect—that persons have gone to the towns who would have been agricultural labourers—that the higher wages they receive has an effect on agricultural wages—that the intercourse between them has also tended to keep up wages—that the labourers have established a higher standard of living, possessing the necessities of life, as I have described them, and from which they are very unwilling to be deprived. (Hear.) Then there is this distinctive difference between a farmer in those districts and a farmer in the west. The northern farmer asks himself what work he requires to have done, and how few hands can execute it? Here the farmer does not ask how many he requires, but

how many men there are in the parish. (Hear.) And the farmer here, I believe, pays as large an amount of wages, in the aggregate, for the same produce, as the farmer in the north; and, therefore, it is unfair and unjust to hold him up to obloquy for not giving higher wages (cheers), for he pays to the greater number that which the northern farmer pays to the lesser. (Cheers.) These are probably some of the causes for the difference in wages to which I have referred. I throw them out for your further consideration and inquiry. (Cheers.)"

Now, according to my reading of the LEAGUE paper, and of the Free-Trade speeches of the leading advocates of Free Trade, this very subject has been a leading one from first to last. Mr. Banks, in accounting for the notoriety which Dorset has attained, gives as one reason that the members for Dorset—Lord Ashley particularly—having exposed the hardships of factory work, the manufacturers have "retaliated," by proclaiming the poverty of Dorset and the hardships of the labourers.

I trust they have had higher motives; though, without a higher motive, they are justified in exposing the poverty of the labourers in Dorset, when the corn monopoly is defended on the ground of its being for the benefit of the labourers in agriculture. But, as just stated, those who have written and spoken of Dorset have had higher motives than retaliation. The exposition of sound political economy, and the indulgence of feelings of humanity, have had alike a share in making Dorset notorious. It has been written of to elucidate those questions which Mr. Sturt is at a loss to understand; and also because it is more than human sympathy can bear to see such people as those of Dorset suffering as they suffer.

And having said thus much of the members of Parliament and their sayings, I shall proceed to relate what I have seen of this county and its industrial population.

##### TENTH LETTER.

Blandford, Dorset, Dec. 31, 1844.

Since Mr. Banks admits the wages of Dorset to be what Mr. Sturt states them, and makes several other important admissions, I am not disposed to particularize his own property; although, from what he said at Blandford of the labourers' Christmas cheer and cheerful firesides in 1842, I had intended to have written of what the Christmas cheer of his labourers really was in 1844; but, as it might seem unfair to pass over some properties and select his, I refrain from doing so at present.

Let us take the county as it comes.

Entering Dorset by the great road from London through Salisbury, we leave Wiltshire behind us, and come to a place called Woodyates. Here there is a commodious inn, and close to the inn are ten or twelve thatched cottages, inhabited by labourers and their families.

Inquiring the name of the parish we are told it is Pentridge; and inquiring where Pentridge is, we are told it is southward, in the hollow at the bottom of the down. It is nearly a mile and a half. We cross some fields which were at no distant time a part of Cranborne Chase. Some of the men we see here knew this parish when the deer were over it. They show us where three hundred acres of forest copse was grubbed up, and where other hundreds of acres of rich downs were ploughed up. Without a question as to the effect upon them, they at once tell you that "things be sadly altered for the worse since them days."

You remark to them that, it being a good soil, it is better to be usefully employed than lying waste; that it is for the general good of the nation that more corn should be grown. An old man replies, "Yes, master, it grow corn well; it grow eight sacks of wheat to the acre this very year; and some of it grow ten. But we be all the poorer of that. They take everything away to sell now; and we be obliged to buy all as we want of everything. It didn't used to be so."

"Did it not?" "No; where the corn grow now there used to be liberty to turn out pigs and a cow. And poor people gathered nuts and sold them in Salisbury. And we had as much wood for firing as ever we liked; and, quietly, a piece of venison, and nobody said it be wrong of you to eat meat. There ben't no meat ate by poor men now."

In those days, according to this man, wages were the same as now. A gallon loaf and a pound of best cheese (such cheese, he said, as is now 6d. in the village) cost 1s. The gallon loaf of second quality is now 1s. without the cheese. And yet it is cheaper than for many years bygone.

The village contains a small church, the parsonage-house, a large farm-stead, and twenty thatched houses. The half, or fully more, of these houses are in the most deplorable condition that can be well imagined. The doors are broken, and the breaks stuffed up with rags and straw. The glass is also broken, and its place filled in like manner. The thatch is worn in many parts almost to the bare rafters; and what is left is rotten, and retains rain like a sponge. All are inhabited by farm-labourers, who work, when they are in work, to one or other of three farmers among whom the parish is divided. All the land, and most of the houses, belong to the Earl of Shaftesbury.

The houses, which are in the worst condition, are not, I found, strictly speaking, his lordship's: they are held on lives at a nominal rent. The inmates are so poor as to be unable to repair them; and some of them say, "If we had butful's of money we could not get them thatched; there be no straw."

There is straw; but the real fact is they are not allowed

to get it. Their houses are pulled down, if they do not fall down before, when the lives expire upon which they are held; and survivors have to leave the parish and seek a subsistence elsewhere.

There is much more land under cultivation now in this parish than at the beginning of the present century; but the farms were more numerous then. The villagers allege that when Mr. Goodard had only 800 acres he employed as many men as he does now that he has 1400.

Wages here are 4s. 6d. and 5s. to unmarried men, and 6s. and 7s. to married men with families. One carter and one shepherd get each 9s. The average rate of wages may be got at from the following:—

1st shepherd at 9s. a week, with £2 at lambing time.

2nd shepherd 6s. a week.

3rd shepherd 5s. a week.

They are full grown men. The two latter have some extras at lambing time; but not so much as the first.

1st carter 9s. a week, and £2 extra at harvest.

2nd carter 8s. a week, with £2 for harvest.

3rd carter 7s. a week, with an allowance for harvest, not stated.

4th carter 5s., with £1 for harvest.

Besides these, three men are hired to plough at 5s., 6s., and 7s.

There are also eight men who thresh, at 7s. a week each, and who work by the piece for a month in harvest. If the harvest lasts over the month they must work for ordinary wages. If it be done in less than a month their extra wages also cease.

There are four stout lads who hold the plough, and do the work of men, at 3s. a week each.

There is another lad who jobs at 3s. a week.

There are five boys, two at 2s. and three at 1s. 6d. a week each.

There are two hedgers who work by the piece, earning about 8s. a week each.

There is one groom at 7s. a week.

It will be seen that, of twenty-six persons who do the work of men, and have, as doubtless they have, the appetites of men, the average income is 6s. 2d. and a fraction a week, exclusive of extra harvest money, the average of which is not more than 30s. a year.

In this I have not included the five boys; nor have I said anything of women. The wages of the latter run about 6d. a day. There are occasionally as many as thirteen women at work on this farm in summer.

A person directed me to a house where he said there were four poor children who had not had a bit of victuals all day, and it was now near dark; and he said if I had anything to give away it would be well bestowed there. The mother and one of the children were out stone-picking; the father and the eldest boy were at work on the farm.

I found the four children, Jane, William, Sarah, and James, sitting crouching over the ashes on the hearth, the fire hardly visible, though it was nearly dark. It was a cold, raw day; and when their mother came in, with her daughter Maria, only a child, from the out-fields, a milk and a half from home, they were bespattered up to the knees, their clothes wet, and no dry ones to put on. They had been gathering the stones at 4d. a load for the use of the roads. They said the short winter day (it was Monday, the 30th of December) was long enough to make them cold and hungry, but it was not long enough to gather more than two loads of stones between them, hardly so many. The father's wages (his name is William Frampton) were 7s. a week; and the eldest boy, George, earned 1s. 6d. at driving plough and such like work.

They had had a small shoulder of mutton from the farmer on Christmas day. That gentleman, to his praise be it spoken, killed several sheep—they were small, still they were sheep—and divided them at the rate of a shoulder and a leg to each family of his workers on Christmas day, else they would have had no meat.

The eldest of the four poor children who huddled over a spark of fire in the ashes was almost naked in rags. Cold as the day was, her skin was seen in a dozen places. Still both she and the others were clean. It is a much commoner thing to be poor in this county than to be dirty. How they get their clothes washed I cannot tell. The self-denial of food to get soap and soda must be great; for there are no baths nor washhouses here to assist poor people.

"Poor dears, you must be very hungry, are you not? Do you not cook some potatoes for your dinner when mother is out?"

"The potatoes be all done, Sir. And there be no bread until mother comes home."

"Have you had no bread since your mother went out to the fields?"

"She had none to take with her and Maria to-day. I wish they had, they would have left two some at home. The taters be all gone; we soon eats all the bread."

"God help you! But you shall have some bread for once when you didn't expect it."

There were four of the family at work upon land which grows from eight to ten sacks of wheat upon an acre; and yet they and the four at home were not eaters of that wheat save in a manner that only made them feel that the wheat is not grown for them.

Their houses had good walls, unlike some of the others; but the roof was wretched. There was space enough for two bedchambers where they slept. But the rain came

through the old thatch upon them so continuously when the weather was wet, and the frost when the weather was frosty, that they had to huddle to one side where some canvas was put up to protect them. The house is the Earl of Shaftesbury's. It is in Pentridge parish; but is one of the little cluster at Woodyates.

It has been represented that the people, who only pay a kind of quit rent of 2s. a year in this parish to Lord Shaftesbury for their houses, have a great benefit, compared with those who pay a weekly rent of 1s. or 1s. 6d. But one of the men told me that a few years ago he ventured to complain to Lord Shaftesbury's head steward of the wages being lower by 1s. a week in this parish than in another parish belonging to his lordship. "True," said the steward; "but in that parish they have 1s. a week of rent to pay. You have only 2s. a year to pay."

The man who spoke to me of this said, "So you see, Sir, we be worse than they. We get no repairs done to our houses 'cause we ben't a paying of a shilling a week in money. And yet they stop a shilling a week out of our wages because we have no rent to pay."

It is said that last year Lord Ashley exhorted the chief tenant of this parish to pay 9s. a week; but he refused to make any advance. It is thought by some of the labourers on his farm that Lord Ashley will get an act of Parliament this year to compel him pay 9s. a week. I told them that I did not think any law maker whatever could make a law to compel farmers to pay higher wages than the farmers could get the men to work for. But they said they thought Lord Ashley could do it. "Oh!" said they, "he gave it terrible to the other lords and squires, at Sturminster, last year, for using we poor people so badly."

But it seems his having "given it terrible" to the lords and squires has left things as they were. Indeed, my recollection of that speech is, that he wanted *proofs* of what the labourers' condition was. It was only wrong that they should be so poor—if it were true that they were so poor.

Look at Pentridge and Woodyates, my lord. Do not talk again of "nameless and spiteful reporters." Go yourself and see. It is only five miles from where you live, and the property is your own; and omit William Frampton's if you like it not. It may seem the extremest case because I have named it. It is certainly one of the worst; but it is only one. The Goodridges, whose father works for 6s. a week, are much the same. So is John Grist's family. He works for 6s. a week on the road; 1s. is stopped out of that for a bastard child he was father of thirteen years ago. Every week for that time has the money been stopped. He has three children, his wife, and wife's sister (at present sick), and himself to keep out of 5s. a week. On the Saturday before Christmas he received one sovereign for a month's work at road-making. Mrs. Herrington, the grocer's wife, gave him half-a-pound of raisins, else his family would have had no Christmas pudding; the sovereign was already eaten up. They had a small piece of pork (pigment, as they term it) sent from a relation; it was not quite 2lbs. weight; and this they treasured up for more than a month, often needy as they were to eat it, that they might have a bit of meat on Christmas-day.

And poor James Thick! his family was little better. But I need not particularize them.

#### NOTES OF A TRAVELLER.—No. XV.

Frankfort, Oct. 1.

To a stranger unacquainted with the invisible sources of commercial enterprise that Frankfort possesses, and which I mentioned in my last, the taste of the inhabitants must appear to be anything rather than that of men of business. The shops in the principal streets are a succession of depôts of jewellery, of Birmingham wares, ornamental glass, clocks, which alternate with tailors and milliners' windows and printsellers' exhibitions. The town from the shops bears more the appearance of being a place where money is spent than one where it is made. Except at the fair time, there is little bustle in any part; the burly porters have disappeared that last week were seen tumbling cases and bales about the streets. The signs of the wandering tradesmen are withdrawn from the upper windows of the houses, and those parts of the town that during the fair were the scene of the greatest activity were now more deserted than the rest. The actual arrangement of the town shows itself now that the booths have disappeared, and there is a good deal that merits observation. The Zeil and the Rossmarkt that I mentioned in my last, intersect the city, and divide two distinct sets of inhabitants from each other. Between these wide and tolerably regular streets and the river lies the commercial town, a labyrinth of long narrow causeways, with overhanging houses of every conceivable description of architecture but the recognized orders. On the marketplace there are one or two old houses with their gable ends turned to the street, and carved in wood from top to bottom. On some the remains of fresco-painting may still be traced; and the luxury in iron railings, straight, swelling out, foliaged, and trellised, is scarcely conceivably. One or two churches have remnants of pure taste in the Gothic style. The principal churches are anything but handsome. Adjoining the ugliest of these stands the new Exchange, wattle and glazed in like a large saloon; but proclaimed, by a number of allegorical statues that crown outward buttresses of a massive

shape, to be a place which ought to interest all the world. The saloon is spacious, and the roof or upper floor (for the place of meeting is on the ground floor of a large house) is supported by light pillars, the arches resting upon which are fancifully vaulted and gaudily painted, according to the new polychromatic notions of German architects. There is certainly no law which condemns merchants more than other people to surround themselves with gloomy, grave-looking, and sober-coloured objects; and the Frankfort people seem inclined to make their contracts in the sunshine and amidst objects of a cheerful nature. The vaulting of the roof is Oriental in form and Greek in ornament; but ventilators are disposed throughout, which allow an issue for the impure air between the roof of the lower and the floor of the upper story: a contrivance unquestionably modern, and much to be lauded. The saloon will hold five to six hundred persons without inconvenience, and can be heated in winter. On leaving this seat of modern power, which the citizens of Frankfort have on many occasions caused to be felt in all its importance (I must remark that by the Exchange in all continental towns is meant the bill and stock exchange), you see before you a monument of the transitory nature of power of all kinds. The old Guildhall or "Römer," where the monarchs who arrogated the title of "Apostolic Majesty," and "Sovereigns of the Holy Roman Empire," were crowned. There, as late as the accession of the deceased Emperor Francis of Austria, the coronation banquet was held, at which the Electors of Germany served in their different capacities of cupbearer, carver, master of the horse, and so forth. The house in which this ceremony was performed is a mean-looking, very ancient building. You descend to it from the Exchange, and ascending an antiquated staircase, are shown into a low-vaulted room of some size, panelled with old oak, which seems to have been put up without the aid of lead and square. The variety of the houses whose families boast ancestors that attained the imperial honours has furnished a gallery of portraits of indifferent execution for the most part; and the plenty of the citizens preserves the building as a monument of departed greatness, by whose extinction they have lost nothing. From a poor balcony in front of the banquetting-room the Emperor used to show himself to the people after the coronation, which took place in the Cathedral. The crown and sceptre, together with the banquetting service of crystal used on these occasions, are to be seen at Vienna. Not far distant from the Römer, on the banks of the Main, a large house in a curious style of architecture attracts attention. The present house, or "adlhof," stands on the site of a palace erected by Louis the German, who chose Frankfort for his residence after the partition of the empire of Charlemagne into three parts, France, Germany, and Italy, by the treaty of Verdun. This part of Germany was a favourite residence of the Sovereigns at all times. Charlemagne's palace of Ingelheim, the seat of many romantic legends, was situated on the Rhine, not half a day's journey from Frankfort; and in Seligenstadt, a small town a few miles distant, on the east of the city, the tomb of Emma, the daughter of Charlemagne, and his secretary, Eginhard, who won and wore her, may still be seen. On the north side, again, a few hours' drive brings you to Gelnhausen, where the remains of an interesting palace built by Frederick Barbarossa, the leader of the third crusade, may be seen; and, towards the point of confluence of the Main to the Rhine, the traveller curious in ancient reminiscences may choose the spot on which "Tribur" stood, famous for the assemblies of Teutonic warriors who met under their dukes to select an Emperor, while the right of election had more than nominal existence. There is little left to guide imagination to the real site of this last place; but the fertile soil, the swelling rivers, and vine-covered mountains, still lend their delights to those of the mildest climates of Germany; and their spell was acknowledged by Napoleon, who, it is known, meditated a restoration of the palace at Ingelheim.

From the quay, on which little business enough seemed to be stirring, you have a pretty but confined view up and down the river. Some of the best houses are on a terrace at the eastern extremity of the quay, called "The Prospect," and here, too, stands the public library, a spacious and chaste edifice. On re-entering the city to gain the Zeil you are shown the Cathedral, which boasts little of architectural beauty, and nothing that recalls the ceremony of the coronations that used to be performed within its walls. It was probably this paucity of objects of interest in the building that drove Victor Hugo, who as a tourist was bound to say something about it, to compose his romance of the inhabitants of the steeple. The romance has so much of truth in it that a family actually does occupy that elevated position, and that expeditions made of communicating with the street through the aid of a basket has been adopted. But the elevation of this watcher's domicile does not equal that of nearly any brother-watcher throughout Germany, where the church steeple is invariably used as a look-out post whence the alarm is given in case of fire by tolling the large bell.

At the western extremity of the Zeil you come to the places and streets chiefly occupied by another body of the inhabitants, who do their best to keep distinct from the mercantile classes—the diplomatic corps. Frankfort, having lost the symbol of ancient unity, the coronation ceremony, has acquired the presence of the body intruded in symbolise the federative union of the thirty-nine powers

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that have grown out of the dissolved empire. Each of the German states keeps a minister at Frankfort, and the whole constitute a kind of diet, at which the Austrian minister presides. Subjects that require exertions in common on the part of the states are here not discussed, but the measures agreed upon are promulgated. Such are measures for defence on threatened aggressions, or measures for ensuring internal tranquillity in Germany. In consequence of the disputes that arose after 1830, a new court was constituted of legal deputies, to arbitrate differences between the German Sovereigns and the people. Before this forum the dispute respecting the Hanoverian constitution was brought, but it was found so difficult to ascertain who were the people, there being no such recognised political body in Germany, that the lawyer employed to state the complaint was declared unable to show by whom he was deputed, and the court was saved from an awkward predicament. The meetings of the diplomatic body are held in the quondam palace of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, whom I mentioned in my last as being the postmaster-general of this neighbourhood. Rather an amusing anecdote was told me of the irresponsible nature of these senatorial assemblies, and which serves to show the efficiency of our foreign diplomacy in matters respecting which the nation is supposed not to be very well informed. It is well known that in 1832 several severe resolutions were published by the Diet of the Confederation respecting the control under which it was intended to place the public press. The English Cabinet thought right to protest through its ambassador, Sir E. Cartwright, against these proceedings (in what capacity does not seem clear); perhaps as one of the guaranteeing powers to the treaty of Vienna. Of course this step would not have been taken if the measure had not been supposed likely to prove prejudicial to English interests. The resolutions were nevertheless supported and signed by M. de Strahlenheim, the Hanoverian minister, another servant of the King of England, who, it seems, was able to assume two characters, one friendly to, and one opposed to, the welfare of this empire.

In those palmy days of official monopoly of intelligence, the most striking instance of the distinction between the two castes of Frankfort society was given by the English embassy. I believe I may state as a fact that, during the stay of our first Minister to the Confederation, our worthy consul, venerable for age and respected for his private life, never entered the dining-room at the embassy as a guest. For a man of fortune who stands high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens, although serving a foreign power, this gentlemanly absurdity was of course a matter of indifference. After all, it was he who did the honours of the place to travelling Englishmen, and who ever wanted information was obliged to apply to him. A

more serious result for both Germany and England arose from the total neglect with which his communications were received at the Foreign-office; and neglected they were at a period that was of the most serious importance for our commercial communications, I mean when Frankfort was first invited to join the Zollverein. Had the suggestions that then were made, the statements that were transmitted respecting the productions of this country and the wants of its inhabitants, been duly appreciated or only made public, an understanding would have long since been attained between England and the "Zollverein," whose interests, so far from clashing, are deeply and inseparably interwoven. It would require little more than a statement of products and of prices, correctly drawn up and sufficiently extensive to allow practical men to see their bearing upon each other, in order to convince the industrious classes on both sides of the water that they would do better to combine their power than to waste it in idle conflict. The English capital that is employed in manufacturing is so employed for Germany if the Germans choose to make use of it. If they do not, they must withdraw capital from agriculture and trade where it is so much wanted, in order to erect factories under disadvantageous circumstances. Because these factories produce at a dear rate they must be protected by prohibitory duties, and, once on the false path, the annual changes in the tariff of the Zollverein themselves show that it is difficult to stop.

In considering the present state of trade we are every where driven to the recognition of the danger of departing from sound principles. Security of property is what is wanted, as I showed in my letters from Belgium—first, security from foreign invaders; next, security against meddling legislators. The Belgians have just been placed in jeopardy by the faction that now rules their Chambers; the Germans are in the hands of diplomatic agents, who are not taken from the practical men, but who understand how to use the practical men of all classes by flattering their worst passions, and to obtain the sanction of interested castes for measures that are ruinous to the weal of the community at large.

That Frankfort merchants, through whose hands the result of half the commercial speculations of the Continent pass, would do little like to leave the power of smuggling their trade to pecked parliament or half-educated diplomatists as the people of Hamburg or Bremen, may well be conceived; and, in fact, the adhesion to the Zollverein was only carried after great hesitation, and then chiefly because the trade of the city is not as I have said, one of bales and barrels, but one of a nature which is only heavily taxed in England—credit. The differences in the system in which Frankfort and Hamburg are inte-

rested in the question of high duties is proved by the customs' receipts of both places. Frankfort now draws about 60,000 dollars from the coffers of the Zollverein under the present heavy tariff. Hamburg raised with an import duty of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. 711,500 marks, or 200,000 dollars. Since then the import duties have been reduced, as I mentioned in my letter from Hamburg, to 1-8th and  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., levied on the simple assurance of the merchant as to the quality of his wares. Frankfort had thus but little to lose by joining the Zollverein; and the greatest friend of freedom of trade would have abstained from dissuading the free city from an adhesion which gave her Free Trade with her immediate neighbours, which she most wanted. But the opportunity was invaluable for supporting the remonstrances of the citizens at Berlin against the prohibitive nature of some of the tariff rates which the anxiety of Prussia to secure Frankfort would have caused the cabinet of Berlin to consider. The opportunity was misused, and Frankfort regretted little the loss of commercial connexions which were unable or unwilling to aid her in fighting their battle as well as her own.

How far the little German states can expect their commercial interests to be nicely weighed upon emergencies, they may learn from the proceedings every day adopted with regard to internal police by Austria and Prussia, and in which they are obliged to concur. Of the present state of things I had a curious instance afforded me this morning. Standing in a bookseller's shop, where I had called to inquire for a new work, I saw a man enter with a sheet of paper in his hand, which he handed to the bookseller. After reading part of its contents, the bookseller wrote his name in the paper and returned it. He turned then to me, and said, smiling, "A notice from the magistracy that Freilgrath's new poems are prohibited, and liable to confiscation." "Why," replied I, "that would make a poet's fortune in England." "Here, too," said he, "the only person who is not dissatisfied with the order is the publisher." He then handed me the volume to look at, in which nearly every lyrical effusion has for its burden the sorrow created in Germany by the King of Prussia refusing to give the parliamentary constitution which he promised so publicly and so frankly on his accession to the throne. The verses are good, and the expression conceived in such general terms, that none but a Prussian, or some one well versed in the domestic policy of Germany, would think of applying them to Berlin. The most explicit piece the book contains is a translation of Campbell's "Ode to the Germans," in comparison with which the others are gentle complaints. Freilgrath has a remarkable tact in translating from the English, and has even been able to give his countrymen a taste of the beauties of Burns. In the preface he declares his envy of the land in which it was possible to publish, "A man's a man for a' that," without every verse being applied to Alnwick, Apsley House, or Buckingham Palace, and the authors being thus brought into conflict with the pillars of the state. Burns would assuredly, in Germany, have been exchequered, instead of sharing, even in a humble capacity, the profit of the Excise-office; and his danger would have been of course the greater in a land where the state professes to have but one pillar, which will not bear shaking. The history of trade has ever been the history of freedom, and their prospects are still, I am sorry to say, but indifferent in Germany.

A plan that has lately been set on foot, however, indicates a wish on the part of the Frankfort people to revive the trade in wares that they once possessed. A steam-tug company, at the head of which the house of Rothschild stands, is to be called into existence next spring, and to open a direct communication between Biebrich, in Nassau, at the mouth of the Main, and Rotterdam. Biebrich is one of the bonding harbours of the Zollverein, and small vessels are to convey the goods up the Main. As the opening of the great canal between the Danube and the Main may also be looked forward to next spring, the two measures, if properly supported by Austria and England, ought to produce a little revolution in the trading relations of central Europe; and Hungarian wines and English cloths, of superior quality and moderate price, ought once more to meet at the fair of Frankfort. But upon what extraneous materials must not this very feasible commercial speculation of the Frankfort citizens be founded. It can prosper upon no other condition than that common sense shall be allowed to sway in the English Parliament, and in the Austrian, Bavarian, Prussian, and Dutch Cabinets. With such a condition tacked to their shares, no one will deny that the founders of the company are men of common spirit. May they go on, and be assisted by every honest man who hears their tale. But let no one say, after hearing it, that commercial men have nothing to do with politics. They are the first to suffer from the blunders of governments, and are bound to keep the strictest watch over their movements. Many of the streets of Frankfort are named after trades and branches of manufacture that are now no longer pursued there. One of them is connected with a crisis in the history of England which brings home to us the casualties that have dispersed the seats of industry in Europe so strangely as we find them. In the sixteenth century the woollen cloths of England were the most celebrated in Europe. They were mostly exported undyed, and were finished in the great trading cities where dye-stuffs abounded. During the persecutions of Queen Mary, two English cloth manufacturers fled to Frankfort, and established them-

selves in that city. If they had not been recalled by Elizabeth, it is probable that others would have followed to so hospitable a retreat, and England would have lost, as France afterwards did on the revocation of the edict of Nantes, the most industrious of her citizens and a valuable branch of industry.

In addition to the steam-navigation project that I have mentioned, no less than three lines of railways are in progress, which will centre in Frankfort, whence the communication with the Rhine at Biebrich is secured by means of the Tannus Railway, that has been running for several years. I made an excursion to Biebrich and the celebrated "Rhinegau," the seat of the finest Rhenish vineyards; and the trip is one that repays richly the inquisitive traveller. The Rhine below Mayence widens considerably, and is filled with verdant islands, behind which the summits of the Tannus form beautiful lake scenery. The slope of the Tannus to the Rhine is the site of these famous vineyards, whose cultivation is expensive and produce most uncertain. The vines are out short, and are trimmed with such care that one would think the very leaves were counted upon each. The finest grapes do not ripen before the end of October; but, to make the choice wines, the ripe berries are picked with a needle off the bunches, and separately pressed. I was introduced, through the kindness of my friend M—, to several wine-growers, in whose cellars I tasted wine three years old that was still as sweet as syrup. These choice wines are not fit for table before the sixth year, and require incessant care and watching until they come to maturity. In eight years the grower expects two good and two indifferent, two poor and two bad, vintages; and yet the price of the choice sites is enormously high. The Duke of Nassau bought two years back a strip of land at Rüdesheim, for which he paid 6000 florins for the morgen, or about £800 per acre. Yet, even at this price, the speculation is a good one: for, with proper care, three pipes can be obtained from an acre, of a good year, that will sell for £800. The capitalists of Frankfort are beginning to see that such a trade is rather suited to their means than to those of peasants, whom the bad years bring to the lowest state of distress; and both an augmentation of the growth of fine wines and a moderation of the prices will probably soon take place. The finest growths never find their way to England, as their great value arises from their being bought up by wine-merchants to flavour inferior wines with, which are then shipped and sold under the name of the finer growth. Of the delicious quality of the choice wines, therefore, few have an idea; and in Germany they are only to be met with at the tables of sovereigns, or of such as have interest enough to obtain small quantities. The Marcobrunn, Rüdesheim, Johannisberg, and Steinberg, sell in the timber, in butts containing two pipes each, from £5 to £7. 7s. per dozen. The large size of the cask is the great inconvenience that precludes private consumers.

**HONOURS TO WORKING MEN.**—Upwards of 3000 persons were assembled on Tuesday last, in the Halle aux Draps, Paris, to witness the ceremony of the distribution of prizes, by the Prefect of the Seine, to the journeymen who have attended with the best success the lectures of the professors at the Association Polytechnique. The scene was striking. The Prefect delivered an impressive address, and several musical compositions were sung by the pupils of the association.

**THE OLD AND THE NEW ARISTOCRACY.**—In the opposition that is offered by the landowners as a body to repeal of the Corn Law there is, we think, an element that is seldom and not sufficiently noticed, and which is at least of some importance, as constituting a stick in the bundle. That there is selfishness and ignorance, and the prejudice that is begot of habit, arranged on the side of the Corn Law, is true enough; but there is more, and something which has a distinct and peculiar source. There is, undoubtedly, much kindness and goodness of heart among the aristocracy and gentry who own the principal portion of the soil; they are not, we believe, strictly speaking, more greedy or selfish than any other class of the community; they are quite as much disposed to act justly and do righteously as their neighbours; but they are, by reason of the character and history of their order, and the conventional and other distinctions which it has enjoyed, especially subject to be influenced by pride of caste in its most vehement and intensified form; and to the force and arrogance of this feeling we are inclined to ascribe much of their resistance to Corn-Law abolition. They perceive in this claim the advances of a power that is offensive to all their idiosyncrasy as a class; they see in it the encroachment of a new order of aristocracy, which, uniting wealth with intellectual activity, has recently come into competition with their older aristocracy in every department of the State and of society, sharing with it the high places and positions which were formerly all its own; that is daily extending possession in the soil itself, and disputing with the hereditary landowners the exercise of the social and political influences that for centuries belonged to the latter almost exclusively. To this jealousy and dislike of the manufacturing and commercial aristocracy, operating in many cases where its existence is not known or recognised by the parties themselves, we attribute not a little of the hostility that is manifested by the landed gentry to a measure which would go to increase its prosperity and authority. But the end is certainly shaped; the new aristocracy has taken firm root, and will surely establish itself in the attitude to which its natural and other advantages inevitably tend. Necessity, and familiarity with its presence, will gradually lessen, until it shall finally extinguish the antipathy that is now borne towards it by the class who regard it as a poacher on their manor; and the two orders, with a good deal in common, will be nevertheless distinguished by differences that will act as a check on the faults and ambition of each other.—*Forthcoming Journal.*

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, January 1, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the *League* of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Lawson, Mr., Town Hall-buildings, King-street, Manchester .....	£1 0 0
Kay, Alexander, Esq., Mayor of Manchester .....	50 0 0
Barton, James, Jun., 6 Crescent, Salford .....	1 0 0
Burton, R., Smallwood Manor, near Uttoxeter, Staff- ordshire .....	1 0 0
Green, Thomas, Regent-road, Salford .....	1 0 0
Collier, Thos., Dukinfield, near Ashton-under-Lyne .....	1 0 0
Schofield, Joseph, Littleborough, near Rochdale .....	1 0 0
Jaw, Wm., New Mill, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Harker, Wm., Bowling, Bradford, Yorkshire .....	1 1 0
Richardson, John, chymist, Harrogate .....	1 0 0
Cunningham, Wm., 77, Park-terrace, Greenhays, Man- chester .....	1 1 0
Himpton, Thompson, and Co., do. do. .....	20 0 0
The Workmen of Messrs. Wolfenden, Stans- feld, and Co., Lower Mosley-street, do. .....	3 9 4
Candeler, Peter Turner, 15, Old Mill-gate, do. .....	1 0 0
Candeler, Rev. James, Stafford .....	1 0 0
Thornley, Robert, Wrexham .....	1 0 0
Oldham, George, Bridge-street, Hutton, Macclesfield .....	1 0 0
Ashworth, Thomas, Poynton, near Stockport .....	1 0 0
Kirkpatrick, John, Mill-street, Macclesfield .....	2 0 0
Wilson, John, George Inn, St. George's-road, Man- chester .....	1 0 0
Mills, John, Coach and Horses, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Knowles, Robt. and Thos., 7, Princes-court, Mar- ket-street, do. .....	2 2 0
Almworth, James, 97, Piccadilly, do. .....	1 0 0
Greenbough, James, Gore-street, Piccadilly, do. .....	1 0 0
Greaves, Charles, David-street, do. .....	1 0 0
A Whig of the Old School, do. .....	0 10 0
Middleton, Samuel, Roger-street, Red-bank, do. .....	1 1 0
Jackson, Thos., 1, Grosvenor-st., C.-on-M., do. .....	0 10 0
Henthorn, George, Market-place, do. .....	1 0 0
Thomas, Thomas, York-street, Todmorden .....	1 0 0
Gornall, Joseph, druggist, Newnham-heath, near Manchester .....	1 0 0
Hellwell, Eli, Marsden, near Huddersfield .....	1 1 0
Wilde, Isaac, King-street, Oldham .....	1 0 0
Potter, Miss, Wigan .....	1 1 0
Cooke, Thomas, Esq., do. .....	1 1 0
Marsden, Jas., shopkeeper, do. .....	1 0 0
Stewart, Andrew, Roach-place .....	1 0 0
Pagan, Robert, Mazy .....	1 0 0
Mason, John, Drake-street .....	1 0 0
Cross, William, Smallbridge .....	1 0 0
Leach, Edmund, Littleborough .....	1 0 0
Calvert, Rev. D., Summit, near do. .....	1 0 0
Hoyle, James, Jun., do. .....	1 0 0
Crompton, H., White House, Putney .....	10 10 0
Drummond, E., 16, Sandwich-place, Edinburgh .....	5 0 0
McErlane, Alex., do. do. .....	5 0 0
Nickle, Thomas, 28, Bloomfield, Deptford .....	2 2 0
Hoscher, William, Denmark-hill, Canterbury .....	2 2 0
Miller, George, 12, Fenchurch-street .....	2 0 0
Russell, R., Croydon .....	2 0 0
Glanville, George, 21, North-street, Westminster .....	1 1 0
Sharp, J., 14, Paragon, New Kent-road .....	1 1 0
Nicholson, Thomas, Sydney, Colford .....	1 1 0
Wilkinson, Samuel, Thornton-road, Bradford .....	1 1 0
Lafur, Wm. Younger, 49, Mount-street, Grosvenor- square .....	1 1 0
Dyte, Henry, 2, Hare-court, Temple .....	1 1 0
Stephens, Wm. Henry, Bton, near Windsor .....	1 1 0
Kilner, Richard, 4, Hanway-street, Oxford-street .....	1 1 0
Gardner, John, Hertford .....	1 1 0
Constable, Charles, Horley-mill, Crawley .....	1 1 0
Hurry, S. W., 1, Vernon-square, Pentonville .....	1 1 0
Worrum, H. N., 2, Camden-street, Camden-town .....	1 1 0
Matthews, William, 91, Wood-street .....	1 1 0
Armistage, Robert, 203, Strand .....	1 1 0
Wilson, C., son, do. .....	1 1 0
Wilson, C., Jun., do. .....	1 1 0
Wilson, M. Jas., do. .....	1 1 0
Hirchall, H., Leeds .....	1 1 0
Steel, J., 3, Fitchet-court, City .....	1 0 0
W. A., do. .....	1 0 0
A Tenant-Farmer of Surrey .....	1 0 0
Ayles, Edward, 37, New Church-street, Paddington .....	1 0 0
Pirnie, Edm. Henry, the Rising Sun, Larkhall-lane, Glasgow, per H. Thorne .....	1 0 0
Hosley, Joseph, 137, High-street, Whitechapel .....	1 0 0
Prent, Thomas, Chigwell .....	1 0 0
Pock, John, 75, Fore-street .....	1 0 0
Saul, W. D., 15, Aldersgate-street .....	1 0 0
Saul, W. D., Jun., do. .....	1 0 0
Brown, C. M., Leeds .....	1 0 0
Balkers, John, 13, Prospect-place, Kingsland-road .....	1 0 0
Withall, George, Beaconsfield, Bucks .....	1 0 0
Timothy, W., Shoreditch .....	1 0 0
Mason, Rev. William .....	1 0 0
Haines, William .....	1 1 0
Haines, Thomas .....	1 1 0
Earp, Mr., grocer .....	1 1 0
Hensley, Thomas .....	1 1 0
Hensley, Mr. Chandler .....	1 1 0
Henson, John .....	1 1 0
Hunter, Thomas .....	1 1 0
Hutteridge, John .....	1 1 0
Tate, Joseph .....	1 1 0
Salisbury, Edward .....	1 1 0
Pitt, Wm., do. .....	1 1 0
Williams, W. S. T., Truro .....	1 0 0
Wynolds, Mr., do. .....	0 10 0
Harvard, James, Spaldwick, Huntingdon .....	1 0 0
Andell, John, and Brothers, Huddersfield .....	1 0 0
Shaw, David, Post office, do. .....	1 0 0
Tibbels, W. B., Brunston, near Daventry .....	1 0 0
Bolly, Richard, Sharnfield .....	1 0 0
Fielden, James, Cough, near Todmorden .....	1 0 0
Sharpe, Richard, 18, Temple-court, Liverpool .....	1 0 0
Baker, H. M., Dartmouth .....	1 0 0
Green, George, Mac-lefield .....	1 0 0
Price, John and Joseph, 137, High street, Chatham .....	1 0 0
Heard, J. A., Canock, Dunfermline .....	1 0 0
Hyder, William, Macclesfield .....	1 0 0
Falkner, Andrew, Edinburgh .....	1 0 0
Vanahill, J., Truro .....	1 0 0
Werns, John Davey, Howel Hemstead .....	1 0 0
Neale, James, Dundee .....	1 0 0
Morgan, Nathaniel, banker .....	2 2 0
Palmer, Captain .....	1 0 0
Warders, Miss Lee, Esq., do. .....	1 0 0
Wall, Samuel .....	1 0 0
Harriet, Thomas, farmer, Newington .....	1 0 0
Dayle, Thomas, Luton, near A Friend, by J. B. .....	1 0 0
Smith, James, accountant .....	1 0 0
Knowles, J., Todmorden .....	1 0 0
Edison, Samuel, 64, Queen's-square, Leeds .....	1 0 0

Blackburn, Enoch, Hunslet .....	£1 0 0
Sturrock, John, banker, Park-place, Dundee .....	1 0 0
Sturrock, J. Jun., writer, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Waddell, Wm., 50, Melville-street, Edinburgh .....	1 0 0
Wilson, Edward, North Brierley, near Bradford .....	1 0 0
Robinson, W., Isle of Cinder, Leeds .....	1 0 0
Wilson, Joseph, Old Market-place, Halifax .....	1 0 0
Miller, Wm., George-square, Edinburgh .....	1 0 0
Duncan, John, St. Andrew's-street .....	1 0 0
Guthrie, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Mollivo, Herman, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Paterson, J., of Haddon & Paterson's .....	1 0 0
Haddon, John, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Watson, Peter, St. Andrew's-street .....	1 0 0
Ewan, do. Cowgate .....	1 0 0
Todd, James, Seagate, do. .....	1 0 0
Ingham, James, Whitehall Paper Mill, near Chapel- en-le-Frith .....	1 0 0
Scarborough, John, Newington Butts .....	1 0 0
Stack, Wm., 48, London-street .....	1 0 0
Wright, Wm., and family, 6, Belvidere, Cambridge- road .....	1 0 0
Kirkland, William, Dundee .....	1 10 0
Boyd, William, and Son, George-street .....	1 1 0
Robertson, Thomas, Foxbar .....	1 1 0
Provost Murray .....	1 0 0
Brown, Robert, town chamberlain .....	1 0 0
Slater, Matthew, Newtown .....	1 0 0
Thomson, Andrew, Causeyside-street .....	1 0 0
Brown, John, Queen-street .....	1 0 0
White, Andrew, 6, Causeyside-street .....	1 0 0
Ashby, do. Isleworth .....	1 0 0
Cherry, do. Brentford .....	1 0 0
Bontems, do. do. .....	0 10 0
Beardmore, G. A., Nottingham .....	1 0 0
Jones, James, 17, Rosamond-place, C.-on-M. .....	1 0 0
Jewsbury, S. C., 6, Theresa-place, Gloucester .....	1 0 0
Wood, Jas., Worbrodale, near Barnsley, Yorkshire .....	1 0 0
Noddings, John, Leeds .....	1 1 0
Topham, Samuel, 5, West-bar, Leeds .....	1 0 0
Coar, Richd., and Friends to the Cause, at Benson, Oxon. .....	2 0 0
Duckland, John, Newton Abbot, Devonshire .....	1 0 0
Oates, Richard, Liverpool .....	1 0 0
Hewitt, Thomas, Newcastle-on-Tyne .....	1 2 0
Tweedale, Jacob, Healey Hall, Rochdale .....	1 0 0
Tweedale, John, do. do. .....	1 0 0
Tweedale, Robt. Leach, 58, Wood-street .....	1 0 0
Potter, Thos., the Blue Bell, Horsehoe-alley, Wilson- street, Pinbury .....	1 0 0
Hattersley, William, 48, Regent-street, Westminster .....	0 5 0
Vousley, J., 19, Long-lane, Bermondsey .....	0 5 0
Oates, Henry, Wandell-place, Wandsworth .....	0 2 6
Thatcher, Robert Thomas, 3, Bermondsey New-road .....	0 2 6
Lemaitre, do., 41, St. John's-square, Clerkenwell .....	0 2 6
Const, J. H., 31, Red Lion-street .....	0 2 6
Roffway, do., 15, Bache's-row, Charles-squ., Hoxton .....	0 2 6
Saul, do., 79, Westmoreland-place, City-road .....	0 2 6
Evan, do., Banner-street, St. Luke's .....	0 2 6
Pearce, do., Plummer's-row, City-road .....	0 2 6
Coombs, do., 9, Twister's-alley, St. Luke's .....	0 2 6
Allen, do., Nelson-street, City-road .....	0 2 6
Myers, do., Bunn House, do. .....	0 2 6
Ford, do., 16, Vauxhall-terrace, do. .....	0 2 6
Horne, do., John's-row, St. Luke's .....	0 2 6
Schroder, do., Ironmonger-row, do. .....	0 2 6
Burton, do., Galway-street, do. .....	0 2 6
Brownlow, do., Eagle-terrace, City-road .....	0 2 6
Rumsey, do., the Green-gate, do. .....	0 2 6
Norman, do., Jun., Hoxton Old-town .....	0 2 6
Donalds, do., the Green-gate, City-road .....	0 2 6
Gondwill, John, Westminster .....	0 2 6
Jones, Thomas, 12, Jewin-crescent, City .....	0 2 6
Hicks, J. W., 100, Bermondsey-street .....	0 2 6
Mollineux, Joe, Queen's-road, Dalston .....	0 2 6
Patty, George, 51, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney- road .....	0 2 6
Small subscriptions .....	0 8 0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed sub-  
scriptions.

Contribution  
to the  
Bazaar.

Mitchell, Stephen and Sons, 52, St. Andrew's-square,  
Glasgow .....

LECTURES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY AT THE ROYAL  
INSTITUTION, LIVERPOOL.—A course of lectures on  
political economy is about to be delivered at the Royal  
Institution, Liverpool, by Thomas Banfield, Esq. The  
commencement of the course, we observe, is announced  
for next week. The friends of freedom of commerce in  
Liverpool will thus have an opportunity of hearing the  
principles of political economy expounded in their scien-  
tific as well as their practical bearings by a most able and  
accomplished man. Mr. Banfield delivered a similar  
course of lectures at Cambridge in the spring of last year,  
and we feel the obligation of thus acknowledging the  
pleasure and profit we derived from the perusal of the  
interesting reports of those lectures in the Cambridge  
papers.

DISCUSSION ON FREE TRADE.—On Monday se'nnight  
a discussion of the principles of Free Trade took place at  
the Old Fellows' Hall, Shipley, between Mr. Jude Yates,  
of Bradford, and Mr. John Harper, the Protectionist  
lecturer. The challenge had been given by Mr. Yates at  
a lecture delivered at Shipley by Mr. Harper. About 200  
individuals from Shipley, Windhill, Baildon, and other  
places in the vicinity, were present. After a rather desul-  
tory debate, the following resolution and amendment were  
proposed:—"That Free Trade is essential to promote the  
well-being of the people, by plentifully supplying the  
necessaries and comforts of life, and thereby conducing  
to the moral and intellectual improvement of the human  
race." "That it is the opinion of this meeting that Free  
Trade, under the existing commercial arrangements of the  
world, would prove destructive to the best interests of  
the working classes of this country." The first was car-  
ried amid loud cheering, somewhat to the chagrin of the  
protection chairman, who said many friends had left the  
room. Votes of thanks to the disputants, chairmen,  
referee, and Old Fellows' committee, for the use of the  
hall, were passed, and the company separated, at near  
twelve o'clock.

ANTI-CORN-LAW TRACTS.—During the past week a  
great quantity of Anti-Corn-Law tracts have been distri-  
buted in Bradford and the neighbourhood amongst the  
electors. We hope the seed thus sown will take root, and  
bring forth fruit abundantly.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XIV.

TO THE RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART., M.P.,  
First Lord of the Treasury, &c. &c.

SIR,—Any attempt to prove to you the truth of  
Free-Trade principles or the importance of their  
practical application, would be a superfluous pro-  
cedure. You have made repeated profession of  
those principles. In various ways you have applied  
them, although it may be but partially. From the  
proposition of your tariff to the recent admission of  
Venezuelan sugar at the reduced duty, there has  
been a slow and cautious, but a distinctly percep-  
tible, advance in the measures of your Government  
towards Free Trade. The question to be argued  
with you is not one of principle but of policy; not  
one of object, but of time, mode, and degree. You  
are afraid of injuring existing interests by sudden  
changes. And you are also not unobservant of the  
influence of your measures on the strength of your  
political position. This wariness has marked your  
whole public career, and is deeply inwrought into  
your personal character. The danger is, lest you  
should be too wary, and pass the point at which  
boldness is the safest caution. Did such peril only  
affect yourself, with yourself its consideration might  
be left; but it involves the condition and prospects  
of millions. Those who participate in your con-  
nexion as to principles; who are thankful for every  
step, however small, which you have taken in their  
application; and who are anxious for that immen-  
sity of national good which would arise from their  
consistent and complete adoption, have claims on  
your attention, however different from your own  
may be their political sympathies and antipathies.  
The topic is paramount to all party demarcation.

How much further can you go towards the introduc-  
tion of a consistent Free-Trade policy without fairly  
grappling with the food monopoly? Are you not  
all but brought to a stand-still already? The land-  
owners are alarmed and vigilant. You had a taste  
of their quality on the sugar question. They will  
not again help you in the demolition even of the  
minutest monopoly. You will no more be able to  
persuade them that they are the safer for the sacri-  
fice of others. It will be impossible for you to  
open your mouth on import duties, but they will  
look down at your feet and think they see more  
than your boot covers. You are crippled for what  
you know to be the only sound commercial policy.  
Suspicion will track you through every speech and  
bill with the scent of a bloodhound. You will rise  
in the House with the vindictive monopolist in your  
rear, the Whig partisan in your front, and that

magnetic telegraph at work between them which  
ensures co-operation without coalition. What a  
helpless and pitiable condition! Can you endure it  
for the sake of office? Or can you long secure  
office by enduring it?  
On the other hand, imagine the Corn-Law ques-  
tion disposed of, what ulterior division need you  
apprehend in your majority? In all remaining ap-  
plications of your commercial principles they would  
be a band of ready helpers. None so decided as  
they to raze every remaining fortress of monopoly,  
and not leave one stone upon another. There would  
no longer be any apprehension from your measures.  
The threatening aspect would change to one of pro-  
mise. In each new move they would foresee in-  
creasing profit instead of impending peril. The  
spell of "protection" in his own case once broken,  
not a landowner but would cheer you on in your  
progress towards its utter demolition. The country  
would breathe freely, in the grateful perception of  
each successive benefit. Controversy would give  
place to congratulation. The din of the old warfare  
of agriculture and manufactures would die away  
into the remoteness of historic distance. A career  
of useful statesmanship would open before you,  
limited only by the capacity of your own intellect,  
wherein classes might be harmonised, misery abated,  
the labouring many raised, and the truest glory,  
that of peaceful aggrandizement, be achieved for our  
country.

But the intermediate step—"there's the rub."  
True, you peril office by attempting it, and might  
very likely be for awhile unseated. What then?  
Are you satisfied never to apply your Free-Trade  
principles to corn? Or do you anticipate a better  
time by delay?

Never! Why then, as I have already shown, you  
submit to be obstructed in all your commercial legi-  
slation. You consent to live the manacled and  
maimed slave of a suspicion. You forego the  
noblest prize that remains to recompense the toils of  
office. You will neither do good nor win credit.  
Much too deeply is the thought of your ultimate  
purposes rooted in the minds of the landed monopo-  
lists for either forgiveness or forgetfulness to enter  
there. Years will not eradicate their suspicion. It  
will outlive your power, and be planted on your  
grave.

A better time? What can bring it? The Whig  
leaders are still too infatuated to preoccupy the  
ground. With that renowned ingenuity which  
builds a wall to knock their heads against, they  
hold themselves pledged to their fixed duty, and

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you unpledged as the free air. They stick to their stand by the wayside, where you may pass on and welcome. As to them, delay only provides against you the chance of their having a lucid interval. The chance may be remote; it is not an absolute impossibility.

You have brought in a bill so lately—Psha! Sir Robert; you are too much of a man to mind that. It is a good deal longer since the enactment of your bill than that enactment was from the time of your declaration against any change. Besides, how stands your bill as to the different parties interested?

To the agriculturists, who reckoned upon its keeping up the price of wheat to 56s. the quarter, it is a complete failure. Nothing has been kept up but rents, unless it be agitation. At meetings of protection societies, the farm-tenantry are declared to be posting rapidly on the road to ruin. Do not think of reading your history in their eyes, or hearing it from their lips. You can lose no popularity at their meetings. Even with the landlords, your law is a forlorn hope. They merely think,

"Better to bear the ills [or bills] we have,  
Than fly to others which we know not of."

You have no clinging attachment on their parts to overcome. They are in no state to offer stout resistance to a bold onset. Moreover, can they govern the country? Were they to turn you out, there is only one other thing in the wide world which they could do, and that is, to let you in again.

Wheat at 45s. is a good repeal price. No great shock would be given by the change. It would simply render more clear what people were to do. Any great fall or rise will breed confusion and entanglement; desolation in the south or commotion in the north. It is a price to take advantage of for action, as you would the conversion of a stock in the funds. The moment is a golden one. Old Time bends his brow for the forelock to be seized. There is utter destruction to the small farmers, in the perspective one way; and in the other, the well-remembered honours of Paisley, with many a scene of kindred misery.

Although the cheapness resulting from abundant harvests has baffled your bill in its understood promise to the agriculturists, and stimulated a degree of manufacturing prosperity which could not have existed had that promise been realized, yet the condition of great masses of the people continues to be such as demands attention and amelioration. The agricultural labourers are unhelpt. The swarms of our city population are unhelpt. Every daily paper records some death by destitution.

Every charitable society testifies to the necessity for change. Not a near-sighted philanthropist but has his nostrum. But they all obtain more credit for the fact of the disease than for the efficacy of the alleged specific. They are all witnesses that the poor "come off short" in the distribution of the food and wealth which their labour is the agency of creating. And for that the poor will take their testimony. The rest they set down as quackery. You, Sir Robert, know it to be quackery. You are aware, if not of the means of absolute cure, yet of the best remedy in the stores of legislation. Till that be produced, the mischief grows. Your bill can do no more for it.

I have spoken, in general terms, of the "land-owners" as the lion in your path. Really, it is only a landowning clique. With such men as the Duke of Wellington and Lord Stanley, the money worth of the Corn Laws to their class is altogether subordinate to political or party considerations. With the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham the case may be different. The landlords whom they represent make a great noise, and with the help of stewards, jobbers, and a host of sycophants and hangers-on, they muster their troops of dependent tenantry, and put on a big face of hostility. Is it much more formidable than what you so suddenly and virtuously confronted for Catholic Emancipation? And is there any comparison in the results to be anticipated?

Do not fancy that the writer dreams of persuading you. I deem persuasion as unlikely as conviction is unnecessary. You are making a blunder, and I am exposing the blunder; that is all. To be the greatest of those who lead, has never been the praise or the ambition of your statesmanship; but you have commonly won the humbler fame of being the expertest of those who follow. In the present case, even this glory is likely soon, by over-caution and prolonged delay, to be in danger of forfeiture. This is a great pity on your own account; a yet greater on that of the industrious millions who must endure the consequences.

#### A NORWICH WEAVEN BOY.

A GOOD BEGINNING.—A pension of £600 has just fallen into the Civil List. We wish the Civil List "a happy new year, and many of 'em."—*Punch*.  
LABOUR REPRESSION IN YORKSHIRE.—The applications for 40s. freeholds among the Free-Traders of the Wakefield polling districts have been numerous. The more effectually to carry on the operations, the committees have engaged premises lately occupied by the Yorkshire District Banking Company, and intend having a grand assembly on the 31st January.—*Leeds Mercury*.

#### ON THE CONDITION OF ENGLAND.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

"What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord God of Hosts."—*Isaiah* lii. 15.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,—I hope that the generally admitted importance of the subject on which I venture to address your Grace a second time will absolve me from the imputation of unseemly earnestness; and I desire that my respect for your exalted station may be measured by the importunity which I may happen to display.

I would most respectfully submit to the consideration of your Grace, that, if the present Corn Law makes bread dear and scarce, it serves its intended purpose; if not, it serves no purpose.

Till the year 1815 corn could be brought to England in exchange for goods of many kinds at so nominal a duty as scarcely to form an obstacle to its introduction into the country: even during the war with France the clothing of the army of Napoleon was well known to have been supplied by us in exchange for the corn of that country, indirectly introduced.

But at that fatal period probably the greatest legislative crime was committed that the Christian world ever saw: a sudden most unconstitutional innovation, and cruel inroad on the natural rights of the community, was made by the Legislature of the kingdom, who, supported by the fixed bayonets of the soldiery, passed these atrocious enactments under the childish delusion that, while a Superintending and Almighty Providence looked down upon them, the rich could with impunity flourish by limiting the food of the poor. At the end of the war the end of high prices of corn, and consequently high rents and tithes, was apprehended by our legislators of the land and reverend clergy; the admission of corn in exchange for goods was therefore forbidden, unless corn was at a famine price. The wickedness was perpetrated surreptitiously, for it was alleged to be intended for the protection of the farmer and his labourer, or, in other words, for the protection of native industry.

Famine price is not yet supposed to be reached, though famine itself is rife in the land; the law at the present hour interdicts the entrance of any considerable quantity of food in exchange for the industrial products of the people; nor do we hesitate still to pray for that daily bread which we obstinately and blindly refuse to accept: thus, while we dare not make mouths at men, we find courage enough to mock the Majesty of Heaven! Nevertheless, the prohibition against the admission of food, though absolute, is not sufficient to satisfy some landlords and clergymen.

But let us see the influence of protection on those subjected to its tender mercies. The present Corn Law, modified and contrived by the wisdom of Sir Robert Peel, had for its object, according to the views of the Minister, to regulate and prevent the price of corn from sinking below 56s. or 58s. the quarter, which might, therefore, be called the Parliament or protection price. But good corn has lately been sold at 37s. and 40s. the quarter; and the weekly average of the kingdom on December 14th was 45s. 1d. the quarter: the latter may be denominated the market or actual price.

Those farmers who have not the good fortune to have discovered that knowledge is power and ignorance is weakness, and who vainly imagined that foolish and wicked laws could stand in place of the power of supply and demand in regulating the market price at which they must sell their products, have been defrauded by the law of the difference between the putative and tangible prices. Thus, by a shameful abuse of their simplicity, for the land which they have laboriously tilled they have been induced to pay the farmer, and for their marketable commodities they received the latter: so that, to use plain words, under the semblance of law they have been robbed at the rate of 10s. 10d., and even 18s. or 19s., in each quarter of corn sold at the above prices.

This is the protection the farmer is now receiving, which, to my humble judgment, very much resembles that afforded by the hawk to the sparrow, or the wolf to the lamb. Nor is "*Homo homini lupus*" less descriptive of the modern than of the ancient state of society. Heaven in its infinite mercy protect us from protection, and defend us from the unspeakable kindness of agricultural legislators and clerical friends! Under this withering influence it is not very wonderful that the farmers should have been the only capitalists who, on the average, have tolled without profit, and who since the institution of stringent Corn Laws have in a body petitioned the legislative receivers of rents no less than five several times for relief in their deep distress, under which many have sunk into pauperism, and none can by any possibility prosper permanently.

When the farmer pays any part of his rent and tithes out of capital instead of profit, how can he afford to pay many workmen? The exhortation of the landlords and clergy to employ them freely, and pay them liberally, is a vain mockery: thus is the land, though cruelly ravaged by game, most inadequately cultivated; evil is made to pass a step downwards in the scale of society; and the poor labourer is protected into the workhouse or the grave, to become a wailing angel at the Throne of Grace, and, perhaps, to bear witness against those oppressors to whom the Blessed Saviour gave his injunction, "Feed my flock."

It has been proved by statistical returns that the farmer's labourer, who in many counties is so protected that he gets sometimes, as in the example of the "Sussex Labourer," who lately published his pathetic address, as little as 6s. for a week's work, often only 6s., 7s., and 8s., to maintain himself, a wife, and six children. These poor victims of legislative tenderness have also been proved by official returns to be much worse nourished than the convicted felons in the prisons; and thus, at least, they may be truly said to receive protection from the danger of that reptile under which the receivers of rents and tithes are liable sometimes to suffer or expire. Never did want and luxury exist in such amount, side by side, as in Christian England; and it may truly be said that Dives and Lazarus jostle each other at every post: one bedewing the other with crocodile tears in abundance, and, as if in cruel mockery, offering baths and ventilation in place of the more solid materials of bread and meat. The addition,

not the substitution, of these things would have been highly praiseworthy and honourable to those who offer them, "For who can cloy the hungry edge of appetite by bare imagination of a feast?" Your Grace will, I hope, permit me in the name of the poor and hungry to offer my most grateful thanks for your munificent patronage of public baths, but at the same time to mention an almost daily observation, which, during many years' residence at the largest hospital in London, I had reason to make, that many of the sufferings there witnessed required nourishment more than medicine; and baths were sometimes used to cure complaints which would have been prevented by the more liberal use of bread!

Yet many of our legislators and clergy have announced that cheapness, which is almost impossible without plenty, is one of the greatest dangers to which our poor could be subjected; than is it not shocking that our excellent Liturgy should contain several prayers for these afflictions; and might not we also adopt the prayer which became a proverb among the French people just before the Revolution—"Dieu nous garde de l'équité du Parlement"? But I have often heard it mentioned by good clergymen, that though they were well convinced of the folly and wickedness of the Corn Laws, which entail scarcity on the poor, and forbid their working for food, they objected to entering into anything like a political arena. I have then ventured to ask them, if there were more of politics in the Corn Law than in the game law—so often administered by the clergy? I have also in my simplicity inquired if the honourable term of pastor, by which the reverend clergy are commonly designated, could possibly have been intended to apply to the feeding or supervising of game? Or if there can be more impropriety as concerns the clerical character in endeavouring to feed the hungry through the wholesome instrumentality of their own industry, than to wash and clothe the dirty among our brethren?

I am wrong to speak of myself personally, but perhaps your Grace will forgive the observation, that I have always found bathing makes me very hungry. I cannot but feel some apprehension that a good remedy may in some cases be productive of a very bad and almost, under the blessed corn or scarcity law, an incurable disease; and that, in the working of our pharisaical philanthropy, the inconvenience of dirt may be made to give place to the horrors of unappeased hunger!

Thus may we find charity enough to bestow the ornaments, but look in vain for the justice which offers the useful. To my humble way of thinking, however, generosity without justice has always appeared like faith without works, or religion without honesty—"a goodly apple rotten at the core!"

But I entertain full faith in the power of true religion, and cannot restrain the expression of confidence that your Grace will take into consideration the propriety of saving our holy institutions from the scornful imputation of hypocrisy, and will be pleased to contribute your powerful influence and example in the sacred cause of feeding the poor, or rather allowing them to feed themselves by their own handiwork, instead of encumbering them with vain professions and baneful protection. I am emboldened in this expression of honest conviction by the admiration I feel at the readiness and liberality exhibited by your Grace in the work of washing and the erection of public baths.

Some violent critics have said that men should be fed before they are washed; but I agree with your Grace that the poor should sit down to their meals with clean faces; nor can the idea be contemplated that Christian ministers could desire to substitute clean faces for empty stomachs.

I am sure your Grace will obey the divine injunction of the Psalmist,

"Defend the poor and fatherless: see that such as are in need and necessity have right."  
"Deliver the outcast and poor: save them from the bond of the ungodly."

I have the honour to be,

Your Grace's most obedient and devoted servant,

45, Gloucester-place, Kentish-town.

L. W.

CHRISTMAS EVE.—On Christmas eve, an excellent supper, of roast beef and plum pudding, was given by Mr. G. A. Beardmore, of Nottingham, to all the workmen in the employ of his father in this town, on the occasion of his becoming a partner in the establishment. Mr. B., jun., who occupied the chair, made an excellent speech during the evening upon the exertions now being made by the Anti-Corn-Law League in their behalf, by advocating a more extensive Free Trade. The women and children were also regaled with an excellent tea, with the usual accompaniments. The evening was spent in the most harmonious manner, interspersed as it was with several rational amusements, which were kept up until a late hour, all being highly gratified with the evening's entertainment.

THE POSITION AND PROSPECTS OF COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES.—The year which closes this day has been one of the most remarkable ever known in the commercial and manufacturing history of the country. It has presented the contrast of unexampled prosperity in almost every branch of manufacturing industry, with almost unexampled depression in the price of the raw materials employed in those manufactures. From the beginning to the end of 1844, the course of prices has baffled all calculation, and has, in too many cases, inflicted enormous losses on individuals and communities. With the exception of the importers of gum, timber, and sheep's wool, there is no class of merchants who have not lost money this year, and some have lost it to a frightful extent. The year, as a whole, has been as disastrous to Liverpool as it has been fortunate for Manchester. Happily, when things get to the worst they begin to mend, and the general impression in Liverpool is, that they are past the worst, and that there is a prospect of a very extensive trade in the coming year, with improving prices. High prices are not desirable for the country, but an improvement in prices resulting from a prosperous trade and an extending demand is so; and it is the opinion of persons of sound judgment, well acquainted with the present condition of trade and commerce, that there are the kind of prices which are likely to prevail during the year on which we are about to enter. Most sincerely do we trust that these anticipations will prove well founded.—*Liverpool Standard*, Dec. 21.

## REVIEW.

*Memoirs of the Reign of George III.* By Horace Walpole. Edited, with notes, by Sir Denis Le Marchant. London: Bentley.

Sir Denis Le Marchant has done good service to the cause of historical literature by the admirable manner in which he has edited Walpole's valuable and interesting memoirs. Since the Revolution of 1688, English parties, and more especially the great Whig party, have been held together by bonds of kindred and affinity not less closely than by community of principle or identity of object; and the genealogies and private records of a family often illustrate passages in the policy and administration of public men which would otherwise seem almost inexplicable. We are now separated by almost two generations from the accession of a British-born King of the house of Brunswick. At that period the administration of the first Pitt had raised England to a height of moral greatness superior to what the country had attained even under Elizabeth or Cromwell. The great Minister had been forced into power against the will of the Monarch, and in spite of that oligarchy formed by the combination of "the great families" which had monopolised all power in England ever since the Revolution. He never quite broke through the conventional trammels of party, which have for nearly two centuries made imbecility, trickery, and hesitation more or less characteristic of the policy of every cabinet that has been formed in England since the restoration of Charles II. But the elder Pitt was not patient in his fetters; there were moments when he dared to be great, and to select instruments of greatness in consequence of their merit, without any reference to their parliamentary influence or aristocratic connexions. George III. entered on his reign with a fixed determination to emancipate himself from the oligarchy which had held his grandfather in complete subjection. The tortuous means which he adopted for this purpose, though they scarcely rose above the level of ordinary court intrigues, and were in themselves utterly contemptible, led to a series of revolutions which have changed the aspect of both hemispheres; America was sacrificed to the prejudices of the palace.

Horace Walpole was admirably calculated to be the historian of the early part of the reign of George III., fruitful as it was of no great event, though fraught with important consequences. He had a happy facility in seizing on the traits which indicate character, as straw shows the direction of a current; and hence he takes care to note that the first act of George III.'s reign was indicative of that insincerity, not to say hypocrisy, which marked his entire career:—

"The first moment of the new reign afforded a symptom of the Prince's character—of that cool dissimulation in which he had been so well initiated by his mother, and which comprehended almost the whole of what she had taught him. Princess Amelia, as soon as she was certain of her father's death, sent an account of it to the Prince of Wales; but he had already been apprised of it. He was riding, and received a note from a German valet-de-chambre, attendant on the late King, with a private mark agreed upon between them, which certified him of the event. Without surprise or emotion, without dropping a word that indicated what had happened, he said his horse was lame, and turned back to Kew. At dismounting he said to the groom, 'I have said this horse is lame; I forbid you to say the contrary.'"

Junius, speaking of the King in his celebrated letter to Horne Tooke, says—"I know that man better than any of you: Nature never intended him for anything but a good-humoured fool; long practice and a systematic education have made him a consummate hypocrite." Lord Chatham also, by direct implication, accused the new Monarch of insincerity when he paid a high tribute of applause to the honesty and candour of George II. That Walpole's doubts of the King's sincerity were early formed appears from a letter addressed to George Montagu, in the first month of the new reign. He says:—

"There is great dignity and grace in the King's manner. I don't say this like my dear Madame de Sevigné, because he was civil to me, but *the part is well acted*. If they do as well behind the scenes as upon the stage, it will be a very complete reign."

Junius's allusion to the "systematic education" of George III., and the seclusion in which he was kept by his mother, lead us to consider the secret of the influence which Lord Bute possessed in the early part of the King's reign. Scandal describes him as the favourite and favoured lover of the Princess Dowager of Wales; circumstances have recently come to light which seem to prove that he had learned from her the secret of her son's being subject to fits of mental aberration, and there is now abundant evidence that George III. had fits of insanity on several occasions when the matter was concealed from the public. Whenever Lord North's private papers will be permitted to see the light, there will be evidence that the King's obstinacy on many subjects, and particularly on the course of policy to be pursued towards America, amounted to positive monomania. At the very outset of his reign he displayed a resolution to make peace with France on almost any terms. The following anecdote on this subject is new to us:—

"The King's speech to his council afforded matter of remark, and gave early specimen of who was to be the confidential minister, and what measures were to be pursued: for it was drawn by Lord Bute, and communicated to none of the King's servants. It talked of a bloody and expensive war, and of obtaining an honourable and lasting peace. Thus was it delivered; but Mr. Pitt went to Lord Bute that evening, and, after an altercation of three hours, prevailed that in the printed copy the words should be changed to *an expensive but just and necessary war*; and that after the words *honourable peace* should be inserted, *in concert with our allies*. Lord Mansfield and others counselled these palliatives too; but it was two o'clock of the following afternoon before the King would yield to the alteration."

The King's dissimulation was exhibited in no very honourable form by his conduct in relation to his marriage. Walpole tells the story with a colouring derived from his dislike of the Fox party, but the facts are substantially correct:—

"But there had happened circumstances still more pressing, more alarming. The King was fallen in love with Lady Sarah Lennox, sister of the Duke of Richmond; a very young lady of the most blooming beauty, and shining with all the graces of unaffected but animated nature. What concurred to make her formidable to the mother and favourite, was, her being under the tutorage of Mr. Fox, her eldest sister's husband; and in truth she and her family spared no assiduity to fix the young Monarch's heart. And though Fox would probably not have been scrupulous or delicate on the terms of cementing that union, the King's overtures were so encouraging that Fox's views extended even to placing the young lady on the throne. Early in the winter, the King told Lady Susan Strangways, Mr. Fox's niece, and the confidante of Lady Sarah, that he hoped she (Lady Susan) would not go out of town soon. She said, she should. 'But,' replied the King, 'you will return in summer, for the coronation?' Lady Susan answered, 'I do not know; I hope so.' 'But,' said the King again, 'they talk of a wedding. There have been many proposals; but I think an English match would do better than a foreign one. Pray, tell Lady Sarah Lennox I say so.' The next time Lady Sarah went to court (and her family took care that she should not be seldom) the King said, 'He hoped Lady Susan had told her his last conversation.'

"The Juno was not blind to these whispers and dialogues. Lady Bute was instructed to endeavour to place herself in the circle, and prevent them. And the Princess Augusta marked her observation of what was going forward to Lady Sarah herself, laughing in her face, and trying to affront her. But Fox was not to be so rebuffed. Though he went himself to bathe in the sea (possibly to disguise his intrigues), he left Lady Sarah at Holland House, where she appeared every morning in a field close to the great road (where the King passed on horseback) in a fauced habit, making hay.

"Such mutual propensity fixed the resolution of the Princess. One Colonel Graeme was despatched in the most private manner as a traveller, and vested with no character, to visit various little Protestant courts, and make report of the qualifications of the several unmarried Princesses. Beauty and, still less, talents, were not, it is likely, the first object of his instructions. On the testimony of this man, the golden apple was given to the Princess of Mecklenburg; and the marriage precipitately concluded. The ambassador was too remarkable not to be further mentioned. This Graeme, then, was a notorious Jacobite, and had been engaged in the late rebellion. On a visit he made to Scotland, his native country, after this embassy, David Hume, the historian, said to him, 'Colonel Graeme, I congratulate you on having exchanged the dangerous employment of making kings, for the more lucrative province of making queens.'

"So complete was the King's deference to the will of his mother, that he blindly accepted the bride who had chosen for him; though, to the very day of the council, he carried on his courtship to Lady Sarah; and she did not doubt of receiving the crown from him, till she heard the public declaration of its being designed for another. Yet, in confirmation of the trust he had reposed in Lady Susan Strangways, himself appointed Lady Sarah to be one of the bridesmaids to the Queen. Yet Lord Bute's friends affected to give another turn to the story: and insisted that the King had never thought of Lady Sarah but for his mistress. All, they affirmed, he had said to Lady Susan was, to bid her ask Lady Sarah if she should like a place in the family of the new Queen; that she had accepted it; and that the King had destined her to be Mistress of the Robes. Her surprise and disappointment, however, were too strongly marked to make this legend credible. Lady Susan adhered to the truth of what she had reported, in various examinations by her father and uncle. And the resentment Lady Sarah expressed, and which caused, as the Court said, her not being placed about the new Queen, was proof enough on which side the truth lay. The Juno persuaded the King she was a bad young woman; but if she was, what hindered her becoming his mistress? Was it criminal to propose being his wife rather than his mistress? And what became of the King's boasted piety, if he intended to place his mistress about his wife? Some coquet attempts, which Lady Sarah afterwards made to recover his notice, and her stooping to bear the Queen's train as bridesmaid, did her more prejudice than all that was invented against her. Pique and extreme youth might excuse both; and her soon after preferring a clergyman's son to several great matches, gave evidence that ambition was not a rooted passion in her."

It was remarked early in George III.'s reign that, notwithstanding the King's pretensions to piety, he selected for his principal confidants some of the most notorious profligates of that or any other age, such as the Earls of Sandwich and Talbot, Sir Francis Dashwood, and others of minor note.

\* Lady Caroline Lennox, eldest daughter of Charles second Duke of Richmond, married to Henry Fox, Paymaster of the Forces.

† Eldest daughter of Stephen Fox, Earl of Hchester, by the sole daughter and heiress of Mr. Strangways Horner, whose name he assumed.

‡ Holland House, beyond Kensington, the seat of the Earls of Warwick and Holland; now of Henry Earl of Holland.

Earl Talbot, as Lord High Steward, presided over the coronation, and involved himself in several quarrels. The banquet in Westminster Hall having been omitted at the two last coronations, we quote some notices of the disputes to which Lord Talbot's conduct gave rise:—

"With the City, with the Knights of the Bath, and the Barons of the Cinque Ports, Lord Talbot had various squabbles, by retrenching their tables at the coronation. Beckford told him it was hard if the citizens should have no dinner, when they were to give the King one, which would cost them £10,000. This menace prevailed. Sir William Stanhope, brother of Lord Chesterfield, a man of not less wit, and of more ill nature than his elder, said, 'it was an affront to the Knights of the Bath; for some of us,' added he, 'are gentlemen.' It was a more bitter speech he made against the Scotch and their Protection. 'He would not go to court,' he said, 'for fear of the itch, which would reduce him to go to the Princess's court for brimstone.' To the Barons of the Cinque Ports Lord Talbot said, 'If they came to him as Lord Steward, their request could not be granted; if as Lord Talbot, he was a match for any of them.'"

The pageant of the coronation was followed by a more exciting and important event—the compelled resignation of Mr. Pitt. On quitting office "the great commoner" gratified his enemies and disgusted his friends by accepting a pension for himself and a peerage for his wife. Walpole felt more keenly on this subject than could have been anticipated: he had begun to respect Pitt for his disinterestedness, and to admire him for the vigour with which he smote the house of Bourbon; and under the influence of these feelings he had pardoned, if not forgotten, Pitt's bitter opposition to his father, and the share he had in that Minister's overthrow. Walpole's feelings of disappointment were strongly expressed in a letter which he wrote at the time to the Countess of Ailesbury:—

"He insisted on a war with Spain, was resisted, and last Monday resigned. The City breathed vengeance on his opposers, the Council quaked, and the Lord knows what would have happened; but yesterday, only Friday, as this giant was stalking to seize the Tower of London, he stumbled over a silver penny, carried it home to Lady Hester, and they are now as quiet good sort of people as my Lord and Lady Bath who lived in the vinegar bottle. In fact, madam, this immaculate man has accepted the barony of Chatham for his wife, with a pension of three thousand pounds a year for three lives; and, though he has not quitted the House of Commons, I think my Lord Anson would be as formidable there. The pension he has left us is a war for three thousand lives! perhaps for twenty times three thousand lives! But

'Does this become a soldier? this become Whom armies follow'd and whom people lov'd?' What! to sneak out of the scrape, prevent peace, and avoid the war! blast one's character, and all for the comfort of a paltry annuity, a long-necked peerage, and a couple of Granvilles!"

Pitt was succeeded in his place of Ministerial leader in the House of Commons by George Grenville, who has earned an unhappy immortality by having originated the scheme for the taxation of the American colonies. The popular hatred of Lord Bute and his associates soon threw a veil over Pitt's delinquencies, and his influence in the City became greater than ever. An address was voted to him by the Common Council; and when, on the occasion of a royal visit, he went to dine in Guildhall, he was overwhelmed with applause, while the King was received in insignificant silence, and Lord Bute so violently assailed that fears were entertained for his personal safety. In the "Memoirs" Walpole attributes Bute's unexpected resignation to his dread of a popular tumult in consequence of the new tax imposed on cider; but in a letter to George Montagu, written on the very day, he gives a more plausible account of the transaction:—

"To-day has been fatal to a whole nation—I mean the Scotch. Lord Bute resigned this morning. His intention was not even suspected till Wednesday, nor at all known a very few days before. In short, there is nothing more nor less than a panic; a fortnight's opposition has demolished that scandalous but vast majority which a fortnight had purchased, and in five months a plan of absolute power has been demolished by a panic. He pleads to the world bad health; to his friends, more truly, that the nation was set at him. He pretends to intend retiring absolutely and giving no umbrage."

Churchill also ascribes Bute's resignation to sheer cowardice:—

"When Bute with foreign hand,  
Grown wanton with ambition, scourged the land—  
When Scots or slaves to Scotsmen steer'd the helm,  
When peace, inglorious peace, disgraced the realm—  
Distrust and general discontent prevail'd;  
But when (he best knows why) his split quill'd,  
When with a sudden panic struck, he fled,  
Sneaked out of power, and hid his miscreant head."

The belief that Bute, after his resignation, still continued to exercise an important influence in the royal councils was very general; and there is no doubt that his policy was never abandoned at court, though he was not long trusted with its guidance. Bute was, in fact, the creator of the party known by the name of "the King's friends," which during the entire reign existed separate and apart from every successive administration, forming "a back-stairs cabinet," possessing more of the royal confidence, and exercising more real power, than the nominal Ministry. It was against the presumed existence of Scotch advisers in the back-stairs cabinet that



Wilkes directed the satire of the *North Briton*. There were many numbers of that celebrated publication which would have furnished better grounds for prosecution than the celebrated "45;" and indeed the Ministers were so well aware of the weakness of their case, that they employed the meanest treachery to obtain a copy of the "Essay on Woman," a worthless piece of obscenity, of which Wilkes had printed twelve copies at a private printing-press. This said essay is one of the most dull and stupid productions that was ever issued by vulgar depravity: its attempts at wit are miserable failures, and its filthy coarseness absolutely loathsome. The notice, however, which the Ministers attracted to this wretched production has ever since kept it before the world; even at the time, many—we may say most—persons of right feeling forgot the blasphemy of the work in the infamy of the accusers:—

"The plot so hopefully laid to blow up Wilkes, and ruin him in the estimation of all the decent and grave, had, at least in the latter respect, scarce any effect at all. The treachery was so gross and scandalous, so revengeful, and so totally unconnected with the political conduct of Wilkes, and the instruments so despicable, odious, or in whom any pretensions to decency, sanctimony, or faith, were so preposterous, that, losing all sight of the scandal contained in the poem, the whole world almost united in crying out against the informers. Sandwich, in opening the discovery, had canted till his own friends could not keep their countenances. Sir Francis Dashwood was not more notorious for singing profane and lewd catches; and what aggravated the hypocrisy, scarce a fortnight had passed since this holy Secretary of State himself had been present with Wilkes at a weekly club to which both belonged, held at the top of Covent-garden Theatre, and composed of players and the loosest revellers of the age. Warburton's part was only ridiculous, and was heightened by its being known that Potter, his wife's gallant, had had the chief hand in the composition of the verses. However, an intimacy commenced between the Bishop and Sandwich, and some jovial dinners and libations of champagne cemented their friendship. Kidgell, the jackal, published so precise, affected, and hypocritical an account of the transaction, that he, who might have escaped in the gloom of the treachery, completely blasted his own reputation; and, falling into debt, was, according to the fate of inferior tools, abandoned by his masters, and forced to fly his country."

In a letter to Montagu, Walpole writes:—

"You know I have long had a partiality for your cousin Sandwich, who has out-Sandwiched himself. He has impeached Wilkes for a blasphemous poem, and has been expelled for blasphemy himself by the Beef-steak Club at Covent-garden. Wilkes has been shot by Martin (in a duel), and instead of being burnt at an *auto da fé*, as the Bishop of Gloucester (Warburton) intended, is revered as a saint by the mob, and if he dies the people will squint themselves into convulsions at his tomb in honour of his memory."

Charles Churchill took bitter revenge on Sandwich, whom he satirized in the most stinging satire that exists in our language. It is only necessary to introduce the quotation, by stating that Sandwich was named *Lothario* (a character in Rowe's "Fair Penitent") from his notorious prodigality, and also *Jenny Twitcher* (the betrayer of *Macheath* in the "Beggar's Opera") from his political perfidy.

"From his youth upwards to the present day,  
When vices more than years have mark'd him gray;  
When riotous excess with wasteful hand  
Shake's life's frail glass and hautes each obbing sand,  
Unmindful from what stook he drew his birth,  
Unstaid with one deed of real worth,  
Lothario, holding honour at no price,  
Folly to folly added, vice to vice;  
Wrought sin with greediness, and sought for shame  
With greater zeal than good men seek for fame."

When Folly (at that name in duty bound  
Let subject myriads kneel and kiss the ground,  
Whilst they who in the presence upright stand  
Are held as rebels through the loyal land)  
Queen everywhere, but most a queen in courts,  
Sent forth her heralds and proclaim'd her sports,  
Bade fool with fool on her behalf engage,  
And prove her right to reign from age to age,  
Lothario, great above the common size,  
With all engag'd, and won from all the prize;  
Her cap he wears, which yet from youth his wore,  
And every day deserves it more and more.  
"Nor in such limits rests his soul confin'd:  
Folly may share, but can't engross his mind.  
Vice, bold, substantial Vice, puts in her claim,  
And stamps him perfect in the books of shame.  
Observe his follies well, and you would swear  
Folly had been his first, his only care;  
Observe his vices, you'll that oath disown,  
And swear that he was born for vice alone."

George Grenville's ministry, after having alienated the American colonies by passing the Stamp Act, suffered shipwreck on the Regency question. "In April, 1765," says a writer in the "Quarterly Review" for June, 1840, "his Majesty had a serious illness; its particular character was then unknown, but we have the best authority for believing that it was of the nature of those which thrice afterwards affected his Majesty, and finally incapacitated him for the duties of Government." From a passage in one of Walpole's letters to the Earl of Hertford, it appears that the writer both suspected the disease and doubted the recovery. He says—"They say he looks pale, but it is the fashion to call him very well; I wish it may be true. The exclusion of the Princess Dowager's name in the list of persons proposed for the Council of Regency was the cause of a serious difference between the King and his Mi-

nisters. In his letters, Walpole declares that the intention of excluding the Princess of Wales was first announced by the Duke of Bedford.

"Lord Lyttleton moved an address to the King to name the person he would recommend for Regent. In the midst of this debate the Duke of Richmond started two questions:—Whether the Queen was naturalized, and if not, whether capable of being Regent? and he added a third much more puzzling—Who are the Royal Family? Lord Denbigh answered flippantly, all who are prayed for; the Duke of Bedford more significantly, those only who are in the line of succession—a direct exclusion of the Princess."

In the "Memoirs" we have the following account of the artifices practised to induce the King to consent to the omission of his mother's name:—

"Lord Halifax and Lord Sandwich (the latter of whom had probably machinated so treacherous a step) had posted to Buckingham House a little before the Lords assembled, and, surprising the King alone, had most falsely, and contrary to all likelihood, assured him that the House of Commons would certainly strike the name of the Princess Dowager out of the bill, and therefore that the most decent and prudent method to save the honour of his Majesty and her Royal Highness would be for his Majesty to permit it to be hinted to the Lords, that he himself desired their lordships would omit his mother's name before they transmitted the bill to the Commons. The young inexperienced Monarch, taken by surprise, alarmed at the insult announced, and not having time, or not having presence of mind to demand time, for consulting his mother and his favourite, answered with good nature, *that he would consent if it would satisfy his people*. The traitors seized that assent, and, hurrying away with double rapidity to the House of Lords, procured in the very name of their master that indelible stigma on his own mother!"

From the importance attached to the Regency question, many suspected at the time, what is now fully confirmed, that the King's recovery was not so complete as his courtiers represented, and that there was reason to apprehend the subsequent aberrations of intellect which, we may add, occurred more frequently than is yet generally known or even suspected. The Rockingham Administration, formed on the overthrow of Grenville's Cabinet, was very distasteful to the King. Its members had stigmatized the prosecution of Wilkes, not from any regard for the man, but from a just dislike of the unconstitutional means employed against him. They had also resolved to repeal the Stamp Act, a measure so distasteful to the King that he attempted to defeat it by underhand means, which stopped very little short of direct falsehood:—

"Lord Strange, one of the placemen who opposed the repeal of the Stamp Act, having occasion to go in to the King on some affair of his office, the Duke of Lancaster, the King said he heard that it was reported in the world that he (the King) was for the repeal of that act. Lord Strange replied that idea did not only prevail, but that his Majesty's Ministers did all that lay in their power to encourage that belief, and that their great majority had been entirely owing to their having made use of his Majesty's name. The King desired Lord Strange to contradict that report, assuring him it was not founded. Lord Strange no sooner left the closet than he made full use of the authority he had received, and trumpeted all over the town the conversation he had had with the King. So extraordinary a tale soon reached the ear of Lord Rockingham, who immediately asked Lord Strange if it was true what the King was reported to have said to him? The other confirmed it. On that Lord Rockingham desired the other to meet him at Court, when they both went into the closet together. Lord Strange began and repeated the King's words, and asked if he had been mistaken? The King said, 'No.' Lord Rockingham then pulled out a paper, and begged to know if, on such a day (which was minutely down on the paper), his Majesty had not determined for the repeal? The King replied, 'My lord, this is but half;' and, taking out a pencil, wrote on the bottom of Lord Rockingham's paper words to this effect:—'The question asked me by my Ministers was, whether I was for enforcing the act by the sword, or for the repeal? Of the two extremes I was for the repeal, but most certainly preferred modification to either.'

The Rockingham Ministry received a more fatal blow by Pitt's public declaration of want of confidence in the Cabinet; like Earl Grey's abnegation of Canning, it damaged the new Ministry, but at the same time it injured the policy of which Pitt professed himself an advocate. This conduct, however, recommended him to the King; he was invited to form a new administration, and he commenced his task by the fatal error of accepting a peerage:—

"That fatal title blasted all the affection which his country had borne to him, and which he had deserved so well. Had he been as sordid as Lord Northampton, he could not have sunk lower in the public esteem. The people, though he had done no act to occasion reproach, thought he had sold them for a title, and, as words fascinate or enrage them, their idol Mr. Pitt was forgotten in their detestation of the Lord Chatham. He was paralleled with Lord Bath, and became the object at which were shot all the arrows of calumny. He had borne his head above the obloquy that had attended his former pension—not a mouth was opened now in defence of his title;—as innocent as his pension, since neither betrayed him into any deed of servility to prerogative and despotism. Both were injudicious; the last irrecoverably so. The blow was more ruinous to his country than to himself. While he held the love of the people, nothing was so formidable in Europe as his name. The talons of the lion were drawn, when he was no longer awful in his own forests. The city of London had intended to celebrate Mr. Pitt's return to employment, and lamps for an illumination had been placed round the Monument. But no sooner did they hear of his new dignity, than the festival was counter-ordered. The great engine of this disaffection was Lord Temple, who was so ashamed to be published the

history of their breach, in which he betrayed every private passage that Mr. Pitt had dropped in their negotiation and quarrel, which could tend to inflame the public or private persons against him."

The poet Gray, writing to Dr. Wharton, makes the following judicious remarks on this event:—

"What shall I say to you about the Ministry? I am as angry as a common-councilman of London about my Lord Chatham, but a little more patient, and will hold my tongue till the end of the year. In the meantime I do mutter in secret, and to you, that to quit the House of Commons, his natural strength, to sap his own popularity and grandeur, which no one but himself could have done, by assuming a foolish title; and in hope that he would win by it, and attach him to a court that hate him, and will dismiss him as soon as ever they dare, was the weakest thing that ever was done by so great a man."

In the forthcoming volumes we shall have to discuss the history of the administration thus unpropitiously commenced; and we shall defer until their appearance any general observations on the literary character of these "Memoirs."

*Geology: Introductory, Descriptive, and Practical.*  
By D. T. Ansted, F.R.S., &c. London, Van Voorst.

Doctor Chalmers, in his admirable vindication of political economy from the charges brought against that science in the name of religion, has glanced slightly at the objections which, on the same mistaken grounds, have been urged against the study of geology in our day and of astronomy in past ages. Men have said that the discoveries of science are at variance with the statements of Holy Scripture; they have exercised a perverted ingenuity to magnify and exaggerate the discrepancy, forgetting that, while they may on the one hand induce believers in Scripture to reject the science, they may on the other drive believers in science to reject Scripture. On investigation, however, it will be found that these zealots are not so anxious for the Scripture itself as they are for their own interpretations of its meaning, and that the passages they adduce to confute geology or astronomy have either no reference to the science, or are susceptible of an interpretation consistent with the demonstrated facts. Some of the earlier fathers denounced the doctrine of the roundness of the earth as heretical, because, as they said, if it were so, Satan could not have showed our Lord all its kingdoms from a high mountain. Had those sage doctors understood Greek they would have known that the word rendered "world" also signifies any defined tract of country; and by "all the kingdoms of the world," they would have seen that St. Matthew intimated the several principalities

of Judea and Galilee. In like manner some of the Rabbinical writers, commenting on the history of Babel, declared that the sons of Noah wished to raise their tower to heaven, that in case of another deluge they might get out on the solid sphere of heaven through one of the windows mentioned by the sacred writer, and thus escape from drowning. This absurd gloss was received very implicitly by the Rabbinical schools: they even asserted that one of their body had succeeded in effecting the object, and had raised structures on the roof of his house sufficiently high to touch the revolving vault of heaven. They add that a disciple of this rabbi ascended one day to the top of this edifice, having in his hand the kettle in which he used to prepare his breakfast: he put his hand through one of the windows of heaven, but the revolving sphere gave him so smart a blow on the wrist with the edge of the window that he dropped his kettle. On telling his lore to the sage, he was directed to ascend at the same hour, and watch until the window came again over his head; he did so, and thrusting in his hand recovered his kettle. Now, the objections taken from Scripture against geology and other sciences, whether physical or social, belong to the same school of philosophy as that of the rabbinical kettle, and are based not upon Scripture, but upon the glosses of the ignorant and the presumptuous. He who gave us powers of investigation foreknew the results of research; and it is impious rashness to assert that there is any contradiction between reason and revelation.

Geology, like every other branch of natural science, is engaged in discovering the various laws or modes of action which the Great Author of Nature has seen fit to employ in effecting the successive changes that have taken place upon the surface or external crust of the earth. The knowledge of these laws is derived from the observation of certain facts, phenomena or appearances which give indisputable evidences of change. Beds of sea-shells discovered far inland show that the place which they occupy was once covered with water; submarine forests, where trunks of trees, leaves, fruit, and the horns of animals are found beneath a beach, equally prove that the sea in their localities has encroached upon the land. A theory is such a systematic arrangement of facts as enables us to view them in their mutual relation and dependence; and those who exclaim against theory are in their ignorance denouncing every principle of order and arrangement. It is, however, of importance to observe that the right determination of the facts is absolutely essential to the validity of the theory. All the men who in our day have combined to raise geology to the

dignity of a science—and furthermore a science that has forced for itself a place in the studies of our schools, colleges, and universities—have been pre-eminently distinguished for the extent and accuracy of their observations. Sir Henry de la Beche, Murchison, Sedgewick, Buckland, Lyell, Forbes, Phillips, and many others, who are an honour to our age and country, have aggregated a mass of facts connected with the structure of the earth, and its past as well as its present inhabitants, sufficient to give at least the outline of a history of a series of successive revolutions, to point out the order in which they followed each other, and to indicate with more or less clearness the laws of their operation.

Professor Ansted's object is to collect into one comprehensive digest the existing amount of geological information, so that, while his work is the best existing guide to students of the science, it will be appealed to in future ages as a landmark which will determine the exact amount of progress made in the science of geology to the beginning of the year 1845. Extracts would fail to give any adequate notion of the value of such a work: they would be, in fact, a repetition of the story told by Hierocles, that a man having a house to sell carried round a brick to exhibit as a specimen. Equally vain would be the attempt to make an abstract of its diversified information, for the volumes are a model of judicious condensation. We must, therefore, be content in general terms to recommend the work as the best existing introduction to the knowledge of a most interesting branch of natural science, equally beautiful in what it reveals and valuable in what it teaches.

Professor Ansted has wisely devoted a large share of his attention to the practical applications of geology in mining, architecture, and agriculture. The importance of geology to the architect has been long overlooked; indeed it is only now beginning to form a part of his professional education. The science is frequently of use in determining the site of an edifice, but its value is most apparent in the selection of building materials. On the latter subject very important information was obtained by the commission appointed to select the stone to be used in building the new House of Parliament; Professor Ansted has condensed the most valuable parts of the Report of the Commissioners, and enriched his abstract with observations of his own of equal practical value. The late William Smith (*clarum et venerabile nomen*) was the first who directed attention to the importance of geology to the agriculturist, particularly with relation to the drainage of land; on this part of his subject Professor Ansted is full without being diffuse, and we strongly recommend those who aim at becoming scientific farmers to study his directions.

Geology has now obtained so high and fixed a place in the estimation of the public that it must for the future form a part of literary education. The mere general reader, who requires only as much knowledge of the subject as will serve to defray his share in ordinary conversation, will find Professor Ansted's the best existing work for such a purpose. It is the most attractive in style of any treatise on science that we have seen for many a long day, and indeed does not come far short of Sir John Herschel's celebrated treatise on Astronomy.

We cannot quit this book without bestowing our meed of praise on its typographical execution; the woodcut illustrations (as indeed is the case in all the works published by Van Voorst) are beautiful as works of art, and minutely exact as illustrations of science. We trust to have more than one occasion of renewing acquaintance with the same author and the same publisher.

**SIGNS OF THE TIMES IN BOLTON.**—We have always great pleasure in recording any facts which mark the prosperity of trade and the increased comforts of the working classes. We are informed by John Helling, Esq., the treasurer of the savings' bank, that the sum deposited in that institution at the present time amounts to upwards of £100,000; and that in the two last consecutive weeks the deposits paid into the bank have exceeded the sum drawn out by £1000. These facts afford a pleasing evidence, not only of the improvement of trade, but also of the provident habits of the operatives.—*Bolton Chronicle* of Saturday.

**FARMERS' RIGHTS AND FARMERS' DUTIES.**—An Oxfordshire farmer, writing to the *Oxford Chronicle*, says—“As men, devoting our energies to the important work of producing food for the sustenance of our fellow-men, as working bees in the social hive, we claim from the lords of the soil that respect and consideration which is our due from those who are enabled to live in ease and affluence through the labour and industry of others; as persons employing our capital in the precarious occupation of benefiting the property of others with a view to our own increasing profit and to that of society, we claim that security and advantage of tenure by which and by which alone the great and manifold improvements in the art of culture may be made universally available to the general good of the people; and I trust the time is not far distant when, as men and fellow-citizens, we shall be found to cast aside our long-riveted prejudices, and, being content to abide by the golden rule of ‘doing as we would be done by,’ shall agree to claim for our fellow-men, in the purchase of the necessities of life, that same privilege which we hope to enjoy in the disposal of our own commodities, viz., a full and free access to all the markets of the world.”

## AGRICULTURE.

### ARE NOT FARMERS FREE MEN?

To those who know the more intelligent and independent farmers, nothing can be more painful than the sentiments of subservience towards landlords which are often put forth by land-agents and people of that sort as those of the farmers. Nothing can be more unjust than to represent such as the real farmers' sentiments. True it is, that ignorant men or dependent men often listen in silence while such misrepresentations are being made, but even they do so with indignation and sorrow; and, whenever a real farmer speaks, it is to give utterance to feelings and opinions of a character directly the reverse of those the creatures of the monopolist landocracy impute to the tenant-farmers. Look through the reports of agricultural meetings, and we shall find everywhere that nothing is so heartily and unanimously applauded as expressions in favour of leases, or any other means of giving independence to the farmer. And it must be borne in mind that a large proportion of the best farmers do not frequent these agricultural gatherings, which they regard as playthings or political clubs of the landed gentry. That the desire of the landowners to keep the farmers in a state of political dependence operates greatly to prevent leases, is notorious; but we do not remember to have heard such an undisguised avowal of agricultural serfdom as that made by Mr. John Maughan, the late Lord Dudley's agent at the *Stewpony Farmers' Club* in Worcestershire. After an admirable lecture upon leases, delivered to a large meeting of landlords and farmers, Mr. Maughan closed with the following passages, intended to show that leases, while they would increase production and consequently raise rents, would not give the farmer political independence:—

“Much has been said by the opponents of leases respecting the mutual feelings of regard and the interchanges of good offices promoted by yearly and dependent holdings; but, in my opinion, leases for a moderate term of years have not any inherent or necessary tendency to extinguish such feelings and offices. Proprietors of estates may be apprehensive, that if leases were granted to their tenants generally, they, the proprietors, would lose some of that influence and control on the occasion of political contests, which they possess under a system of tenancy from year to year. My own impression is, that, even under a system of leasing, tenants generally would be found ranged on the side of their landlords. It happens continually in local and political contests that there is nothing deserving the name of principle involved—certainly nothing in which the tenants' interests are materially involved—the struggle being for men rather than measures, and the issue of the contest being to the tenant, as well as to the bulk of the community, a matter totally unimportant. A tenant, whether under a lease or yearly tenancy, would be departing from those ordinary principles of prudence and motives of self-interest by which the generality of mankind are actuated, were he to refuse his support to his landlord generally in political and other public struggles. A leasehold tenant would reflect upon the rankling effect upon the mind which his opposition to his landlord would be sure to produce, and how little it would be calculated to recommend his application for the modification of any subsisting contract, or for renewal of his lease, or to dispose his landlord to press lightly the enforcement of covenants on the expiration of the term. He would reflect that support, cheerfully and gracefully accorded, though not recompensed, nor perhaps very pointedly acknowledged at the moment, is not always on that account unobserved or unappreciated.”

Now, we do not recollect to have met with a more open recognition of the fact that servility and political dependence are required by landlords from their tenants over and above the payment of rent and performance of covenants. This gentleman assumes that the landlords and tenants would always be naturally ranged on the same side in political contests, and that to the tenant it is “totally unimportant” whether he votes for Sir John A., the Whig, or my Lord B., the Tory: that politics form a mere party game, a “struggle for men rather than measures,” at which the landlords play—for pretty good stakes, too, sometimes—but in which the tenants can have no possible concern. But can anything be more remote from the truth than such an assumption? Take the present anxiety on the part of a large body of farmers for a repeal of the malt tax; do they and their landlords go together on that question? Again, does Mr. Maughan forget the deep indignation entertained by the farmers by reason of the broken pledges of their parliamentary representatives chosen at the last general election? But passing these domestic dimensions of the monopolist sections of the landed interests, has not the farmer the rights of a free man? What is there in the cultivation of the soil, in the constant opportunity of “looking through nature up to nature's God,” that should render a man unworthy to enjoy the ordinary rights of citizenship? Why is corn-growing or cattle-feeding inconsistent with political duties? Is the farmer alone, of all the members of the community, to be debarred from entertaining opinions upon questions of state policy? Has he no civil or religious liberty to protect? No Government expenditure to control? Has he even the slightest control over his own local public fund, the county rate? Is he not, in a word, the individual, who, of all the middle class, most wants an effective power of political action?

Let us consider the contrast between the farmer and trader in this respect. Take the case of two brothers of the middle class, each possessing two or three thousand pounds—the one has been bred to trade, and takes up his abode in some town. He seeks to succeed in business by attention, and by furnishing the articles he deals in, or executing the work of his avocation of the best kind or in the best manner, and at reasonable prices. In every transaction of business he gives a fair equivalent for all he receives, and no customer thinks of demanding as an addition to his tradesman's commodity the use of his vote. The tradesman exercises all the rights and performs all the political duties of a free man. He is one of the commons of England.

Not so his brother, who, having been bred a farmer, has taken a farm under the Duke of Dunderhead, a nobleman enjoying the nominal ownership of a vast tract of half-cultivated land, but who, so long as he can keep down the interest of his mortgages, wields all the political influence such a possession gives, and returns the three county members. The farmer brother gives the full yearly rent for his farm—in fact rather more, when the bad state of the land, the abundance of game, the restrictions on cultivation which prevail on the estate, and the constant tendency of prices to fall below the act-of-Parliament scale according to which his Grace's rents have been estimated, are considered—and he fondly imagines, that having cultivated his farm in a manner hitherto unknown in the Dunderhead county, and paid the uttermost farthing of rent, he has done all. Nothing of the kind. A general election is approaching, and the farmer, a thinking intelligent man, has been reading the speeches and considering the votes of the late county members, and after mature deliberation he is convinced that the general scope and tendency of their political course has been to promote extravagance and tyranny on the part of the Government, and bigotry and ill-will amongst the people. He determines to oppose them in favour of any candidate of whose opinions he more approves. It turns out, however, that one of the old county members retires from ill health, old age, or something else; another goes to the House of Lords in consequence of the unexpected demise of his father, a peer. Therefore there are two clear vacancies; and the farmer, knowing and hearing of no person of the neighbourhood fit to represent the county except the two popular candidates, who had been defeated by the Dunderhead nominees at the last election, pleases himself with the idea that those gentlemen will walk over the course. Never was he more deceived. The time of election draws nigh, and the farmer hears of public meetings, sees election addresses, and rather wonders that the popular candidates, whom he is prepared to support, have not called upon him to canvass. Little does he think that he is within a tabooed circle. The popular gentlemen, albeit liberal in opinion and so forth, are far too mindful of aristocratic etiquette to think of canvassing the Dunderhead tenantry when they know that the Duke of Dunderhead is substantially their principal opponent. Of course they know that the Dunderhead tenants will support the Dunderhead interest. This the farmer brother soon finds out. He had almost determined to go and volunteer his support to the popular candidates, when he receives a note from the Dunderhead steward, sent by one of the Dunderhead deputy under-gamekeepers—and the man seems unusually insolent on this occasion—conveying the information (in the form of a circular) that two gentlemen of whom neither the tenant nor any body else ever heard will be candidates to represent the county, that they will be supported by the Dunderhead influence, and that the farmer brother is expected at the Duke's Arms Inn, at the county town, on the day of nomination, in order to form part of the Dunderhead procession, which will escort the one old member and two unknown candidates to the hustings. The tenant is aghast. He disapproves of the political course of the old member, and knows nothing of the political opinions or intellectual capacities of the new candidates. He is at first disposed to resist such an unwarrantable interference with his rights as a freeman, but he consults a neighbour, an old Dunderhead tenant, remembers that he has sunk his capital for several years to come upon the Dunderhead estate, and he goes to the Duke's Arms.

There he finds that one of the new candidates is personally a nonentity, intended as a mere warming-pan for the Dunderhead heir; and the other is a young lordling, just twenty-one, fresh from Oxford, where he was remarkable only for epicurean enjoyments and lordly indolence. The only act of his lordship, remaining on record, was the stewing a turkey or a goose in champagne or burgundy. None of the candidates offered any reasons for certain votes they intended to give—all of which the tenant disapproved—but calmly relied on the Dunderhead interest. At the nomination the tenant holds up his hand for the Dunderhead candidates, while in his heart he wishes their opponents could succeed; and he afterwards goes to the poll, marshalled by the Dunderhead agent, to vote against his own countrymen's convictions.



Is not this a just representation of the vassalage in which the great majority of tenant-farmers are now held? And can anything be more distressing to a man of common integrity?

Have the farmers derived any benefit from their enfranchisement by the Chandos clause? On the contrary, has it not added greatly to their dependence, and injured their pecuniary interests? Are they not subject to the most insolent dictation at the hands of their landlords and their land-agents?

Why do not the farmers in their farmers' clubs pass resolutions that they will not vote red, blue, or orange, at the beck of their landlords, and that it is an insult to the farmers to be canvassed by the steward or his underlings? But, in fact, all this and more is implied when these clubs pass resolutions in favour of leases. The farmers, however, must speak out if they mean to obtain attention. The *Mark-lane Express*, and all the rest of the agricultural journals which are not merely organs of the landowners, distinctly say, in reference to malt-tax repeal and other farmers' public objects, "THAT THE TENANT-FARMERS MUST DEPEND UPON THEMSELVES ALONE."

Hitherto tenant-farmers have been little above the level of the old freemen of the towns: they are bought and sold with the lands they till, their political influence forms a subject of barter in their landlords' hands. Can anything be more discreditable? Look, too, at the men who are sent to Parliament solely by the compelled votes of the farmers, and say whether it is possible to collect a body of men, by courtesy called educated, more destitute of intellect and capacity for public business than the one hundred and fifty-eight county members sent to Parliament by the English and Welsh counties? Not one in ten of them ever attempts to speak in the House of Commons, and not more than half a dozen of the whole number ever open their mouths without making themselves supremely ridiculous. Why, the term county member has become a synonyme for a dull, pompous, prejudiced, and bigoted man, who knows nothing, and is too proud to learn anything, except what is taught him through the medium of his breeches pocket; and for such a national scandal the farmers are mainly answerable.

They, too, have the remedy in their own hands. Why don't they send a few of the most intelligent of their own body into the House of Commons as county members? There are plenty of such men to be found. Then we should hear in Parliament something of the real farmers' grievances, of which in their own peculiar circles they so loudly complain. We should know somewhat of the mischiefs of game preserves and the horrors of the game laws, the unjust operation of the law of distress, and other rural topics, from which at present our legislators most carefully abstain. The first step the farmers must take is to send a few men of their own class, men identified with them in feeling, interest, and social position, and who have sufficient nerve and education to bear a part in the debates of the House of Commons on questions which affect agriculture. Nor will it be necessary for them to send more than a few, for by so doing a standard of opinion will be formed amongst farmers to which from thenceforth all candidates for counties must conform. In this farmers must act together, they must no longer submit to be deemed mere aristocratic appendages to a Dunderhead estate, and they should bear in mind that, in public affairs especially, "fortune helps those only who can help themselves." Moreover, they will soon discover that the monopolist landowners, like most blusterers, are arrant moral cowards, particularly when prices are low, and the interest of mortgages presses sharply. The monopolist landlords say the farmers have learnt to act for themselves; let them now prove that assertion to be a reality.

#### A MODERN MIRACLE.

##### THE LANDLORDS SET A-THINKING.

"Sweet are the uses of adversity," indeed; for, under the salutary influence of low prices and falling rents, the monopolist landlords, even the monopolist landlords of Dorsetshire, are listening to reason and diverging into common sense. This is in truth a natural phenomenon of no ordinary import. Rents have before fallen under the influence of low prices, but the landlords' remedy has heretofore been another dose of protection, more acts of Parliament, just when all rational men saw that protection and act-of-Parliament promises had equally failed. Nor have the monopolist squires fallen upon rationality willingly and of their own accord, as may be proved by reference to their Protection Society speeches a year ago, but it has been forced upon them by the teaching of the League; and that not so much by the direct instruction the ample discussion of Free-Trade questions has afforded to the landowners, as by the general enlightenment of the public, which has rendered the old landlord monopolist fallacies too ridiculous to be again broached. Such were the ideas which occurred to us after reading the report of the speeches at the *Blandford Agricultural Society*. Our readers may remember that this was the society at which the Rev. S. G. Osborne was so furiously assailed by the Dorsetshire squires for simply stating the actual destination

in which the Dorsetshire peasants "abided, not lived," upon the earth. Now, however, these squires listened to an excellent speech by the same reverend gentleman with silence and attention, the only indications of dissent being small sneers thrown out by subsequent speakers, which proved that, though the reptile monopoly had been compelled to bear the "lovely jewel" common sense, it had not altogether lost its "venomous" nature.

Mr. Osborne having quietly but firmly stated his adherence to his expressed opinions as to the cause of the low condition of the Dorsetshire labourers, turned to the consideration of a remedy. Of allotments he said, "He had some experience in them, and had watched them carefully, but he could not consider them in the light of a remedy for the labourer." \* \* \* He did wish ever to bear in mind that they consulted the labourer's happiness *beat by regarding him simply as a labourer.*" A small allotment might be useful recreation, "but to tell him that it could do the amount of good that the advocates of the system said it could, was to tell him that which the amount of his experience told him was untrue." Neither had the plan of making labourers small farmers of four or five or ten acres proved more successful. But "granting that the man who cultivates three or four acres was honest and industrious, and all that the advocates of the system said he was, still, as his family grew up, they did not grow up to take the situation of labourers; they had been labourers on their father's own little farm, and they became mere discontented men, unless they could be placed in that situation themselves." And the farmers present by their applause testified to the truth of the above statement. In fact the "allotment system" is a sheer delusion. Mr. Osborne then showed the absurdity of looking to emigration as a remedy "for the evils which existed;" and exposed the false principles on which the scheme of a labour-rate was based.

He then said:—

"There was another, and that was the most delicate of all points to touch upon. It had been urged upon the tenantry that they should employ more labour; he confessed he did not see the justice, in this present time, nor did he see in any time the policy, of dictating to a man how much labour he should employ in his own business. (Cheers.) If a farmer neglected the culture of his farm, nobody could blame his landlord if he either got rid of him, or took what steps were in his power to make him cultivate better; but he could not admit the justice of that course of reasoning which said, 'I won't only have my farm cultivated well, but I'll dictate what number of men I'll have employed;' and, to come to another thing, he thought that those who cried out thus loudly seemed to forget how many a farmer had to keep whom he could not employ at all, and that there was also, in the shape of poor's rate, another most heavy tax. Let any one go into the business, and take all the counties of England, and see who paid the greatest amount towards the old, the infirm, and the useless? He would venture to say it would be found that the tenantry were those who did pay the most, and therefore he could not see the justice of crying out at once that the evil was to be met by their employing more. The question came to this—could they afford to employ more? (A voice: 'No.') In common times he thought no greater want of judgment could be shown than to say anything to lead the tenant to turn on the landlord when prices turned against him; but when, year after year, there was a steady decline in prices, till they arrived at that price below which even those who were going to do away with all protection said they would come—he thought this not a time to turn round to make their first attack upon the farmer. (Cheers.) Do not think that he was saying this to curry any favour from them. He thought he had shown already that he cared little for the want of their favour when he thought he was right."

Then, as to the labourers, he said:—

"That they were in a most degraded state with regard to the condition of the labourer, was an admitted fact. A wrong principle of dealing with the poor had, he thought, brought them to this; and yet he was not cast down, however dark the case might look. He believed the difficulty might be met without relying upon emigration, or without giving the labourer forty lug of land—good as a charity, but bad as standing between the master and the labourer. He would tell them how it was to be met—not by legislative enactments, but by a few zealous landlords and farmers looking the thing full in the face, and the landlord and tenant's discretion in applying the remedy wanting in this or that locality; but to say there was one rule, to say that one man renting high and another renting low were to be guided by the same principle, did appear to him to betray the greatest amount of folly."

Again:—

"It was in vain to give rewards, here and there for isolated merit; it was in vain to call certain members from the mass; let them look at them all. If they were good, let them cherish them—weak, let them protect them—ignorant, let them teach them; but never turn their distress to an engine in their own hands, to dictate the terms on which they were to serve them. No; they had one motto ever popular at such dinners as these, 'Live and let live.'"

Mr. Sturt, in returning thanks as one of the county members, did not think in all the meetings, and all the eloquence which had been brought to bear upon the question, the improvement of the condition of the labourers—"ay, and notwithstanding the speech they had heard from Mr. Osborne"—that much had been unfolded.

"The grievances of the labourer had been laid before them in speech and in writing, but he did not think the causes had been investigated. It might be true that they had been sought after with diligence, but he did not believe that the search had been attended with success. The grievances detailed last year were—the state of the dwellings of the labourer, the want of employment, the inadequacy of wages when employed. They got to that last year, and he thought that they then agreed that the state of the cottages was altogether a landlord's question."

True; but how is it the squires only found out this after the designation of a Dorsetshire landowner had become a byword of reproach throughout the kingdom?

Mr. Sturt, however, admitted—

"That it was the duty of the landlord to see that those persons who dwelt on his land, and whose labour was required for the cultivation of that land, should have dwellings in good condition. He was told, and he was glad to hear it, that much had been done; but, although much had been done, much still remained to do."

And all the squires are, at all events, talking about the subject, for Mr. Sturt said:—

"The condition of the labourer was now so much the topic that it was added to the usual modes of salutations. The first was, 'How are you?' The next, 'How's the weather?' And the third, 'My friend, what's your remedy for the condition of the labouring classes?' The remedy most in favour appeared to be allotments. He did not say he was the first to introduce them into that county, but no one had tried them to such an extent as he had, or continued to do so. Some time ago he pulled down a small village and built up an experimental village in its place. He built two cottages on an acre of ground, so that the land on one side should belong to one cottager and that on the other side to the other. The land had been cultivated in an excellent manner, but he agreed with Mr. Osborne it was not a remedy; it was only a palliative, and he owned that, if it were not carried into execution with forbearance, it was capable of producing a much greater evil than a good. He said it was a palliative; the object of that society was to place the labourer in the most wholesome state."

And how is that to be done? Reader, be not surprised if at length you find a rational opinion upon that subject expressed by a monopolist landowner and a county member:—

"Now, the most wholesome state was that wherein he was enabled to take his capital (that was his labour) to the market, and obtain such an equivalent as would enable him to get the necessities of life. These he should define to consist of a decent dwelling, fuel, clothing, good oatmeal bread, ordinary cheese, and bacon every day in the year. (Hear, hear.) He should be glad to superadd small beer if it were possible, but he thought, with the heavy taxation, it was not so. Was that visionary? Did it exist anywhere in England? It did. He thought it was very striking to note the inequality of wages in different parts of England. Mr. Sturt then pointed to the great difference in the price of labour in the north and in the west of England. While in the former the labourer received 12s. or 13s. a week, in the latter the rate was only 8s. or 9s. Of this difference he could offer no explanation."

Now, it did not occur to this gentleman that the explanation of this is, that in the west the operation of protection was unalloyed, tenants farmed indifferently with insufficient capital, in a full reliance upon act-of-Parliament-promised prices; while in the north and north-east farmers applied more of enterprise and intelligence to the cultivation of land—they do that which would become universal if the incubus of "protection" were removed.

Mr. Sturt then referred to what seemed to him to be the explanation, and here again we have evidence that some of the squires are not absolutely unteachable. He said:—

"I am unable to explain the causes to my own satisfaction, but I know that in some districts of high wages large tracts of land have been brought into high cultivation more rapidly than the population has increased—that the demand for labour has been great, and consequently wages high. From the nature of the case the labourer has become extremely skilful, so that the farmer gets a full equivalent for his money in the extent and goodness of the work done. In other districts I think the great manufacturing establishments have had an effect—that persons have gone to the towns who would have been agricultural labourers—that the higher wages they receive has an effect on agricultural wages—that the labourers have established a higher standard of living, possessing the necessities of life, as I have described them, and from which they are very unwilling to descend. (Hear.) Then there is this distinctive difference between a farmer in those districts and a farmer in the west. The northern farmer asks himself what work he requires to have done, and how few hands can execute it? Here the farmer does not ask how many he requires, but how many men are there in the parish? (Hear.) And the farmer here, I believe, pays as large an amount of wages, in the aggregate, for the same produce, as the farmer in the north; and therefore it is unfair and unjust to hold him up to obloquy for not giving higher wages (cheers), for he pays to the greater number that which the northern farmer pays to the lesser. (Cheers.) These are probably some of the causes for the difference in wages to which I have referred. I throw them out for your further consideration and inquiry."

He then said the tenant who lays out his capital on the farm is entitled to a lease, and "that any tenant, under such circumstances, holding land under him would find him very ready to grant one." He, however, indicated a sneaking kindness for the make-shift arguments called tenant-rights, with which the north-country landlords have, to some extent, contrived to satisfy their tenants. He said—

"He [the farmer] has the fullest reliance on his landlord, but life is uncertain; his son may be a minor, and trustees may feel it their unpleasant duty to take possession of his outlay, or various occurrences may arise. Well, then, if an apprehension of this sort does exist, so as to check this confidence, look again to the north. The custom of the country protects a farmer there. If he leaves a farm for any cause, caprice or notice, he is entitled to a proportionate return of his expenditure—he is empowered to call in a surveyor if a dispute arises, but the principle is never contested. A like plan, improved upon, could be adopted in this county."

This is no doubt a first step towards leases; and the subsequent suggestion of Mr. Sturt, that a few squires and

farmers of Dorsetshire should "draw up a code applicable to Dorsetshire," proves that the landowners are at last thinking of dealing with their property like reasonable men. Then followed Mr. George Banks, and he felt obliged to repudiate the "allotment system" and emigration. He then said:—

"The state of the Dorsetshire labourers has, as you are aware, been made a very prominent public question; such is the fact, and, whether I may have been disposed to regret it or otherwise, it does not become me to flinch from it either here or anywhere else. The notoriety of the Dorsetshire labourers arose from two transactions which have occupied much of the public attention, and neither of which brought any discredit on the county, and one of them we may consider a source of honour."

And what, reader, think you was this notorious gentleman's explanation of the ill repute of Dorsetshire? Why, the old occurrence of the Dorsetshire labourers, who in 1830 were transported under an act of extreme severity, and whose case excited very considerable sympathy; and because Lord Ashley, one of the county members, having been forward to inquire into the condition of factory labourers, the employers of those labourers had, as a retaliation, "set the Dorset labourers prominently forward to compete in public sympathy with the factory children." With this pitiful, paltry subterfuge the *Times* has dealt in a style so trenchant, yet so just, that we cannot better give Mr. George Banks his due than by quoting some passages from the *Times* article. After alluding to that part of Mr. Banks's speech, and his explanation, and observing it was the only exception to the practical tone of the meeting, the writer proceeds:—

"That it has a bad name is not disputed. Other counties possess claims to notice, but Dorsetshire appears to receive it. Notwithstanding the fires of Suffolk, the occasional riots of Wales, the strikes of Durham, the overwork of Lancashire, and the concentrated miseries of the metropolis, yet destitution and degradation cannot be mentioned without the mind naturally turning to Dorsetshire. The Dorsetshire labourer, Dorsetshire wages, Dorsetshire cottages, Dorsetshire parish houses, Dorsetshire bedrooms, Dorsetshire depopulations, are become almost household words. We have Cheshire cheese, Devonshire cream, Norfolk turkeys, Essex calves, Wiltshire bacon, and other provincial delicacies. But for large families existing on 8s. or even 7s. a week, for undrained mud floors, for a dozen or more of all sexes and ages in one bedroom, for every other form of squalid brutal degradation, we go to Dorsetshire. The opinion may be absolutely unfounded, but still it is universal. Dorsetshire, justly or unjustly, has furnished a type of agricultural misery."

Ay, and Dorsetshire is a type of what "protection" will effect, where aristocratic influence reigns unmixed and supreme. The member for Dorsetshire did not deny or controvert any one of the allegations on which that ill repute has been maintained, or advance a single fact of a contrary character:—

"Yet how does he meet a serious charge—a universal belief? By showing a possible foundation in accident, interest, and malice. Yet the facts were before his face, and under his very feet. A numerous body of labourers had just been rewarded, and at that moment were being seated in the same house; a numerous body of gentlemen and clergymen were in the room. Here was a host of competent witnesses. All the circumstances of the case were as favourable for the impartial development of the truth, as for the favourable reception of Mr. Banks's singularly insufficient apology. Here is the county member, a leading man of his party, at an agricultural dinner; excuse the comparison—a cock on his own dunghill."

What a noble opportunity of eliciting and declaring to the deluded kingdom the facts of the case! Why not out at once with the rates of wages, summer and winter, a description of the cottages, and fare, and other plain realities? The successful candidates for the labourers' prizes had each received "a neat and pretty testimonial, expensively framed and glazed, to hang up in his cottage." How complete the scene would have been if "a neat and pretty" landlords' testimonial could have been added to the series!

Inferior motives will take the lead and mix themselves with the whole course of the inquiry. A wise man casts them aside, and searches for facts. It is but a feeble mode of debate to descend from a question of fact to a question of motive, and merely perpetuate a miserable war of personal recriminations. If it were a sufficient answer to any considerable statement that there are interested or malicious reasons for propounding or believing it, there is an end to all human certainty and all exactness of knowledge, for there are few statements which are not in that predicament."

Nor would retaliation be unusual:—

"Nay, truth itself requires these retaliations. If one employer charges on another the ill condition of his servants, it is quite necessary to inquire, 'How do you manage?' If a person censures the excessive strictness of another's domestic management, it is obvious and inevitable to reply, 'But your children are ill-bred.' The manufacturer is charged with working his servants too young, too much, too carelessly, and so forth. He cannot but inquire, 'How do you contrive to give a sufficiency of wages to your servants without these acknowledged evils? You are lavish of your precepts. Show me your example. How do you actually get over the difficulties under which the great bulk of mankind are sentenced to earn their bread?' Let Mr. Banks just for a moment quit the charmed circle of his castle, his tenantry, and his agricultural meeting, and put himself in the place of a Manchester manufacturer, and he will learn to make allowances, and take truth even at the mouth of a rival; at least, to meet assertions with facts."

This, Mr. Banks, proceeds from a journalist who supports the Ministry of which you are a subordinate.

The only excuse which can be made for the fluent monopolist is, that, though a tolerably ready talker, he is not a good hand at facts. That is his peculiar weakness.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Sir,—In the *LEAGUE* of Saturday a correspondent inquires as to the qualification of an Independent Minister having a beneficiary interest in a cottage of the value of £9 a year. You doubt his claim; but my own case induces me to differ from you, and its publication may, perhaps, be useful to others, as it has been argued at length before successive barristers, and always in my favour. I am an Independent Minister in circumstances precisely such as your correspondent specifies. I claim no freehold in the chapel or salary; but the minister's house I prefer letting at £10 a year to occupying, and for that I claim, and successfully, because the cottage is in the hands of trustees for the use of the minister for the time being. The appointment is in another body, called the church. The trustees, who legally hold the property (the cottage) have not a shadow of power, as trustees, to take it away at any time or for any cause; therefore, however the appointment may be deemed terminable by the appointing parties, the trustees are deemed to have no control over the beneficiary interest; and therefore it is as to them a life interest—no opposing barristers have agreed. Many Independent ministers are in similar circumstances, and will be thankful for this information.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully, JEROME CLAPP.  
[If "B.J." has an appointment for life, or for some uncertain period which may endure for life, he can vote; we intimated as much in our answer, but the case sent to us merely stated that of "A minister of the Independent denomination who preaches in a chapel," without giving any reference to his appointment, whether for life or merely an occasional preacher. Our answer could, therefore, be only general.]  
"S.G."—Sir,—Being anxious to qualify myself as a voter for Middlesex, I shall feel obliged by your favouring me with your opinion on the following case:—A friend owes me £300, for which I receive the usual interest; he is in possession of freehold property in the county, of ample value, and is willing to grant me a rent-charge of £15 per annum on the same, reserving, however, to himself a power of redemption on payment of £300. Would such a transaction be considered a rent-charge in the spirit of the Reform Act, or not rather a mortgage, and, as such, insufficient to confer on me a vote? The favour of a reply in your next week's paper will oblige yours, obediently.

[We think a rent-charge with such a clause, though good in law as security, might raise a question as to the bond fide qualification in the registration courts.]

"A Free-Trader."—The lodgers' case is before the Court of Common Pleas. It is, therefore, thought advisable to withhold our opinion, but rather wait the decision of the court.  
"W.A." may procure one of the articles he inquires for at Mr. Cadaby's, Market-street, Manchester. We are not aware of any error in the statistical account to which he refers.  
"C.R."—The verses under this signature are not sufficiently correct for insertion.

"J.R."—Newspapers may be transmitted through the Post-office within the United Kingdom without any limitation as to the date of publication; but they can only be forwarded to British possessions in foreign parts within one week of the day of publication.  
"J.H., Jewin Crescent," will be noticed next week.  
"W.T., Withenhall,"—We must decline these lines.

"M., Kilkenny," sends some strong remarks, claiming from the monopolists pecuniary restitution, but which we must decline to insert. We cannot, however, refrain from saying, that provided such restitution could be made, and that the monopolists, in order to effect it, were willing to pawn their plate, carriages, racehorses, and fowling-pieces, yet how could they undo the actual misery that they have inflicted? How could they reimburse the families which the effects of monopoly have scattered over the world? And how restore from the grasp of death the victims of a starving policy to their bereaved friends?

The letter from a "Friend, in Oxfordshire," is received: its contents will be duly considered.  
Many communications are unavoidably postponed to next week for want of space.

## NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

We beg to announce that on and after the 18th of January, Two Pages of the *LEAGUE* will be appropriated to Advertisements. No Patent Medicine Advertisements will be admitted; nor will any Advertisements be received after the Thursday preceding the day of publication. The average circulation of the *LEAGUE* from April 6th to December 28th, 1844, was 19,738: the minimum number having been 17,092.

## GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN THE FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.

AN AGGREGATE MEETING of the LEAGUE will be HELD on WEDNESDAY next, January 8, in the FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., in the Chair.

The meeting will be addressed by RICHARD CODDEN, Esq., M.P., MARK PHILIPS, Esq., M.P., and WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., of Liverpool.

## GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN.

THE NEXT AGGREGATE MEETING of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be HELD on WEDNESDAY so'night, the 16th of JANUARY, at the usual hour.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 4, 1845.

The progress of the registration movement has more than equalled our anticipations. During the past week our general and local committees have been kept in full employment providing qualifications for those who are anxious to obtain the franchise, and we have little doubt that at the next registration for the county of Middlesex the Free-Traders will place a working and winning majority on the register. We strongly recommend the formation of committees in all other counties connected with manufactures, or having large towns sufficient to counteract the landlord domination, so as to have everything ready for work as soon as possible; and in the meantime we recommend every individual Free-Trader who can obtain a qualification to do so, and not to be deterred by finding that the monopolists appear to be supreme at present in the district where such qualification is situated.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—M. Villemain, Minister of Public Instruction, is so alarmingly ill that he has resigned that post. The *Moniteur* of Tuesday announces that the King has signified to M. Villemain his deep regret at seeing him retire from office, and publishes a royal ordinance, dated Monday, accepting his resignation, and charging M. Damon, the Minister of Public Works, with the department of Public Instruction *ad interim*.

The Minister of Justice and Public Worship has addressed a circular to the French bishops, requesting them to engage priests of their dioceses to be indulgent in the case of persons who die without having received the offices of religion. "Whenever," says the circular, "a doubt can exist as to the real state of mind of the deceased, ought not the minister of a religion of Christian love to hasten to his funeral, and pray solemnly for him whose last sigh, perhaps, was addressed to the God of mercy? Ought he not, at least, to guard himself severely against the inspirations of a too ardent zeal, or the illusions of a too delicate conscience?"

The deputies forming part of the Agricultural Committee of the French Chamber were to meet on Monday, to consider what measures it was advisable to adopt in order to prevent the epidemic now prevailing among the cattle in Germany from extending its ravages to France. The malady is said to have made its appearance on the frontiers of Rhenish Prussia and Dutch Limburg, within a short distance of Belgium. The provincial authorities of that kingdom were taking precautions against the scourge.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 26.—The Senate was engaged to-day in the general debate on the project of the Corn Law. The Ministers of the Interior and Public Works, Foreign Affairs, Justice, and Finance were present. Several members were wholly opposed to the proposed measure, which they thought would be disastrous to agriculture. Other members were of opinion that it would prevent greater evils, and some were of opinion that it could not prove so injurious as some believe, because the Government reserved to itself the power of suspending the execution of it. The general discussion being closed, that of the several articles will commence to-morrow.

Dec. 27.—The Senate in its yesterday's sitting, after an animated debate, adopted the project of law on corn by a majority of 20 to 13.

There has been a meeting at Ghent of the men employed in the sugar houses, for the purpose of drawing up a petition to the Chamber against the proposed law on sugar duties. The petition was unanimously adopted. The following paragraph was added:—"We do not ask alms, we ask for justice—for work." The petition has above 800 signatures.

A Mulhouse journal states that the demand for calico goods in that town is so great, that the manufacturers are all actively employed, and that within a short period 3000 new hand-looms have been set up in the neighbourhood.

UNITED STATES.—The Royal Mail steamer *Caledonia* arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, bringing the American President's message and papers from New York to the 15th Dec., Boston to the 16th, and Halifax to the 18th.

Mr. Tyler's message is very lengthy. Its chief topic is pressing the annexation of Texas. The advantages of the step are thus summed up:—"The extension of our coastwise and foreign trade, to an amount almost incalculable, the enlargement of the market for our agricultural productions—safety to our frontiers, and additional strength and stability to the Union,—these are the results which would rapidly develop themselves upon the consummation of the measure of annexation." An angry correspondence had taken place between the American Minister at Mexico, and the Mexican Secretary of State, in consequence of the latter having explicitly charged the American Government with bad faith, and with covertly promoting the separation of Texas from Mexico. The American Minister was, in consequence, momentarily expecting his passports to leave the country. According to this news, affairs between Mexico and the United States look very warlike, and a rupture between the two nations may lead to very serious difficulty with England, if with no other European government.

TROUBLES IN CANADA.—There are occasional outbreaks in Canada, which are very unpleasant, particularly at elections. On Monday, Dec. 2nd, the municipal election took place in Montreal, and on the Saturday previous a man named Colburn shot an Irishman named Penta through the heart who had assaulted him. The day following the city was in a state of great excitement, and the Irishmen and Frenchmen collected in great crowds at the Haymarket. The military were called out and the mob dispersed. On Monday afternoon two men were shot, one named Griffiths, in the neck, who is not expected to live. The military were again called out and the mob dispersed.—*New York Sun*.

WATERSPOUT IN MEXICO.—At Yabu, in the late hurricane, a tremendous waterspout passed through the place, doing much damage. It was about 20 feet wide. In its course it passed over two houses, driving the roofs through, and entirely destroying one. Five children were killed in one of the buildings. The effect was the same as if a violent river had run through the town. Trees, grass, and everything that came in its way were torn up.—*American paper*.

INDIA.—By the arrival of the *Beutick* at Suez, on the 14th of December, we have received advice from Calcutta of the 15th of November, Madras the 22nd. From Alexandria we learn "that Lord Elphinstone had left on the 18th for Cairo, as also young Hardinge, who had arrived by the *Hedra*. The Post-office treaty had been signed, and would go on by the *Oriental*."

The past month has not been prolific in events of a very striking character. The insurrection in the Kolapore country, which proved to be of a more serious character than was supposed, has been put down, and the disturbed districts seem to be tolerably quiet. In the Bombay Presidency nothing of a very important character has occurred. The Governor-General is still at the Presidency, and rumour is silent on the subject of any intended move from the seat of Government. He appears to be quietly perfecting himself in the business of his administration; and such indications as have yet been manifested seem to point to a tranquil and pacific Government, pregnant with good to the people of the soil. There is no talk of a war in the Punjab, or any other immediate employment of our troops.



Within the presidency two domestic events have occurred some interest of a painful character. One of these is the suicide of the Rajah of Berhampore, who having committed, through his instruments, some acts of cruelty on the person of a dependent, which occasioned, in the sequel, the poor man's death, came down to Calcutta, where intelligence of the tragic issue reached him, coupled with the information that a warrant was out for his arrest. Dreading the indignity of falling into the hands of the myrmidons of the police, the wretched man blew out his brains. He had previously made a will, leaving the bulk of his large property to be devoted to the establishment and support of a university. The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of *felo de se*. The other event is the murder, by Dacoits, of Captain Alcock, of the Quartermaster-General's department, who was intercepted, when on a dawn journey, by a band of notorious Dacoits, of whom the police were in pursuit, and being taken for Mr. Unwin, the magistrate, was dragged from his palanquin and cut to pieces. Several of the wretches concerned in this murderous deed have been apprehended. "The demand for British goods," writes the *Englishman* of the 16th of November, "has latterly revived, and some descriptions are now eagerly sought for, notwithstanding the immense increase of supply during the past year. There can be no doubt that a more general and extensive consumption is gradually taking place, and we expect very soon to find India at the head of the list of British exports. The home Government will then, perhaps, become aware how much it is in their power to do for the prosperity of this country, and be furnished with a sufficient motive for undertaking it. The improvement in our overland communications, which we have reason to think will be effected next year, will, we hope, be the first great step to a course of measures on the part of Government for the improvement of the most important of the British possessions. By it they will have brought us near enough to be heard, and it will be our fault if we do not speak."

CHINA.—The news from China is to the 3rd of September, but it is not of an important character.

SYDNEY.—Advices from Sydney are to the 4th of September. The colonies were slowly—very slowly—reviving. Great distress prevailed among the operative classes, and a public meeting had been held to memorialise the Government to take their case into consideration.

Dr. Wolff.—We find that, by the last accounts, Dr. Wolff was on his way from Teheran to Erzeroum.

TAHITI.—The Paris journals of Monday publish very long accounts from Tahiti to the 14th of July, brought home by Admiral Dupetit Thouars, who has, it appears, arrived in Paris. The only new fact of importance unconnected with the horrible details of massacres which are given in the official reports, is the announcement by the Governor, through an indirect channel, of intelligence that his Government had renounced the sovereignty of Tahiti. The writer of a letter from Tahiti, published in the *Debates*, declares that the natives of the whole island, except in two or three districts, are animated by feelings of the most decided hostility against the French; that they have acquired extraordinary boldness; that they show themselves close to Papeete, and that the colonists are nowhere in security. This is proved by the burning of one of the largest farms, in which the crew of the *Uranie* were working as labourers, and the destruction by fire of several of the houses inhabited by colonists. The natives have also burned down the residence and chapel of the French missionaries. The *Debates* correspondent admits that even the French troops are only secure when within their fortifications; for, if they go out to attack the natives, the latter do not retire until they have destroyed many of the army, and immediately reappear, to harass and annoy them. "We have a beautiful climate," says the writer, "and a luxuriant vegetation; but we can enjoy neither, for we are without peace, and we have no hands to cultivate the soil." One of the reports to the Governor announces the death of an English missionary, whose name is given in a private letter as Makinn. This unfortunate gentleman was, it is said, standing on a balcony looking at the troops when the natives opened their fire upon the French, and he received a ball, which killed him immediately.

#### DOMESTIC.

A petition against the game laws is in course of signature, by the inhabitants of the town and county of Nottingham.

On Christmas-day the bodies of two boys, and subsequently that of a third, were found in a mill-stream which flows into the Cherwell, near Banbury. It was ascertained on inquiry that they had been sliding on the ice, which it is supposed broke under them, and they were consequently drowned.

The *Willshire Independent* reports an afflictive case of death caused by destitution and the inclemency of the weather. The unfortunate victim, John Mathews, of Greatworth, had been committed to the New Prison for two months for deserting his wife and children, and on coming out on Wednesday, the 11th of December, was deprived of his warm prison dress, and the miserable rags he had on when first incarcerated were given to him; and also a loaf of bread and 4d. given him for his sustenance on the road home, a distance of nearly 20 miles. Thus exposed to the inclemency of the weather, and being afflicted with a disease of the heart, only occasionally obtaining temporary shelter, and having hardly any food to eat at Malmsbury, his feet so badly frost-bitten that the medical attendant declared he must lose them. On the following Saturday night he expired. An inquest has been held on the body, and after a full investigation of the case the jury returned the following verdict:—"That death was of opinion that disease of the heart; and the exposure to cold on leaving the prison with insufficient clothing, rendered him particularly susceptible of its effects." The unhappy men, Downing and Powys, who were convicted at the late Staffordshire assizes for the murder of the gamekeeper, William Cooper, await the execution of their sentence. No information has been received by the county authorities as to whether the recommendation of the jury, that the lives of these wretched men might be spared, has been favourably considered by the officers of the Crown.

The Society for Relieving Destitution in the Metropolis has placed the sum of £100 with a view of the resident inmates of Bethnal-green parish during this inclement season. Relief of a very extensive nature in coal, bread,

and potatoes, and a reasonable donation of blankets, was distributed for Christmas throughout the whole of the district.

A public meeting of the Regent-street district branch of the Metropolitan Drapers' Association was held on Monday evening, December 30, at Lloyd's Rooms, Regent-quadrant, when interesting information relative to the progress of the "early closing" movement was detailed, and the evils resulting from the present protracted hours of business in shops were forcibly depicted by the several speakers.

On Sunday morning, a few minutes before 12 o'clock, the metropolis and its environs were visited with a dense fog. At many of the churches and chapels it was necessary to have the lamps lighted to enable the clergy to proceed with the services. The steamers and other vessels proceeding up and down the river dropped their anchors, it being almost impossible to discern objects ten yards distant. About two o'clock the wind shifted, when rain commenced, and the fog dispersed.

A fatal accident occurred on Monday morning on the Liverpool and Leeds Junction Railway. Mr. Thomas Foraythe, one of the principal servants in the establishment, who was going in the train to attend his own daughter's funeral, was run over by the engine and killed on the spot.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* states that "Sir James Graham, and that portion of the Cabinet which encourage everything anti-Protestant in Ireland, have come to the resolution of founding two colleges—the one in Ulster, the other in Munster; Belfast and Cork being the localities fixed upon in opposition to, if not in rivalry with, Trinity College, Dublin."

The agitation in Ireland against the Charitable Bequests Act is still going on with energy, and appears to have received a considerable stimulus from an article in the *Times*, recommending as good policy on the part of the British Government to open negotiations with the Court of Rome, for the purpose of establishing diplomatic relations with the Pope.

There are still sad accounts from the midland counties of Ireland. Two murders are recorded—one in Roscommon, the other in Kerry. The *Sligo Champion* says that ribbonism has been revived in that district.

The Repeal Association met on Monday in the Conciliation-hall. The proceedings were of little interest. The week's rent amounted to £178. 16s.

During the last few days the metropolitan coroners have held a large number of inquests on the bodies of persons who have died suddenly. On Tuesday Mr. Baker held five inquests, the day before six, and in the course of the last four or five days he has had above twenty cases. Mr. Payne, the City coroner, held two inquests on Tuesday; and on Saturday night, while holding one in St. John's, Horseleydown, a female fell down dead opposite the house where the jury were sitting. Mr. Higge, the coroner for Westminster, has also held several. The cause of the numerous sudden deaths is attributed by the medical men to the frequent sudden changes of the atmosphere, and the alternations of heat and cold producing rapid inflammation and congestion of the vessels of the head and lungs.

The occupation of the Royal Exchange by the merchants took place on Wednesday the 1st instant; the muster was very considerable.

On Monday an exceedingly high scaffold, erected against the premises of Mr. Slater, butcher, Jermy-street, St. James's, fell with a tremendous crash, burying in the materials four labourers, who were engaged in running it still higher. One was taken out quite dead, and two others it is feared have been crushed by the weight of the falling timber. Another was removed on a stretcher to the hospital in a very precarious state, small hopes being held out of his recovery.

The official return of the Dartmouth election was made on Friday the 27th ultimo, when the numbers were:—For Mr. Somes, 125; Mr. Moffett, 118—majority, 7. "We understand," says the *Chronicle*, "that this election will be further contested before a committee of the House of Commons, not only on the alleged disqualification of the successful candidate as a Government contractor, and therefore ineligible to sit in Parliament, but on allegations of bribery, and of bad votes having been polled."

The total number of deaths in the metropolis during the week ending last Saturday, was 1249; showing a decrease of 144 upon the mortality of the preceding week. The returns, however, are still considerably (303) above the weekly average, as deduced from the average numbers of the past five years, which is 946.

An inquest was held on Thursday afternoon at the Three Tons, Saltbill, Slough, on the body of Sarah Hart, a married woman, whose husband is now abroad, and who is suspected to have been murdered. By the evidence of Mary Anne Ashlee, it appeared that between six and seven the previous evening she heard stifled screams in the house where deceased resided, and that on taking a light and going to the door she saw a man dressed like a Quaker, and who appeared much agitated, come from the house; about two hours before she had seen the same person at the house. On entering the deceased's apartment she found her lying on her back on the floor, her dress disordered, she having the appearance of having been struggling. The deceased had always told her that she was a married woman; that her husband was the son of a Quaker named Tawell, with whom she had formerly lived as a servant; that she had expected him (Tawell) to visit her on the day in question, and to bring her part of her husband's wages. She had children by her husband. The witness identified Mr. Tawell, who had been taken into custody, as the person she had seen at the house. He was in the garb of a member of the Society of Friends, and appeared between 50 and 60 years of age. He is the town surveyor of Berkhamstead. After having been seen leaving the house, he was traced to the station-house where he started for London; but the superintendent, Mr. Howell, having forwarded a description of him by telegraph, he was watched by a railway policeman, and arrested and conveyed to Slough to be present at the inquest. The medical evidence was not given, the inquest having been adjourned to Saturday.

A frightful accident has taken place at the colliery of Messrs. Mathews and Dudley, at Bromley, near Kingswinford, in consequence of the breaking of some part of the machinery, by which eight persons were precipitated down the pit a distance of 200 yards, and dashed nearly to atoms.

Major-General Sir William Knott died on Wednesday last, at his residence, Carmarthen.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

TURN-OUT OF POWER-LOOM WEAVERS.—On Friday last the turn-out of power-loom weavers at the cotton-mill of Messrs. Tattersall and Mellor, Lyon Mill, Oldham, terminated, the masters having consented to free the hands from the charges made for gas. The object of the strike was to obtain an advance of wages; and the exemption from the charge for gas will be equivalent to an increase of about 6d. per week for each pair of looms.

HANDSOME TURN-OUT.—The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, the labourer's friend and farm servant's father, has lately been exercising a little wholesome fatherly severity upon his Irish tenants in Westmeath, where eighteen families have been turned adrift by the Duke's steward. Pleasant weather this for the wet bog, or ditch side! It appears that no rent was due from them. Doubtless, on the occasion of the next agricultural jubilee at Stowe, these eighteen families will form part of the pageant. The conduct of the Duke of Buckingham proves the truth of what has been often said of him, that "No landlord can turn out a finer set of tenants."—*Punch*.

THE WORKING CLASSES IN LIVERPOOL.—The *Liverpool Courier* mentions, as a proof of the improved condition of the working classes in that town, that there has been only one soup-shop opened this winter, instead of four; and that, though eight or ten tubs of soup per day used to be taken in former years from that single establishment, only one tub and a half has been taken on any one day during the present winter. The *Liverpool Courier* adds:—"In corroboration of the gratifying fact that the lower classes are not suffering to anything like the extent they did in former years, we may mention that the demands made on the Provident and Strangers' Friend Societies are comparatively few, and that the claims on the benevolent public are much less now than they were in former years."

LABOURERS' COTTAGES.—In the course of an inquiry before Mr. William Brunner, coroner for Oxfordshire, touching the death of a poor girl at Hampton Poyle, a village within six miles of Oxford, it came out that the cottage of the family contained only one sleeping-room, and that of the most miserable description, being near the thatched roof, and barely high enough to stand upright in the middle. There were three beds in this room, and eight persons (comprising the father, mother, and a grown-up daughter and son, and four young children) occupied it as a dormitory. We hope the publication of this case will arouse the landlords and farmers of Oxfordshire, and cause them to render the miserable huts of their dependents and labourers fit for human beings to reside in, instead of having them huddled indiscriminately together. This is not at all an isolated case in the neighbourhood of Oxford, where, with the exception of a few villages, the labourers' cottages are wretched in the extreme.

THE AGRICULTURISTS WITH THEIR EYES OPEN.—Of one thing we feel quite confident, namely, that when Free Trade is established, and the labourers from the agricultural find employment in the manufacturing districts, and an increased consumption of food from constant work and constant wages affords the farmer his best protection against foreign corn, the agriculturists will open their eyes, like men awaking from a dream, and wonder what it was about which they were making such a tremendous fuss. This revolution of feeling has already been effected on the question of free trade in wool. The loudest alarmists are now laughing at their own fears. We hope soon to hear the same confession on the subject of free trade in corn, and think that at no distant day we shall listen to some of the most stringent protectionists admitting that, although terribly frightened at the idea of the repeal of the Corn Laws, they have not been in the least hurt by the reality.—*Liverpool Albion*.

INCENDIARISM.—On Tuesday so-nigh a thatched barn at Braintree, in the occupation of Mr. Durrant, of the White Hart Inn, was destroyed by fire, which, there is every reason to believe, was the act of an incendiary.—On Sunday so-nigh a straw-rick, on the Vicarage farm, the property of Mr. Thos. Coleman, was set on fire and consumed. It was also found that a quantity of gates and ploughs in the immediate neighbourhood had been broken. The way in which this had been done evinced that more than one person must have been engaged.—*Banbury Guardian*.

On Thursday evening last, about nine, a fire (the act of an incendiary) was discovered in a pear-rick belonging to Messrs. Rose, at Marston, near Deves. Before any assistance could be rendered, the whole of the middle part had become ignited, and the rick nearly consumed. The flames communicated to a large barn adjoining, containing 16 sacks of corn. With some little exertion, the corn, with the exception of four sacks, was saved, but the building was entirely destroyed.—*Deves Gazette*.

On Monday so-nigh a large stack, containing upwards of 12,000 faggots, the property of Mr. Barnard, maltster, situated in a field on the roadside between the towns of Harlow and Sawbridgeworth, in Herts, was burnt to the ground. The loss is estimated at £250. The fire was supposed to be the act of an incendiary.—On Wednesday night, the 18th ultimo, the inmates of the dwelling-house at Lilly Hall Farm, which has been twice the scene of incendiary fires during the last few weeks, were alarmed at finding the house gradually filling with smoke. A search was made, and it was soon discovered that the apple-room was on fire, which was soon got under. Superintendent Wakenell, of the rural police, the next morning instituted an inquiry, and the result was the apprehension of Mary Anne Bigrave, a servant at the farm-house; a very strong case (upon circumstantial evidence) was made out against her, and she was committed for trial.—Another fire has occurred on the premises belonging to Mr. John Wood, at Waterdine, in the parish of Newent, about a mile from the Ford-house, the scene of the alarming and disastrous conflagration of Tuesday, the 24th ultimo, when four wheat-ricks, containing about 500 bushels each, and a large barn, containing 50 bushels of barley and a quantity of wheat, were destroyed. A barn and shed adjoining have been burned to the ground. There can be no doubt, it is said, that the fires are wilful, and the aspect is getting darker and darker.

TRIALS FOR INCENDIARISM.—There were no fewer than ten trials for arson, at Norwich, on Thursday and Friday week; and in all cases convictions ensued. One of the culprits was an elderly woman, and another a man; the rest were all, with one exception, under twenty years of age; one of these youthful incendiaries was nine years old, another thirteen, and a third fourteen. The two youngest and the woman were ordered to be imprisoned; the rest were sentenced to transportation.





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the principles for which the League is contending. It is justly observed by the *Morning Chronicle*—

"This satisfactory balance-sheet is as tangible a Free-Trade demonstration as can be made evident to the sense of man. First, it is another addition to the many proofs in by-past times, that years of cheapness are years of prosperity: cheapness in food, the prime element in labour, and cheapness in the raw material on which capital and labour are expended. Secondly, it exposes the gross delusion which would make a distinction between the home and the foreign trade of this country: they are 'one and indivisible.' Trade with China is trade in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, and Glasgow; trade in our manufacturing towns is trade for Essex, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk; bustle in the manufacturing implies a mitigation of distress in the agricultural districts. Thirdly, it tells us that low prices produce more employment and higher wages, and that these enable the working classes to enjoy more comfort, and to pour into the Treasury larger contributions, through the medium of the Customs and Excise. And lastly, it reminds all who can recollect the cycles of the last half century, that we have now reached another of those revolving periods, by which, if there be no great and permanent change effected in our whole financial system, we shall be as assuredly landed in disaster as we were in 1819, or 1825, or 1837."

Even the *Standard* is obliged to confess that the state of the revenue is an argument in favour of Free Trade, though the reluctant admission is qualified by an unintelligible reservation.

"The 'satisfactory balance-sheet' is, no doubt, a demonstration in favour of Free Trade to some extent; that is, a testimony in favour of just so much Free Trade as has given rise to the present happy condition of affairs; but of no more. A little water to one's wine is a good thing, but none but a teetotaler would deluge his cup with the New River; or, on the other side, a glass of wine may be salutary, but this scarcely justifies a two-bottle man in pretending his regimen to be the most conducive to health."

We give the *Standard's* italics as we find them, though the meaning is far from being clear, and the superadded metaphors belong to that school of rhetoric

"Which puzzles even by explanation,  
And darkens by elucidation."

*Hamlet*, we know, exclaims, "Too much of water hast thou had, Ophelia!" and the writers of the *Standard* are, probably, as good authorities as could be found on the inconvenience of taking an overdose of wine; but we have yet to learn that a nation can have too much prosperity, or a people too large a supply of food. Sure we are that the labourers of Dorsetshire are suffering from no plethora, and the peasants of Wiltshire from no superabundance of provisions. In no direction have we heard that there is a surplus of demand for labour, or a greater amount of employment than our population is adequate to supply. The *Standard*, in fact, unwittingly implies that the present happy condition is limited, because the Ministerial progress to Free Trade is limited; for truth will sometimes force its way through the evasions and shuffling of the most dexterous sophist. It would have been scarcely possible to write on the subject without slipping into the admission, that experience had demonstrated the mischief of monopoly to the State as well as its gross injustice to the people. Improvement is most marked in the department of the Customs, where the principles of Free Trade, modified and mangled as they are in Sir Robert Peel's tariff, have had scope for operation.

The *Morning Herald* has broached what it deems a most ingenious discovery, and promises to furnish a demonstration thereof at some future time—probably at the Greek kalends. According to the venerable lady, our prosperity is owing not to the cheapness of food, but to the exclusion of foreign corn consequent on that cheapness; and it offers to prove that "the public revenue always pays almost pound for pound for every quarter of foreign corn imported." This has been too much even for the *Standard*: the latter quotes the discovery, "as in duty bound," but dismisses it with the unceremonious comment, "How wonderful—if true!"

The *Morning Chronicle* very ably points out the indications of future danger that may be discerned in the midst of this favourable prospect:—

"It is now evident that the power of the Chinese to make returns which we can accept, will keep our commerce within limits bearing no proportion to the extent and resources of their empire. Indeed, the great increase in the Customs last year demonstrates the safety as well as the utility of judicious reductions of duties. How is it, then, that this long-coming and much wished-for prosperity has not yet raised the revenue to what it was a few years ago, when we had a smaller population and no property and income tax of five millions sterling? The answer is, a still contracted field for capital and labour."

"A check in the trade with China is, therefore, an event for which a British Minister should be fully prepared. Even if he should be able, by an alteration of import duties, to increase the facilities of obtaining returns from China, this would not render precaution unnecessary. While our trade is restrained in so many quarters, it will have a constant tendency to supply those markets which are open beyond the effective demand. Our only security is the removal of every restriction which is in our power. There is now a breathing time, during which this might be effected with full deliberation. There never was a better opportunity for such a thorough revision of import duties as would withdraw them altogether from popular discussion, and render further alteration unnecessary. This is the time to make the trade in corn free,

and to remove all duty from sugar which is not necessary for the purpose of revenue. By such means our commercial prosperity might be placed on a firm foundation, and the materials of much strife and agitation taken away for ever. By such means alone we may ensure a period of successful industry long enough to allow education and other civilising influences to raise the moral and intellectual condition of the working class, and thereby protect society from perils which can hardly be overrated."

Our contemporary declares that he "is not sanguine in his expectation of what the next session may bring forth;" we hopefully look forward to it for very important consequences. Events have shown the futility and falsehood of all the pretences by which monopoly was defended; its hypocritical delusions, its pretended tenderness for the labourer, its hollow anxiety for the revenues of the State, have been proved to be equally false and despicable; the Free-Traders have it now in their power to exhibit monopoly in its naked deformity, and set it before the nation as a self-convicted and self-exposed tyranny. They can now follow its tracks to the covert in which it couched,

"And drag the lurking monster into day."

The next session will do more to test the character of public men than any which has occurred within the century. It will impose upon the followers as well as the leaders of party a stringent necessity for speaking out; the nation will discover in what it has to trust, and in whom it may safely confide; the Legislature will have so obviously to choose between progressive improvement and retrogression that none of its members can avoid the ordeal.

#### FUTILITY OF PROTECTION.

A singular illustration of the truth of Free-Trade principles, and the pernicious absurdity of monopolist protection, is exhibited in the Trans-Caucasian provinces of Russia. The Count de Cancrin, the late Russian Minister of Finance, perceiving that there was a very active commerce in Georgia, Imerechia, and Mingrelia, through which lies the high road of trade between the Black Sea and the Caspian, resolved to secure exclusive possession of these marts for the manufactures of Moscow. It was the custom of the American merchants at Tiflis, the capital of Georgia and the great centre of commerce between the Black Sea and the Caspian, to make large imports of the various European products and manufactures suited to the Persian markets, for which they found a ready sale on the Georgian frontier. The Count de Cancrin, with the shortsightedness of monopoly, introduced the Russian tariff into the Trans-Caucasian provinces, and exacted heavy duties on the cotton, silk, hardware, and glass brought to the harbours; in a short time these ports ceased to be frequented, and the towns on the Mingrelian seaboard sunk rapidly into decay. The vessels laden with British and German goods directed their course to Trebizond, and the Persian caravans soon sought the same market. The wealthy merchants, finding their occupation gone, abandoned Tiflis; and this metropolis, formerly so rich and flourishing, is now reduced to a state of deplorable poverty: its petty shopkeepers are equally destitute of capital and credit; proclamations of bankruptcy alone keep alive the memory of its trade.

Trebizond has risen on the ruins of Tiflis; the Turkish and Persian Governments have been enriched at the expense of the Russian; the monopolists of Moscow have not sold a yard of cloth or an ounce of hardware the more in consequence of the protective duties, while smuggling to an incredible extent has added to the multitudinous causes of social disorganization in Southern Russia, and more especially in the Trans-Caucasian provinces. The Count de Cancrin nevertheless adhered to the delusive system of protection with the same desperate fidelity that is exhibited by our friend of the *Morning Post*: he placed bands of custom-house officers and hordes of Cossacks along the banks of the Araxes; but the crafty Americans baffled the one and bribed the other: in fact, more British manufactures are poured into Russian Armenia by this route than were formerly obtained from the Mingrelian ports, and Erzerum in particular is a capital flourishing entirely by illicit trade. General Neidhart, Governor-General of the Trans-Caucasian provinces, in the name of the suffering Georgians, and particularly the pauperized population of Tiflis, frequently represented to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg the injury which the exorbitant Russian tariff was working to the population of those provinces and also to the finances of the empire; but the Count de Cancrin, the creature of the monopolist manufacturers, paid as little attention to these representations as the nominees of English monopolist landlords to the cries of our starving operatives in the late commercial crisis. It was said that the monopolist Minister possessed not a single virtue; fortunately, about six months ago, he exhibited one, which was, under all circumstances, the most desirable—the virtue of resignation. The Council of State, delivered from the impediments thrown in its way by the Russian Goulbarns, has taken into consideration the proposals made by General Neidhart, and resolved on their adoption.

Redut-Khaleh, the best of the Mingrelian harbours, is to be declared a free port, and all European goods intended for Persia or the ports on the Caspian Sea are to be allowed to pass freely through Mingrelia and Georgia on the payment of a moderate transit duty. Tiflis is likewise to enjoy all the privileges of a free market, and from its position may be expected to recover at least some portion of its former importance. It is understood that these changes will not come into full operation before the beginning of next year; but in the meantime the Turks of Trebizond and the merchants of Tabriz will doubtless exert themselves to retain the commerce which the Count de Cancrin threw into their hands; and the Russians are likely to learn by bitter experience that it is much more easy to close than to reopen markets.

So far as we have been able to learn, the Muscovite manufacturers are not unwilling to admit the change. Their monopoly did not give them the Persian markets, and at the same time it so impoverished the Georgians that their custom was not worth having. We have good grounds for hope that this adoption of sound principle will not be confined to the Trans-Caucasian provinces, but will be extended to the entire Russian tariff.

#### MEETINGS.

##### GREAT MEETING OF THE LEAGUE IN MANCHESTER.

The Anti-Corn-Law League held its first aggregate meeting in the Free-Trade Hall for the present year, on Wednesday evening. It was at once a splendid and spirited gathering, quite equalling former assemblages of the kind in point of numbers; and both the body of the hall and galleries, as well as the platform, were thronged with people evidently of a respectable station in society, including a great number of ladies. The hall had undergone some alterations, including an enlargement of the platform, which now holds about 300 people; and some embellishments have been added, which tend to give an appearance of elegance as well as comfort to it. Behind the chairman was a piece of crimson tapestry, on which were emblazoned the national colours, and the words "National Anti-Corn-Law League." The proceedings commenced at half-past seven, when Mr. George Wilson, Chairman of the Council, took his place in front of the platform, accompanied by Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., Mark Phillips, Esq., M.P., William Brown, Esq. (late candidate for the representation of South Lancashire), John Bright, Esq., M.P., and Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P. The appearance of these gentlemen was the signal for a loud and general burst of cheering from all parts of the hall. Among the other gentlemen on the platform were Thomas Bazley, Esq., President of the Chamber of Commerce; W. Hargreaves, Esq., of the Grange, Milkthorpe; J. Chadwick, Esq., Eccles; John Brooks, Esq., Alderman Shuttleworth, Alderman Willert, D. Alnsworth, Esq., Wm. Bickham, Esq., W. Rawson, Esq., W. Sole, Esq., Alderman Walker, A. Prentice, Esq., John Rawson, Esq., Joshua Bower, Esq. (of Hunslet, near Leeds), Peter Walker, Esq., &c. &c.

The proceedings of the last meeting having been confirmed, *pro forma*,

Mr. GEORGE WILSON, the chairman, rose and said they were assembled this evening at the commencement of the seventh year of this agitation. (Cheers.) How many more meetings of this description might be required before the corn and provision laws were abolished he could not pretend to say; but he confessed that, looking at the extent and character of this meeting, he did not believe that in any of the past years they had opened their proceedings under more favourable auspices. (Loud cheers.) They met to-night more especially for business. Ten weeks ago the plan by which they proposed to enfranchise the counties was laid before the members of the League by Mr. Cobden. (Cheers.) Since that time the best energies of the Council had been directed to taking those steps most likely to conduce to the success of their plan. Since then thirty-five meetings had been held in various parts of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Middlesex, and North Cheshire, the greater part of which had been addressed by their respected friends, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright. (Cheers.) It is not for me to say what will be the success of this plan (continued Mr. Wilson), which must be completed by the 31st of January; all I have to say is, that unless the town of Manchester alone furnish us for South Lancashire with 1000 qualifications; with 300 or 400 for the West Riding of Yorkshire; with 300 or 400 for North Cheshire; and with as many more for North Lancashire, the people of Manchester will not have done their duty. ("Hear" and cheers.) We by no means think the county is in any other position at present than as described at the last meeting. We have seen the statement of the last meeting controverted; but we have seen no complete reply to the statement then made, that the gain on the register was 1700. We have gone over again this evening the analysis, and are prepared to abide by the statement we then made. (Loud cheers.) Now, there is one way in which the relative truth of the statements made on either side may be tested; we have heard that the noble lord who represents South Lancashire was likely to imitate the example of Lord Bickerstaff, late representative of the Northern Division,—we have all heard, no doubt, that he was expected to go to the House of Lords. Now, if he will do that, the public will have an opportunity of judging who is correct and who is not as to this statement. (Loud cheers.) You will be addressed this

evening by Mr. Mark Philips, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Brown—our future representative; and I now beg leave to call upon Mr. Mark Philips. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. MARK PHILIPS came forward, and was received with great cheering. He said he could not help suspecting, when he received the invitation to attend this meeting, that the Chairman had in his mind that he (Mr. Philips) had been devoting himself to farming pursuits a good deal lately. He probably took him to be a little of a backslider. He perhaps thought him to be somewhat like a razor that had been laid aside for a time: he was losing his edge, and required setting again. (Laughter.) However, there he was, and he hoped they had spent a merry Christmas, and permit him to hope that they had entered on the commencement of a prosperous and happy new year. (Applause.) Since he had last addressed them he had been labouring under heavy domestic affliction, which had necessarily withdrawn him for a time from public life; and he did not hesitate to say that his feelings had undergone a considerable change, and he had felt reluctant to appear in public. He would willingly, if he could, retire into private life; but so long as they called upon him to discharge the duties of their representative he should feel it his duty to endeavour to discharge them. (Applause.) He wished he could work like their friend Mr. Cobden. He congratulated them upon the steadfastness which they had manifested in connexion with this great question of Free Trade. He was delighted to see there was no backsliding among them. (Hear, hear, hear.) He congratulated them that they were determined to carry this question, and were not to be cheated into the belief that, because they had somewhat of a return of prosperity, they were not to apprehend a return of the evils with which they had been heretofore visited. What had legislation done within the last twelve months to secure a continuance of this prosperity? What, for instance, had been done with reference to our export trade to Brazil and the United States? We should look in vain for any change in this respect; and as bad legislation had produced bad results before, surely it would again. What was it had crowded our Exchange once more, filled our streets with traffic, and given employment to our artisans, weavers, and mechanics? Not the protection to agriculture; but the altered state of prices, the cheap rate at which the necessities of life could be obtained, the extension of the market for our manufactures, and the low price of the raw material on which the industry of this great district was employed. In all this was there not an approximation to the very results which had been anxiously anticipated as the consequences of Free Trade? (Hear, hear.) The present position of the country offered the best practical illustration of the truth of their principles. Somebody, therefore, must have been attempting to practise a delusion, or to state that which looked like falsehood (applause); but they were not likely to succeed. This was the season for stock-taking; and what did their opponents' stock consist of? The old fibs to which they had given such general circulation were no longer in demand; and if they attempted to smuggle them out in the spring, it would be like trying to pass a bad shilling between two good ones, but they would fail, as they deserved to do. But he heard an enormous joint-stock company was to be formed at No. 17 (he believed), Bowditch-street, which was to eclipse all others in the articles they were about to submit to the approbation of a discerning British public. It was not their intention, he understood, in the first instance, to attack the League, but to attack Sir Robert Peel, and to endeavour to wrest from him his tariff and his Canada Corn Bill. (Laughter.) He had voted in support of that measure, and should in consistency be bound to come to the rescue of Sir Robert, if he were placed in any predicament by this formidable society. The course for the Free-Traders was perfectly clear—to stick to everything they had got, and to get as much more as possible. (Cheers.) He had not inquired minutely into what would be the operation of that bill in all its details, being satisfied that the main result would be to lead to an increased demand for British manufactured goods. (Cheers.) He had last week travelled from London in company with one of the principal supporters of this Agricultural Society to which he had alluded, who was a good-tempered, open-hearted, country gentleman, and who had declared his readiness to support the removal of the cotton duty. Mr. Philips alluded to the soirée recently held in that hall, at which several gentlemen of the Young England party were present, and expressed his regret to learn, that with all their admiration of our manufacturing industry, and their well-wishes to the town, they had not called at the offices of the League and registered themselves as members. (Laughter.) But he hoped they would yet do something for the cause of Free Trade. He was much attached to the pursuits of agriculture himself, and had seen quite enough of it to know, that if the farmers of Great Britain looked to so-called protection to secure their profits they would be grossly deceived; they had been the subjects of this deception too long, and the consequence was that, as a body, they were suffering very much, and it was the duty of every one who was really a friend to the farmers to endeavour to open their eyes to the real state of the case. The sooner such a delusion was dispelled the better, and the more they inquired into the conduct and proceedings of the League, the more would they be convinced that it was not the advocate of any selfish party, or any particular section of the community. It was clear that protection had not given high agricultural wages, and it was equally clear that low prices of provisions in this district had not created low prices as between the master manufacturers and their workmen. (Cheers.) The only thing done in the way of legislation to relieve the pressure under which we had laboured was the opening of the trade with China. (Cheers.) This was a complicated question, involving, amongst other considerations, the question of how we were to be paid for what we sent out. Our principal imports were tea and silk; the former, by far the most important, was so woefully taxed that it was almost taken from within the reach of the working classes. And it was curious to observe that many individuals, interested in the China trade, but opposed to the League, were now calling out for a reduction of the duty on tea. But, if the Government made any concessions on that point, they must also make concessions on another little article, which was essential to an increased consumption of tea,

namely, sugar; and it would be the duty of Free-Traders to exact from them equal justice in reference to those two articles. (Cheers.) It had been said the League was dead, and that "Othello's occupation was gone," but if it were dead, it was the largest ghost he ever saw, and not only a large one, but a troublesome one to lay. (Cheers and laughter.) In conclusion, he would draw their attention to one striking fact, that though the revenue was increasing, and though the Minister and his friends would doubtless boast of this as a proof of the flourishing condition of the country, yet that the last year's consumption of sugar only showed an increase of 2 or 2½ per cent. While congratulating them on the return of prosperity, he must say there was no chance of its being perpetuated, unless they reverted to sound and wholesome principles of legislation. (Cheers.)

WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., was next called upon, and was received with great cheering. He said:—I thank you most sincerely for the warm reception you now give me, and for the unlooked-for and unexpected honour you conferred on me in thinking me a fit and proper person to represent in Parliament one of the most important constituencies in the kingdom—the Free-Traders of South Lancashire. I have neither the vanity nor the presumption to suppose that I am the best man whose services you could have commanded to fight your battle, but in the absence of a better I have the satisfaction to see, notwithstanding the then state of the register precluded any hope of success, that my obeying your call has enabled you to register your votes in favour of a member of your own order, and fairly testing the progress that Free Trade principles have made. (Cheers.) It has called forth those latent powers of registration which have secured to you South Lancashire; do the same by North Lancashire, North Cheshire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the battle is won (cheers); for I then cannot doubt for a moment but that you will be able to shiver to atoms those manacles which held in bondage the commerce of the country. Who have a better right to be represented in Parliament than the merchants, manufacturers, and artisans who have made England what she is, and whose onward progress must sustain her, or we fall? Let us take warning in time by the fate of Cadiz, Venice, Augsburg, and other cities that were once important, and we may truly say are now no more. I have always great pleasure in referring to the greatest authorities I can, to sustain the views I take; and I shall now read an extract from a speech of as great a statesman as ever lived—the great Lord Chatham. He said in the House of Lords—"I do not despair of my country; and I have no objection to state what, in my opinion, would restore the kingdom to its once flourishing condition. Give freedom to commerce, and lighten the pressure of taxation, and you will have no complaining in your streets. As commerce is always a change of equivalents, a nation that will not buy cannot sell; and every restriction upon import is an obstacle to export. On the other hand, the more we admit the productions of foreign countries, the more extensive becomes their demand for our commodities. Let the absurd system of our Corn Laws be gradually and cautiously abolished, and allow the cheap agricultural produce of the north of Europe, and of the continents of America and Africa, to be freely introduced, and we shall obtain an unlimited vent for our manufactures. A rigid and efficient system of retrenchment, allowing us to take off the taxes upon salt, upon soap, upon leather, upon iron, and a few other articles of subsistence, our advantages, from position, from coalmines, and from the skill and energy of our people, are so considerable, that were it not for unwise laws and overstrained taxation, Britain, for ages to come, might continue to be the great workshop of the world." Gentlemen, I need only repeat, that this was one of the greatest men of the age in which he lived, and that the views he took on commerce were followed by his no less illustrious son, William Pitt; and who, in the first four years of his administration, negotiated the most remarkable Free-Trade treaty (that is with France) on record. He lowered the duty on brandy one-half, and quadrupled the consumption, and, consequently, doubled the revenue. Contrast this with the unfortunate and ill-judged proceedings of Lord Drexley, who, in Ireland, raised the duty from 7s. 6½d. per gallon to 22s. 6d., which reduced the revenue from £77,000 per annum to £25,000, although the population had gone on increasing. (Hear.) Your late lamented member, Lord Sydenham, stated in the House of Commons, in a speech made by him in March, 1830, that the Irish revenue was in 1807, £1,378,000; that duties from time to time were altered and raised during the war, up to 1821, which ought to have increased the revenue £3,100,000 per annum, say together, £7,700,000; but what was the effect of those injudicious imposts? The revenue was reduced to £3,814,000, leaving a dead loss of £533,000 per year, and depriving the country of more than half of its accustomed imports and luxuries which it enjoyed under the low duties. I am afraid I am troubling you with dry details of revenue statistics which will not be interesting. (Cries of "No, no," "Go on," and cheers.) Now, let us look at the advantage of removing duties, and stimulating our exertions at home. The ironmasters thought they would be ruined if the protective duty was taken off foreign iron. It was, nevertheless, reduced under the judicious counsel of Mr. Huskisson, in 1825, from £6. 10s. to £1. 10s. Our import then was 21,000 tons; now it is 12,000; our export was then 69,000 tons; now it is nearly 400,000. (Cheers.) Our make then was 500,000 tons in 1811 and 1812; it was about 1,500,000 tons last year. (Cheers.) It requires 6,600,000 of coals per annum to make this quantity of iron. You will see from this the immense advantage it is to the agricultural interest to encourage commerce, and create consumers for the products of the soil. (Hear, hear, hear.) Let us now look at the import of wool free of duty, about which the lauded interest raised such a storm. We have not, for the past year, received the official returns of imports, but I believe it will exceed those of the previous year by 20,000,000 of pounds. (Hear, hear, hear.) The effect has been that our export of woollen manufactures to face this import will probably be £2,000,000 in excess of former exports, and British wools have not suffered but benefited by this large import. This is easily explained: we cannot stop the pro-

duction of raw materials in other countries, and it is more the interest of foreigners to send them here to have them manufactured (which we can do cheaper than they can), and furnish us with something that they can send us on better terms than we can make it, to pay the difference between the raw material and the manufactured article. (Cheers.) Look at flax and hemp: their importation free of duty has not injured the agriculturists, but it has benefited them, by creating more consumers of their produce. (Hear.) Silk is a remarkable instance of the advantage of reducing duties. It will be in the recollection of you all, the battle Mr. Huskisson had to fight in 1825 to accomplish this. The manufacturers of silk thought they would be quite ruined; but how does the matter now stand? Our whole export then was £93,000 per annum: it has since been as high as £865,000; and what is the most satisfactory of all is, that we export to France, the country that was to ruin us by the admission of her silks, double the amount of our whole exports in 1825. (Cheers.) We export now to France about £180,000 value per annum. So that every movement we make towards Free Trade not only benefits the merchant, the manufacturer, the artisan, but the landowner, and it enables us to provide for an increasing population, and makes it less necessary for them to emigrate. (Cheers.) In the China trade the same advantages arose from the reduction of the duty on tea. In 1746 the duty was reduced 2s. per lb., and the consumption was more than trebled. In 1784 Mr. Pitt passed his famous Commutation Act, reducing the duty from 119 per cent. to 12½. The consumption was then 4,900,000 lbs., and it rose by 1787 to 17,000,000 lbs., and continued gradually increasing until an advance of duty arrested its progress. Tea was then a luxury; now it is a necessary of life. Our population was then about 10,000,000; it is now nearly 30,000,000. Let us look at the cost of a pound of the lowest quality of tea in China, say 8d., the duty here 2s. 1d., making 2s. 9d. Now, if Government would remove half this duty, I think of that description of tea we would consume twice as much in England, or more. The consequence would be that China would require twice the amount of our industry to pay for it, not only with greater advantage to the Chinese, but to the consumers here. The country laying on the heaviest duties is the greatest sufferer. I saw a letter from a merchant, in the *Times* of the 19th of November, which states that our direct import of teas from China is £2,600,000 a year. The duty on the lowest quality of tea, selling in this country at from 9d. to 1s. 3d., is from 200 to 300 per cent.; on the better qualities under 100 per cent.; the lower qualities producing a revenue of £1,600,000; the higher something under a million per annum. It is most unjust, that those who are least able to buy are saddled with the highest duty. I cannot see any good reason why teas are not sold by auction in bond as they were by the East India Company. They are all bonded on arrival, and periodical sales by auction would be a convenience to the merchant. The London merchants, as I am informed, wished it at the time the specific duty was adopted, but were overruled. Now an *ad valorem* duty, as you will at once see, would be equitable to all parties. I hope the Manchester gentlemen will press this on the consideration of Government. Our consumption of teas appeared to be about 41,000,000 lbs. last year, or about 1½ lb. per head. In New South Wales, from the last colonial returns of the average of four years, it is 7½ lbs. per head. Nothing can evince more the wisdom of the treaty negotiated by Sir Henry Pottinger than his desire that all nations of the earth should have as free admission to China as British subjects; clearly seeing that every impediment to the export of Chinese teas must raise their price; and I will show its advantage by tracing one operation, thousands of which are taking place daily amongst the nations of the earth. You send a cargo of your manufactures to China; you cannot get profitable returns; but you find a Brazilian merchant there who wants to purchase a cargo of tea, which his own country cannot produce. He sells you his bills on London, which is to you a satisfactory payment for your goods. You quite understand that all commercial nations arrange credits in London, for the greater convenience of carrying on their trade. Well, the Brazilian merchant takes his cargo of tea home, disposes of it—but you refuse to take his sugar in payment; he, however, finds an American merchant there wanting to purchase a cargo of coffee, which his country does not produce; and, that the American may have funds to accomplish this, the Brazilian purchases with the proceeds of his tea the American merchant's bills, and remits them to London, to liquidate the bills he drew in China. The American takes his coffee home, turns it into cotton, and remits it to England to pay the bills which he drew in Brazil. Here is an operation, one of many similar ones, advantageous to all parties, but to none more than ourselves, for it increases the market for the sale of the products of industry. The protectionists speak of reciprocity; that should begin with us, for we saddled the imports from the United States with a duty of 330 per cent., if you leave out cotton; and if you leave out cotton and tobacco, on other articles, I think, about 280 per cent. There we have powerful competition to contend with. In 1827, the whole exports of consumption from the United States to China was 9000 dollars. It is now 1,375,000 dollars. The whole exports of all descriptions of goods to China by them are 4,200,000 dollars, and imports 5,700,000 dollars. The copper-masters in England were greatly alarmed some years ago at the admission of foreign ores, and Sir R. Vivian opposed in Parliament with all his might their admission. What do you think they are doing now? Getting up a memorial for their admission. It is estimated that at present, in consequence of the high duties on tobacco, brandy, Geneva, and some other articles, the revenue loses from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000 per annum. Mr. Poulett Thompson stated in the House of Commons that he had good reason to know that seventy vessels had loaded with tobacco in Ostend, Flushing, and the neighbourhood, and smuggled their cargoes into Ireland, between Dublin and the Giant's Causeway, in the previous twelve months. We are fast losing our trade with the United States. The average of our exports there for 1803, 6, and 7, before the war, was £8,000,000 per annum; since that period, for the last ten years, for which I have seen returns, it stands thus:—1833 to 1837, £8,400,000; 1838 to 1842, £8,400,000; the last year of the series 1842, £3,500,000. Now, these people are of Saxon origin—have the same habits and wants as we have; it is therefore lamentable to lose the trade of a people who, before this century is out, will, at their present rate of increase, number 100,000,000. The loss we are sustaining



will be more clearly seen if we recollect that, before the war, their population was about 6,000,000, now nearly 20,000,000. The people of the United States are not disposed to let the nation suffer for the benefit of class interests, as their late decision shows, by their electing Mr. Polk, a Free-Trader, and rejecting Clay, the monopolist. I must trouble you with a few more figures to show you the difference between the comforts of a prosperous nation and one that has a short supply of food. In the United States they grow per annum 500,000,000 bushels of Indian corn, 145,000,000 of oats, 105,000,000 of wheat, 100,000,000 of potatoes; after deducting from this their imports, it leaves for consumption twenty-seven bushels of grain and five of potatoes for each individual. They have 4,000,000 horses. Now, all that is returned for duty, and not dutiable to the tax collectors for Great Britain, is under 900,000; but, allow as many more, or say 2,000,000 for mares and foals, not returnable, it is still not half of what they have in the United States. Their statistics show that each family of five persons have 1.6th horse, 4 cattle, 5½ sheep, and 7 pigs. If our Government would procure similar returns, they would show in a striking point of view how much our food and comforts are short of what I have stated, and settle that question with the protectionists. I hope our honourable friends who are here will move for such returns being taken. A little light has been let in upon us by the returns of the quantity of grain sold in these towns, that regulate the average for the last four months, as compared with the corresponding four months of the previous year, when our population was not so well employed as now. The returns are, 2,187,692 quarters, which is 217,707 quarters more than last year for the same period, which shows an increased consumption of about one-ninth. Now, this is general throughout the kingdom, and we have no reason to doubt it: it is clear what our population, for want of fair wages and cheap food, sometimes suffer. There is no class of people who suffer more than the coopers; many of them are men out of employment from the high duty on staves, being about 30 per cent. on those from the Baltic and 60 per cent. on those from the United States, and which, for certain descriptions of work, can hardly be done without. Indeed, the duty on timber, although now lower than it was, has seriously affected the interest of our shipowners, and also our cabinet-makers. We have lost much of our furniture export trade; the Americans and the Dutch are sending some of these articles, and vast quantities of clocks, into our market. This I do not object to, inasmuch as they furnish them cheaper than we can make them, and must take equivalents; but it is unwise in our Government not to let us have raw materials without duty, to enable us to sell cheaper in our own markets than others can supply us, and, before all, cheap corn. (Mr. Brown retired amidst great cheering.)

Mr. COBDEN then came forward, and was received with great cheering. He said it certainly seemed rather alarming in his ears when the Chairman told them they had now been seven years in the agitation of this question. Why, it was a long apprenticeship for them to serve, and to a very hard trade. (Cheers.) He feared some of them had grown older than they were when they had begun; and some he knew, that had begun with them in good hopes and prospects, they had lost altogether. (Others they had certainly gained by the way—and upon the whole he did not think there was any concern in this town that at the beginning of this new year could "take stock" with more hopeful prosperity than they could in the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) The League had had opposition shops set up to them; they had had a good many such concerns, and they had all failed. There had been a concern for curing the distress of the country by transporting the people to other countries, but that broke down. (Hear.) And latterly we have had a scheme, amongst others, for giving people potato gardens instead of wages, and they were called "allotments;" and that we heard no more about. What would be the next opposition affair he did not know; but, whatever it might happen to be, ten to one but it would assume the cloak of humanity, in order to deceive honest and not very shrewd people. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) Now, we had been charged with intolerance because we had found fault with some projects that had been brought forward to remedy the distresses of the country. Why, if we had quarrelled with them at all, it was because there had been ostentatious projects brought forward to divert public attention, and not as they believed, with the real intention of serving the object professed by the propounders. Who could say that the League had ever found fault with private benevolence, or had ever stopped to quarrel with men going about to do good, and not seeking to proclaim, trumpet-tongued, their own good works? But it was when men who supported the Corn Laws were found ostentatiously propounding other schemes to meet a great political evil—it was then that they had a right to criticise and to question the intelligence, at least, of those parties, and to ask how they could profess to serve the people, when at the same time, by their votes, they were trying to impoverish and starve the people? (Cheers.) He must confess, that having been let a little behind the scenes in the conduct of these parties, he did suspect that a great number of those who had got a reputation for being benevolent-minded in public matters, were trying to start these false scents with the view of leading the people off from the question of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) Ordinary intelligence might teach them the utter fatality of trying to benefit people who, by their own Legislature, were kept short of the necessities of life. They told us that the people wanted water and wanted good houses. No doubt decent houses and a good supply of water were excellent adjuncts, and, indeed, absolute requisites, to a comfortable state of existence; but did they ever hear of people short of food keeping themselves clean or warm, or being comfortably housed? (Hear, hear.) What was the state of the people in the worst districts of Edinburgh? Were they inhabiting miserable hovels—were they wanting in well-built houses? No; the very worst population of all Edinburgh were inhabiting what were once the palaces of the nobility and Queen Regent of Scotland; and if they could put the whole population of London into Buckingham Palace or Windsor Castle, if they kept that population on a short allowance of the first

necessaries of life, they would be as degraded and debased as they were now in St. Giles's. (Cheers.) Now, he would charge with inconsistency, and express his detestation of, the motives of those whom he saw prominent in advocating better houses and a better supply of water to the people, and who at the same time denied them employment and food; yet he hoped he should always be ready to discriminate and give the meed of praise to those men who, whilst they were aiding, or at least sanctioning, the remedying of the evils which they as Free-Traders attacked, were also prominent in advocating other ameliorations of the condition of the people. (Cheers.) He received a letter the other day from an old friend of his, and a fellow-labourer in those efforts they made six or seven years ago in the cause of education—he meant Mr. Jas. Simpson, of Edinburgh—in which he spoke in somewhat of a tone of complaint of the remarks which were made in Covent-garden Theatre upon the subject of public baths. Now he (Mr. Cobden) should be anxious to pay the tribute of his highest admiration to the conduct Mr. Simpson had pursued. He had not prominently advocated free trade in corn; he may have been a silent contributor of his pound or so to the League, and they knew that they had his good wishes. But if he or any one else thought they could promote the benefit of mankind by consistently advocating other questions, why, Godspeed to him, and he wished him well in his labours. (Applause.) He saw a great many working people present—indeed how could they assemble 5000 or 6000 people in that hall without having a great portion of those who worked with skilled hands and heads for their living? And he never liked to omit an opportunity of this kind without saying a word to them on the state of their question, though it was difficult to say anything that could savour of novelty. But they had heard what Mr. Brown had told them of the condition of the people in the United States. He told them that every person there had seven pigs, and five sheep, and that there were one horse and a quarter to every family. Did it ever strike a working man what is the reason that every family has more horses, and every man has more pigs, and sheep, and quarters of corn in that country? Why, it was simply for this reason, that there were more horses, and pigs, and sheep, and quarters of corn in that country, in proportion to the people, than there were in this country. (Hear, hear.) And was there any working man who had not carried his logic and argumentation a little farther, and said to himself, "If there is less for the whole of the people of this country than there is in America, it is impossible that each individual can have so much as each individual in America?" And when somebody must go short, depend upon it the short commons would fall upon the man who was the poorest in the land. (Hear, hear.) Now, this seemed to him to illustrate what Free-Traders meant by having corn and provisions cheap: they meant to have them plentiful. It was only a kind of conventional term for plenty, when they said cheap; it would be a better term to use "plenty" instead of "cheapness;" indeed, as the old compilers of our Prayer-book did, when they called it sometimes plenty, and sometimes cheapness. But if they had not pigs, corn, and sheep in the land, the people could not eat them; and the only way he was aware of was that of getting more into the land. True, some of the agriculturists told them (and his friend Mr. Phillips would bear out what he said) that if they would but wait they could produce as much as the people wanted to eat. Now, they had waited for thirty years, and they had not done it; and he thought they were playing the dog in the manger now, for they would neither do it themselves nor let other people do it. (Cheers.) Well, they had had another turn of the wheel; the wheel of fortune had gone round, and now they appeared to be on the upper spoke of the wheel, and the agriculturists were down in the mud. The agricultural class was now the class that was suffering more than any in the country for want of food. And there was not a more helpless class in the community than the agricultural labourers; they had not the means of combination; they never met to express their grievances; they lived a solitary life; and we heard nothing of their distresses except through those horrid demonstrations of incendiary fires. (Hear.) Well, if there was not another motive on earth to induce us to go on with this agitation, to get more food into the country, in order that the people might have more food than they had now got, the condition of the agricultural labourer ought to incite us to continue those exertions. (Cheers.) Let it be recollected that this great community around them was committed before the world to the carrying out of this cause. (Cheers.) This agitation had been cradled in Manchester, and monopoly must be confined in Manchester. (Loud cheering.) Every age, every generation, had some distinguishing struggle that marked its history. In one century we had the contest for religious freedom; another century marks the era of political freedom; another century comes, and the great battle of commercial freedom has to be fought. (Cheers.) And Manchester and those free cotton districts around it—he called it a free district because the cotton trade had never been dandled by protection, and never owed its devotion to monopoly—were pledged to take the lead in this great contest; a contest that had already become historical, for it was marked upon our parliamentary annals as one of the greatest of modern combinations. (Cheers.) They could not draw back from this contest without bringing not merely disgrace upon themselves, but disgrace upon the nation, and prove themselves recreant from the very race from which they sprung. (Loud cheers.) It was not a mere contest for a few more pigs, a few more sheep, or a little more corn. If the mere physical, the material, gain to which we were looking was all that we had to hope from the trial of our principles, it would be a sordid and mercenary conflict after all. No! the triumph of Free Trade was the advent of peace between all the nations of the earth. (Great cheering.) It was a blow, and a death-blow, to the old system of diplomatic wars and intrigues between the Governments of countries. (Cheers.) It was making them, and the industrious fabricators of this district, and their friend Mr. Brown and such as him, the negotiators and ambassadors between the people of this and other countries,—it was giving to them the title-deeds by which they would secure to themselves and all nations the blessings of peace for all times. (Cheers.) He saw in the distance—he might perhaps be dreaming—(No, no)—but he saw in the distance a world's revolution involved in the triumph of Free-Trade principles. (Cheers.) The very motives which had led governments and ambitious rulers to rear up great empires and to aggrandize the world's terri-

tory—those motives would be gone, and gone for ever, when they had taught people that they could better profit by the prosperity and freedom of other nations, through the peaceful paths of free commerce, than through the force of war or military conquest. (Cheers.) He might be dreaming, but he thought he saw in the distance that great empire; and vast and powerful military and naval establishments would be no longer necessary in the governments of the world when they had established Free Trade throughout it. (Cheers.) If what he said was founded in reason, and not the dream of the imagination, then, he said, this was a cause which was worth contending for—one that not merely the merchant and the manufacturer, but the philanthropist and the Christian might well lay hold of, and glory that he had lived in an age when he might take a share in the conquest over selfishness and monopoly. (Loud cheers.) Ah! that word monopoly; if they could only get people to understand what it meant! Why, the very name, if fixed on the back of a candidate, would be sufficient to secure his defeat at the poll. (Cheers and laughter.) It was an odious word. It was a curious fact, but it was a word not known to our forefathers, the ancient Britons. The League have a lecturer, a very intelligent gentleman, who lectures in Welsh. He (Mr. Cobden) met him the other day in London, and he was explaining to him the difficulty he had in lecturing in Welsh, "for (said he) we have no word in the Welsh language to express the word monopoly." (Great laughter.) And he told him that he had called in the aid of one of their most distinguished linguists to devise a means of translating this word "monopoly" into Welsh; and after a good deal of consideration and study they had turned it into a Welsh phrase, which he again converted back into English, and it was "a one-handed bargain." (Great laughter.) Now, let those manufacturers or working men who shout for monopolists in future always bear in mind that they were voting for "a one-handed bargain," and that hand is not theirs. (Cheers.) Manufacturers, and millowners, and operatives in this part of the country, had no share in this monopoly; and yet there were some of them still found who would run about shouting and hurraing for monopolists. (Applause.) Their friend Mr. Phillips had well said that it was impossible to find novelty in these discussions unless you seized upon the topics of the day; and, to do our adversaries the justice, they did occasionally find us topics with very great liberality. Now, there was a meeting the other day at Ashton-under-Lyne—a meeting of the Conservative Association; there were 400 of them—at which Mr. Entwistle, Mr. Tatton Egerton, and Mr. Cornwall Legh attended. There was a Mr. De Hollingsworth there; he had revived the old Norman prefix to his name; it was not plain "Mr. Hollingsworth" now, but he had added the "De" before it—De Hollingsworth. (Cheers and great laughter.) Well, he made a speech. Bear in mind, he was speaking at Ashton, a place that had grown into existence, it might be said, within the lifetime of the present generation; and it had grown by the industry of the manufacturers and merchants of Ashton. Now, bear what this Mr. De Hollingsworth had to say of one class of people by whom he was supposed to be surrounded. Speaking of a manufacturing politician, he said, "He is probably a man who has made his own fortune by one of those lucky chances in trade that have been of such frequent occurrence the last five and twenty years. He may be a good tradesman, may possess good, natural, sound sense, and by its exercise, by frugality and industry, have raised himself from sweeping a warehouse to become its master. But what then? What does he know beyond the walls of his own counting-house? Totally uneducated, or with such information only as may be gathered from a village schoolmaster, what value would be set on that statesman-like knowledge derived from experience and intercourse with the world? Would he not naturally affect to despise what he could not comprehend, and substitute a degraded cunning for that practical and almost prophetic wisdom, the fruit of the accumulated experience of ages, transmitted to us by the pages of history, the only real instructor of mankind? Is such a man fit to legislate for an empire? Is the calculator of pence to become the distributor of millions? Is such a man, presumptuous from ignorance, to direct our fleets and armies? Is such a man fit to advise the Crown in its most important appointments to the sacred and judicial benches? For what portion, then, of a senator's duty is such a man fit? Is it not rather his proper sphere to sweep the floor of the senate-house, as he has formerly done that of his own warehouse?" (Cheers and laughter.) There was a Persian phrase—a phrase used in the East, when a man submitted to a deep humiliation. They say, "that man eats dirt." Now, he saw the names of three or four manufacturers or millowners present at that meeting; the man who was in the chair, his father swept the floor of a mill. (Cheers.) Some people went to public banquets and ate turtle and venison; he thought those millowners went to eat dirt, and they had had their stomachs full. (Cheers and laughter.) If these gentlemen—the De Hollingsworths—were to come there, in the presence of Free-Traders—then, men of our order who had set up for themselves would not use such language as that; they never hear it. (Laughter.) They might not like us; they hated us, they feared us, but they did not despise us. (Cheers.) It was only the men who went to their Conservative dinners at Ashton-under-Lyne that ate such dirt as that. (Cheers and laughter.) But, suppose we carried the war into the camp of the squires. They had been told what sort of men the manufacturing politicians were; now, let them consider what sort of men did the counties send up to Parliament. There were 154 county members representing England and Wales in the House of Commons. Was there one of them, since Lord Stanley had left North Lancashire, of whom they could say "he is above mediocrity in talent?" (They're below it.) There were not ten of them who ever opened their mouths in Parliament with a chance of being listened to, unless to be laughed at. (Cheers and laughter.) They were presumed, by courtesy, to be all educated men; and he had a profound respect for those advantages which the highest education would give to men of natural talent. But what should they say of 154 men—the De Hollingsworths, the select eagles of their order, the picked men of their counties, so far as their education goes—what must be their natural attributes, when they mustered in the House of Commons and made such an exhibition of themselves as our county members did? Why, it was quite a common thing, if a county member

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got up and made a speech in which he did not murder the Queen's English, for a man to touch his neighbour in this way, and say "That's a pretty good speech for a county member!" (Cheers, and loud laughter.) Now, he observed that at the same dinner Mr. Entwistle, and Mr. Tatton Egerton, and Mr. Cornwall Legh severally spoke, and they seemed to him not to like the prospect of things in this part of the country. (Hear.) Mr. Entwistle complained that the people in South Lancashire insisted on fighting their battle on one question alone, and that question Free Trade. He would like to fight the old battle of Whig and Tory again. (Cheers.) Yes, yes; South Lancashire was safe with 2000 majority in 1841, when it was Tory against Whig; but Mr. Entwistle knew that now it was Free Trade against the "one-handed bargain men," the monopolists. (Cheers.) But the Free-Traders had got a thousand majority just now. (Loud cheers.) The monopolists talked of recovering their majority at the next revision; he (Mr. Cobden) said they would have a thousand more at the next revision! (Loud cheers.) They had heard the chairman say they must have a thousand new qualifications in the Manchester polling district alone, sufficient to overbear the monopolists' majority in Ormskirk, Wigan, and Newton, the only polling districts where they will have a majority. (Cheers.) Well (continued Mr. Cobden), I don't know whether I am letting the cat out of the bag or not, but I believe we have 600 or 700 already. (Cheers.) Now let it be said—it shall and must be said—that the Manchester polling district is able to beat them in all those districts where they have a majority; we'll insist upon fighting them ourselves, and leave Liverpool, Oldham, Ashton, and Rochdale, and all the other places, to look on. (Cheers and laughter.) But I want something to be done for North Cheshire too. I take a deep interest in that contest for North Cheshire. (Hear, hear.) Now, the Egertons of Tatton, father, son, and grandson, have been sitting for that county for about fifty years, with a very slight intermission. If you want to strike a blow that will tell at a distance, in London, just turn out a man whose family is supposed to have ruled the county for half a century. (Applause.) That's the bird you must try to bag (cheers and laughter); it's no use shooting mere sparrows, like our lately-elected member for South Lancashire. (Laughter.) They won't believe in London that you can turn out Lord Francis, until it is done; nobody believes it. When it is done, it will be felt; it will be a body blow that monopoly will stagger under. (Cheers.) The next best thing that you can after turning out Lord F. Egerton,—who as a man, as a county member, stands probably as high as any man representing a county, for intelligence and personal respectability, as well as for accomplishments,—if you want to strike the next heavy blow, turn out Mr. Egerton, of Tatton, for North Cheshire. (Applause.) I was in North Cheshire, at Macclesfield, on Monday evening; why, the monopolists had only a majority at the last contest of about 470 or 500; and I undertake to say that we have more people to qualify for Lancashire and Yorkshire, for North Cheshire, that there will be more new qualifications from those two counties, than the amount of the monopolists' majority last time. (Cheers.) Why, in this little village, as I may call it, of Hebdensbridge, in Yorkshire, there are forty Free-Traders marching down to a body to qualify for North Cheshire. (Cheers.) Well, with what Stockport and Macclesfield can do for themselves, and Hyde, which is a host, we'll have North Cheshire, and we'll have it booked as safely as any borough by the next revision. (Cheers.) I do not fancy it is imprudent, or incautious, or boastful to say so in this public way. I know there are persons here from all parts, not only of North Cheshire, but beyond North Cheshire; and I want them to take this not as a mere idle threat, but to go home to-morrow, and put their shoulders to the wheel, and lend a hand to fulfil my prediction. (Cheers.) Depend upon it, we shall win nothing by attempting to keep these things secret; you cannot put salt upon those birds' tails, they are too old for that. (Cheers.) My friend Mr. Bright and I have been passing into almost every manufacturing polling district in the West Riding of Yorkshire since we last had the pleasure of meeting you. Now, the West Riding of Yorkshire is infinitely the largest and most important constituency of the kingdom: it has from 30,000 to 31,000 registered electors. London has only 20,000, and Lancashire only 22,000 or 23,000; the West Riding of Yorkshire has 50 per cent. more of a constituency than any other in the kingdom. Well, we see the importance of winning the West Riding before any other constituency; and I have no doubt in the world that, before the 31st of January, as I have stated elsewhere, I repeat it—we shall be able to say that there are 2500 new qualifications more in the West Riding of Yorkshire. (Cheers.) They lost last time by about 800 or 1000. But we are not going to content ourselves with qualifying good men; they have got a lot of bad men on the register, and we'll have them struck off, we'll have no illegal votes there. (Cheers.) I speak with the greatest delight of the reception we met with in Yorkshire. They required no stimulus from us. The men of Yorkshire are prepared to do at the next election what they have done on former occasions. That is the constituency that has decided the fate of Government questions in this country. When they returned Henry Brougham—the Henry Brougham of that time (hear, hear)—they struck the last blow at the borough-slavery system; when they returned him as the champion of the freedom of the negro, they abolished slavery in our colonies. (Applause.) And when they return Free-Traders at the next election, depend upon it it will be the signal for the downfall of commercial monopolies. (Cheers.) Now, I shall have no opportunity of addressing gentlemen here again before the 31st of January; but there are three weeks yet, and the lawyers can do a great deal of business in three weeks. I think they are printing off their deeds by steam, or having them lithographed, they are getting on so fast with them. Now, let no young man belonging to our Athenæum and institutions here, who is living in lodgings—let no young man with a good coat on his back, that can afford to take up his freedom by making such an investment, hesitate to take a blow in favour of increased commerce, which will give him a better chance of prospering in the world. I cannot imagine anything more painful than the state of mind of those persons, when the next election comes, who have neglected the previous opportunity of qualifying themselves to take a part in

that momentous struggle. In all probability the general election will take place in 1846—the next year; unless you purchase your qualification before the 31st of this month, you cannot be upon the register till 1847; and then the general election, in all human probability, will have passed. There is, to be sure, one way in which young men may qualify after the 31st. I see a good many ladies here, and we seem to be getting into a channel in which they cannot exactly co-operate with us, inasmuch as they are not allowed to have votes; I only say, I wish they were, because many of them would make a better use of them than their husbands do. (Cheers and laughter.) But, though they cannot vote, it is a very singular fact,—and it will be looked upon, at some future time perhaps, when the world has grown wiser and better, as an anomalous circumstance,—that, although ladies cannot vote, they may qualify as many blockheads and dunces to vote as they choose to confer freehold property upon. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Now, if there be any kind, earnest friend to our cause,—any gentleman having sons or nephews, or even grandsons, if they should be rising twenty-one,—and if she have a little freehold property that she intends to divide amongst her sons, or nephews, or grandsons when she has gone,—why, then, recommend her to convey away to those young men a 40s. freehold each. Let her do it if they are but twenty years old; they will then have twelve months to consider how they will make the best use of their vote when they are twenty-one. Let such persons qualify as many as they can before they depart hence; and then they will have the satisfaction of seeing their young friends vote for Free-Traders during their lifetime. (Applause.) There may be such young ladies; and it is a curious thing, the law seems to have contemplated their case exactly. It is a curious fact that though you must buy a qualification before the 31st of January to be on the next year's register, yet, if you marry a qualification you may be put on the register though you only got possession of it by marriage up to July. (Cheers and laughter.) So, if a young man lets the 31st of January escape him, I know of no other way in which he can rescue himself from his dilemma but by marrying a freehold before July. (Applause and laughter.) But I recommend the young ladies not to take pity upon him: it is his duty to take up his freedom and qualify himself before he thinks of getting married. (Applause.) In some parts of Switzerland, there is a custom, that before a young man is eligible for matrimony he must possess a Bible and a couple of buckets. (Great laughter.) Now, I say a young man who would be eligible for marriage ought to possess a freehold of the county, and to be a voter. (Applause.) And I especially beg the young ladies, when they see a young fellow dressing rather smarter than his neighbours,—a bit of a dandy as you would call him,—with his hat put on one side, and showing himself off in St. Ann's-square,—I especially request the young ladies who are favourable to our good cause to toss up their heads at him as they pass, unless he can answer in the affirmative the interrogatory, "Are you a freeholder of the county of Lancaster?" (Great laughter.) Now, I know there is a large class of skilled operatives that visit our meetings, machine-makers, toolmakers, and men of that class, who get the highest wages. You are the aristocracy of your class; you are the men of intellect; you are the men of the largest incomes, of your order; now, every one of you ought, as a matter of pride and a matter of duty, to qualify for the county. It is a very expensive thing to get a borough vote: you must get a £10 house, must furnish it, keep it up, and pay taxes; but in the other case you may live where you will, in a garret if you like, or in lodgings, but if you purchase a 40s. freehold you have a vote for the county. I speak to that class of men, and I say it is your duty to qualify for the county, and to give the benefit of your vote to those poorer classes of your countrymen who cannot buy the qualification. A hard-working man, at Oldham, the other night, got up to speak in approbation of this movement; he said, "I have no means of qualifying, I cannot afford it; but I do hope all the working men as can will buy the qualification, and then, haply, they'll open the door for us as cannot buy our way in." (Cheers.) Now, I have no hesitation in saying it is my belief that in a few years' time the election for the county of Lancaster will be more in the hands of the operative classes than it is now in the hands of the squirearchy and the farmers. I believe, from what I hear is going on in all directions, that there will be such a vast number of skilled artisans and better paid operatives on the county register, that it will be impossible, in a few years' time, to return a man for South Lancashire unless he be acceptable in the main to that class of voters. (Cheers.) I have heard people say, "This is a very dangerous political game you are playing; you are going to democratize the constituencies of this country." Well, my answer is this: "If the constituencies have hitherto been an aristocracy, they have made very bad use of their power (applause); and if by a democracy you mean that class of people who can afford to pay £50 or £60 out of their earnings for an investment, I say they are a class of people whom I would much rather see in the possession of political power in this country, than the landed aristocracy who have so much abused their power." (Cheers.) I think, if any working man wanted to make up his purse before the 31st of January, and happened to have an employer of common sense—I don't mean one of those "one-handed bargain" men—(laughter)—his employer would be very much disposed to lend him £10 or £20 to make up his purchase-money, so as to get upon the register before next year. (A voice from the body of the room, "They're very scarce, Mr. Cobden.") No, they're not scarce; I know the thing is doing in all directions. (Cheers.) And if a worthy man has saved £20 or £30, and wants £10, or £15, or £20 more lent him, and that man gives him note of hand, promising to pay by so much a week or month, that is the very man that is entitled to the consideration of his employer; and if his employer is a good sound Leaguer, I'll engage for it he'll help the worthy man to get his qualification. (Cheers.) And my advice to the masters is this: Don't ask him how he is going to vote; if he has had shrewdness and self-denial enough to save £20 or £30 out of his earnings, he'll not be like those millowners that sit dirt at Ashton. (Cheers and laughter.) He'll be just the very man that won't be imposed upon by those monopolists. And then what an elevating and proud thing it is for a working man to buy his freehold and possess it! Why, it's a far more elevating possession than a deposit in the savings' bank; a man goes and leaves his money there, and sees no more of it, and knows nothing at all about who has the use of it. But if a man goes and buys a cottage, especially if it is a detached one,

and the wind can blow round it, he puts his hands in his pockets on a morning, and walks round it, and says—"That's mine—(loud cheers)—that's mine—I bought it—I paid for it—I worked for it; and who has so good a title to it as I have?" Now, I want to see the little landowners beat the big landowners in the poll. (Cheers.) It may be done; recollect, these men of £30,000 a year can only each have one vote in their own persons; and the man in a fustian jacket that owns a cottage, walks up on the morning of the poll, and just registers as good a vote as a man of £30,000 a year; and I say, "Hurra for the little landowners; we'll beat the big landowners yet." Now, gentlemen, let this be our work continuously until the 31st of January; think of nothing else in the way of Free Trade; we can do all the rest afterwards. We can find out all those who are already qualified, and who are not on the register; all that work may be done afterwards; but think of nothing else up to the 31st of January but how you can induce your friends and neighbours to buy the qualification. Get the property conveyed to you if it be only by an agreement on a piece of paper the size of your hand; the parchments may be made all right afterwards, so long as the money is paid. Get possession of the property by the 31st of January, and then, when the next contest comes for South Lancashire, we'll have our friends, Mr. Villiers and Mr. Brown, in the situation of the present members for that division. (Loud applause, the whole of the company rising and cheering for some time.) And who shall dare to say to us that it is not the contest of principle then? We will choose the very first merchant in Liverpool, the largest merchant in Lancashire, on the one hand; we will choose our tried champion in the House of Commons on the other, the man who suffered obloquy and sneers in the cause of Free Trade, when the battle seemed a hopeless one, when men of self-seeking character shrunk away from it; we will bring forward our Parliamentary leader, Mr. Villiers, and our first merchant, Mr. Brown; and then who will dare to say that this contest is one of personal predilection or of party favour, or that we had any object but to fight our battle on the ground of principle? (Applause.) Then, when the day comes, Hurrah for Free Trade and victory! (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. Brooks rose, but there was loud cries for Mr. Bright, which continued for some time, and at length

Mr. Bright presented himself, and was received with much cheering. He said:—Even though I oppose the opinion of this vast meeting, I must protest against any interference with the order of proceedings decided on beforehand. The time at which we usually separate has arrived, and I am quite certain you have heard to-night quite as much as any moderate man can digest. You have had some rich materials, but I trust they will disagree with none of us. (Cheers.) I am here, and therefore will allude to one point which has not been touched upon to-night. You have heard that we have been in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and you have heard of the great number of meetings we have held in that district; but I believe you have no really correct knowledge of the state of activity in which our friends are there. We have had some such meetings there as were hardly ever equalled, certainly never surpassed, even in Manchester. (Cheers.) And after the meetings we have had returns of the results which have attended these operations for the extension of the register, such as to afford the strongest arguments in favour of the course we have taken. (Hear, hear.) But though we have been so successful, and have been engaged in favour of so important a movement, the metropolitan papers have said little about this part of our policy. The daily papers are, for the most part, the organs of political parties,—Whigs and Tories,—and it is not for them exactly a movement in the right direction. (Hear, hear.) There is an uncomfortable feeling comes over them when they think of what is going forward, and they wish to hide that which, when seen, must create astonishment and dismay. (Hear, hear.) The Whigs are not much more favourable to the movement than the Tories. It would suit them if it were believed that it would aid in turning the Tories out of office, and placing the Whigs in (hear, hear); but from the first this movement has not been one on behalf of Tory or Whig, but on behalf of the people, and the industry of the people. (Loud cheers.) Now, observe how it has operated. There are of the Whig party thousands and hundreds of thousands of honest men—men who are for popular measures and principles; but when you bring forward a question like this for unconditional Free Trade, it acts as a test which the Whigs, who are but sham Liberals, cannot stand (cheers); and thus you found in 1841 many of the large Whig landed proprietors went over to the Tories. In this county they have been weeded out entirely; so that we have none on the Liberal side that are not in favour of a repeal of the Corn Laws, or at least that are not prepared to support a candidate in favour of the League principles. (Cheers.) Well, we have done something, if we have only established this test; and it is a great thing when the battle comes, to know that we have none on our side who will desert, but that all the defection may be expected on the side of our opponents. (Hear.) I can give my word, that whatever men can do for the polling district with which I am connected, and of which Rochdale is the centre, is now doing or about to be done. (Cheers.) We polled at the last election a majority of 149; I believe on the next register we shall have a majority of 350 in our favour; and if the election does not occur till after 1846, we shall have over 400. (Cheers.) We have fixed 540 as the point we aim at. (Cheers.) There is nothing like fixing your standard high enough (hear, hear), and then you will accomplish something respectable. We have a population in the valley between Rochdale and Leeds about the best in the country. (Hear, hear.) Throughout the whole of that valley we have passed, and there is a spirit there which no squirearchy can cast down (cheers); and which, when we have conquered there, will spread to other counties. The time is coming when the monopolists will recover from their slumber, and see how terrible is the power they have raised, and how great the influence which the working classes of this district exercise on the destinies of this country. (Great and prolonged cheering.) For myself I regard this question of the Corn Laws as the all-important question at this moment; but I look beyond it, and hope to see some of the fruits which we contemplate as the result of this agitation. We see, now we have a



respite in some degree from suffering, how great the sacrifices which can be made in a time of prosperity to elevate the character of the people of this district. Were it possible that, instead of a period of three or five years, we had a period of prosperity extending over twenty years before we drop down again into the pit, I believe there is no man who could discover it to be the same place, so totally would it be changed. There would be the same geographical character to the country of hill and valley, but there would be a difference of moral character, such as the philanthropist and Christian might look upon with delight. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Alderman BUCKS moved a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was seconded by Mr. BROTHERTON, M.P., who produced a copy of resolutions passed on the Liverpool Exchange in 1792, recognising Free-Trade principles: the motion was carried by acclamation. The meeting then separated.

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING AT HOUNSLOW.

On Tuesday last a meeting was held in Hounslow, in the large room at the Nag's Head, for the purpose of hearing a lecture from Mr. A. L. Saul on the subject of the Corn Laws. The place of meeting, which is capable of holding between 500 and 600 people, was densely crowded; indeed, many persons were obliged to return, being unable to obtain admittance. Many respectable ladies were present on the platform.

Mr. PARNHAM was called to the chair, who, after some introductory observations, introduced

Mr. SAUL, who entered fully into the question of Free Trade. He proceeded to show that, when corn was cheap, the people being less drained for the first necessary of life, had more to expend in clothing and other comforts; and satisfactorily traced the present improved condition of the country to this cause. He asked, who benefited by monopoly? If the baker got a higher price for his loaf, he paid a higher price to the miller for his flour; the miller, if he received a high price for his flour, had to pay a high price for his wheat to the farmer; and the farmer, if he obtained a high price for his grain, had to grow it on high-rented land. (Cheers.) If monopoly was traced upwards, it was found that the advantage of the system was tracked to the landlord's door; but follow it downwards, and its burden was found to fall on the last link in the chain—the poor consumer—who had to pay down his hard-earned pittance across the counter. (Great cheering.) The speaker adverted to the improved state of the revenue, the current topics of the day, as they bore on the subject of the address; and, after an earnest appeal in support of the registration movement and the Bazaar, sat down amidst much applause.

On the motion of Mr. NEWCOMB, seconded by Mr. MANNING, it was resolved "That this meeting acknowledges its obligation to the Anti-Corn Law League for its energetic exertions to obtain a repeal of the Corn Laws, and pledges itself never to relax until these laws are repealed."

Thanks were voted to Mr. Saul and the Chairman; and, after three tremendous cheers for Free Trade, the meeting separated.

#### COUNTIES REGISTRATION MOVEMENT.

##### TEA-PARTY AND MEETING AT WARRINGTON.

On the evening of Friday the 4th instant, a Free-Trade tea-party and meeting were held in the Assembly-room adjoining the Lion Hotel. Nearly 400 sat down to tea at half-past six o'clock, and after the tables were cleared the numbers were increased, and the spacious and elegant room was filled. Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright were present, and on entering the room were loudly cheered. Mr. Nicholas Cooke was called upon to preside, and in a brief speech expressed his deep sympathy with the labours and object of the Anti-Corn Law League, and his pleasure that two of the most distinguished members of that association were present.

Mr. COBDEN rose, and was greeted with most enthusiastic applause. In the course of his speech the hon. gentleman entered at some length into the general question, explaining how natural and how beautiful are the principles of Free Trade, and how calculated to give prosperity to all classes of the community. He alluded to the system of import duties established by the Chinese as worthy of imitation in this country, and one which it was the object of the League to secure. He next passed to the great object of the meeting, the necessity of adding to the county constituencies. In the Warrington district, polling at Newton, the monopolists had a large majority, which the Warrington people might materially reduce; and he exhorted every man present to do his utmost to place himself and his friends on the register for the coming year. If an election should take place in 1846, which was more than probable, every man who now neglected to qualify would then bitterly regret that whilst the great and, it might be, the final struggle was going on, he was able to render no assistance. County votes were easily obtainable, and he implored them to make an effort by which the victory of Free Trade might be won.

Mr. M'NISH rose to move a resolution approving of the policy of the League, and declaring the intention of the meeting to support it to the utmost of their power, and, in doing so, entered into some very interesting statistics with respect to the condition of the borough constituency. From these statements it appeared that the Free-Trade party in Warrington had been gaining strength for some years past, and were now in a position most cheering to the friends of the cause they had so deeply at heart.

Mr. PETER RYLANDS seconded the resolution in a very effective speech, in which he commented with much ability and humour upon the mode in which landlords protect their tenantry, and upon the forces which are annually performed at agricultural meetings.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and with loud cheering.

Mr. BURTON next addressed the meeting. He said that, although the district which had nearly overwhelmed that district of the country was in some degree alleviated, they still relied on their struggle against the Corn Law. That trade was much revived was owing to the goodness of Providence, by whom comparative abundance had been given, in spite of the efforts of wicked legislation to perpetuate scarcity. The Corn Law could not fulfil its appointed purpose but by creating a state of things approximating to a state of famine; and such a law should be

opposed by every just and Christian man. He explained how trade had created the middle and industrial classes of England, and had raised them from the condition of serfs, and urged upon those present the duty of defending trade and industry as the only sources of their individual well-being, and of the safety of the country. Whilst men were securing votes, their wives and sisters and daughters might be assisting by working for the Bazaar. All should do something, for the cause was not the cause of a party or a class, but one on which the prosperity of all depended.

Mr. EDWARD WEST moved a vote of thanks to the deputation, and expressed his earnest hope that his townsmen would exert themselves to carry out the objects which the meeting was intended to promote.

Mr. EDMUND ROBINSON seconded the motion, and, in an energetic speech, declared his determination to work more zealously in future on behalf of Free Trade.

The resolution passed with loud and unanimous expressions of applause.

Mr. COBDEN moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and stated how highly he had been gratified with the proceedings of the evening. From the activity of the young men he saw around him, from the ability they had shown in their speeches on that occasion, and from the earnestness with which they had devoted themselves to the cause of Free Trade, he augured the happiest results. "Young Warrington" would soon enable that town to give a voice in Parliament for justice to their country, and he was delighted to see among them so much of all the elements which in a good cause could not fail to secure success.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and said he felt some alarm that he had not done all he might have done heretofore, but he pledged himself to work more perseveringly in future.

Three times three cheers were given for the ladies who were present, and who gave their countenance to the cause of Free Trade: the meeting then terminated.

We have rarely witnessed a more gratifying meeting than that of which we have given the above very slight sketch. It was the best Free-Trade meeting ever held in Warrington, and from its success we anticipate a considerable addition to the registers for South Lancashire and North Cheshire, and an impetus to the good cause among the constituency of the borough.

#### FREE-TRADE TEA-PARTY AND MEETING IN PRESTON.

On Thursday evening, the 2nd inst., the friends of Free Trade in Preston, to the number of about 500, assembled in the Corn Exchange-rooms, the use of which had been kindly granted by his Worshipful the Mayor. Tea was served up a little before seven o'clock, in the long room, and also in the centre room; and during the repast several volunteers were given on the splendid organ erected there. Messrs. Cobden and Bright, on entering the scene of festivity, were received with the most enthusiastic cheering. The animated appearance of the company, together with the decorations of the suite of rooms, was interesting in the extreme, and the order maintained throughout was admirable. After tea the company promenade for some time in the long room, and then the business of the meeting commenced.

Mr. M. SATTEWATER rose and moved that William Ainsworth, Esq., should be called to the chair. (Applause.)

Mr. R. ASKOV seconded the motion. The motion having been carried by applause, Mr. AINSWORTH took the chair.

Mr. COBDEN was received with loud and prolonged applause. He addressed the meeting for about an hour, and in the course of his speech alluded to the inconsistent conduct which had characterized some of the leading manufacturers of Preston during the last year. He recollected that about last Christmas there was a movement made in this town for the reduction of the duty upon tea. The petition was got up, and signed by monopolist millowners, and others. It was supported by all classes. Free-Traders supported it as well as others. It was no party measure at all; but when the Free-Traders brought forward their petition for a repeal of the bread tax (hear, hear)—when free trade in corn was wanted as well as free trade in tea (laughter)—then, "That is a party question," said they. ("Hear," and loud and continued laughter.) They could easily understand how free-trade in tea was a good thing. It was easy to ascertain how monopolist manufacturers understood this. He believed many of the manufacturers in this town were shippers of goods to China. (Hear.) There were some opulent men who owned those tall chimneys; and these generally sought the farthest market for their goods. It was left to the smaller capitalists to do business nearer home. Well, these rich manufacturers go to China with their goods, and the tax on tea an obstruction to their trade in that quarter, and accordingly they go to the Legislature and cry out against it; whereas the less affluent of the manufacturers, who want the removal of those impediments which obstruct their trade with the United States, and in a great measure shut them out of the Baltic, come forward to solicit the abrogation of the duties on the importation of foreign corn. (Applause.) They wish to have Free Trade made applicable to their case; but then these opulent manufacturers turn round upon them and say, "This is party work (laughter); we want free trade in tea, not in corn—tea is our article." (Great laughter.) Again, there is the article of cotton. It is astonishing to see what a unanimity exists about this article—about the repeal of the cotton tax. (Hear.) All the millowners come forward at once and sign a petition for the repeal of the cotton tax. In Preston he believed they had done so. (Hear.) This, then, is not a party question. (Laughter.) It is desirable to have plenty of cotton. (Hear.) But it is not desirable to have plenty of bread—it is a party thing altogether this repeal of the bread tax. (Loud laughter.) (After alluding to the demonstration which had been made in favour of Sir Henry Pottinger and referring to the fact that several of the Preston-Law millowners of Preston had subscribed for the service of plate which was to be presented to him, Mr. Cobden proceeded):—During the last session of Parliament, Mr. Villiers brought forward his motion for a repeal of the Corn Laws; and on that very night, just before he rose, Lord Stanley marched forward to the table of the House with a huge roll, quite an armful, and he said he had a petition to present from his constituents in North Lancashire, in favour of the Corn Laws. He then made this statement, to hear which he (Mr. Cobden) was perfectly astounded, that this petition was not only

signed by a vast majority of the agriculturists and landowners in North Lancashire, but it contained the signatures of a majority of the millowners of Preston. Is that true, or is it not? This is the question he wanted to ask. In the House of Commons they could not believe it. When the petition was laid upon the table he was sitting by the side of Mr. Villiers and Mr. M. Gibson, and so completely were they taken aback by the announcement, they determined to judge for themselves; and accordingly walking across the floor, they brought the petition, unrolled it, and examined the signatures. They did observe the name of one or two of the millowners of Preston in it. He could mention their names, if he chose. He supposed if their names were made public they would be proud of it—(laughter)—they would glory in it. He would not, however, mention them, and not for their sakes, but for the sake of their children he would not name them (hear, hear, hear), because, by-and-by, and at a distant period, when the Corn Law became numbers with all those other bad laws which are mere matters of history,—such as the law which made a person subject to be hanged for stealing five shillings ("hear, hear," and laughter), or which applied the rack to punish conscientious opinions, or which tied old women down to the stake for witchcraft,—when this law, as bad as any ("hear, hear, hear," and cheers) became a mere matter of history, the sons of those persons in Preston who signed that petition would blush to know that their forefathers should have been identified with it. (Hear, hear, hear.) And he would tell the meeting that in Preston they stood alone, in allowing it to be said that a majority of the manufacturers are in favour of the Corn Law. (Hear.) Poor Preston! (Hear, hear, hear.) And these are the men who petition for the abrogation of the tax on cotton (laughter), and pray for the reduction of the duty on tea (loud laughter), and subscribe for a piece of silver plate to Sir Henry Pottinger for establishing Free Trade with China! (Continued laughter.) These are the very men who favour the Corn Law! (Hear, hear.) If nothing else will deprive these men of their influence it will be their inconsistency; and that inconsistency justified him in asking what is their motive? What is their motive? What is it? (Hear.) He would tell them the motive. They are led by the nose by the neighbouring squires (hear) into whose pockets the bread goes. (Cheers.) When they petitioned for a reduction of duty on tea, it merely concerned the Queen's revenue; the landlords gained nothing by that. It merely involved a change in taxation. They said, in fact, take your money out of our tea-caddies, and dip them a little deeper into the people's pockets with the income-tax. (Hear, hear.) But if they had asked for the repeal of the landlord's tax, the Corn Law, they would have offended the squires, under whose mahogany they sometimes were allowed to place their knees (laughter); the titheowner would have looked coldly upon them (hear); and the vicar's lay might not have made her curtsy to their wives as before. (Laughter.) Mr. Cobden next proceeded to develop the League plan for increasing the county constituency, and concluded by paying the following just tribute to the merits of Mr. LIVESAY, of the *Preston Guardian*.—He expected great things from Preston; and, although they had some disadvantages, yet they had some advantages to counterbalance them. It is said that nature never gives a boon without supplying an antidote; and in Preston they had an antidote in his friend, Mr. Livesay, to whom the Council of the League, and those with whom he acted in London and elsewhere, who see his humble publication and his newspaper, owed a debt of gratitude. He had no hesitation in saying that Mr. Livesay's publication, the *Struggle*, was viewed by those whom he referred to as one of the most powerful and successful engines for disseminating sound information on the subject. A prophet is not without honours save in his own country, and he expected his worthy friend and his gifted family were more respected and admired at a distance than at home. (Hear, hear.) He was happy at the same time in tendering his individual gratitude to his friend for the success which had been consequent upon his exertions in this cause.

Mr. BURTON was received with prolonged applause. He said he was glad to have the opportunity of addressing the inhabitants of this important town on this most important question. He called Preston an important town (hear) because it had a very numerous population—a population exceeding that of any other town in the division of the county, and also for the most part employed in a more extended trade in manufactures. It appeared to him, however, that, although the town had been called Proud Preston, it had not hitherto taken so very deep and prominent a position with respect to this great question in which all its inhabitants are so very deeply interested. And when he observed the activity which was apparent in this town in the carrying on of its trade and commerce, and the energy which had been displayed with regard to navigating the river, and on other questions of much local importance, he could only believe that it was from the want of a greater knowledge with respect to the principles of Free Trade that this position was not sustained; that it resulted from the circumstances that they had not sufficiently considered the subject, had not examined it in such a manner as to be thoroughly acquainted with its practical bearings on their best interests. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Bright then considered the question in various important aspects, and concluded an eloquent speech by urging on the Free-Traders of Preston to be active in promoting the registration of voters.

Mr. LIVESAY, in a short address, moved the thanks of the meeting to Messrs. Cobden and Bright for their speeches and attendance.

The motion was seconded by Mr. M'GURROU, and passed by the meeting amid loud cheers.

The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the cheers for the ladies, and for Messrs. Cobden and Bright, were then given, and warmly responded to, after which the meeting separated.

#### SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE.

A meeting to promote the registration of voters in South Leicestershire was held the week before last in Leicester.

JOSEPH WHETSTONE, Esq., was called to the chair, and having opened the meeting, which he said was not for speech-making but for business, observed, that some might think it impertinent to attempt to carry the Southern Division, and he had thought so once, but his opinions were changed. (Hear, hear.) Previously to the

last contest, little attention had been paid to the registration; and it was a remarkable fact that in the town of Leicester the Liberal majority was but 20. He believed there was a possibility of increasing that majority to 500; and he thought those present, when they came to look into the matter, would also be satisfied that this was practicable. (Hear.) When they saw what the Anti-Corn-Law League had done in South Lancashire, where a minority of 500 had in one year been turned into a majority of 1700, why should they despair in South Leicestershire? (Hear, hear.) Hundreds of their friends in Leicester, who were able to qualify, had not done so; while in the villages, their opponents (who had attended to the register, while they had neglected it) had put on hundreds who had no right to be on. At present, their two Free-Trade members for the borough were outvoted by four Anti-Free-Traders for the county. He was so convinced that the success of the Free-Trade agitation was indispensable to the prosperity of the country, that no time, or effort, or money should be wanting on his part to aid its progress. (Cheers.)

WILLIAM BIGGS, Esq., said, that the committee for attending to the registry of the Southern Division had been formed only about a fortnight, and they now appealed to the friends of Free Trade for their co-operation. The work they had before them would not be accomplished in one, perhaps not in two, or even three, years. The business of registration was dry and uninteresting; but it was in that way that the battle was to be fought. After urging the supreme importance of Corn-Law repeal, and observing that the purchase of a freehold did not necessarily entail loss, but would usually secure a fair return, with undeniable security, Mr. Biggs stated that there were on the register for the Southern Division the names of from 200 to 300 persons which had no right to be there. The committee, however, were determined to proceed, and had taken a house where an agent would attend daily, to give all necessary information. One hundred of their friends in the town could claim without any new investment; while from 400 to 500 more were able to purchase freeholds if they were so disposed. Two hundred more, on applying at the office, might receive such instructions as would enable them to qualify. It was the bounden duty of every Free-Trade supporter to acquire the franchise, to do so; for, let them recollect, that no exertion, before or after, would supply a deficiency in that respect. (Hear, hear.)

Some conversation took place, during which it was stated that full information on all parts of the subject would be given at the office.

Printed forms, stating the willingness of the persons signing them to become freeholders, were distributed through the meeting; and a large number were returned with signatures.

The Rev. J. BLOODWORTH made some brief and appropriate remarks upon the alarming increase of pauperism.

The CHAIRMAN noticed the importance of gaining the victory, if possible, within the town, since parties could poll without trouble or expense, which was not the case in the out districts. He also denied that the object of the Free-Traders was to reduce wages, or that Corn-Law repeal would have that tendency.

Mr. FILLINGHAM said that confidence would be placed in the committee, when he informed them that Mr. Tertius Paget had consented to act as treasurer, and Messrs. How and Gittins as secretaries.

Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting broke up.—*Leicester Chronicle*.

#### MEETING AT CHORLEY.

On Monday evening last a large meeting of the Free-Traders of Chorley was held in the old Wesleyan Chapel, Chapel-street. The building was crowded in every part. Among those present we observed Thomas Watts, Esq., Richard Smethurst, Esq., Mr. John Hodgkinson, Mr. T. Hyland, Mr. Thomas Coupe, Mr. John Houghton, Mr. William Lawrence, &c. &c.

Mr. JAMES WALNOK was called upon to preside, and expressed his gratification that the meeting was attended by a deputation from the Council of the League, consisting of Mr. Bright and Mr. Prentice. He would not occupy the meeting with observations of his own, but would introduce Mr. Prentice to the meeting.

Mr. PRENTICE came forward and was received with cheers. In the course of his speech he traced the progress of the agitation against the Corn Law. For several years the process had been one of instruction—first, among the inhabitants of the manufacturing districts, and then extending itself into the more distant towns and cities of the kingdom. The League had been called a manufacturers' agitation, and the rural districts were supposed to be altogether hostile to the object it was seeking. To refute this, deputations from the Council had visited nearly every county in England and Scotland, holding public open-air meetings in strictly agricultural districts; and there, as in the manufacturing towns, Free Trade had been promulgated, and, wherever taught, had found multitudes of ardent friends. Now the labours of the League were advancing a degree further. Progress marked all its career. Teaching had done wonders—now action was the policy. Mr. Prentice concluded by calling upon every Free-Trade supporter in Chorley to provide himself with a qualification for North Lancashire, to be ready for use when another election should take place.

Mr. BRIGHT followed and spoke at great length on the general question. He asserted that the League, in the agitation it was carrying on, was but the organ and the mouth-piece of the industrious classes of England. The Corn Law was a sign of the subjugation of the trading and commercial classes to the landlord class, and the penalty paid by the nation for intrusting its legislation into hands so incapable as those of the owners of the soil. The protection said to be afforded by the Corn Law was but a cloak for a grievous wrong upon all who lived by the employment of capital and labour. It was a protection given to land, to raise the value of the produce of land, to raise the rent paid to the proprietors of land. It was not afforded to manufacturers, or to the working men in any of the trades by which working men live, and being given only to one class, that of landlords, was clearly and grossly unjust. It was to overthrow this mischievous system that the League had been organized. Mr. Bright then explained how the county constituencies might be enlarged so as to overcome the power of the great landed proprietors;—the middle and working classes of the manufacturing counties might secure the representation of those counties for Free Trade. Many men having 250 to in-

vest might buy a freehold qualification, and then he would be provided with a weapon of defence by which he might secure his property and his rights from the incursions of those who have so long sacrificed the well-being of their fellow-men and the true interests of the country to the sordid love of rent unjustly raised, and the thirst for political power secured by the serfdom of their tenantry.

Mr. JOHN HOUGHTON moved, and Mr. HODGKINSON seconded, a vote of thanks to the deputation, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. PRENTICE moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and after three hearty cheers for the League the meeting separated.

From 400 to 500 persons were present, a large proportion of whom were of the working class; and the facts and arguments brought forward seemed to make a deep impression upon all present.

We learn from our correspondent that in many cases qualifications have been already obtained, and that further efforts will be made. The ladies also are making arrangements to assist in providing materials for the great Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre in May next.

#### MEETING AT OLDHAM.

On Saturday evening last, a large public meeting of the inhabitants of Oldham, consisting chiefly of the principal manufacturers and of operatives, was held in the large room of the Town-hall, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means of extending the number of Free-Trade electors, and thus promoting the repeal of the Corn Laws and the destruction of monopolies.

Present we observed—Jonathan Mellor, Esq., county magistrate; Horatio Nelson, Esq., Peter Seville, Esq., William Knott, Esq.; William Bridgson, Esq., constable; Scholes Brierley, Esq.; Edwin Travis, Esq., John Travis, Esq., Lusley Brook; Thomas Robinson, Esq., Wood Brook, Saddleworth; James Wrigley, Esq.; John Booth, Esq., Lees; Samuel Radcliffe, Esq., Lower House; Henry Radcliffe, Esq., solicitor; Samuel Dronsfield, Werneth Mills; Josiah Radcliffe, Esq., Lower House; John Ascroft, Esq.; John Bentley, Esq., churchwarden; John Mills, Esq., Waterhead Mill; Joseph Seville, Esq., Royton; John Holden, Esq., High Lands; John Chadwick, Esq., Rhodes; Mr. Alexander Taylor, Mr. James Mills, Mr. John Dronsfield; James Bredbury, Esq., New York, and his lady; Mr. Edward Mellor, Mr. W. H. Mellor, James Platt, Esq., &c. &c.

JONATHAN MELLOR, jun., Esq., one of the head constables, having been called to the chair, said he had consented to preside on the urgent solicitation of many of his friends. As in South Lancashire a great number of the electors had proved themselves the mere creatures of the aristocratical landowners, it was deemed necessary by the supporters of Free-Trade principles to increase the constituency in the right direction. (Hear, hear.) He was glad that they had not only Mr. Cobden, but also Mr. Brooks, present: the former was the great champion of the Free-Trade question, and the latter was a most worthy and estimable friend of the working classes. (Cheers.)

Mr. COBDEN, M.P., on rising to speak, was greeted with several rounds of applause. He need scarcely tell them, he said, that they were met for the very proper purpose of strengthening the cause of Free Trade on the electoral lists. As he understood there were a number of persons present who did not exactly agree in the opinions of himself and those with whom he usually acted, he would shortly explain what those opinions were. Mr. Cobden then gave a clear and concise exposition of the principles of Free Trade; after which he explained the plan of the League for increasing the number of Free-Trade voters: and concluded by urging the friends of Free Trade to the most prompt and effective measures for securing the election of Free-Traders in the West Riding of Yorkshire, particularly mentioning Saddleworth as a district where freehold properties might be easily acquired on favourable terms.

Mr. JOHN BROOKS delivered a brief but humorous speech, recommending the working-out of the plan explained by Mr. Cobden. He had already qualified his sons in North and South Lancashire and North Cheshire, and he would qualify them very soon for the West Riding of Yorkshire. Mr. Brooks concluded with some observations on the evils of the Corn Laws, and the pernicious effects of the duties on tea, sugar, &c.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. William Knott, hat-manufacturer, of Oldham; Mr. Edward Watkin, of Manchester; the Rev. Mr. Shepherd, Wesleyan Association minister, of Oldham; and by Mr. Dronsfield, of Waterhead-mill, who moved that a committee should be appointed for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the meeting. Mr. James Mills, of Oldham, seconded the motion.

JOSEPH SHAW, a working man, in the body of the meeting, said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I rise for the purpose of making a few remarks on the subject of the Corn Laws. I have but once before spoken before a member of Parliament, viz., Mr. Hindley, at a public meeting at Lees. I have spoken once at Ashton and Saddleworth, but never before in Oldham. I have thought on the subject of the Corn Laws for the last twenty years and more, and I have ever seen great reason to condemn them. As there is no probability that I shall ever see Sir Robert Peel, as he never comes down into this neighbourhood, and I being not able to bear the expense of going to London, I wish you (addressing Mr. Cobden) to be so kind as to tell him what you have heard a working man say on the subject of the Corn Laws in a large and respectable public meeting in the town of Oldham. I am now and have been long of opinion that the Corn Laws are very injurious to the working classes, and I will tell you how I prove it. I have been in the habit of observing that, when the prices of food have been high, wages have been low, which sufficiently accounts for the dreadful state of Stockport and the other manufacturing towns and districts two or three years since. At that time, when wheat was up to about 70s. a quarter, the working man would have 2s. per quarter to pay for it more than now when it is down to 45s., and consequently would have 25s. less to lay out for clothing and other necessities for his comfort during the time he was consuming a quarter of wheat. I have further to state that, since the prices of eatables have come down, I have seen a deal more new fustian jackets in our village of Lees than I have seen for four or five years during the time of high prices; and I will also tell you how I account for that. When provisions are high, the people

have so much to pay for them that they have little or nothing left to buy clothes with; and when they have little to buy clothes with, there are few clothes sold; and when there are few clothes sold, there are too many to sell; and when there are too many to sell, they are very cheap; and when they are very cheap, there cannot be much paid for making them: and that, consequently, the manufacturing working man's wages are reduced; the mills are shut up, business is ruined, and general distress is spread through the country. But when, as now, the working man has the said 25s. left in his pocket, he buys more clothing with it (ay, and other articles of comfort too), and that increases the demand for them, and the greater the demand, you know, makes them rise in price, and the rising in price enables the working man to get higher wages and the masters better profits. This, therefore, is the way I prove that high provisions make lower wages, and cheap provisions make higher wages. (At the close of the speech the speaker was greeted with great applause.)

Mr. RICHARD HASLAM made some observations on the importance of securing the operative electors from all undue influence, by means of the ballot or some other protection.

The CHAIRMAN, as well as Mr. COBDEN and Mr. BROOKS, expressed their approval of Mr. Haslam's views, and of the great necessity of protecting all electors from improper influences.

Mr. HORATIO NELSON, hat-manufacturer, of Oldham, moved a vote of thanks to Messrs. Cobden and Brooks for their visit to Oldham.

Mr. SCHOLES BRIERLEY, hat-manufacturer, of Oldham, seconded the resolution, which, with the other resolution, was unanimously passed.

Several rounds of applause were then given for Messrs. Cobden and Brooks, and the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks in a brief but appropriate speech.

#### NORTH CHESHIRE REGISTRATION.

##### MEETING IN MACCLESFIELD.

A meeting of the borough electors and others friendly to the repeal of the Corn Laws, was held in Lord-street School on Monday evening last, when the large apartment was crowded, there being at least 1000 persons present. Mr. Cobden attended for the purpose of explaining the plan which has been adopted by the League, and pursued with so much success elsewhere, of extending the county constituencies; and to urge upon the friends of the cause in this locality the necessity for exertion in order to rescue North Cheshire from the dominion of the monopolists. We observed upon and around the platform the following, among other gentlemen:—Samuel Greg, Esq., of Bollington; Mr. Brough, silk-manufacturer, of Leek; John Johnson, Esq., silk-manufacturer, of Congleton, accompanied by Alderman Warrington, Messrs. Chapman, Charles Johnson, and other gentlemen from Congleton; John Smith, Esq., silk-printer, of Langley; William Potts, Esq.; Messrs. Jeremiah Shatwell, Samuel Barton, Thomas Heapy, Ferdinand Jackson, Joseph Barclay, Alexander Carruthers, George Oldham, Thomas Potts, Isaac Moss, William Iyle, John Shatwell, silk-manufacturers; Messrs. Samuel Jesper, James Rathbone, Richard Wilson, Peter Bullock, the Rev. Samuel Bowen, Thomas Airey, Richard Sadler, John Wood Lane, Richard Marsden; Richard Wormald, Esq.; William Sayner, John Hilbel, John Dean, John Bullock, Joseph Sanders; Rev. Mr. Roberts, of Park-gate; James Downing, Joseph Howe, Thos. Jackson, Joseph Anton, &c. &c.

We regret our inability, owing to the length of our report of the Manchester meeting and the late hour at which we received the slips, to do more than state that the meeting was ably addressed by Mr. Hine; Mr. Cobden, who fully developed the League's plan of operation for extending the suffrage in counties; and by Mr. Falvey, whose eloquent speech was enthusiastically received by his fellow-townsmen. The meeting was, upon the whole, one of the most respectably attended, and at the same time one of the most enthusiastic, that has ever taken place in Macclesfield. A committee has since been formed to carry out the object of the meeting.

#### GLASGOW ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION. THE LEAGUE BAZAAR.

The subjoined report—abridged from a much more ample one, which occupies several columns in the *Glasgow Argus* and *Morning Chronicle*—is a spirited manifestation of the zeal with which the Free-Traders of Glasgow are preparing to make an effective show at the forthcoming League Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre. We trust this example will be followed in all the towns of "bonnie Scotland." The few months that intervene before the opening of the Bazaar in May, should every where be devoted to one grand effort to make this *Free Trade exhibition* one of the most successful and brilliant of the kind ever yet witnessed in this country.

On Saturday evening, a meeting of the members of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association was held in the Trades' Hall, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposal of the National Anti-Corn-Law League to hold a Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre, London, in the month of May next, on behalf of the League Fund of £100,000, and the propriety of appointing a local committee for Glasgow to aid that important object, by procuring contributions of manufactured articles from this city for the projected Bazaar.

The chair having been taken by Walter Buchanan, Esq., president of the association, Mr. D. Murray, the secretary, read a circular received from the Council of the League, setting forth the intention of that body to exhibit the Bazaar (which was originally projected by, and is to be under the management of, the ladies), and requesting the co-operation of Glasgow in the measure, it being contemplated that there should be in the Bazaar a stall for every large town in the empire. The circular suggested the formation of a ladies' local committee in every town, and also a gentlemen's committee, to canvass for the contribution of articles, and otherwise assist in promoting the object.

The CHAIRMAN said, the meeting would perceive from the circular read by Mr. Murray, that the Anti-Corn-Law League was still earnestly engaged in carrying out the great objects for which the association was formed.



There was no one characteristic of that body more remarkable than the indefatigable spirit by which it was governed. So far from flagging under continued exertion, or becoming wearied of the agitation, they were still pressing forward with as much zeal and determination as ever. (Cheering.) The National Anti-Corn-Law League is neither dead nor asleep, as its enemies have represented. On the contrary, never has that great and powerful association exhibited more activity and determination, more boldness in its plans, or more confidence in being able to accomplish them, more, in short, of vital and healthful action, than at this moment of its alleged decease. (Hear, hear.) It would, indeed, have been extraordinary if the great leaders who had advocated the principles of Free Trade, and the countless thousands who had enthusiastically adopted their opinions, should at once have forgotten and abandoned the cause, and, on the first flush of prosperous trade, returned contented to their own pursuits. The Chairman then went on to instance, by many striking facts, the zeal and tact displayed by the League, and the verification of their principles by the course of events during the past year; and concluded by a warm appeal in favour of Free Trade.

ALEX. GRAHAM, Esq., after explaining that he had been called on without the slightest preparation to address the meeting, proposed the first resolution:—

"1st. That this meeting declares its entire and unabated confidence in the National Anti-Corn-Law League, and at the same time would express its grateful sense of the many important services rendered to the great cause of Free Trade by that body; and as the League have determined upon holding a Bazaar in the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, in the month of May next, for the promotion of its objects, this meeting is heartily desirous to co-operate therein, and herein pledges itself to use its best exertions to aid and assist in the same."

Mr. Graham warmly eulogised the League, and pointed out the various signs it exhibited of undiminished vitality. He then made some remarks in reference to the proposed Bazaar. Though not sufficiently informed as to the details, he, nevertheless, had so much confidence in the League, after the sagacity they had shown on all former occasions, that he was sure it would not have been planned nor supported by such men as Cobden and Bright, if it was not likely to exert a salutary influence on their cause, and calculated to add materially to their funds. They had not this year been called upon for subscriptions to the League fund; but this was a cause towards which every man should be prepared to give his annual contribution, in the same way as he would contribute towards other legitimate schemes of benevolence and patriotism; and the fact that no subscriptions had been this year called for furnished a strong reason why they should enter cordially and zealously into the scheme of the Bazaar. Mr. Graham concluded by moving the resolution.

JOHN PATTON, Esq., seconded the resolution. After the very able speech which they had just heard, it would be absurd in him to take up their time by any observations. He must say that before this night he had ever been averse to the support of Bazaars. He never liked them; but, seeing this proposal brought forward by men who hitherto had never gone wrong in the management of the League, he would consider himself very impertinent if he brought forward his ideas on the subject. He seconded the motion with great pleasure.

W. P. PATON, Esq., moved the next resolution:—

"That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolutions:—viz., Walter Buchanan, President of the Association; John Tennant and Alexander Graham, Vice-Presidents; Alexander Couper, Treasurer; the Hon. the Lord Provost; James Anderson, John Whitehead, David McKim, William Brodie, John Wilson, Bailies; William Bunker, Provost of Galton; Robert Dunlop, Richard Cunliffe, Bailies of Glasgow; George Stirling, Alexander Dennistoun, John Pattison, W. P. Paton, Alexander Hestie, Samuel Haggitham, Thomas Davidson, Andrew Galbraith, John Hamilton, George Brown, Duncan McPhail, George Anderson, Alexander McEwan, Robert Wylie, William Blackwood, Robert Wilson, Robert McKay, J. S. Blyth, G. C. Dick, James Paterson, S. R. Brown, James Drummond, Thos. Richard, James Dunlop, James J. Robertson, Robert Stewart, James Scott, William Gray, George Lancaster, David Chapman, Donald Bannatyne, Robert Bartholomew, Thomas Boyd, James McClelland, Alexander Tennant, Charles Gray, Andrew Paton, James Turner, Andrew Orr, John Finlay." He agreed with Mr. Patton that they ought to have full confidence in their great leaders in England, who had recommended the plan of a Bazaar. They should recollect that this proposal of a Bazaar was not an untimely one. They had already held a Bazaar in Manchester, by which they collected about £10,000, and it was, besides, the means of diffusing a knowledge of the principles of the League, which could not have been better promoted by other schemes. (Hear.) The League had wisely resolved to carry out the object in London, and, if supported by the various towns throughout the kingdom, there could be no doubt that the exhibition would be of the most distinguished character. He hoped, for the honour of Glasgow, that a great number of manufactured articles of beauty and value would be furnished by our manufacturers; and he might state that it was intended, before sending the collection to London, to exhibit them to the public here, so that the citizens of Glasgow, generally, might have an opportunity of witnessing those beautiful productions of our manufactures, which, he had no doubt, would prove an honour to the city. He would take that opportunity of expressing his admiration of those men who were leading this great movement in England, and particularly of Mr. Cobden. He looked upon Mr. Cobden as no common man (hear); as a man raised up by Providence to do a great and mighty work; and he believed he would be successful in the movement, which he led with such distinguished ability and perseverance, not only in promoting the prosperity of our commerce, and the physical and moral welfare of the people, but also in advancing the peaceful relations of all the nations of the earth. (Cheers.)

Councillor A. Orr seconded the resolution, which, like the preceding, was unanimously carried.

The Lord Provost, who was received with cheering, said he was not aware that he would be expected to say anything that night; but his anxiety for the success of the measure now launched before the public was so great that he could not refrain from attending amongst them, though labouring under indisposition. (Cheers.) The observations

the Chairman had made in reference to the present prosperous state of our trade ought to make a permanent impression on all their minds; for though, under Providence, we had been favoured with abundant harvests, and a consequent renovation of our trade and commerce, yet, without the intervention of such measures as he had advocated, and by means of which a uniform supply of cheap food would be ensured to the country, they could not but look forward with fear to the recurrence of those calamitous results which they had in times past experienced. (Hear.) They could not but rejoice at the amount of comfort and prosperity under which the new year had been ushered in, and it was gratifying in the highest degree to witness the prosperity of the working classes and their families; but still it was their duty to look to the future—to secure, if possible, the permanent continuance of that prosperity—and, therefore, all should be ready to lend their assistance—every man ought to put his hand to the oar, and labour to prevent their country being overtaken with former calamities. (Cheers.) He trusted this prosperity would continue; but, if they wished it to be permanent, they would all unite heart and hand in support of the principles and movements of the League. (Cheers.) In reference to the Bazaar, he hoped that the artisans and ingenious mechanics of the city would come promptly forward with elegant and valuable articles of manufacture, and he had no doubt such a collection would be brought together as would do honour to Glasgow. It would be truly gratifying if they could send something worthy of the attention of the League; and, though not immediately on the scene of action themselves, to show that they were not unmindful of the exhortations put forth by those great men who headed the movement, and who so perseveringly followed out the great object they had in view. (Cheers.)

The Chairman stated that some gentlemen had agreed to give subscriptions in order to enable the Committee to buy such articles as they might wish to have exhibited at the Bazaar, and certainly this was a way in which much might be done. The Committee, he might further observe, would take means of making the wishes of the League known to the ladies with a view to the formation of a Ladies' Committee, and he had no doubt that they would have some beautiful specimens of their skill and taste to exhibit.

On the motion of the Lord Provost, a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman for his conduct in the chair, and the meeting separated.—*Abridged from the Glasgow Argus.*

FREE-TRADE VOTERS.—The Wakefield Free-Trade Committee are proceeding with silent activity in the cause of enfranchisement, and many properties have already been purchased in the town and neighbourhood for conferring qualifications. The amount of property on offer is very large, and plenty of choice is therefore to be had by those wishing to purchase.—*Leeds Mercury.*

POLITICAL PARTIES.—Party spirit is a bad name, often given to public spirit. Great parties are not necessarily factions. The breaking up of worn-out, dishonoured, ill-principled parties is a good thing; but it is a bad sign, and a great evil, when better combinations do not spring up in their place. At the present moment the only rising and compact party is that of the League, which has justly been styled "the phenomenon of the age," and which, after another election, will be seen controlling, if not directing, the Government.—*Patriot.*

FREE-TRADERS OF HULL.—WEST RIDING REGISTRATION.—We have seen a letter from Doncaster this week, in which it is suggested that the Free-Traders of Hull might render good service to the cause of cheap bread by securing qualifications in the West Riding. This is a matter which should also be taken up with spirit. If only 1500 registered Free-Traders be obtained in the West Riding, that influential constituency is won from the monopolists. The time between this and the 31st of this month is very short, but by persons sufficiently zealous much may be done. Where difficulty is experienced in obtaining a qualification by persons in a condition to make the necessary outlay, we recommend a direct appeal to the League. The Council of that energetic body are prepared to render every assistance to applicants desirous of obtaining the franchise.—*Hull Advertiser.*

ENGLISH AND CHINESE LABOURERS.—It is curious to consider the effect of the high duty on tea, as between the producer of calico in Lancashire and the labourer growing tea in China. A pound of good bohea tea, delivered at the shipping port in China, would be about the same as a yard of printed cotton, delivered in the shipping port of England. Say the price of each is sixpence. The yard of print is subject to a duty on reaching China of about 7½ per cent.; and, supposing even that profits and duty reach 50 per cent., the Chinese consumer receives the English print at 9d. per yard; while, on the other hand, the pound of tea, which came from the hands of the Chinese producer at the same price, is increased by duties and necessary profits to at least 3s. 9d. per lb., or just five times the price of the cotton print, so that, as a simple question between the two labourers, the producer of prints in England gives five hours' labour in England in exchange for one in China.—*Economist.*

STOCKPORT.—TREAT GIVEN BY MR. HOLLINS TO HIS WORKPEOPLE.—On Saturday evening last the workpeople in the employ of Mr. Alderman Hollins were provided, by their benevolent master, with a splendid new year's treat. At six o'clock, from 600 to 700 persons of both sexes, and all ages above thirteen years, sat down to a substantial and even elegant supper, in one of the large rooms of his manufactory. After supper several loyal and other suitable toasts were given and responded to in appropriate speeches, the intervals being enlivened by glees. At nine the dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit until near twelve o'clock. To the delights of the evening a very efficient band much contributed. The room was tastefully fitted up for the occasion, and several respectable parties, friends of Mr. Hollins, shared in the pleasures of the evening, all of whom appeared highly gratified to see the harmony existing between this gentleman and his hands, and how highly they valued this substantial mark of their employer's consideration for their happiness. In this manufactory last year, about £50 were raised for the League Fund. At the present time, about 20 of the principal hands are qualifying for North Cheshire as freeholders; and a bank is being instituted in the concern, to be managed by the workmen themselves, to encourage savings, with the view both to promote domestic happiness and political enfranchisement.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, January 8, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Ridings, Horatio, Shakespeare, Newton-leath, near Manchester	21 0 0
Jones, John, Llandulas, Tan Rallt, near Abergele, Denbighshire	1 0 0
Pickler, Robt., Oxenhope-mill, Haworth, near Bradford, Yorkshire	1 0 0
Clowes, John, Market-street, Hanley, Staffordshire Potteries	1 0 0
Webster, Thos., 181, Every-st., Ancoats, Manchester	1 1 0
Cureton and Ogden, 23, Pall-mall, do.	1 0 0
Burgoyne, Joseph, Rochdale-road, Bury	1 0 0
Walker, Chas. Jas., Longford, near Manchester	0 5 0
Cockshott, W. and J., Shipley, near Bradford	1 0 0
Hall, John, grocer, do.	1 0 0
Walker, Nicholas, currier, do.	1 0 0
Greenwood, Jonathan, Badden-green, near do.	1 0 0
Ward, Abraham, 51, Deansgate, Manchester	1 0 0
Holland, Mrs. A., Knutsford, Cheshire	1 0 0
Taylor, Ralph, Mount-pleasant, Todmorden	1 0 0
Bland, John, 38, Bridge-street, Manchester	1 0 0
Edwards, Robt., Beawick Potteries, near do.	1 0 0
Kntwistle, Thos., Church, near Accrington, Lancashire	1 0 0
Fearnside, Frank, Oasett, near Wakefield	1 0 0
Phillips, David, manufacturer, Oasett-street, Side, near Wakefield	1 0 0
Ormerod, John, 3, Old Millgate, Manchester	1 0 0
T. J. and M. R., do.	20 0 0
Abram, J. and R., Oldham-street, do.	1 0 0
Hampson, Benj., 54, Chapman-st., Hulme, do.	1 0 0
Chappell, T. R., 27, Cannon-street, do.	1 0 0
Booth, Phillip, 14, Great Bridgewater-street, do.	1 1 0
Barton, J. A., 14, Marsden-street, do.	1 0 0
Andrews, Josh., 23, Russell-st., C-on-M., do.	1 0 0
Duesbury, Wm., Streetford-road, do.	1 0 0
Hankinson, Venables, Hanging-ditch, do.	1 0 0
Thornton, John, Rastrick, near Huddersfield	1 0 0
Helm, William, do.	1 0 0
Hassam, James, Fold-street, Bolton	1 0 0
Wood, J. R., Fallsworth-lodge, do.	1 0 0
Alexander, James, Queen-street, Wigan	1 0 0
Beawick, John, 9, Kennedy-street, Manchester	1 2 6
Thornton, John, Godley, Cheshire	1 0 0
Nuttall, James, Newchurch, near Rochdale	1 0 0
Ransom, Richard, Standishgate, Wigan	1 1 0
Harrison, Henry, Wallgate, do.	1 0 0
Smith, Richard, Market-place, do.	1 0 0
Hervey, William, Parker-street, Derby	1 1 0
Lomax, J., Dunsters, near Bury, Lancashire	1 0 0
Haworth, Jas., 17, Oxford-street, Manchester	1 0 0
Arnott, W. and P., Marshall-place, Perth	1 1 0
Hall, James, Knutsford, Cheshire	1 0 0
Anonymous	0 1 0
Whitehead, Thomas, Walk, Rochdale	1 1 0
Adams, John, 205, Deansgate, Manchester	1 0 0
Howden, Saml. and Robt., 23, Oxford-road, do.	1 0 0
King, John, jun., Clepatow-st., Oxford-rd., do.	1 0 0
Milner, Anthony, Lancaster	1 0 0
M'Rath, Hamilton, draper, do.	1 0 0
Hatigate, James, do.	1 0 0
Stoss, Mr., surgeon, do.	1 0 0
Oliver, Jeremiah, Todmorden	1 0 0
Gutcliffe, John, Wadsworth-mill, do.	1 0 0
Cunliffe, Richard, Byng-street, Bolton	1 0 0
Hesketh, William, Bradshaw-gate, do.	1 0 0
Kilby, Wm., Bridge Holmes Green-mills, Clapton-le-Frith	1 0 0
Simpson, Thomas, Broad-street, Halifax	1 0 0
Kidd, James, do.	1 0 0
Wilcock, G., do.	1 0 0
Jackson, J., draper, do.	1 0 0
Milner, W., do.	1 0 0
Hampson, David, tailor, Old Market-place, Rochdale	1 0 0
Key, R. G., manufacturer, Hall Fold, near do.	1 0 0
Tweedale, Saul, John Bright and Brother, do.	1 0 0
Robinson, John, Latchford	1 0 0
Davies, Thomas, Lyme-street	1 0 0
Powell, Thomas, grocer	1 0 0
Peers, Richard, Bessy-road	1 1 0
Peers, John R., do.	1 1 0
Winstanley, Robert, Sankey-street	1 1 0
Shepherd, Richard	1 1 0
West, Edward	1 1 0
Robinson, Edmund, Spring-terrace	1 1 0
Grice, John S., Bessy-street	1 1 0
Lurtin, G. J., Bridge-street	1 0 0
Bilston	1 0 0
Haworth, Jas., Royal George, Todmorden, near	1 0 0
Heath, W. J., do.	1 0 0
Littlewood, Jas., and Son	1 0 0
Taylor, Samuel, Packer-street	1 0 0
Haworth, John, Smallbridge	1 0 0
Hyson, Thomas, tea dealer	1 0 0
Mildley, James, Springhill	1 0 0
Lyrie, William, Whitehall-street	1 0 0
Whitehead, Josh., Millgate, near Smallbridge	1 0 0
Key, William, Moldgreen, near	0 9 0
Sundries, by Mrs. Dewhurst	0 9 0
Ciffie, Jos., Aspley	1 1 0
Hall, George, Kirkgate	1 1 0
Croslaud, T., Benjaulin	1 0 0
Richardson, John, 2, Temple-lane	1 0 0
Milner, John, 31, Kenilworth-street	1 1 0
Burble, John, 28, Lord Nelson-street	1 0 0
Cain, R. W., Overton, near Frodsham, Cheshire	1 0 0
Jackson, J. J., 83, Church-street	1 0 0
Unsworth, G. G., 7, Rotauld-view, Edge-hill	1 1 0
McGowan, George, 24, Lord Nelson-street	1 0 0
Hutchinson, Alex., Atherton-st., Everton, near	1 0 0
Danson, Henry, 55, Dale-street	1 0 0
Morison, Alex., 47, Falkner-street	1 0 0
Abraham, Robt., Standish, Crosby, near	1 0 0
McEwen, M., 1, Cooper's-row	1 0 0
Bennett, John, 27, Lord-street	1 0 0
G. H.	1 0 0
Proctor, James, 8, Cambridge-street	1 0 0
Mills, G. A., 85, London-road	1 0 0
Marsh, Peter, 6, Scotland-place	1 0 0
Eccles, Edward, 101, Islington	1 0 0
Balley, Thomas, Halewood, near	1 0 0
Stock, J. R., do.	1 0 0
Irish, George, 20, Tavistock-place	1 0 0
Atford, W. and K., 117, Leadenhall-street	1 0 0
Nodes, Hydenham, 16, Bedford-place, Russell-square	1 0 0
Campbell, Wm., Bowle Clock-mill, 13, Woodland-street, Edinburgh	1 0 0
Holte, Henry, 8, North-building, Finsbury-croft	1 1 0
Hespart, James, 14, Goswell-road	1 0 0
Hyte, John and Charles, 104, Strand	1 0 0
Procter, George, the Hoe, Great Garden-lane, North	1 0 0
Mellows, James, 1, Davis-place, Macclesfield	1 0 0

Thomson, J. R., 9, George-street, Minorca ..	1	0
Garrett, Joseph, Bocking ..	1	0
Baker, T. E., 51, Burton-crescent ..	1	0
Shram, John Frederick, 121, Shoreditch ..	1	0
Nettlefold, R. J., 51, High Holborn ..	1	0
Crodeley, Master Louis John, 8, Wade-street, Halifax ..	1	0
Leader, Wm., Leek ..	1	0
Shackleton, Wm., New Wortley, Leeds ..	1	0
Johnson, James, M.D., 32, Greenacre, Lancaster ..	1	0
Boul, Wm., 37, Bridge-street, Cambridge ..	1	0
Wardell, Matthew, builder, Claypath, Durham ..	1	0
Wyatt, James L., 33, St. Aldgate, Oxford ..	1	0
Wyatt, Francis G., 11, Queen-street, do. ..	1	0
Gibbs, John, Walton House, Aylesbury ..	1	0
Rowlands, W., 33, Smith-street, Clerkenwell ..	1	0
England, Thomas, solicitor, Huddersfield ..	1	0
Haig, James, 24, Down-street, May-fair ..	1	0
Cowper, Edward, 24, Peterborough-place, Daywater ..	1	0
Bradley, Henry, Huddersfield ..	1	0
Wylth, Samuel, Langham ..	1	0
Macintosh.		
Platcher, David, High-street ..	1	0
Heapey, Thomas ..	1	0
Hine, Richard ..	1	0
Crewes, Thomas ..	1	0
Hine, John ..	1	0
Sharpley, Mark ..	1	0
Beresford, Joseph, Bosley, near ..	1	0
Wild, Robert, Houndditch ..	1	0
Alexander, William, Yarmouth ..	1	0
Thorne, James, Earl-street, Horsferry-road ..	1	0
Hutchinson, Mrs., 19, Little Pultney-street ..	1	0
Hutchinson, Henry A., jun., do. ..	1	0
Wallen, Joseph ..	1	0
Kearney, John, 24, Euston-square ..	1	0
Shaw, David, Leicester ..	1	0
Stewart, Henry, 1 A, Weymouth-street, Portland-place ..	1	0
Brackstone, R. H., 121, Wood-street ..	1	0
Looseley, G. and F., 19, Long-alley, Finsbury-circus ..	1	0
Simonds, C. G., 15, Dalton-rise ..	1	0
Webb, James H., Dublin ..	1	0
Newcastle-under-Lyne.		
Hallam, Richard, High-street ..	0	10
Higfield, —, Red Lion-square ..	0	5
Mason, Samuel, High-street ..	0	5
Grabin, Edward, 25, Whitechapel, Liverpool ..	1	0
Waddington, Washington, Bristol-st., Birmingham ..	1	0
Bilbrough, James, Gildersome, near Leeds ..	1	0
Ireland, James, St. Clairtown, Kilkenny ..	1	0
Mellor, Joseph, Bridgmill, do. ..	1	0
Mellor, Andrew and George, do. ..	1	0
Bairnsfather, P., W. S., Edinburgh ..	1	0
Barnea, Thos., Cromwell House, Chapel-en-le-Frith ..	1	0
Ogle, Rev. Samuel, Rectory, Darfield ..	1	0
Aequith, John Hagble, Leeds ..	1	0
Wallis, Thomas, Loughborough ..	1	0
Jackson, Mrs. P., Wigan ..	1	0
Bradford.		
Shepherd, Wm., woolstapler, Well-street ..	1	0
Watson, Wm., draper, Kirkgate ..	1	0
Haley, Joshua, woolstapler, Broadstone ..	1	0
Rawnsley, John, currier, New-street ..	1	0
Brown, Daniel, Luton, Beds ..	1	0
Acton, Joseph, Broken-cross, Macclesfield ..	1	0
Savill, J., and Son, Barnsley ..	1	0
Hanson, Samuel, Todmorden ..	1	0
Johnson, Joseph, Gomersal, near Leeds ..	1	0
Ashdown, Robert, 2, Albion-terrace, Huddersfield ..	1	0
Turner, Jane, Colford ..	1	0
Waterhouse, J. P., Halifax ..	1	0
Stephens, Thos., Sussex Tavern, Bank, Leeds ..	1	0
Alley, Thomas, Macclesfield ..	1	0
Jack, W. J., Brompton, Kent ..	1	0
Thomson, Edward, Nelson-terrace, Cardiff ..	1	0
Barling, James, Fisherton, near Salisbury ..	1	0
Bottou, W. D., Horse-market, Northampton ..	1	0
Leak, Alexander, Dundee ..	1	0
Brown, John, shipowner, do. ..	1	0
Shaden, Abraham, 65, Chatham-street, Leeds ..	1	0
Miller, James, Newhouse, North Berwick ..	1	0
Pratt, Thomas, Union-street, Bishopwearmouth ..	1	0
Armstrong, Henry, Villiers-street, do. ..	1	0
Robson, E. C., Frederick-street, do. ..	1	0
Holmes, Joseph, tea dealer, Durham ..	1	0
Storey, Thos., Picktree, near Chester-le-Street ..	1	0
Turnbull, Wm., Dundee ..	1	0
Peile, George, Whitehaven ..	1	0
Dowse, Henry, Colchester ..	1	0
Broadhead, Joseph, Wooddale, near Huddersfield ..	1	0
Loebuck, John, do., Tynemouth ..	1	0
Kemfoll, Edw., Castle Mona Hotel, Newport, Isle of Man ..	1	0
Kerslaw, Robert, 59, King-street, Manchester ..	1	0
Neely, Charles, 55, Regent-street, Cambridge ..	1	0
Livet, George, 15, do. ..	1	0
Baker, Wm., Winccombe, near Weston super-Mare ..	1	0
Shen, Samuel, 20, Waterloo-street, Birmingham ..	1	0
Crabshaw, George, Gateshead ..	1	0
Abbott, S. J., do. ..	1	0
A Friend, do. ..	1	0
Grosvener, Charles, Grosvenor-place, Hunslet, near Leeds ..	1	0
White, G. P., 39, Vauxhall-bridge-road ..	1	1
Legge, George, Leicester ..	1	0
Shirley, W. P., Somersdell, Maidstone ..	1	0
Davis, David, manufacturer, Oswest-green, near Wakefield ..	1	0
Do, Joshua, and Sons, Kenwick ..	1	0
Do, Joseph, King's Arms, do. ..	1	0
Shrewsbury, Wm. J., Yarmouth ..	1	0
Leicester.		
Beales, John, Wellington-street ..	1	0
Rowlett, Wm., and Son, 3, Canning-place ..	1	0
Latchmore, Wm., Gallowtree-gate ..	1	0
Grocock, F., grocer, Market-place ..	1	0
Plummer, T. W., chemist, Market-street ..	1	0
Scott, Wm., do. ..	1	0
Nottingham.		
Allen, Thomas, Barrhead, near Glasgow ..	1	0
Hunter, James, Pocklington's-walk, Leicester ..	1	0
Hastley, Thomas, 51, London-road, Preston ..	1	0
Widdiger, George, currier, Chatham ..	1	0
Shirley, R., Gibraltar-place, do. ..	1	0
Brook, E., do. ..	1	0
Parman, Alfred, Wallingford ..	1	0
Nottingham.		
Benn, Samuel, Clifton street ..	1	0
Rogers, John, Carlton-street ..	1	0
Cripps, William, Park-terrace ..	1	0
Brooks, E. H., Park-lane ..	1	0
Holbrook, Wm., Swinton ..	1	0
Charles, L., Hounslow-gate ..	1	0
Carter, Thomas, Mount-street ..	1	0
Moore, Samuel, Castle-gate ..	1	0
Leicester.		
Do, R., do. ..	1	0
Do, George, Talbot Inn, do. ..	1	0
Taylor, John, Preston Brook, Cheshire ..	1	0
Do, Edward, Northampton ..	1	0
Do, John, 47, Albany-street, Edinburgh ..	1	0
Do, Robert, and Son, Hunslet-lane, Leeds ..	1	0
Do, John, Abington-street, Northampton ..	1	0
Rotherham, Jeremiah, 81, Shoreditch ..	1	0
Hobbs, Joseph, 30, Upper Pall-mall-place ..	1	0
Hobbs, H., Northampton ..	1	0
Do, Robert, Red Lion street, Clerkenwell ..	1	0
Do, W. J., 7, Bedford street West, Bath ..	1	0
Do, Wm., 30, Scott-street, Leeds ..	1	0
Do, John, 24, Smith-street, Clerkenwell ..	0	7
Do, Wm., manufacturer, Gainsborough ..	0	5
Do, James, 24, Upper Wood-street, Blackfriars ..	0	5

Slater, Thos., 4, New-inn-yard, Shoreditch (3rd subscription) ..	50	5	0
Slater, Mrs., do. ..	0	2	6
Slater, Miss, do. ..	0	3	6
Jolly, Mr., wheeler, Willson-st., Finsbury-sq. ..	0	1	0
French, Mr., wheeler, Mile-end-gate ..	0	1	0
Delahunt, Joseph, 33, Featherstone-street, City-road ..	0	2	0
Clift, Mr., 3, New-inn-yard, Shoreditch ..	0	1	0
Walker, Mr., Norton Folgate ..	0	2	6
Lewis, Mr. and Mrs., Wine-yard, Aldersgate-st. ..	0	5	0
Smith, Henry, 5, Queen-street, Clerkenwell ..	0	2	6
Jones, Wm., 55, St. John-street-road ..	0	3	6
Lofill, J., 35, Wellington-street, St. Luke's ..	0	2	6
Dunford, Henry, 61, do. ..	0	2	6
Figg, J. W., 5, do. ..	0	2	6
Davies, Wm., 110, St. John-street, Smithfield ..	0	2	6
Allen, Thomas, 21, Staple-street, Long-lane ..	0	2	6
Hicks, Daniel, 32, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney ..	0	2	6
Little, Wm., 119, Tyssen-place, Kingsland-road ..	0	2	6
Smith, A., 59, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney-road ..	0	2	6
Barnard, Wm., Goldworthy-terrace, Rotherhithe ..	0	2	6
Brand, G., 14, Commercial-road, Lambeth ..	0	2	6
Small subscriptions ..	0	14	0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

## ERRATUM.

In LEAGUE No. 66, for Richard Oates, Liverpool, £1, read James Seddon.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XV.

TO SIR R. H. INGLIS, BART., M.P.

SIR,—You are the pattern of pious baronets, and a friend and father of the poor, though you neither play cricket nor ninepins. The Church took you for its champion when Peel apostatized; so that you gained Oxford while he retained office. Your orthodoxy is unquestionable, and your charity is conspicuous. You are a supporter of the *Standard*, and a hero in the *Herald*. You sympathize in relief societies, and in schools that teach no unsanctified science. You are alive to the dangers of knowledge, and your antipathy is ardent towards "the cold-hearted, muddle-headed school of political economists," who would make the industrious poor independent of the donations of their betters, and prefer legislative honesty to personal almsgiving.

In one of the journals above referred to, I forget whether "Goose" or "Shadow," I read the denunciation just quoted. It does justice to the warmth of your own heart and the clearness of your own head. It was civil, moreover, towards the right reverend chairman of the meeting at which it was uttered, the Bishop of London; one of whose Janus faces looks towards political economy, while the other smiles on soap-and-blanket societies. You know how to back your friends.

True, you had the Bishop on the hip; for the society was a marvellous one for even a mongrel economist to patronize, much more a projector of the New Poor Law. This Metropolitan Relief Association aims at being a provision for perpetual almsgiving. It obtained £20,000 during the pressure of distress last winter; and it has only expended £9000, "the balance being vested in the public securities." It delights in doling out dribbles, and making a little bounty go a long way. There shall be the maximum of the art of giving, with the minimum of the amount given. Its stock in the Three per Cents. is the treasure-chest for an army of almoners. It will be charitable by compound interest. The character of the society so embarrassed the Bishop that he uttered a great truth, though rather inopportune. "More liberality in almsgiving," said he, "unaccompanied by an endeavour to remove the causes of destitution which called it forth, would not answer the requirements of Christian charity." The inference is obvious. You and he would have been better employed in promoting the repeal of the Corn Laws. "Remove the causes," Sir Robert; to do that, is worth more than all the warm hearts that were ever made so by being buttoned under broad cloth.

Your dealing with the poor is double, Sir Robert Inglis. You vote for the laws which pauperize their circumstances, and then patronize the societies which pauperize their minds. Thus your charity completes the work commenced by your legislation. Listen to the *Morning Herald*. It is the organ of your section of the Conservatives; and it speaks like an oracle. The improvement of the revenue has proved inspiration to its columns, and not Balaam's ass brayed sounder sense than its leader of Wednesday last:—

"The pressing duty of providing for the comforts of the poor is felt by the Christian, because it is a part of his religion; and by the mere politician, because its proper execution lessens the danger of disorder.

This duty, however, is often as well performed by indirect as by direct means. Who will assert that the prosperity of the working classes, created by the spread of commerce, and by every other effect of the people's confidence in their rulers, is to be degraded for a moment into comparison with the comfort of the same classes produced by almsgiving? It is for these reasons that we see that which the grumblers must also see in the prosperous state of the public finances—viz., that an improvement has set in, which promises to reach every order of the population, by giving a fair prospect of rewards for industry. By such rewards it is that the comfort of the labouring class is to be placed on a footing far more secure and infinitely more conducive to manly feeling, than by encouraging any system like that which existed previous to the Reformation, and which when that great event took place had the effect of covering the face of the nation with numberless idle poor."

"Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest." These are the views for which the leaders of the League have been denounced. This is the crime for which you crucify the economists as "cold-hearted and muddle-headed." Can you understand it? Saul among the prophets, and the *Herald* at Covent-garden!

The "spread of commerce" creates "the prosperity of the working classes." That is the general principle which the *Herald* supports you in violating by upholding the Corn Laws, which restrict commerce. They restrict it; but thanks to Providence, and the indomitable energy it has fostered in our Saxon race, they have not annihilated it. They restrict commerce; but the restriction is less in cheap years than in dear years. And last year was a cheap year. That is the fact, which the writer should have combined with the principle in order to state the case fully and fairly. Cheap years, cheap as to the cost of food, are always times of manufacturing and commercial prosperity. The writer might have learned this long ago from Mr. Cobden; and from Mr. Cobden's masters in the science which you despise, but for which they are venerated by the world's intelligence. However, better learn it from the revenue returns than not at all.

The lesson has other bearings in which the *Herald* is still uninstructed. It only sees one-third as far as the "muddle-headed economists." In describing the prosperity of cheap years, Mr. Cobden has always characterized it as partial, under the present monopolist system. The farmers and their labourers are quite ready to confirm Mr. Cobden's theory. Hereupon our Grandmother is sorely puzzled. She insinuates that her friends are not quite truthful in this matter. They are not suffering, she suspects, "so severely as they assert." Agriculture needs more moral culture. Only see how she flounders:—

"As to the ultra-protectionists, we would ask them—can the agriculturists of England be suffering so severely as they assert, with the home and foreign markets manifestly so prosperous? If such be the case, then we and they have been heretofore altogether wrong in asserting the home market to be supported by the agriculturists, and the agriculturists to be the foundation of national strength and wealth: but we have not been in the wrong; the agriculturists have had the price of nearly all the food consumed in the country—they have carried that price in turn to the home market, and this it is which has given its amazing spring to commercial enterprise, domestic and foreign."—(Jan. 6.)

A good specimen, this, of the game of blind-man's buff; with an insurmountable difficulty of ascertaining whether the right corner has been caught by the handaged inquirer. It is tolerably plain that, if the gross amount of money received by the agriculturists be the measure of commercial prosperity, then the dear years should be the thriving years of the manufacturing districts;—wheat at 70s. the quarter, and not at 45s., should give the "amazing spring" to commercial enterprise, domestic and foreign. Political economy is very "cold-hearted," to make the manufacturers prosperous in proportion as they have less, instead of more, to pay for food. But that is the way of her school. There is no wriggling out of the facts.

This shifting the burden from class to class, and letting the one down as the other rises, is not, however, an ordination of political economy, or of Nature. It is simply the result of the artificial situation in which the farmer is placed by the Corn Laws. His condition is a legal fiction, in the sale of his produce; only the rent is a reality. He has taken a fallacy as the basis of his bargain for the land. At best he only buys a lottery ticket, where blanks and prizes come up alternately; his payment being proportioned to the prize. How, then, is he to share in the prosperity which the *Herald* prophesies? There is no other way but the abandonment of the artificial element that perplexes and often pauperizes him. Put him on the wholesome and steady footing of Free Trade. Let him have the means of calculating his receipts as well as his outlay. He may then thrive with his neighbours.

It cannot be assumed, until the disturbing influence of the Corn Laws be removed, that "an improvement has set in, which promises to reach every order of the population, by giving a fair prospect of rewards for industry." Cheapness promises little to the farmer, until his rent is adjusted thereto. And the dearness that might enable him to meet his landlord's demands would swamp the present improvement in manufactures and commerce. If the Corn Laws continue, and there be no speedy re-action, he must be left to you, Sir Robert, and your "visiting and relief society." But do not expend on him all your funded alms. The vibrations of the system are incessant. Manchester must soon take a turn at your treasure; the artisans will then need your alms, and draw largely upon your Consols and consolations.

Whatever be the purity and the piety of your motives, Sir Robert,—and assuredly I call them not in question,—the brand you strive to affix on others must rest on the heart or the head of whoever device justice to the poor while he prospers alms. The combination only makes your inconsistency the more conspicuous. The industrious will have little need of alms, when no longer refused their rights.



Cease to degrade and demoralize mankind, with the Gospel on your lips. Let the bounties of Providence flow in freely upon the land, according to the will of Him who giveth liberally to all; then Industry will never lack its fair reward; and you may bottle up your little bank of charity to all eternity.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

## STATISTICS AND SCENES FROM DORSETSHIRE.

### PART I.

#### Geographical and Descriptive.

Two years ago one of the members for Dorset said the county was becoming a byword, and would soon be in everybody's mouth. Less than a month ago another of the members for Dorset said that the county had become a byword, and was in everybody's mouth.

It occurs to me that, such being the case, "everybody" would like to know something more particular than the mere blit-and-scraper rumours of what Dorset really is. I doubt not the correspondents from the "South West" will forgive me if I suggest the propriety of giving some of the brighter scenes of Dorset life as well as the darker. Human misery may run deep there; or it may not run at all. It may accumulate and be stagnant. Yet there are clear streams of pleasure in Dorset; and spirits both light and happy to keep them running.

Business has led me several times into that county—into it, out of, and beyond it; and I carry with me a lively recollection of scenes of gaiety which are not unfrequent there, poor though the general population be. Preliminary to these, however, a general view of this famous shire may be desirable.

Dorset contains about 775,000 acres of land. It is said to be 160 miles in circumference. Its longest side is to the sea, from Hampshire in the east to Devon in the west. Its shore is singularly irregular. Now it stands out high, hard, and bold, with its rocky headlands, as if it waded into the deep sea to meet the waves and hurl them back, saying, "Not an inch of English soil, proud waves from France—back with you from whence you came!" Again its shores retreat, crouching low, and timid, and retreating to hide themselves in marshy grass and tules of mud; where, if you go to look for them, your best fortune will be in losing them not to lose yourself.

In one part you will find the sea coming up in a quiet business-like way, tide after tide, with its boats and its fish, and now and then a ship. And in other parts it idles with the dry land, and toys with it, and runs after it round behind the hills, and catches it and gives it a ducking, and then spreads it out bare to dry. And then they both fall asleep, water and land, and lie basking in the sun; and the rocky hills which stand between them and the open sea look down on them and frown, and say, "Why don't you make yourselves useful? What be the use of us standing here to keep off the wind and storms, and you turn it to no account? Why don't you make docks and have ships, and do some good, and give work and wealth to your poor people? Bestir yourselves, and don't lie idling there." And these inland waters do bestir themselves at times, but only like sluggards disturbed. All they do is to shift the pillows of mud on which they slept.

Leaving the English Channel near Lyme Regis, Dorset joins Devon, and both proceed on a journey of a dozen miles as if going to Chard, passing near Axminster. Poor as Dorset is, Devon seems to have picked its pocket hereabout. The latter runs away and carries off a part of the former, and Dorset makes a pursuit, but in vain. In the meantime Somerset has taken the advantage of the moment, and has penetrated into it.

Dorset now turns its back on Devon, and, in company with Somerset, comes eastward, bearing a few points to the north; they cut a rambling figure of about fifty miles, and then Dorset meeting Wiltshire, leaves Somerset, and walks along the high chalky downs which are a continuation of Salisbury Plain. This companionship lasts five-and-twenty miles, and then Dorset meets Hampshire at the verge of the New Forest, and completes its circuit by a journey of fifteen miles to the sea.

The principal rivers in Dorset are the Stour and the Frome; but there are a number of smaller streams, all of which in its valley, with a wide margin of rich meadow. There is every variety of soil. In whatever period of time it was that the chalky downs lay at the bottom of some vast ocean, and the clayey levels and ridges of sand were the beds and shores of some mighty river, all are changed now, and remain as memorials of some stupendous and mysterious revolution.

There are lengthened ranges of downs bare to the eye, without hedges or trees, but covered with a short herbage, the velvet of the vegetable world. Sheep thrive on this herbage most surprisingly. Where there is good winter keep for them the numbers can be increased greatly, and a good profit made. It is said there are above 800,000 sheep in the county.

As a contrast to the bare ranges of down land there is a rich grassy country called the Vale of Blackmoor; and also other districts enclosed and grazed by cows for dairy purposes.

To the east and south there are heaths of ten and twenty miles, intersected only by narrow meadows, which are refreshed and kept green by the streams which they conduct through the dreary wastes. The heath land is in some parts planted with fir-trees. Commonly these are planted

on each side of some long, straight road; giving to the road a painful uniformity and dullness.

South from the broad heath land, stretching into the sea, is the Isle of Purbeck, which is, however, no isle: it is a promontory. Here, as in some other parts of the county, the soil is a thin layer upon sandstone rock, exceedingly fertile and easily worked. Westward, between the Vale of Blackmoor and Sherborne, the soil is of a similar quality, formed by the decomposition of the sandstone rock; and, being easily worked and fertile, three-fourths of it are under the plough.

In the vale itself, containing 170,000 acres of land, the soil approaches to clay. Here there is an eighth or tenth part only of the land under the plough. Dairy cows for Dorset butter and cheese, and cattle for Salisbury market,—the best of which find their way at last to Smithfield, where they are reckoned the best of English heaves,—are the chief produce of the vale.

The horses of Dorset, in plough and waggon, would cut a much worse figure in Smithfield than do the horned cattle. The horses are low, shaggy, and slow of pace; but they are highly spoken of as strong, willing, and patient. All of which qualities may be true; but, so far as I have had any of them, are of an ordinary kind on the road: the most prominent quality was a very remarkable unwillingness.

In the chalky districts the roads are hard, save when a frost breaks up. They are mended with flints and last well; but in the interior districts, where the soil is rich and clayey, there is a stone used worthless for roads; and there the roads require more of strength, willingness, and patience than even the Dorset horses are said to possess. No pains are taken to drain the roadway. Narrow, wet, dirty, up hill and down hill, on hill top and level valley, they are same.

Still the roads serve the purpose of draining off the agricultural produce of the county. That may be seen going off every day on all sides, but chiefly on the side towards London.

I shall now say something of the inhabitants.

### PART II.

#### Persons and Professions.

There is a total of 175,043 persons in Dorset. Of these 15,712 are set down as labourers in agriculture: of whom 2050 are males below twenty years of age; 12,892 are males above twenty years of age; 178 are females below twenty years of age; and 592 are females above that age.

There are 2975 other labourers. And it is probable that of more than 2000 domestic male servants, one-half should be set down as labourers in agriculture. And of the female domestic servants, amounting to over 7000, a considerable number of them are doubtless dairy women.

At the same time, though the very rich landed gentry be but few, there are a goodly number of middle-class gentry in the several little towns, which are called water-log-places. And in these towns domestic servants are numerous.

Including labourers, farmers, and domestic servants, there are 3400 different professions or designations in the county. Those returned as of independent means are 5349. The farmers, graziers, and yeomen are 2857; attorneys, 104; bakers, 488—an attorney to each four bakers and a half; blacksmiths, 846; boot and shoe makers, 2261; butchers, 431; carpenters and joiners, 1827; clergymen, 163; clerks, 265; ministers, 63; coopers, 193; dressmakers, 983; gardeners, 444; masons and stonecutters, 1150; milk-sellers and cowkeepers, 519; painters, plumbers, and glaziers, 318; printers, 64; quarriers, 430; ropespinners, 212; saddlers, 144; sawyers, 279; schoolmasters, mistresses, &c., 523, of whom 358 are females; seamen, 653; pilots, 20; tailors, 572; beer and spirit sellers, 528; butchers, 280. The total number of persons whose professions are returned is 55,265; of persons employed in trade whose branch is not specified, the number is 583.

Estimating all who are in any respect workers in agriculture, whether as masters or servants, the number will be about 25,000. This leaves about 30,000 engaged in various kinds of trade. There is a gross "residue" of 111,182.

The manufactures of the county are of small amount in any single branch; they stand thus: the hemp, flax, thread, rope and twine, sack and bag, sail-cloth, canvas, and linen, employ 837 persons, of whom 194 are twenty years of age.

The woollen employs 319 persons, of whom 76 are under twenty years of age.

The glove employs 232, of whom 93 are under twenty years of age.

The button employs 205 persons, of whom 54 are under twenty years of age.

The silk employs 159 persons, of whom 77 are under twenty years of age.

In addition to these, 298 persons are returned as weavers, and 298 as spinners; of whom 46 and 72 respectively are under twenty years of age; but the manufacture in which they are engaged is not specified.

Button-making used to be an extensive domestic employment. The wives and children of labourers in most parts of the county, in the east and northern parts especially, up to a recent period, used to make buttons. These were for shirts and such-like light articles. They were of wire covered. The first operation was to cast, or cover, the wire, which was done by children of six and eight years of age. Afterwards the buttons were filled by older hands. The work may still be seen in a few of the cot-

tages; but the general use of bone buttons has superseded the covered wires.

Next to farm produce the stone quarries of Purbeck and Portland are the most productive of wealth. There is also the exportation of potter's clay from the vicinity of Purbeck.

What is called the Isle of Portland is a kind of peninsula, four miles and a half in length, and two in breadth. It is one continued bed of freestone, and has long been famous. It is said to have been first brought into use and reputation in the construction of the Banqueting-house, at Whitehall, London, in the reign of James I. After the fire of London, Sir Christopher Wren used it in the construction of different public buildings.

The blocks of stone are conveyed from the quarries to the seashore on low cars, with solid wheels, drawn by horses. A car will sometimes carry six tons. Going down the hill, the manner of dragging to stay their velocity is, to have a sledge with a heavy stone on it behind the car. Some of the Portland blocks weigh four and five tons each; but the general weight of them is said to be eight tons to one hundred stones. The quarries belong to many proprietors. From 30,000 to 40,000 tons are annually shipped from the island.

The stone of Purbeck turns out suitable for pavement, and large quantities of it are shipped for London. There are also many curious stones and petrified shells on Purbeck. A kind of marble formed of petrified shells is sawn into slabs, and take a polish fine as alabaster.

The stone-merchants keep provision-stores, and serve their workmen with provisions by truck. Of this the men complain with much bitterness; for if they find any fault with the provisions they are in danger of losing their work. If they leave their work they can get no provisions. They have no money, and such shopkeepers as there are will not give them credit, when out of work, because they do not deal at a shop when they have work. Much vexatious and petty tyranny is suffered by the men, so they say, that they would not submit to but for the truck system, which exists here in its worst form. The quarrying is all piecework.

Digging the potters' clay is done by the day, owing to the great care required to get it pure. It is found in the heath-covered districts below beds of sand. It is conveyed in waggons on a tramway to Wareham harbour; is taken across the sheet of water five or six miles called Poole harbour in small vessels; and is at Poole shipped to Liverpool, from whence it is conveyed inland to Staffordshire to the potteries. As many as twenty thousand tons weight of this finest clay are sent annually to the Mersey. And there is a coarser kind sent to Bristol and to London, used for making brown jars and suchlike common ware.

It is said the clay could not be manufactured in Dorset owing to the absence of another description of clay which is found in Staffordshire, and must be mixed with it.

The fisheries of Dorset are hardly worth speaking of in a commercial point of view. There are, however, 391 persons returned as fishermen and fisherwomen. The rivers are well stocked, but the fishing there is mostly pleasure-fishing.

The seaports of Dorset are Poole, containing 6093 inhabitants; Weymouth, with Melcombe Regis, containing 10,377; Bridport, 4787; Swanage, 1990; and Lyme Regis 2756 inhabitants.

The extent of their shipping trade I have no means of knowing, further than that it is very small, save in the exportation of clay and stone. At Poole there used to be a considerable trade done in Newfoundland fish; but it has fallen to decay.

Dorset returns fourteen members to Parliament; three—The county, 3; Dorchester, 2; Poole, 2; Lyme, 1; Weymouth, 2; Bridport, 2; Shaftesbury, 1; and Wareham, 1. Its market-towns are twenty-four, some of them mere villages; and its parishes are two hundred and forty-eight.

The great tithes are nearly all in the hands of lay proprietors; and the greater part of the county is in a few hands. There seem to have always been a few persons about this county ready in any time of trouble or revolution to do the state some service, by turning their informers against some who had property to lose. Hence the passage of the tithes into lay hands as Government rewards. Hence also the many small estates into a few large ones.

As the trade of Dorset, such as it was, has rather decayed than otherwise; as the demand for corn and cattle in the metropolis has so rapidly increased, with other places, drawing the produce of the farms away from Dorset; as the landowners are few and most of them spending their money out of the county which they own as rent in the county; as much of the land lies in grass and employs little labour; as the land which does employ labour is nearly all held by tenants at-will, who cannot do to the land what should be done; as the family and political advantages to be gained from having the representation of the county in their own hands will not admit of the landlords making their tenants independent; and as even the best agriculture which the independence of the tenantry would bring into practice would hardly keep pace with the increasing population,—there need be no surprise at an increasing poverty.

In 1801 the population was 119,160. In 1811 it was 124,000. In 1821 it was 144,490. In 1831 it was 154,252. In 1841 it was, as we have already seen, 175,043.

The farms are generally large: five hundred acres are common; but so also are one thousand and two thousand acres. The process of enlarging the farms has thrown many more persons into the villages as labourers to compete, and compete in vain, for work; thus reducing wages, and burdening the poor-rates at the same time.

Two years ago one-seventh of the population was officially declared to be paupers, receiving at some time of the year parish relief. The number has not decreased.

## REVIEW.

*Journal of a Residence among the Negroes in the West Indies.* By the late M. G. Lewis, Esq., M.P. (Murray's Foreign and Colonial Library, No. XVI.) London, Murray.

It is but justice to the publisher of the "Foreign and Colonial Library," to say that the series of works he has produced has never been surpassed in goodness and in cheapness. Mrs. Meredith's "New South Wales" is a lively and faithful delineation of the natural aspect and social condition of the Australian colonies. "Father Ripa's Residence at the Court of Peking" contains much curious and striking information respecting the social capabilities of the Chinese Empire; and the very entertaining volume now before us gives us the best existing view of the state of the West Indies previous to the abolition of slavery. M. G. Lewis, commonly called Monk Lewis, from an extravagant work of fiction with which he astonished many and disgusted most, was a man of more imagination than taste, and of more talent than judgment. His "Tales of Wonder," and other similar monstrosities in which the mythologies of all ages and nations were worked into fantastic tales, exposed him to the merited lash of Lord Byron's satire:—

"Even Satan's self with thee might dread to dwell,  
And in thy skull discern a deeper hell."

The wild superstitious of the negroes had strong attractions for such a mind; and when he visited his estates in the West Indies he examined the character of the negro mind with more psychological interest than could have been exhibited by one less trained to the love of gloomy superstitions. It is but justice to add that Lewis had a higher and nobler object: he was a proprietor of slaves, and he felt it to be a sacred duty to ameliorate the condition of those whose fate had been placed in his hands by circumstances over which he had no control. He was an honest but mistaken slaveholder; he thought that the system of slavery should be maintained for the "protection" of the negroes, just as some misguided squires support the Corn Laws for the pretended protection of the agricultural labourers; and it is amusing to find that he employs the very same arguments against negro emancipation which are now urged against Free Trade. His journals are more creditable to the honesty of his intentions than to the strength of his understanding; and in turning over their desultory pages we are led to form more affection for the man than respect for the controversialist. He is always amusing, and sometimes instructive; in description he is one of the most picturesque of writers, and what his pictures want in depth is very generally concealed by the vivid colouring of his foreground. The following tale of the sharks is humorously told:—

"While lying in Black River Harbour, Jamaica, two sharks were frequently seen playing about the ship; at length the female was killed, and the desolation of the male was excessive:—

"Che faro senz' Eurydice?"

What he did *without* her remains a secret, but what he did *with* her was clear enough; for scarce was the breath out of his Eurydice's body, when he stuck his teeth in her, and began to eat her up with all possible expedition. Even the sailors felt their sensibility excited by so peculiar a mark of posthumous attachment; and, to enable him to perform this melancholy duty the more easily, they offered to be his carvers, lowered their boat, and proceeded to chop his better half in pieces with their hatchets; while the widower opened his jaws as wide as possible, and gulped down pounds upon pounds of the dear departed as fast as they were thrown to him, with the greatest delight and all the avidity imaginable. I make no doubt that all the while he was eating he was thoroughly persuaded that every morsel which went into his stomach would make its way to his heart directly! 'She was perfectly content,' he said to himself; 'she was excellent through life, and really she's extremely good now she's dead!' I doubt whether the annals of Hymen can produce a similar instance of post-obitum affection. Certainly Calderon's '*Amor despues de la Muerte*' has nothing that is worthy to be compared to it; nor do I recollect in history any fact at all resembling it, except perhaps a circumstance which is recorded respecting Cambyses, King of Lydia, a monarch equally remarkable for his voracity and uxoriousness, and who, being one night completely overpowered by sleep, and at the same time violently tormented by hunger, eat up his queen without being conscious of it, and was mightily astonished the next morning to wake with her head in his mouth, the only bit that was left of her. But then 'Cambyses was quite unconscious of what he was doing, whereas the shark's mark of attachment was evidently intentional.'

Lewis's first reception on his estates was well calculated to produce very favourable impressions of the negro character.

"As soon as the carriage entered my gates, the uproar and confusion which ensued sets all description at defiance."

ance. The works were instantly all abandoned; everything that had life came flocking to the house from all quarters; and not only the men, and the women, and the children, but, 'by a bland assimilation,' the hogs, and the dogs, and the geese, and the fowls, and the turkeys, all came hurrying along by instinct to see what could possibly be the matter, and seemed to be afraid of arriving too late. Whether the pleasure of the negroes was sincere may be doubted; but certainly it was the loudest that I ever witnessed. They all talked together, sang, danced, shouted, and, in the violence of their gesticulations, tumbled over each other, and rolled about upon the ground. Twenty voices at once inquired after uncles, and aunts, and grandfathers, and great-grandmothers of mine, who had been buried long before I was in existence, and whom, I verily believe, most of them only knew by tradition. One woman held up her little naked black child to me, grinning from ear to ear—'Look, massa, look here! him nice lilly neger for massa!' Another complained—'So long since none come see we, massa; good massa come at last.' As for the old people, they were all in one and the same story—now they had lived once to see massa, they were ready for dying to-morrow, 'them no care.'

Some of the sketches of West Indian natural history are very clever, and, though we should be sorry to vouch for their scientific accuracy, we can not avoid being pleased by their graphic liveliness.

"A galli-wasp, which was killed in the neighbouring morass, has just been brought to me. This is the alligator in miniature, and is even more dreaded by the negroes than its great relation; it is only to be found in swamps and morasses: that which was brought to me was about eighteen inches in length, and I understand that it is seldom longer, although, as it grows in years, its thickness and the size of its jaws and head become greatly increased. It runs away on being encountered, and conceals itself; and it is only dangerous if trampled upon by accident, or if attacked; but then its bite is dreadful, not only from its tongue being armed with a sting (the venom of which is very powerful, although not mortal), but from its teeth being so brittle that they generally break in the wound, and, as it is hardly possible to extract the pieces entirely, the wound corrupts, and becomes an incurable sore of the most offensive nature. Luckily, those reptiles are very scarce; but nothing can exceed the terror and aversion in which they are held by the negroes. This one had been lying dead in the room for several hours, yet, on my servant's accidentally stirring the board on which it was stretched for my inspection, my little negro servant, George, darted out of the room in terror, and was at the bottom of the staircase in a moment."

Lewis early discovered that the reports of the condition of negroes transmitted to England were worthy of as little credit as the tales of the Arcadian happiness of the English peasants which were so studiously circulated three or four years ago, when it suited the political exigencies of parties to libel the manufacturing population, and endeavour to sow dissensions between masters and men.

"It seemed, that while I fancied my attorney to be resident on Cornwall, he was, in fact, generally attending to a property of his own, or looking after estates of which also he had the management in distant parts of the island. During his absence, an overseer of his own appointing, without my knowledge, was left in absolute possession of his power, which he abused to such a degree that almost every slave of respectability on the estate was compelled to become a runaway. The property was nearly ruined, and the slaves absolutely in a state of rebellion. At length he committed an act of such severity that the negroes, one and all, fled to Savannah la Mar, and threw themselves upon the protection of the magistrates, who immediately came over to Cornwall and investigated the complaint; and now, at length, the attorney—who had known numerous instances of the overseer's tyranny, had frequently rebuked him for them, and had redressed the sufferers, but who still had dared to abuse my confidence so grossly as to continue him in his situation—upon this public exposure thought proper to dismiss him. Yet, while all this was going on—while my negroes were groaning under the iron rod of this petty tyrant—and while the magistrate was obliged to interfere to protect them from his cruelty—my attorney had the insolence and falsehood to write me letters, filled with assurances of his perpetual vigilance for their welfare, and of their perfect good treatment and satisfaction; and, if I had not come myself to Jamaica, in all probability I should never have had the most distant idea how abominably the poor creatures had been ill-used."

The following amusing anecdote might be added to "Æsop's Fables" with the same moral that is appended to the "Tale of King Log and King Stork":—

"A Sir Charles Price, who had an estate in this island infested by rats, imported, with much trouble, a very large and strong species for the purpose of extirpating the others. The new-comers answered his purpose to a miracle; they attacked the native rats with such spirit that in a short time they had the whole property to themselves; but no sooner had they done their duty upon the rats, than they extended their exertions to the cats, of whom their strength and size at length enabled them completely to get the better; and, since that last victory, Sir Charles Price's rats, as they are called, have increased so prodigiously, that this single species is now a greater nuisance to the island than all the others before them were together. The best mode of destroying rats here is with terriers. Those imported from England soon grow useless, being blinded by the sun; but their puppies, born in Jamaica, are provided by nature with a protecting film over their eyes, which effectually secures them against that calamity."

We have ever maintained that slavery and monopoly—of which, indeed, slavery is but one form—exert a more demoralizing influence on the master and the monopolist, than on the slave and the plunderer. It leads them to form such perverted notions of right and wrong that they denounce justice as a crime, and regard common humanity as a nuisance. The following account of the conduct of a Jamaica

magistrate is a fit parallel for the pamphlet published by some blockhead named Day, who endeavours to show that the sympathy which the League has shown for the miserable condition of the peasantry has a tendency to excite the agricultural population to acts of riot and insubordination:—

"On opening the assize court for the county of Cornwall on March 4, Mr. Stewart, the Custos of Trelawny, and presiding Judge, said, in his charge to the jury, he wished to direct their attention in a peculiar manner to the infringement of slave laws in the island, in consequence of charges having been brought forward in England of slave laws not being enforced in this country, and of their being in fact perfect dead letters. The charge was unfounded; but it became proper, in consequence, for the bench to call in a strong manner on the grand jury to be particularly vigilant and attentive to the discharge of this part of their duty. The bench at the same time adverted to another subject connected with the above. Many out of the country, and some in it, had thought proper to interfere with our system, and by their insidious practices and dangerous doctrines to call the peace of the island into question, and to promote disorder and confusion. The jury were therefore enjoined, in every such case, to investigate it thoroughly, and to bring the parties concerned before the country, and not to suffer the systems of the island, as established by the laws of the land, to be over set or endangered. It was their bounden duty to watch over and support the established laws, and to act against those who dared to infringe them; and that, otherwise, it was imperiously called for on the principle of self-preservation. Every country had its peculiar laws, on the due maintenance of which depended the public safety and welfare. I read all this with the most perfect unconsciousness; when, lo and behold! I have been assured, from a variety of quarters, that all this was levelled at myself! It is I (it seems) who am 'calling the peace of the island in question,' who am 'promoting disorder and confusion,' and who am 'infringing the established laws!' I should never have guessed it! By 'insidious practices' is meant (as I am told) my over-indulgence to my negroes; and my endeavouring to obtain either redress or pardon for those belonging to other estates, who occasionally appeal to me for protection; while 'dangerous doctrines' alludes to the opinions I have expressed, that the evidence of negroes ought at least to be heard against white persons.

"My opinion is most decided that they ought to be heard; the jury, of course, always making proportionable abatements of belief, from bearing in mind the bad habits of most negroes, their general want of probity and good faith in every respect, and their total ignorance of the nature of religious obligations. At the same time these defects may be counterbalanced by the respectable character of the particular negro; by the strength of corroborating circumstances; and, finally, by the irresistible conviction which his evidence may leave upon the minds of the jury. They are not obliged to believe a negro witness, but I maintain that he ought to be heard, and then let the jury give their verdict according to their conscience. But this, in the opinion of the bench at Montego Bay, is a dangerous doctrine!" At least, the venom of my doctrines is circumscribed within very narrow limits; for, as I have made a point of never stirring off my own estate, nobody could possibly be corrupted by them except those who were at the trouble of walking into my house for the express purpose of being corrupted.

"At all events, if I really am the person to whom Mr. Stewart alluded, I must consider his speech as the most flattering compliment I ever received. If my presence in the island has made the bench of a whole country think it necessary to exact from the jury a more severe vigilance than usual in all causes relating to the protection of negroes, I cannot but own myself most richly rewarded for all my pains and expense in coming hither, for every risk of the voyage, and for every possible sacrifice of my pleasures. There is nothing earthly that is too much to give for the power of producing an effect so beneficial; and I would set off for Constantinople to-morrow could I only be convinced that my arrival would make the Muffi redress the complaints of the lower orders of Turks with more scrupulous justice, and the Bahawwax relax the fetters of their slaves as much as their safety would permit. But I cannot flatter myself with having done either the one or the other in Jamaica; and if Mr. Stewart really alluded to me in his charge, I am certainly greatly obliged to him; but he has paid me much too high a compliment: God grant that I may live to deserve it!"

We must give a specimen of the negro legends collected by Mr. Lewis, and we select one in which our readers will recognize the substance of a fairy tale long familiar to European nurseries. Inquiries into the transmission of fiction from one race of men and from one country to another have great ethnographical value, and we should wish that some of the very able men who have recently devoted themselves to the cultivation of ethnographic science would devote some attention to this curious and interesting branch of it. We may take another opportunity of returning to this subject; but we think that the variations in the negro version of a well-known tale are worthy of note as curious illustrations of natural character.

"Two sisters had always lived together on the best terms; but on the death of one of them, the other treated very harshly a little niece who had been left to her care, and made her a common drudge to herself and her daughter. One day the child, having broken a water-jug, was turned out of the house, and ordered not to return till she could bring back as good a one. As she was going along weeping, she came to a large cotton-tree, under which was sitting an old woman without a head. I suppose this unexpected sight made her gaze rather too earnestly, for the old woman immediately inquired, 'Well, my pleasuring, what you see?' 'Oh, ma'am,' answered the girl, 'me no see nothing.' 'Good child!' said again the old woman, 'and good will come to you.' Not far distant was a cocoa-tree, and here was another old woman, without any more head than the former one. The same question was asked her, and she felt not to give the same answer which had already met with so good a reception."



"Still she travelled forwards, and began to feel faint through want of food; when, under a mahogany-tree, she not only saw a third old woman, but one who, to her great satisfaction, had got a head between her shoulders. She stopped and made her best courtesy. 'How day, grannie!' 'How day, my piceaning; what matter? you no look well.' 'Grannie, me lilly hungry.' 'My piceaning, you see that hut, there's rice in the pot, take it, and yam-yamme; but if you see our black puss, mind you give him him share.'

"The child hastened to profit by the permission; the 'one black puss' failed not to make its appearance, and was served first to its portion of rice, after which it departed; and the child had but just finished her meal when the mistress of the hut entered, and told her that she might help herself to three eggs out of the fowl-house, but that she must not take any of the talking ones: perhaps, too, she might find the black puss there also; but if she did, she was to take no notice of her. Unluckily all the eggs seemed to be as fond of talking as if they had been so many old maids, and the moment that the child entered the fowl-house there was a cry of 'Take me! Take me!' from all quarters. However, she was punctual in her obedience; and although the conversable eggs were remarkably fine and large, she searched about till at length she had collected three little dirty-looking eggs that had not a word to say for themselves.

"The old woman now dismissed her guest, bidding her to return home without fear; but not to forget to break one of the eggs under each of the three trees near which she had seen an old woman that morning. The first egg produced a water-jug exactly similar to that which she had broken; out of the second came a whole large sugar-estate; and out of the third a splendid equipage, in which she returned to her aunt, delivered up the jug, related that an old woman in a red dicker (i. e., petticoat) had made her a great lady, and then departed in triumph to her sugar-estate.

"Stung by envy, the aunt lost no time in sending her own daughter to search for the same good fortune which had befallen her cousin. She found the cotton-tree and the headless old woman, and had the same question addressed to her; but instead of returning the same answer—'What me see?' said she; 'me see one old woman without him head!' Now this reply was doubly offensive: it was rude, because it reminded the old lady of what might certainly be considered as a personal defect; and it was dangerous, as, if such a circumstance were to come to the ears of the buckras, it might bring her into trouble, women being seldom known to walk and talk without their heads, if ever, except by the assistance of Obeah. 'Bad child!' cried the old woman; 'bad child! and bad will come to you!'

"Matters were no better managed near the cocoa-tree; and even when she reached the mahogany, although she saw that the old woman had not only got her head on, but had a red dicker besides, she could not prevail on herself to say more than a short 'How day?' without calling her 'grannie.' However, she received the permission to eat rice at the cottage, coupled with the injunction of giving a share to the black puss; an injunction, however, which she totally disregarded, although she scrupled not to assure her hostess that she had suffered puss to eat till she could eat no more. The old lady in the red petticoat seemed to swallow this lie very glibly, and despatched the girl to the fowl-house for three eggs, as she had before done her cousin; but having been cautioned against taking the talking eggs, she conceived that these must needs be the most valuable, and, therefore, made a point of selecting those three which seemed to be the greatest gossips. Then, lest their chattering should betray her disobedience, she thought it best not to return into the hut, and accordingly set forward on her return home; but she had not yet reached the mahogany-tree when curiosity induced her to break one of the eggs. To her infinite disappointment it proved to be empty; and she soon found cause to wish that the second had been empty too; for, on her dashing it against the ground, out came an enormous yellow snake, which flew at her with dreadful hissing. Away ran the girl; a fallen bamboo lay in her path; she stumbled over it and fell. In her fall the third egg was broken; and the old woman without the head immediately popping out of it, told her, that if she had treated her as civilly as her cousin had done, she would have obtained the same good fortune, but that, as she had shown her nothing but rudeness, she must be contented to carry nothing home but the empty egg-shells. The old woman then jumped upon the yellow snake, galloped away with incredible speed, and never showed her red dicker in that part of the island any more."

Of the many horrors connected with the existence of slavery we shall merely select one instance; it was forced upon Mr. Lewis's attention by having been worked up into the form of a legend:—

"There is a popular negro song, the burden of which is—

'Take him to the Gully! Take him to the Gully!  
But brudder back the frock and board.'  
'Oh! massa, massa! me no deade yet!'  
'Take him to the Gully! Take him to the Gully!  
'Carry him along!'

This alludes to a transaction which took place some thirty years ago on an estate in this neighbourhood, called Spring-garden, the owner of which (I think the name was Bedward) is quoted as the cruellest proprietor that ever disgraced Jamaica. It was his constant practice, whenever a sick negro was pronounced incurable, to order the poor wretch to be carried to a solitary vale upon his estate, called the Gully, where he was thrown down and abandoned to his fate, which fate was generally to be half-devoured by the John-crows before death had put an end to his sufferings. By this proceeding the avaricious owner avoided the expense of maintaining the slave during his last illness; and, in order that he might be as little a loser as possible, he always enjoined the negro bearers of the dying man to strip him naked before leaving the Gully, and not to forget to bring back his frock and the board on which he had been carried down. This poor creature, while in the act of being removed, screamed out most piteously 'that he was not dead yet,' and implored not to be left to perish in the Gully in a manner so horrible. His cries had no effect upon his master, but operated so forcibly on the less sensible hearts of his fellow-slaves, that in the night some of them removed him back to the negro-village privately, and nursed him there with so

much care that he recovered, and left the estate unquestioned and undiscovered. Unluckily one day the master was passing through Kingston, when, on turning the corner of a street suddenly, he found himself face to face with the negro whom he had supposed long ago to have been picked to the bones in the Gully. He immediately seized him, chained him as his slave, and ordered his attendants to convey him to his house; but the fellow's cries attracted a crowd round them before he could be dragged away: he related his melancholy story, and the singular manner in which he had recovered his life and liberty; and the public indignation was so forcibly excited by the shocking tale, that Mr. Bedward was glad to save himself from being torn to pieces by a precipitate retreat from Kingston, and never ventured to advance his claim to the negro a second time."

It should not be forgotten that slavery and the Corn Laws have been maintained by the same parties, advocated in the same newspapers, and defended by the same arguments. The friends of justice and philanthropy have ever to meet the same foes when they take the field against the iniquity of monopoly. Free labour has triumphed in spite of the whinnings of the *John Bull*, the affectations of the *Post*, and the invectives of the *Standard*; a similar victory is predestined for Free Trade, and the day of triumph is not far distant.

#### FREE TRADE IN AMERICA.

The following extract from a letter addressed by Mr. A. R. Shaw, now residing in Philadelphia, and formerly President of the Shoreditch Anti-Corn-Law Association, to Mr. Sidney Smith, gives some interesting particulars relative to the late contest for the Presidency in the United States:—

"By the arrival of the *Britannia* the people of England will be made acquainted with the fact of the election of Mr. Polk to the Presidential Chair of the United States, and the rejection of Mr. Clay. The struggle between Free Trade and monopoly has been carried on for the last twelve months, by the tariff and anti-tariff parties, with great spirit. At length justice has triumphed, and I hope monopoly has received its deathblow. With James K. Polk I have no personal acquaintance. He is said to be an honest and upright man, of sound judgment, extensive knowledge, great business habits, and as a statesman quite as clever as Clay. I know George M. Dallas well: he is a citizen of Philadelphia, a highly honourable man, a sound lawyer, a pure patriot, and possessed of splendid talents. With two such men at the helm, we have no fear but that our country will, for the next four years, be governed on just and enlightened principles.

"Mr. Clay's party grounded his claims to be President on the fact of his being a high-tariff man, which they allege is needed to enable our manufacturers to compete with the saucy English, and punish them for their Corn Laws. These gentlemen overlook the fact, that the great masses of the people are made to suffer in both countries from the same cause—BAD LAWS that protect the few. What do you suppose Mr. Clay's electioneering agents told the

American farmers in order to obtain their votes for Clay? Why, that Mr. Clay would create a home consumption for their produce, by establishing large factories all over the country, and bring men, women, and children from abroad, with mouths capable of eating all they could raise! In my travels, whenever I had an opportunity, I told the farmers not to be caught with such chaff, and appealed to their common sense, whether they would not rather sell their produce to shipping merchants at a higher price, and thus employ our ships and seamen to carry it abroad, to fill the people's mouths in their own country, where they might remain and be advantageously employed in manufacturing goods to send over to us in exchange for the corn thus shipped, to clothe us at a cheaper rate than we could obtain them from our own manufacturers? And how would they like to support the great masses thus prematurely created by the policy of Clay, as paupers, if some change should throw them out of employment? As an illustration I gave them a short history of the Spitalfields weavers, fostered one day by protection, the next exposed to competition, to replenish an exhausted exchequer. I have the satisfaction of knowing that some in Pennsylvania listened to these hints, and acted accordingly at the polls. I have made it my business to ascertain as nearly as possible what rate of interest the owners of the soil realize on their capital invested in land, and I find it to be 31 per cent.; while, on the other hand, I find those engaged in the manufacture of articles protected by the tariff clear from 20 to 25 per cent. on their capital. These facts I have from the best authority—the parties themselves—in the following states, through which I have travelled since my return in July, 1843:—Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, and parts of Massachusetts. I also learned another fact, namely, that our rich manufacturers are much like your rich landowners, deriving much of their wealth from the same cause—cutting down the wages of their operatives to almost starvation point. I am well acquainted with some of the workmen in several of the largest establishments in this state, who declare, if it were not that food is cheaper here than in England, they would be as badly off as they were before they left England. They complain bitterly of the abominable truck system, which is now in full operation here. Competition among the mechanics is quite as great here as it is in Britain: I know excellent vicemen and turners working for four dollars (16s. 8d.) per week; and first-rate machinists at six dollars (25s.). And yet these men were required to vote for Clay or lose their work! These facts I have from their own lips. The handloom weavers of the city and county of Philadelphia had a meeting about ten days back, at which a report was read, and published the next day. In this report they complained to the public, to which they appealed, that, in consequence of the combination among their masters, they, the weavers, could only earn 34 dollars (14s. 8d.) per week. And these men, too, were compelled to vote for Clay, the friend of 'native industry,' or lose their profitable employment. Would you believe, Sir, our farm-labourers receive 10 and 12 dollars a month, and are found hard, washing, and lodging, from those who are unprotected by any tariff, and sell their wheat at 30s. 14d. per quarter!"

#### AGRICULTURE.

##### AGRICULTURAL PRIZE ESSAYS.

"Where there is much smoke there must be some fire," is a proverb no less true than trite; and it would be strange, indeed, if beneath all the smother and noise which, for the last three or four years, have proceeded from the landed and agricultural community, there did not exist some genuine and substantial agricultural progress. And such is the fact. Agricultural societies in England, of any true and practical shape, are of modern origin; for, though societies bearing that title have long existed, they have been usually little more than political associations kept up by some landowner or clique of landowners to cajole or frighten the farmers from a real examination of the Corn-Law question. They were merely monopolist clubs. But in 1836 the doom of monopoly was sealed, by the evidence which the agricultural distress committee of the Commons reported to the House. There was no report against the Corn Laws, it is true; for the only report which could have been deduced from the evidence, that of Mr. Shaw Lefevre, was rejected by the committee, and even the monopolist majority had not the face to propose any counter-report in favour of the Corn Laws.

By that evidence it was demonstrated, that in farming alone, of all the businesses of the country, had men been helplessly waiting upon the seasons, and expecting profit through the aid of restrictive laws instead of their own exertions; that wherever farmers had, in some degree, emancipated themselves from the trammels of protection—as in Scotland by means of corn-rents—their condition was not one of distress or despondency; and that wherever there was sufficient capital, the low prices of the four preceding years had stimulated husbandmen to improvements and exertions which promised them an ample compensation for the loss of a fitful and occasional high range of prices. It became obvious to all landowners of common understanding that they, like the rest of the community, must, ere long, depend solely upon their own exertions. They felt, if they did not completely understand, that more produce and cheaper production must thenceforth be their aim. They must derive their incomes from growing the corn and raising the cattle required for the national subsistence, and could not expect much longer to be paid for growing grain, when in truth they were growing only weeds and rushes.

It was the prevalence of sentiments of this sort which enabled Lord Spencer, and a few other land-

owners, who understood the real necessities of agriculture, to found a society somewhat upon the plan which had succeeded in Scotland, for the improvement of practical and scientific agriculture in England. Thus, in 1838 or 1839, arose the ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. Its subsequent history is known to every one; and its annual shows of cattle and rural implements and inventions have for several years past formed at once a remarkable spectacle and a fashionable gala for the landed gentry. It is true, these shows have favoured somewhat of quackery and make-belief, and have neither had nor are likely to have much effect in the improvement of stock; and the recurrence of such incidents as that of the Duke of Richmond's roarer at the Southampton meeting will not tend to raise the character of the society or its exhibitions.

There is, however, one part of the society's proceedings which is effecting substantial and permanent good. We allude to the publication of its journal. That journal, which is ably directed by Mr. Philip Pusey, appears half-yearly, and contains papers on every description of rural topic, from the humblest mode of raising the most ordinary crop, to the most elaborate applications of chemical science and physiology to the common farming operations and the rearing and feeding of stock. This journal, circulating half-yearly amongst the seven thousand members of this society, their friends and neighbours, is of great and unquestionable utility. One of the services rendered to agriculture by this journal has been to prove, that, although the great portion of the English soil is but indifferently cultivated, yet in most districts, and on almost every kind of soil, there are some men who farm well, and whose example offers much encouragement to imitation. Nay, more: it has been made known by the means of the society's journal, to all agriculturists, that in considerable districts, as in large sections of Lincolnshire and Norfolk, high farming has long been adopted by men of enterprise and capital, with profit to tenant and landlord, and great benefit to the agricultural labourers.

The society has lately offered premiums for practical essays upon the agriculture of certain counties, and the successful papers have been published in the journal. By this means several very useful accounts of the actual state and practice of husbandry in particular localities have been obtained. They have, however, been no more than plain statements of ordinary practices written by farmers, who are not much beyond the average of their class in their knowledge of the capabilities of English agriculture. To this

remark there is one eminent exception. As Norfolk long since took the lead in English husbandry, so is the prize essay on its agriculture a work far before those of the other rural essayists. The writer, Mr. Richard Noverre Bacon, brings to the task more of education and knowledge, and, it is but fair to say, more practised literary skill, and his report on the agriculture of Norfolk, to which the prize was awarded, is undoubtedly one of the most valuable additions to that branch of economical statistics hitherto published. In Mr. Bacon's hands, instead of the somewhat homely essays upon the other countries which have obtained prizes, the Norfolk report has grown into a goodly volume, which has been published separately, as being too long to be inserted in the society's journal.

To give anything like an analysis of this report within our limits is impossible, commencing as it does with the geographical position and extent, together with the distribution of the population, of the county, and going in detail, through the various circumstances affecting its agriculture, such as its climate, soil, land tenures, and systems of husbandry. Nor is the remarkable influence exercised by one man, the late Earl of Leicester, on the rise and progress of Norfolk farming, overlooked. And we can strongly recommend the work to all Free-Traders who wish to see by what means agriculture is advanced. Mr. Bacon was precluded from any direct reference to the question of Free Trade as affecting agriculture; but it is impossible to read his essay without meeting with proof upon proof that the restrictions and uncertainties which flow from the Corn Laws have been the main impediments to agricultural improvement. So is the tone of the writer one of earnest and intelligent hopefulness. In his introduction he says, "The age is still far off when of British or Norfolk agriculture it can be said, 'Proceed; to exceed is impossible;' and he, indeed, must have profited little by the experience of the last few years who does not admit that, notwithstanding the science by which the system of agriculture is directed, notwithstanding the mechanical skill which now promotes the operations alike of the ploughman and the plough—notwithstanding the knowledge of agricultural chemistry which now informs the farmer concerning what sorts of manures are required for different productions, and are best adapted for different soils—notwithstanding the extraordinary changes which the increased and improved cultivation of the turnip has created, teaching how land may be kept in continual production—notwithstanding the introduction of artificial feed, and the consequent enormous increase in the number of sheep and cattle grazed for market,—notwithstanding all these vast strides towards perfection, that man must be little advantaged by the knowledge he has acquired, who does not perceive that agriculture is still in its infancy, with regard to the extent to which chemical science and mechanical ingenuity may be profitably applied in increasing and varying the productive powers of the soil." And the extent of advancement indicated by the above passage is applicable only to the best farmers of even the best-farmed districts, while the mass of cultivators, the average farmers, are greatly behind that standard which Mr. Bacon truly says is 'but the infancy of agriculture.' We shall have occasion again to refer to this useful publication.

#### AN IMPERFECT COMPARISON.

At the late meeting of the Blandford Agricultural Association, Mr. George Bankes, one of the county members, whose explanation of the ill repute of Dorsetshire landlords we last week left to the tender mercy of the *Times*—amidst a great deal of rodomontade, which offered a contrast not much to Mr. Bankes's credit with the more sober and practical addresses of the other speakers—made the following clumsy and imperfect comparison. He said:—

"It was said by one not very friendly to the agriculturists, to one of that body, as a taunt and sarcasm, 'Why, you are nothing better than shopkeepers and traders yourselves.' Well, to be sure, we are nothing better—*NOT THEN I TRUST WE ARE HONEST SHOPKEEPERS*, and traders not deserving of those gross and unworthy epithets which are sometimes applied to our trade. The epithets we reject with scorn, whilst we have no objection whatever to the appellation. I remember to have read of a worthy shopkeeper who rose from small beginnings to a high condition of prosperous trade, and it had been his uniform practice, from the time when he first kept a small shop and afterwards a large one, every morning when he entered his shop to take off his hat as a token of salutation, and to say, 'How do you do, Mr. Shop?' (a laugh) and then he proceeded, 'Do you keep me, Mr. Shop, and I will keep you.' (Cheers.) Thus he daily brought to his mind the source of his growing opulence and credit, also the nature of that duty which he must pursue in order to maintain them. And it has occurred to me that it might not be altogether a bad plan if agriculturists of all grades and classes were to take a leaf out of this good shopkeeper's book, and to make something of a similar salutation, accompanied by a similar resolution, on going forth every morning to the corn-field. 'Good morning, Mr. Cornfield.' (Laughter.) Do you keep me, Mr. Cornfield, and I will keep you.' The landlord, when he salutes the corn-field, has duties far higher and more complicated to consider and discharge. I will keep the corn-field, he should say, showing by example rather than by precept, to point out that course which shall benefit those whose eyes are upon me, and whose welfare is interwoven with my own. The tenant-farmer shall know me as one willing to

acquaint myself with his habits, with his occupation, with his endeavours, and with his success. Not as the prying inquisitor, wishing to acquaint myself with all the vain gossip of a neighbourhood. Not with the spirit of a money-scribbler, looking on improvements merely with an eye to calculate his share of the increasing produce; but with the frank spirit of an English gentleman, happy that others thrive when he thrives, and even when he thrives not—proud when he knows that his tenant is the best-mounted man in the troop of Yeomanry, and that he now and then takes a good gallop with the Squire's hounds. (Loud cheers.) Proud above all if the farmers shall tell him, 'There is not on my farm nor in my parish one single able-bodied man out of employ. I might do quite as well with a lesser number, he may say, but they could not do without me.' By the aid of such men as these the landlord will learn how to direct wisely the channels of his bounty."

Now, comparisons are sometimes said to be odious, but in the hands of such reasoners as Mr. George Bankes it is clear they are often dangerous. We doubt not all this passed current at Blandford, where, as the *Times* says, Mr. George Bankes was "on his own dunghill." But let us examine it a bit. When and how was the taunt, that the landlords are no more than shopkeepers, made? Why, when a vast parade had been attempted to pass off the landowning monopolists' anxiety for "protection" as solely arising from their love for the peasantry. Their utter disregard of the moral, physical, and material welfare of the labourers who tilled and the tenant-farmers who occupied their land had been exposed, and they stood naked before the world as dishonest hucksters, who had used their political power for the advancement of their own narrow, selfish, sordid interests. This was the sense and the way in which they were taunted as being shopkeepers. Not simply shopkeepers,—we wish they were. We wish they did apply to their own properties and their own affairs the simple, common-sense views which actuate the honest shopkeeper. In fairly pursuing their own interests they would probably promote, at all events they would not interfere with, the interests of others. But what is the truth? Now, if Mr. Bankes's shopkeeper had been one of the governing body—say the corporation of the town in which he lived,—and, being the only provision-seller in the town, he had combined with his brother corporators—also the only tradesmen of their respective businesses in the town—to make a by-law that no other provision-seller should be allowed to come into the town, and that none of the townspeople should be allowed to buy any provisions but such as they could get at Mr. Corporator's shop; and further, if by means of this by-law the price of provisions was so exorbitantly enhanced that the poorer people of the town were sometimes on the verge of starvation, and at all times lost a great part of their employment, what would this shopkeeper be called? Certainly not honest according to any vocabulary with which we are acquainted. Yet this is precisely the case of Mr. George Bankes and his co-monopolists, when he proposes to take off his hat to "Mr. Cornfield." Then follow him into the moral of his fable, and ask whether the landlords really do "make themselves acquainted with the habits, the occupation, and the endeavours" of their tenantry? Do they know that farmers writhes under the political vassalage they are subjected to; that they sigh for security of tenure; that they are half frantic at the injuries they suffer from landowners' game, and so forth?

Then why should a landlord be "proud if his tenants" tell him that they could farm with a less number of men than they actually employ? The absurdity of such a cause of pride is so great that it requires some explanation, and this is it. Farmers have engaged to give a certain rent, calculated on their wheat selling for at least 56s. or 60s. a quarter; but, in fact, wheat sometimes only sells for 45s. a quarter. That is the case just now; but landlords having passed a certain law of distress, by means of which they can sweep off all the tenant's stock, crops, and goods, if the rent is not paid, the farmer, like a mariner in a storm, casts overboard his unhappy labourers, and hands over the funds, which should have paid wages, as the landlord's monopoly rent. So far the landlord seems to have it all his own way. But there is retribution in store. "There is a Providence which shapes our ends, rough-hew them how we may." And accordingly the labourers thrown out of work come upon the poor-rates; and everybody knows that a heavy poor-rate soon tells upon rent. All this even such moon-eyed monopolists as Mr. Geo. Bankes see is going on at the present time, and they may, therefore, be justly proud, if by their miserable delusions they can persuade the farmers to pay their full rents and employ more labourers than they want besides. But, cunning as these prating monopolists are, the farmers and the public see through them.

#### SETTING THE HOUSE IN ORDER.

Even the monopolists are making ready for Free Trade, so obvious has it now become that ere long monopoly must cease out of these kingdoms. Everywhere we meet with signs of the prevalence of this opinion. For instance at the Cardiff Farmers' Club, met for the purpose of forming a general association to promote the draining of that neighbourhood, Mr. Watson, who avowed his hostility to Free Trade, said, "If the whole island of Great Britain was thoroughly drained and subsoil ploughed in the same way as Mr. Romilly's land, they might laugh at the notion of Free Trade, as this country would then be an exporting country instead of a country requiring the aid of foreigners."

And he afterwards added:—

"It was quite clear to any one acquainted with our manufacturing and agricultural state, that one of two things must, at no very distant period, come to pass. In a short time, they would either put themselves in a position to grow a sufficient quantity of food for the inhabitants of the country, or they must, as a matter of course, as a matter of necessity, and as a matter of duty, admit foreign corn duty free. (Hear.) They could not see their countrymen wanting food, and not get it for them, if in their power to do so. He was satisfied that either alternative was now within their reach. He was convinced that, if they improved the land in the manner suggested by Mr. Romilly, they should have food in abundance, sufficient for the inhabitants of this country, and to spare for the purpose of being sent to other countries. Cheap food they must have. It was as clear as the sun at noon-day. He had given up the idea of high prices. They never could be recommended. He had not given up the idea of seeing land paying 50 per cent. more than it did at present. With the system of thorough draining fully carried out, those objects would be certainly attained. They would then never hear the Minister of the day tell the House of Commons that certain beneficial results were produced by a good harvest. Good harvests would then be almost invariably certain. Nothing was so well calculated to produce good harvests as thorough draining. He thought they had discovered more than the philosopher's stone. They had discovered the way of turning the soil into food for the people. They had arguments on their side which the Free-Traders could not produce; but he did not want to invest the meeting with a political character, and therefore he should say nothing further on that subject."

Now, if the landowners have "found the philosopher's stone" in their own estates—and we by no means think Mr. Watson's expectations go beyond what our soil, if properly and completely cultivated, is capable of doing—they have clearly to thank us for helping them to the discovery. Then it is a source of much congratulation to the whole community that these landed gentry feel it their "duty not to see their countrymen wanting food, and not get it for them, if it was in their power to do so;" and that they are at length convinced that high prices are "never to be recommended." This is an exceedingly happy frame of mind for monopolists in the present day; though, if inclined to be ill-natured, we might say their repudiation of high prices reminds us of the fable of the fox and the sour grapes.

We cannot close this notice of the Cardiff Club without extracting a portion of Mr. Romilly's observations,—the gentleman of whose well-drained and cultivated land Mr. Watson spoke in such high terms. He said—

"That it was generally received that the best land had been taken first into cultivation, then the next best, and so on until they came to the worst description of land. He conceived that that commonly received opinion was a mistake, and that the best was not taken into cultivation first; but rather that land which could be most easily cultivated was a light sandy soil. He was of opinion that the best land in the country had not even yet been brought into cultivation. (Cheers.) He entirely disagreed with Mr. Watson on the subject of Free Trade, and felt convinced that, if the system of thorough draining were fully carried out, this country would be in a position to vie with the whole world."

This is another addition to the proofs we have adduced, that wherever a landowner or farmer really understands the capacity of our soils for improvement, he laughs to scorn all fear of foreign competition.

#### IS IT COME TO THIS?

Most people will recollect the thrill of horror with which they have read the tales of the Spaniards in Cuba training bloodhounds to hunt out and pull down their escaped slaves; nor will the fact that the same atrocity was perpetrated in Jamaica, in the Maroon war by our slave-holding countrymen, lessen the execration with which such deeds must be universally visited. Yet it seems the same horrible means are being adopted against the British peasant in defence of—what think you, reader?—the LANDOWNERS' GAME!!! The following instance, reported in a provincial paper, needs no other comment than that made by the counsel and judge:—

"At Stafford, on the 13th ult., Thomas Marsh, aged 50, was charged with cutting and wounding John Ludlow, at Sedgely, on the 1st of August. The prisoner, while poaching, was caught by two of Lord Ward's keepers, who set a ferocious bulldog upon him. In the desperate struggle which ensued, one of the keepers was slightly cut with a knife; but the poacher got much the worst of it in the encounter. He was summarily convicted under the game laws, and imprisoned for a month; and then he was brought to an assize trial. His counsel, Mr. Yardley, said, 'Are the peasantry of England to be hunted like beasts by bull-terrier dogs?—to be dragged before game-preserving magistrates, committed to prison, and then to be brought into a court of justice, and indicted for a transportable offence, in having given a few scratches in return for the wounds that two men, who had not the least authority over his person, had inflicted on him? Surely such proceedings will not be tolerated in this country, but feelings of just indignation will save the poor peasant from his oppressor!' Mr. Justice Colman, in summing up, agreed with the remarks of the learned counsel as to the absence of authority on the part of the prosecutor; and the jury, to the evident satisfaction of the court, immediately returned a verdict of 'Not Guilty.' There was another indictment against Marsh, but the judge would not allow it to be proceeded with."

Will not game-preservers read the signs of the times and abandon their demoralising, selfish practices?

#### A LOTHIAN LEASE.

The following is an agreement for the occupation of a Lothian farm, which an eminent farmer considers fair



between both parties. We print it without comment, as preparatory to some further suggestions it is our purpose to offer to the agricultural community upon leases:—

"It is CONTRACTED AND AGREED between A B [the proprietor] upon the one part and C D [the tenant] upon the other part, in manner following: That is to say, the said A B, in consideration of the tack duty and other prestations after specified, has set and hereby sets and in tack and assedation lets to the said C D and his heirs, but excluding assignees and sub-tenants, legal and conventional, of every description, and under the conditions and reservations after expressed,

"ALL AND WHOLE the farm of —, with the houses, yards, parts, pendicles, and pertinents, all as presently possessed by —, all lying [describe the farm], and that for the space of 21 years from and after Whitsunday, 18—, as to the houses, stables, byres and grass, and the separation of the crop thereafter as to the arable lands, and as to the barns at Lammas 18—; at which respective periods the said C D's entry to the premises in virtue hereof is hereby declared to have commenced.

"But reserving always to the proprietor and his successors power and liberty to resume possession of such part or parts of the said lands as he or they may require for planting to the extent in all of 10 acres, and for which ground so taken off the said C D and his forebears are to have an annual deduction from the rent after-mentioned according to the valuation of arbiters mutually chosen.

"RESERVING, also, the whole coal, lime, freestone, marl, and other metals, minerals, and fossils within the whole of the said lands, and power to work and carry away the same, and do every thing requisite for that purpose; the proprietor and his forebears satisfying the said C D and his forebears for the damage thereby done to the surface of the land, as the same shall be determined by persons mutually chosen.

"AND to encourage the said C D in improving the said lands by drainage, the said A B agrees to allow him a deduction from the rent of each of the first four years, of £—, on his producing vouchers that he has expended to that extent in the purchase of drain tiles. And also to allow him a further deduction from the rent of each of the two first years of £—, on his producing vouchers that he has expended to that extent on new buildings or in beneficial alterations on the present offices. Which tack, with and under the exceptions and reservations before specified, the said A B binds and obliges himself and the heirs succeeding to him in the said lands to warrant to the said C D and his forebears at all hands.

"FOR WHICH CAUSES and on the other part, the said C D binds and obliges himself, his heirs and successors to content and pay to the said A B, and his heirs, exors, and assigns, or to their factor in their name, the quantity and value of — quarters of wheat in name of rent and tack duty for the said lands, the conversion to be taken at the second or medium fair prices for the county of Huntingdon for the time, and that yearly and each year during the currency of this tack, payable half-yearly in equal proportions at the terms of Candlemas and Lammas, declaring that the rents for the first year hereof shall be payable by equal portions at the terms of Candlemas and Lammas in the year 18—, and so forth yearly and termly during the continuance of this tack, with a one-fifth part more of each term's payment from the time the same falls due until payment.

"BUT PROVIDING AND DECLARING that the grain rent hereby stipulated to be paid by the said C D and his forebears for the said lands shall never, in reckoning the commuted value thereof, be taken at a higher rate per quarter than 70s., it being intended as a maximum beyond which the quarter of wheat shall never be reckoned.

"AND THAT with regard to the management of the said lands, it is hereby stipulated and agreed that the same shall be laboured, cropped, and manured in all respects agreeably to the rules of good husbandry, and particularly without prejudice to the generality of this clause, that not less than one-sixth part of the whole lands shall be yearly in grass, and that of the remainder of the said lands, or of that part which may be in tillage, not less than one-fifth part shall be yearly in summer fallow, turnips, or potatoes, well and sufficiently manured; and that no two crops of white corn shall follow one another in succession, but that a summer fallow, turnips, or potatoes, sown grass, beans, or other green crop shall intervene. As also all the land sown off with grass seeds shall be sown with the first crop after fallow or green crop, manured as aforesaid, and that with a sufficient quantity of good clover and re-grass seeds.

"AND THE SAID C D binds and obliges himself and his forebears, in the last year but one of the lease, to sow with clover and re-grass seeds, at a proper season, such part of the said lands as may have been in summer fallow, turnips, or potatoes, and properly dressed and manured in the preceding year, the same being not less than one-sixth part of the whole lands hereby let as aforesaid, the said C D or his forebears harrowing or rolling the same in a proper manner without charge, but receiving payment for the seeds sown from the proprietor or incoming tenant, he or they having power to pasture with their sheep one-third part of the lands so sown off until the Whitsunday of their removal from the same, but to give possession of the remainder to the proprietor or incoming tenant as soon as the corn crop is off the ground.

"AND in the last year of this lease, the proprietor or incoming tenant shall have power to sow grass seeds at a proper season, with such part of the waygoing crop as may have been summer fallow, turnips, or potatoes in the preceding year, the said C D and his forebears being paid for harrowing or rolling the same, and for any damage or injury done thereby, as the same shall be awarded by neutral men mutually chosen.

"AND, FURTHER, the said C D or his forebears shall, in the last year of this lease, leave to the proprietor or incoming tenant land for fallow equal to one-fifth part of the lands which shall be in tillage that year; and which fallow being in entire fields as far as possible, the proprietor or entering tenant shall have full power to enter to and plough on the 1st of March preceding the said C D's removal, and for which fallow the said C D is to be entitled to such allowance as may be ascertained by persons mutually chosen.

"AND, FURTHER, the said C D binds and obliges himself to maintain and uphold the whole houses and fences, with any houses to be built or fences made, in good and sufficient condition, and to leave them in the same state at the expiry hereof, the said C D and his forebears being entitled to continue in possession of two out-houses and

stabling for four horses for a year after the term of removal, to enable him to thresh and market the waygoing crop, and to have straw for the said horses and servants' cows.

"AND, FURTHER, the said C D binds and obliges himself and his forebears to consume the whole straw growing yearly on the said lands on the ground thereof, and to apply the dung to manure the same, and to leave the whole straw of the last crop as steel bow; AND with regard to the dung on hand and unapplied to the waygoing crop, the said C D and his forebears shall receive half the value thereof, and also for such part of the straw of the penult crop as may be on hand, according to its value if converted into dung, from the proprietor or entering tenant, as the same shall be ascertained by arbiters mutually chosen.

"AND IT IS FURTHER specially agreed that in case the said C D or his forebears shall alter the mode of management and culture hereby prescribed, or deviate therefrom in any respect, he binds and obliges himself and them to pay to the proprietor a quarter of wheat of additional rent, convertible and payable as aforesaid, for each and every acre cultivated, employed, or managed contrary to or in a different manner from the plan of management above prescribed, unless he shall have received the express consent of the proprietor thereto in writing, and that yearly and each year while such alteration or departure from the prescribed mode of management is observed; and which additional rent shall nowise be considered as a penalty, but as a consideration for the advantage which the tenant may promise himself by adopting a different system of management, and as a fair compensation for the injury which the proprietor may sustain, but without prejudice nevertheless to him or her insisting for specific performance on the part of the tenant and his forebears of the mode of management and system of rotation hereby established as they shall see cause.

"AND THE SAID C D binds and obliges himself and his forebears to sit and remove himself, wife, children, servants, goods, gear, and effects at the expiration of this tack, and that without any previous warning or process of removing to be used for that effect.

"AND BOTH PARTIES bind and oblige themselves and their forebears to implement their respective parts of the premises to each other, under the penalty of five hundred pounds sterling, to be paid by the party failing to the party observing or willing to observe the same over and above performance. And they consent to the registration hereof in the book of council and session or others competent for preservation. That letters of horning on six days' charge, and all other necessary execution, may pass on a decree to be interposed hereto, and for that purpose constitute

"Their procurators in witness whereof."

#### THE GAME LAWS.

It appears from the calendar laid before the magistrates at the quarter sessions for the county, that there are no fewer than 46 persons now confined in the county gaol for poaching. The total number of males confined is but 175, so that we find more than one-fourth of the whole number now in prison are committed for offences against the most disgraceful of our penal laws. The magistrates have it in contemplation to enlarge the present gaol, or build new ones at an enormous expense to the county. Would it not be better to petition the Legislature to abolish the game laws? Remove from the county hordes of the prisoners committed under those horrible laws, and sufficient room would then be found for all that will be in future committed for other offences. It is far better, and would be a more satisfactory mode of procuring prison room—at least to the rate-payers, particularly the agricultural portion of them.—*Hampshire Independent*.

**GAME.**—In addition to the names of Dr. Lee, Sir H. Verney, and the Duke of Bedford, we have now to add that of Sir Thomas Cotton Sheppard to the list of those common-sense landlords who have taken the only proper step towards putting an end to the game nuisance. One day lately upwards of 600 hares were shot in some fields on Sir T. C. Sheppard's estate at Thornborough in this county; and the worthy gentleman has given his tenants unlimited permission to defend their property in any manner they may think proper from the ravages of the game. There will be no more preserves in the neighbourhood of Thornborough.—*Aylesbury News*.

**MURDEROUS ANNUITY BY POACHERS.**—One of the most shocking attacks of the kind that ever took place in Pembrokehire was, on the night of Friday, the 27th ult., perpetrated by a gang of poachers on the gamekeepers of Sir R. B. Phillips, of Pion Castle, M.P. The latter, headed by Mr. Baker, chief gamekeeper, went in search of poachers, whom they discovered in the act of killing a pheasant; a frightful encounter then took place, and several of the keepers and watchers were dreadfully beaten. The life of one is despaired of. The poachers all got off.

**NOBLE EXAMPLE TO LANDLORDS.**—Miss Jackson, of Fleet-house, near Weymouth, permits several poor men to fish in the Fleet and shoot the wild fowl which frequent the neighbourhood in great numbers at this season, by which means several poor families obtain a precarious subsistence. This neighbouring gentleman has also the same privilege, amongst which is a certain gallant captain who keeps a yacht, and also a punt upon the water, which he can paddle along with his hands. On this point he has placed a swivel gun to bring down his game with more certainty. This gentleman made application to Miss Jackson to warn off the men, as they interfered with his pursuit as a sportsman; she was about to do this, but having heard that the captain sold to the game-dealers and others all the birds he could shoot, as well as the fish and larks he could net, the former at from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. a couple, the latter at 1s. 6d. per dozen, Miss Jackson was so much displeased at this conduct, that she warned off the captain instead of the men as he proposed—a proceeding which gave great satisfaction to the inhabitants of this part of Dorsetshire.

**CHIPPENHAM.**—We are sorry to learn that a reduction to 7s. per week has been made in the wages of some agricultural labourers in this neighbourhood. We trust the parties coluring to so low a sum the earnings of their workmen are few; we should be happier were they none at all. A distribution of coal, meat, and bread has been made from the subscribed fund for the relief of the poor during the winter. £40 have been thus distributed out of the £105 subscribed.—*Wills Independent*.

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"F. J. H." says,—"Would not a low fixed duty (with an annual reduction of a shilling) be preferable to an immediate abolition of the duty on corn? If not, please explain the reasons."

[There is this decisive and short answer to our correspondent's question, viz., that a fixed duty, whatever might be its amount, would form a tax to the extent of the duty not only on the corn imported, but on all the corn grown in this country; for, before any corn could be imported under a fixed duty, the price of corn in our market must be so high as to enable the importers to obtain an ordinary profit after giving the natural price abroad, and paying the fixed duty. A fixed duty, therefore, so long as it lasted, would be a tax on all the grain consumed in this country, for the benefit of the landowners. Such would be the operation of a fixed duty when prices of grain in this country were high. On the other hand, when, as at present in the instance of wheat, prices had fallen from some abundance, a fixed duty of any amount would interfere with speculative importations, and prevent grain becoming one of the ordinary objects of a regular foreign trade. Again, a fixed duty would prevent that adjustment and reconstruction of rents, which is so necessary for the safety of farmers and the advance of agriculture, and which must take place as soon as our grain market is free from the artificial fluctuations and restrictions caused by the Corn Laws, or by any Corn Law. At this moment, though wheat is cheap, farmers are suffering from the high price of oats, beans, peas, and all kinds of cattle provender, to an extent persons not acquainted with farming can scarcely imagine. Every farmer, at least every one worthy of the name, must feed a considerable number of cattle, sheep, &c., in order to provide manure for his future grain crops, and we know that at this moment such feeding must cause a loss; yet if the feeding is given up, as in many instances it is, the fertility of the land will become deteriorated, and thus even greater loss sustained hereafter. So much for "protection to agriculture."]

"Justice."—"At Christmas, 1843, I took the farm where I now live (30 acres, at £45 a year). All the tenants on the estate get six months' credit with the rent, that is, the rent due on the 25th of December is paid in June following, and the June rent in December. Can my landlord make me an exception, by forcing me to pay the six months' rent when due? The first half year interest for six months was allowed me." [We think that, when rent becomes due, unless there be some stipulation in writing to the contrary, it can be enforced.]

"A Free-Trader."—"A freehold being left by a father to his family, the eldest daughter to reside therein until her death, but to pay the sum of £10 per annum to her brothers and sisters, four in number; at her death to be sold, and the proceeds divided among them. Cannot the eldest son now living vote for the county by virtue of the 40s. rental which he receives?"

[We think the son might claim for "freehold interest of 40s. per annum issuing out of a freehold estate."]

"S. K."—"Having a share in the St. Austell and Lostwithiel Turnpike, in the county of Cornwall, will it confer a vote for the said county?—I.S. An act of Parliament passed in the first year of the reign of his late Majesty King George III., intitled 'An Act for repairing and widening the Roads' aforesaid-mentioned."

[The shares are personal property, therefore will not give a vote.]

67. Owing to the late hour at which we received our Report of the Great Meeting at Manchester, and the large number of Registrations and other meetings which we publish in this day's LEAGUE, we are compelled to omit several editorial and other articles: these we intend to give in our next.

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

#### NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

We beg to announce that on and after the 18th of January, Two Pages of the LEAGUE will be appropriated to Advertisements. No Patent Medicine Advertisements will be admitted; nor will any Advertisements be received after the Thursday preceding the day of publication. The average circulation of the LEAGUE from April 6th to December 28th, 1844, was 19,738: the minimum number having been 17,092.

#### GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN.

THE NEXT AGGREGATE MEETING of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be HELD ON WEDNESDAY next, the 15th of JANUARY.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., will take the Chair at SEVEN O'CLOCK precisely.

The Meeting will be addressed by RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P.; THOMAS MILNER GIBSON, Esq., M.P.; and W. J. FOX, Esq.

Cards of admission may be had on application at the Offices of the League, on Monday and Tuesday, between the hours of eleven and four o'clock.

Applications for Private Boxes to be made personally or by letter on Monday.

The Cards of registered Members will admit, as heretofore, to the Pit and Galleries.—DOORS TO BE OPENED AT HALF-PAST SIX O'CLOCK.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 11, 1845.

#### ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

In addressing the great meeting assembled in the Free-Trade Hall of Manchester on Wednesday night, Mr. Cobden alluded to a meeting of a very different character recently held at Ashton-under-Lyne, where was exhibited a strange illustration of what Vives used to call "puppies tying knots to their own tails," meaning thereby, men assuming to the stigmatising of themselves and of their order, and partly through a spirit of crawling servility, and partly through sheer ignorance. An assembly of the

monopolists of the neighbourhood was held in this town, and it was attended by some manufacturers, eager to show that they are willing to take the yoke of the landlords upon their necks, and to sacrifice the dignity of men for the condescension vouchsafed to slaves. "Verily, they had their reward." The very locality added to the deep degradation of these self-abandoned men. Dukinfield, Stayleybridge, and the districts around Ashton-under-Lyne, exhibit the most wondrous example of the prosperity derived from manufactures to be found on the surface of the globe: within the memory of persons yet alive they were waste moors, tenanted by a few cottiers, almost as miserable as the labourers of Dorsetshire; they are now covered with the mills of thriving manufacturers and the houses of prosperous operatives; churches, chapels, and schools amply supply the religious and intellectual wants of a flourishing population; and trade has effected this change, not only without the aid of landed aristocrats, but in the teeth of their positive discouragement. Ashton-under-Lyne, too, preserves in its traditions the honours of ancient feudal rule: the annual ceremony of "riding the black lad" commemorates the tyranny of one of those lords of the soil who swelled his income by plundering the industrious, and anticipated the system of indirect robbery which the Corn Laws have established by undisguised and open plunder. It was in this locality, where everything around was replete with associations of the present blessings of trade and the past curses of landlord domination, that the monopolists assembled to parade to the world the soul-chained serfs who had sold their birthright, and had not the spirit to claim the mess of pottage. It was here that certain manufacturers came to kiss the feet that spurned them, and lick the hand by which they were chastised. The chastisement was inflicted by a person who rejoices in the strange name of Robert de Hollingsworth. How came that Norman de, before the pure Saxon *Hollingsworth*? Was it inserted through ignorance or through arrogance? Or was it some ancestor, a renegade to the Saxon race, who tried to conciliate the Norman plunderers by an incongruous assumption of their peculiar affectations? The little particle is a significant index either to folly or to falsehood, but it is of little importance to the world whether it be traced to one or the other. This Normanized Saxon, standing in the midst of a manufacturing population, and within ear-shot of thriving manufacturers, actually delivered himself of the following description of the character of a manufacturer who has raised himself by industry and intelligence:—

"He is probably a man who has made his own fortune by one of those lucky chances in trade that have been of such frequent occurrence during the last five and twenty years. He may be a good tradesman, may possess good, natural, sound sense, and by its exercise, by frugality and industry, have raised himself from sweeping a warehouse to become its master. (Loud cheers and laughter.) But what then? What does he know beyond the wuffs of his own counting-house? Totally uneducated, or with such information only as may be gathered from a village school-master, what value would he set on that state-manlike knowledge derived from experience and intercourse with the world? Would he not naturally affect to despise what he could not comprehend, and substitute a degrading cunning for that practical and almost prophetic wisdom, the fruit of the accumulated experience of ages, transmitted to us by the pages of history, the only real instructor of mankind? Is such a man fit to legislate for an empire? Is the calculator of pence to become the distributor of millions? Is such a man, presumptuous from ignorance, to direct our fleets and our armies? Is such a man fit to advise the Crown in its important appointments to the sacred and judicial benches? For what portion, then, of a senator's duty is such a man fit? Is it not rather his proper sphere to sweep the floor of the senate-house, as he has formerly done that of his own warehouse? (Cheers and laughter.)"

We are not at all disposed to quarrel with this philippic of the eloquent Normanized Saxon; he only acted after his kind, for

"Its proper power to hurt each creature feels,  
Bulls aim their horns and asses kick their heels."

The tirade, such as it is, has not even the merit of originality, being a bad imitation of the abuse which the "Cavaliers of 1640" bestowed on "the Brewer of Huntington," of which brewer, who bore the name of Oliver Cromwell, it is possible that Robert de Hollingsworth may have read or heard something. But Robert de Hollingsworth knew his men, and, when he baptized the manufacturers who heard him with the nickname of "sweep," he knew that there would be no necessity for sponsors, because renegades are ever ready to promise and vow all modes and forms of servility and degradation. We sincerely hope that they will retain the baptismal designation which they are so ready to prove that they have richly merited. May their honours wear well, for they have been dearly earned. We write and speak of these men more in sorrow than in anger; there is nothing more painful to contemplate than that slavishness of soul which courts the contumely of insolence towering in its pride of place, which invites contempt and supplicates to be despised. It is a moral anomaly over which the philanthropist weeps, because it shows that human nature can sink farther below zero in the scale of estimation than the most ascetic misanthrope ever

ventured to imagine. We lament over such men; we wail over the sight of rational beings submitting to be scorned, insulted, and smitten by a Robert de Hollingsworth. He would not have ventured upon such swagger and bluster before men conscious of their own worth, and firm in their own independence; they would have detected the nature of the animal concealed under the lion's skin, and answered him in the words of Constance:—

"Thou wear a lion's hide! doff it for shame,  
And hang a calf-skin on thy recreant limbs."

Mr. Cobden's speech precludes the necessity of further comment on "the sweeps" and their baptizer; he was admirably calculated for the office, as we shrewdly suspect that he previously bestowed the *de* upon himself.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—M. Villemain's health is reported to be improving. The *Constitutionnel* mentions a report that, as M. Villemain is almost without fortune, it is the intention of the Cabinet to bring into the Chamber a bill for an honourable provision for his children.

M. Glais-Bizoin has placed on the table of the Chamber of Deputies a petition, signed by a great number of the inhabitants of Paris, praying for a moderate uniform postage on letters.

The intrigue to turn out the Ministry on the right of search question appears to have been broken up, so that the Ministry is now considered safe.

Admiral Dupetit-Thouars received, on Tuesday, the deputation charged to offer him the sword of honour. The Admiral thanked them for their good intentions, but refused this mark of public sympathy, declaring that he had done nothing but obey the orders of his Government, and that it was for it to blame or recompense him.

SPAIN.—The *Times* correspondent in Madrid writes:—"I am assured that accounts have been received here this day of the safe arrival in Portugal of General Zurbano. He was escorted to the frontier by strong parties of contrabandistas, who relieved each other alternately from post to post; and who faithfully performed their engagement to conduct him safe out of the Spanish territory, notwithstanding the immense reward they knew they were sure of if they had betrayed him to the Government. Private letters from the Basque provinces state that the Carlists are beginning to stir in that part of Spain; and that they are co-operated with by the refugees in France."

A bill has been presented to the Senate, having for its object to carry out a treaty made with England in 1835, by rendering offences connected with the slave trade penal.

PORTUGAL.—A letter from Lisbon of the 25th states that Mr. Toxer, the English gentleman who has been imprisoned in various gaols and fortresses in Lisbon, Coimbra, and Oporto, on a charge of aiding and abetting the designs of the persons implicated in the late revolt, has been brought to trial, after an incarceration of upwards of nine months, and acquitted.

SWITZERLAND.—The Supreme Direction of the federal affairs of Switzerland, which was last year confided to the canton of Lucerne, belongs this year by rotation to the canton of Zurich. As the leading men of this latter canton profess more liberal opinions than those of Lucerne, a considerable change in the federal policy as regards the religious differences is expected to take place.

UNITED STATES.—The *St. Patrick*, a new packet, arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday evening, bringing papers from the United States to the 16th and 18th ultimo. The Oregon question is again agitated in Congress, a Mr. Duncan having introduced a bill for the extension of the States' jurisdiction over the disputed territory. The bill has been referred to the "Territorial Committee" to deliberate and report upon to the House. The Secretary of the Treasury had presented his annual report. The report does not recommend any immediate reduction of the tariff. It suggests a general revision and reduction, and leaves time for obtaining such information as may allow the change to be made wisely, considerably, and gradually. In regard to the annexation of Texas, private letters agree that there is no immediate chance of its success. There are now two bills before Congress providing for the annexation. One introduced by Mr. McDuffie, the other offered by Mr. Benton. The Senate and House will each be divided between these two measures. Riots and loss of life had taken place in Ohio, originating with slaveowners, and a struggle on the part of some negroes to escape from bondage. A man named Miller was stabbed and killed by some Kentuckians for aiding their escape; and a slave was hung without trial or other ceremony.

THE BRAZILS.—Her Majesty's ship *Crane* reached Falmouth on the evening of the 7th inst., bringing news from Rio de Janeiro to the 26th of November. There is no news of importance by this conveyance, matters remaining in *status quo* at the seat of Government. At Macao there had been some little outbreak of the ordinary Brazilian character, to check which a new President, Senhor Lopez Gama, and a considerable number of troops, had been despatched in the *Regeneraco* corvette, with two frigates and two steamers, and it was expected that the province would be speedily pacified. According to the *Rio Mercantile Journal* of Nov. 23, business in imports has been dull in the extreme during the week, particularly as regards the most important articles, such as flour, piece-goods, and wines.

PERU.—Some notice has already been taken of the differences which arose more than six months ago between the Government of Peru and the commander of the British vessels in the Pacific. These differences appear to have originated in the refusal of the magistrates of certain places to supply water to a British ship. To mark the sense in which this insolence was felt, the commander fired two guns, which, in the magniloquent style of Peru, is described as the barbarous bombardment of Arica. A negotiation had been commenced in consequence, but nothing definite had been concluded.—*Times*.

##### DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty, with her accustomed generosity, has given, we are informed, out of her privy purse, the sum of £1000 a year to Sir Augustus D'Eole, which is equal

to the sum Sir Augustus lost by the death of the Duke of Sussex.

It is currently reported that her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint Sir Henry Pottinger Governor-General of Canada, in the place of Sir Charles Metcalfe, who is seriously indisposed.—*Standard*.

A pension of £20 per annum has, through the patronage of Lady Peel, been conferred on Miss Frances Brown, the blind poetess.

It has been stated that a pension on the civil list has been granted to Mr. Thomas Hood, the distinguished comic writer. We understand, however, the fact to be, that a pension of £100 a year has been conferred on Mrs. Hood, the wife of that gentleman, in consideration of his great literary merits, and the infirm state of his health.—*Observer*.

Mr. Wakley, at an inquest, a few days since, mentioned the case of a woman who, when dying of excessive drinking, required to have a sponge saturated with brandy constantly held to her lips.

The operation for strabismus, or squint, was, last week, successfully performed on a boy, at Leicester, during the mesmeric trance; the patient being, when aroused, utterly unconscious of what had taken place.

By the will of Miss Ann Dimsdale, which has just been proved in Doctors' Commons, bequests to the amount of £26,000 are made to charitable and other institutions, principally in Bristol. The deceased was a member of the Society of Friends.—*The Britannia*.

The coroner's jury empanelled at Slough, to try in what manner Sarah Hart came by her death, have brought in a verdict of "wilful murder" against John Tawell. Tawell, it appears, is no longer a member of the Society of Friends, having many years ago been disowned by that body in consequence of having committed a forgery, for which he suffered transportation. The evidence on the inquest was altogether circumstantial, and went to establish several important facts, viz.:—The acquaintance of the prisoner with the deceased; his visit to her on the evening of her death; his hurried departure from the house immediately after a neighbour had heard stifled screaming proceeding from it; the finding of the deceased in a dying state, and the subsequent discovery of a deadly poison in her stomach; the finding of a phial bottle in the path which he took to the railway, which was ascertained to contain the remains of the same poison; and other corroborative circumstances.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday, Robert Hobson, aged 53, was found guilty of stealing the sum of 1s. 10d., the property of the Postmaster-General. And also of embezzling and secreting six newspapers, the property of the Postmaster-General, and sentenced to be imprisoned for one year, with hard labour.

On New Year's Day a riot occurred in Sunderland amongst some of the military, who were intoxicated, and a private, in a fit of drunken frenzy, stabbed and badly wounded a corporal who sought to quell the riot; he then made his escape from the barracks to the town, and proceeding to the river side, threw himself in and was drowned.

An investigation has been going forward relative to an alleged attempt to assassinate Charles Louis de Bourbon, who calls himself the Duke of Normandy. It appears that on Thursday evening, about half-past seven o'clock, the

"duke" was at work in his residence at Fulham, at the lathe, which faces the window, and was in the act of polishing a piece of brass, when he was suddenly alarmed at a loud explosion, and the place was momentarily in flames. The report instantly brought Mr. Tucker, the manager, and some of the students in the duke's establishment to the spot. From a hasty examination it was ascertained that a bullet had been fired through the window, from either a blunderbuss or a large cavalry pistol; that it had passed within an inch or two of the duke's head, and made its way through the boarding at the back of the garden. Nothing definite has been brought to light as to the perpetrator; but the duke says it was the act of his political enemies.

The new Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr. Arabin, gave the usual inauguration dinner at the Mansion-house on Thursday evening. It was attended by all parties amongst the citizens, and passed off with perfect unanimity, and without any reference to political questions. Mr. Arabin is a Protestant.

Tipperary, which possesses such a bad eminence in the annals of crime, has not been remiss during the past year in paying the repeal rent, though not noted for its readiness in paying any other kind of rent. From January to December 23rd, the repeal subscriptions of the county amounted to £3034. 9s. 3d.

The Irish Bequests Act still causes much agitation and excitement in Ireland. On Sunday last the Rev. Mr. Carroll, at the Westland-row Chapel, Dublin, denounced in strong terms those who had lately set the authority of the Church at defiance; and stated on the authority of a magistrate that there was ground to suspect that a conspiracy had been set on foot to take the first public opportunity that might occur to offer violence to the person of Archbishop Murray.

The Repeal Association met as usual on Monday. A letter was read from Mr. O'Connell, enclosing £51, being the amount of his own and his sons and other relatives' subscriptions to the repeal fund for the current year. The total repeal rent for the week was £250.

The Queen's County magistrates have met, and passed a series of resolutions, having for their object the adoption of means to aid the local authorities in protecting the peaceable inhabitants against the predatory gangs who infest the country. They state, as their deliberate opinion, derived from facts communicated to the meeting, and confirmed by the murder which had been recently committed at Rathdowney, "that a system of agrarian combination exists in that and the surrounding districts, which, unless promptly checked, will lead to that more general system of outrage now so prevalent in some of the adjoining counties." They implore the prompt interference of the Government to aid them in their exertions to preserve the public peace, and to afford security against the marauders and murderers.—*Globe*.

THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.—A committee has been formed in Derby, with the view of promoting this object, and we have no doubt that, besides the aid that may be given by sending specimens of the staple manufactures of the town, our fair friends to the cause will ply their needles, and assist the general contribution. We believe it is contemplated to have a *Free-Trade* *celebration* in Derby presently.—*Derby Reporter*.



## THE OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

(From the *Manchester Guardian*.)

An absurd article from the *Morning Herald*, entitled "Fallacies of the League," is at present going the round of the Tory press, the object of which appears to be to show that the Government returns, relating to the occupations of the people, have been garbled to serve the purposes of the Anti-Corn-Law League. By a very singular process of reasoning, the *Herald* has actually arrived at the conclusion that "agriculture maintains 685,818 families more than manufactures," although the total number of males, 20 years old and upward, who are dependent upon agriculture in Great Britain, as farmers, graziers, labourers, gardeners, nurserymen, and florists, is declared by the census to be only 1,215,264, while the total number of adult males employed in trade and manufactures is 2,039,409.

"Commerce and trade," says the *Herald*, "in all their multifarious avocations, only employ 1,459,963 male adults, or 191,699 more than agriculture; but the Irish statistics would turn this scale in favour of agriculture. The distinguished art of the Leaguers generally induces them to mix up the numbers employed in trade, commerce, and manufactures, altogether; and thus, by false comparisons, they have circulated the numerous statistical fallacies which have been too readily swallowed by their credulous supporters. The commissioners' returns, however, clearly establish that, even in this manufacturing portion of the United Kingdom, more than twice as many people are supported by agriculture as by manufactures."

Most unquestionably, "the Irish statistics would turn the scale in favour of agriculture;" but would they not also turn it in favour of pauperism and unparalleled destitution? As for the charge brought against "the Leaguers" of having "mixed up the numbers employed in trade, commerce, and manufactures, altogether," we must confess our inability to comprehend it, unless Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham are to be called "Leaguers." In the preface to the "Occupation Abstract," prepared by the commissioners appointed by Government, a book with which the *Herald* ought to be familiar, when it assumes the office of public instructor on this subject, we find the following statement regarding the principal classes of the population:—

*Statement of the Occupations of Males aged 20 years and upwards, in Great Britain, in 1841.*

Agriculture, occupiers and labourers .....	1,215,264
Persons engaged in commerce, trade, and manufactures .....	2,039,409
Labourers, employed in labour not agriculture..	610,157
Capitalists, bankers, professional and other educated men.....	286,175

Here, then, we find, according to the Government returns, not quite two persons dependent on agriculture for every five who obtain a living from other sources of employment. Does the *Herald* still insist that these tables have been dishonestly garbled? In that case it cannot utter a single word of accusation against the League, without involving ministers in a still worse condemnation.

In another part of the same article, the *Herald* asserts, that, "at the outside, those engaged in manufactures for the foreign export market cannot exceed 120,000;" and these, it is absurdly assumed, are the only persons who can possibly have any interest in promoting freedom of trade. Now, it would be easy to show that the number of persons employed in the production of goods for the export trade cannot be much less than eight times what the *Herald* reckons it. Taking the annual value of our exports of manufactured goods at £30,000,000, it will be found on examination that not less than £30,000,000 of this represents the wages of those who have been engaged in the production of them. How many persons would that amount furnish with employment? At an average of 10s. per week throughout the whole year, for every individual, it would afford employment to no less than 1,200,000 persons. Now, as there are only about 900,000 agricultural labourers, aged 20 years and upwards, in all Great Britain, and as their average wages are certainly not more than 10s. per week, it follows that the gross amount of wages earned merely by those immediately dependent upon our export trade is one-fourth greater than all the wages earned by all the adult agricultural labourers in England, Scotland, and Wales.

Well may the *Herald* call the Occupation Abstract "an important document," and naturally enough may it try to garble the statements contained in it. We would remind it, however, that very little purpose is served by perverting the truth so grossly as it has done in the article we have quoted. Indeed, we incline to think that its wiser course would be to refrain from statistics altogether; and, above all, to have nothing to say on the occupations of the people, till Sir Robert Peel brings forward his next measure in favour of Free Trade.

**WHEAT AND TITHES.**—An account of the average prices of British wheat, barley, and oats in England and Wales, for the seven years ending on Thursday, Dec. 19, 1844, which regulates the commutation of tithes:—

Years ending	Wheat per qr.	Barley per qr.	Oats per qr.
1838	61 7	31 5	22 5
1839	70 8	39 6	25 11
1840	66 4	36 5	26 8
1841	61 4	32 10	22 5
1842	57 3	27 6	19 3
1843	50 1	29 6	18 4
1844	51 6	33 7	20 7

Average of seven

Wheat per qr.	60 8	33 0	22 1
Ditto per bushel	7 6½	4 1½	2 9

The tithes payable for 1844 were £104. 3s. 5½d. per cent. for the year 1845 it will be about £104. 3s. 2½d.; 2½d. per cent. only less than last year.

Hay has attained the price of £6. 6s. per ton at Marlbury, and it is feared will for some time continue to rise. It is computed that the weekly consumption of hay in this town averages £870 worth per week, and of oats £510 worth; such is the large number of horses employed in the works.

**FRENCH TRADE TO CHINA.**—The *Press* states, that the information furnished by the special commissioners sent to China, as to the probability of finding markets for our produce, is not of a nature to justify the hopes of the French merchants. The monopoly of the most important articles of manufacture appears to be secured to the English and Americans, with whom it will be difficult to com-

tend in the supply of white and unbleached calicoes. The exportation of muslins and cambrics has been tried by the English, but has not succeeded. Our woollens might find a better chance of success, but even that is not certain, because the Chinese prefer cotton, which they wear single in summer and wadded in winter. The Russians, moreover, have monopolized the Chinese markets for cloth. Our printed calicoes might perhaps find a market if our manufacturers could reduce their price. Until the present moment the Swiss have been in possession of the markets for that article. In the year 1843 the Americans exported 1,000,000 pieces of unbleached cotton. That amount was nearly doubled in the year 1844. In April last, the warehouses in the interior of Canton were overloaded with British and American manufactures. We may conclude from the information received that the Government does not expect much advantage from the expensive expedition sent to China. Thus are confirmed the doubts we expressed on the departure of M. Lagrenée.

**SUNDERLAND, Jan. 2.**—The shipping interest of the north has not been for many years in such a flourishing state as it is at present. The freights to London for coals are as high as 10s. 6d. and 11s. per ton, at which rates the owners of vessels of a moderate burden are clearing from £60 to £80 per voyage; foreign freights are in proportion, and sailors' wages are generally £5 per month or London voyage. Yesterday a crew signed articles at the neighbouring port of Shields for £5. 10s. Shipbuilding, as may be naturally expected, is on the increase, and Sunderland, which last year was sunk into a state of the greatest depression, is now rapidly rising into a state of prosperity.

## THE FUNDS.

	SAT. Jan. 4	MON. Jan. 6	TUES. Jan. 7	WED. Jan. 8	THURS. Jan. 9	FRI. Jan. 10
Bank Stock.....	212	212	211½	212	212	—
3 per Ct. Cons. Ann. 8 per Ct. Cons. Ann.	101	101½	100½	100½	100½	101
3 per Ct. Cons. Ann. 5 per Ct. Cons. Ann.	101	101	100½	100½	100½	100½
Long An. Ex. 1840 Cons. for Opus.	104	104	104	104	104	104
Exc. Bills, 1000l. Ind. Bds. and 1000l.	65	65	65	65	65	65
India Stock.....	79	77	77	79	78	—
Belgian Bonds.....	107	107½	107	107	107	—
Brasserie de Louvain	89½	89½	89½	90	90	—
Buenos Ayres.....	41	—	—	40½	—	—
Chilian.....	102	—	—	102	101	—
Colombian Vene.....	14½	14½	—	14½	14½	—
Danish.....	90	—	—	89½	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent. Dutch 2½ per Ct.	64	64	63½	—	63½	63½
Mexican.....	—	31½	31½	—	31½	31½
Portug. 5 per Ct.	—	39½	39½	39½	39½	39½
Spanish 5 per Ct.	—	27½	27½	27½	27½	27½
Do. 3 per Cent. ..	—	26½	26½	26½	26½	26½

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

**MARK-LANE, Monday, Jan. 6.**—The supply of English Wheat this morning was only moderate; the prices of this day week were maintained, but the demand was far from brisk. There was also a slow sale for Foreign at former rates. With Foreign and English Barley together, there was rather a large supply; the value of all descriptions remains the same as last week. Beans were 1s. cheaper. No alteration in the value of Peas. Notwithstanding the wind has continued favourable for the arrival of the supplies of Oats from Ireland there is very little addition to the quantity since Friday; there were, however, in addition, a considerable quantity of Scotch, which—the time for clearing the vessels being short—are 1s. cheaper than this day week; the inferior qualities of Irish, which were rather over their value compared with other descriptions, were also 1s. lower. Fine qualities of Foreign maintain former rates.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

## BRITISH.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	45 to 54
— Ditto..... New	42 to 48
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 to 48
— Scotch	42 to 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed.....	23 to 24
— Ditto..... ditto.. Potatoes	23 to 26
— Scotch Feed.....	23 to 25
— Lincolns.....	23 to 24
— Ditto.....	23 to 24
— Cork.....	23 to 24
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black Old and New	23 to 24
— Sligo..... New	23 to 24
— Galway..... do.	21 6 to 22 6
Barley, New.....	30 to 39
Beans, Maragan Old 35 to 37..... New	32 to 34
— Harrow..... do. 40 to 43..... do.	34 to 38
— Small..... do.	42 to 45
Peas, White, New.....	34 to 36
— Grey..... 31 to 33..... Maple	32 to 33
Flour, Town-made..... per sack of 280 lbs.	36 to 43
— Norfolk and Suffolk.....	34 to 36

## FOREIGN.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed.....	48 to 56
— Rostock.....	47 to 54
— Stettin.....	44 to 52
— Hamburg.....	43 to 48
— Odessa.....	42 to 46
— Ditto..... Polish	47 to 50
— Russian..... soft	42 to 46
— Ditto..... hard	40 to 44
— Spanish..... Red	45 to 49
— Ditto..... White	40 to 44
Barley, Grindling.....	36 to 40
— Distilling.....	30 to 32
Oats, Archangel.....	32 to 33
— Swedish.....	22 to 23
— Danish.....	22 to 24
— Stralsund.....	22 to 24
— Dutch New.....	24 to 26
— Potatoes.....	19 to 20
Beans, Egyptian.....	23 to 24
— White.....	23 to 26
— Ditto Bollers.....	25 to 28
Flour, Canada..... per barrel of 196 lbs	26 to 28
— United States.....	26 to 28
— Danzig.....	26 to 28

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Dec. 30, 1844, to Jan. 4, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English.....	7314	2400	10348	1034	1847
Scotch.....	—	939	10348	—	—
Irish.....	—	900	19240	—	—
Foreign.....	919	4788	480	400	26

Flour, 7200 sacks, 1080 burs.

**FRIDAY, Jan. 10.**—The supplies of English Wheat since Monday are larger than usual; a considerable quantity is direct to the millers, who are not therefore buyers of what is offering for sale. Those who have not so provided themselves

exhibit no disposition to purchase, and it would be difficult to effect sales to any extent even if a reduction of price was submitted; as it is, prices are nominally the same as on Monday. The supply of Barley is fully equal to the demand, but Monday's rates are maintained for all descriptions. In addition to a good supply of Irish Oats, a considerable quantity of English and Scotch have arrived since Monday. There is the same indisposition to stock themselves evinced by the dealers that we have had occasion to report so frequently of late, and the sale of all descriptions is slow; and a decline of 6d. from Monday must be submitted to for out-of-condition samples, but fine fresh corn is held firmly at former rates. There is no alteration in the value of Beans and Peas. The only alteration in the duties, yesterday, was an advance of 1s. on Beans.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 5th of January to the 7th of January, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	6620	—	1160
Barley.....	7910	—	4030
Oats.....	7250	32170	—

Flour, 2090 sacks.

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
30th Nov.	4.45	4.35	1.21	8.32	2.38	6.35 11
7th Dec.	4.45	2.34	9.21	10.31	2.37	5.36 4
14th "	4.45	1.34	5.21	11.32	0.35	9.36 1
21st "	4.45	3.34	2.21	10.32	0.35	11.35 4
28th "	4.45	6.34	3.20	10.31	9.35	7.35 5
4th Jan.	4.45	8.34	2.21	10.33	9.35	2.36 1

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 4d.; Barley, 34s. 6d.; Oats, 21s. 8d.; Rye, 32s. 2d.; Beans, 36s. 8d.; Peas 35s. 10d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 4s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 6d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 6s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

## LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Jan. 4, 1844.

	Gr.	Price.	Gr.	Price.
Wheat.....	5454	48s. 6d.	Rye.....	17 3s. 4d.
Barley.....	4451	36s. 6d.	Beans.....	1890 3s. 4d.
Oats.....	9320	36s. 8d.	Peas.....	912 3s. 4d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Dec. 5, 1844.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London, 188882	6089	24303	30	1043	1363	9978	—
Unit. King. 354278	21563	74755	5	8970	7011	26488	—

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3.

CROWN-OFFICE, JANUARY 3.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT

PARLIAMENT.

Borough of Dartmouth.—Joseph Somes, Esq., in the room of Sir John Henry Seale, bart., deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

G. E. LANHAM, Southampton, builder. [Jones, Trinder, and Tudway, John-street, Bedford-row.]

J. WRIGHTMAN, Northampton, wharfinger. [Weller, Gray's Inn; Pell, Jun., Southampton.]

B. W. PALMER, Daventry, Northamptonshire, wine merchant. [Wimborn and Co., Chancery-lane; Gery, Daventry.]

A. PADBURY, Jun., Kpsom, grocer. [Cattlin, Ely-place.]

J. NEWBOLD, Nottingham, tailor. [Bowley, Nottingham; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]

J. WARD, Manchester, engineer. [Wathen, St. Swithin's-lane; Johnson, Manchester.]

J. WOODHEAD, Todmorden, Yorkshire, clogger. [Wiggleworth and Co., Gray's Inn; Barwick, Leeds.]

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 24. W. Cook, Bungay, Suffolk, grocer.—Jan. 30. J. Crick, Sheffield, Yorkshire, maltster.—Jan. 30. T. Fisher, Selby, Yorkshire, linen-draper.—Jan. 30. J. Jackson, Kingston-upon-Thames, ironmonger.—Jan. 30. G. Shepherd, Thornton-le-Clay, Yorkshire, corn dealer.—Jan. 24. W. Jackson, Liverpool, baker.—Feb. 1. G. Grantham, Manchester, grocer.—Jan. 25. T. Robinson, Leicester, wine merchant.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 24. F. B. and W. Stacey, Lawrence-lane, Cheshire, warehousemen.—Jan. 24. J. G. Webb, Rosamond-buildings, Islington, mineral water manufacturer.—Jan. 30. J. F. Oak and J. L. De Carle, New Bond-street, coach builders.—Jan. 24. R. B. Palmer, Bath, watchmaker.—Jan. 27. S. Ashham, Bedford, Yorkshire, commission agent.—Jan. 25. B. Jones, Birmingham, victualler.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A. STEVENS, Edinburgh, stationer.—J. EDGAR and T. FRASER, Glasgow, tailors.—W. GALLOWAY, Paisley, manufacturer.—J. CAMPBELL, Balfour, merchant.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. TAPSCOTT, Wincoburn, Somersetshire, baker.

BANKRUPTS.

W. YOUNG, Addle-street, Wood-street, City, commission agent. [Langley, Bedford-row.]

T. CHANDLER, Bow-lane, builder. [Farrar and Laka, Collyman-street, Doctors'-commons.]

J. MANDENO, Grove-street, Hackney, market gardener. [Jeakinson, Cannon-street, City.]

T. REVELLY, Jun., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, plumber. [Hart, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Chisholme and Co., Lincoln's-inn-fields.]

J. BARFF, Liverpool, merchant. [Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row; Moss, Liverpool.]

J. BOOTH, Brownhill, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer. [Bulford, Sons, and Torr, Chancery-lane; Floyd and South, and Batty and Clay, Huddersfield.]

W. LUTWYCHE, Birmingham, brass founder. [Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]

DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 28. J. Wacey, Beech-street, Barbican, bookseller.—Jan. 28. J. and R. Dawe, Oxford, booksellers.—Jan. 30. J. Oliver and J. York, Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire, bankers.—Jan. 30. J. Oliver, J. York, and R. Harrison, Tipton, Staffordshire, coal masters.—Jan. 30. A. Lett, Commercial-road, Lambeth, timber merchant.—Jan. 30. T. Roberts, Blackman-street, Borough.—Jan. 30. T. G. Thorne, Southampton, builder.—Jan. 31. R. Ashwell, Yeldon, Bedfordshire, dealer and chapsman.—Jan. 31. G. and S. Potter and J. Krauss, Manchester, calico printers.—Jan. 30. W. Cochran and J. P. Robertson, City, merchants.—Jan. 30. W. E. Robertson, Huenos Ayres, merchant.

CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 30. T. Sherwood, Tilehurst, Berkshire, brickmaker.—Jan. 30. J. Burgess, Cratfield, Bedford, farmer.—Jan. 30. W. Smith, Gloucester-street, Hoxton, builder.—Jan. 30. W. Beasley, Gilbert-street, Grosvenor-square, grocer.—Jan. 30. T. and J. Walker, York-road, Lambeth, upholsterers.—Jan. 30. A. Akhurst, Kent Malling, Kent, baker.—Jan. 30. A. W. Poles, Ley, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer.—Jan. 30. A. W. Poles, Liverpool, commission merchant.—Jan. 30. R. B. Walker, Liverpool, merchant.—Jan. 30. W. Cross, Chester, lead merchant.—Jan. 30. S. Eccles, Manchester, cotton manufacturer.—Jan. 30. C. Mann, Romford, Essex, banker.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

A. W. MACLEAN, Glasgow, hotel keeper.—A. A. WADDELL, Glasgow, coal merchant.—J. ALEXANDER, Glasgow, mason.

London: Printed by ROBERT FASNER (of Providence place, Upper Kensington-lane, Lambeth, in the County of Surrey), at the Printing Office of Number 20, Strand, in the County of Middlesex; at the Printing Office, Number 10, Crane-court, in the Parish of St. Dunstons, in the City of London; and published by ALANMAN WATSON, Printer, at Number 27, Norfolk-street, Strand, in the County of Middlesex; at the Office of TAYLOR and SON, Stationers, in Fleet-street, in the County of Middlesex; and at the Office of J. H. BARNES, Stationer, in Fleet-street, in the County of Middlesex.





# THE LEAGUE.

No. 69.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, \$100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication, for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Office of THE LEAGUE, Newell's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Office either in London or Manchester.

Persons wishing to be on the Register next year, as Freeholders for County Votes, must be in possession of the property, or in the receipt of the rents and profits, before the 31st of January.

### QUALIFY, QUALIFY, QUALIFY.

#### PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTORAL QUALIFICATION.

The electors for counties are as follows:—Freeholders, copyholders, leaseholders, occupying tenants.

**FREEHOLDERS.**—The following persons are entitled to vote as freeholders:—1. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for himself and his heirs, or as it is called, an estate of inheritance, of the yearly value of 40s. 2. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for life or lives of the yearly value of £10. 3. Any person possessed of such an estate for life or lives of the yearly value of 40s., under any one of the following circumstances:—If the estate was acquired on or before the 7th of June, 1832; or since, if by marriage or marriage settlement, by devise (i.e., by will), or by promotion to any benefice or office, or if the freeholder is himself the actual occupier of the property. In any of these cases it is sufficient if the property be of the yearly value of 40s. Parish clerks, sextons, schoolmasters, Dissenting ministers, and holders of offices have a right to vote if entitled to emoluments of 40s. per annum, arising out of, or charged upon, land, and may be registered as voters in the parish wherein the land is situated. The appointment must, however, be for life, not for a temporary purpose, or at the pleasure of any other party; but an appointment during good behaviour is considered to be an appointment for life. If the freeholder occupy his own freehold property in a borough, of such a nature and value as would confer upon him the right to vote for the borough, he will not be entitled, in respect of that property, to vote for the county. But if the freehold be not of the right of voting for the borough, that is, if it be not of the annual value of £10, or if it be land without building, the freeholder may vote for the county, though he occupy it himself. And if the freeholder do not occupy his freehold estate within a borough, he may then vote in respect of it for the county, and his tenant may also vote for the borough. Six months' possession prior to the 31st of July will entitle a freeholder to be registered. And if the freehold lands or tenements should have come to him by descent, succession, marriage, marriage-settlement, will, or promotion to any benefice in a church, or to any office, no definite period of previous possession will be necessary.

**COPYHOLDERS.**—Any person possessed of any lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of £10, whether of copyhold or any other tenure than freehold, is entitled to vote. Tenants in ancient demesne may in general vote as freeholders, if they do not hold by copy of court-roll, but otherwise they will be entitled as copyholders. As freeholders, 4s. per annum will be sufficient; but as copyholders, £10 a year is required. The same period of possession previous to registration is required, in respect to copyholders, as in respect to freeholders. Copyhold pro-

perty within a borough, if of such a nature as would qualify any person to vote for the borough, will not, under any circumstances, give a right to vote for the county.

**LEASEHOLDERS.**—The right of voting in respect of leasehold property extends to—1. Any person who is entitled by virtue of a lease made or assigned to him of any lands or tenements for the unexpired residue of any term originally created for a period of not less than 60 years, if the property is of the clear yearly value of £10 above all rents and charges. 2. Any person who is in like manner entitled to the unexpired residue of a term originally of 20 years, if the lands and tenements are of the clear yearly value of £50. The party to whom the lease was originally made, or a party to whom such lease may have assigned the original lease, may vote, though not in occupation of the premises. Any sub-lessee or assignee of an under-lease may also vote, but only when in occupation of the premises. Lessees or assignees must have been in actual possession for 12 months previous to the 31st of July, unless the qualification is acquired, by any of the modes before mentioned as excepted; that is to say, by the death of a relative, by marriage, by will, or by promotion to any benefice or office. Leasehold property in a borough, if of such nature and value as will give any person a vote for the borough, will not give a vote for the county.

**OCCUPYING TENANT.**—Any person occupying lands or tenements for which he is liable to pay a yearly rent of £50 is entitled to vote, if not within a borough, and not of such nature as would qualify a person to vote for the borough. In respect of the period of previous possession required, occupying tenants are placed on the same footing as leaseholders; but it is not requisite that the occupation be of the same lands or tenements: different lands and tenements occupied in immediate succession for twelve months previous to the 31st of July in each year will give the qualification.

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**—Besides lands, houses, buildings, and the like, property and interests of the following description will entitle the owner to be registered and to vote, viz.—tithes, an annuity charged on land, a rent-charge,\* fee-farm rents issuing out of an estate in fee; shares in navigable rivers, canals, &c., where the shareholders possess an interest in the soil; tolls of bridges, tolls of fairs and markets, purchases of unrode land-tax. Persons who have entered into an agreement of purchase of property, or who have paid any part of the purchase-money, or done any other act in part performance of the agreement, are considered to have equitable estates, and are entitled to vote and to be registered. Joint tenants and tenants in common have each a right to vote, provided the property be of sufficient amount to give to the share of each the value required. Mortgages may vote, if in actual possession or in receipt of the rents and profits, but not otherwise. Trustees are expressly excluded from voting for any trust estate; the right of voting in respect of trust property is reserved for the cestui que trust. In estimating the value of freehold or copyhold property, the marketable value of the property to let is the criterion to be attended to. If, owing to accidental circumstances, the rent should be less than might be obtained, the property will still give a right to vote. As regards leaseholds, the value required does not depend on the amount of rent. It is to be estimated by the profit which the tenant can make of the property, over and above the amount of rent reserved and any encumbrance charged on the property. The value required is to be "above all rents and charges." Under these words are included all encumbrances affecting the property, but not any public or parliamentary taxes.

### BOROUGH FRANCHISE FOR 1845.

In order to secure a borough vote next year, those who occupy premises giving a qualification should immediately see that their names are placed on the poor's rate-book.

A claimant must be rated, or have claimed to be rated, to all rates made during the year ending the 31st of July. If, therefore, his name is omitted from any rate made during that time, he should immediately claim to be rated. The overseers are required to put the name of a person so claiming on the rate last made; consequently, if the claimant suffers two rates to be made before he claims, he will be unable to get upon the former one, and will thereby lose his vote for one year.

No particular form of claim to be rated is prescribed by the Reform or Registration Acts; but the following form may be adopted:—

#### "CLAIM TO BE RATED."

"To the Overseers of the Parish of \_\_\_\_\_  
"I hereby give you notice that I occupy a \_\_\_\_\_ at No. \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Street, in your parish, and I claim to be rated to the relief of the poor in respect of such premises, in order that I may be entitled to vote in the election of a member (or members) of Parliament for the city (or borough) of \_\_\_\_\_.

"Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1844.

"(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_."

Insert the name of the parish, the nature of the premises, as house, shop, room, or as the case may be, and the name of the street, &c., and of the city or borough, also the date. The christian and surname and place of residence of the claimant should be inserted at full length. Give the claim to an overseer, keeping a correct copy, on which should be written the date when, and the name of the overseer on whom, it was served. If any poor's rates are due for the premises at the time of making the claim they must be paid, or the amount due tendered. Should the overseer refuse to accept the money, or omit to enter the claimant's name in the rate-book, he will be deemed to be rated notwithstanding; but, if the claimant's name be omitted from any future rate, he should again claim to be rated.

\* No registration of annuities or rent-charges with the clerk of the peace is requisite. The 3rd Geo. III. c. 24, is repealed.

## WAGES THE TRUE DEPENDENCE OF THE WORKING MAN.

We have no desire at present to revive the allotment controversy, which we are well satisfied to leave as it stands, until the parliamentary discussion of the subject, promised us for the ensuing session, shall give it practical interest. But we cannot refrain from noticing a curious and instructive contrast recently exhibited by the *Morning Post*, between the speculations of one column and the facts of another, which must startle, we should think, the most hopeful advocate of that remedy for the ills of the labouring classes.

The *Post* is, editorially, of opinion that it is a great misfortune for British working men to be dependent on wages. According to the *Post's* view of the condition of England question, dependence on wages is the canker-spot on our body politic, the prime evil of our social condition; and nothing will go well with us while it lasts. The *Post* "grants that the English labourers, as a body (it is clearly not speaking of the protected section of labourers), eat more animal food, burn more fuel, and have more frequent changes of raiment, than the continental labourers." But then the continental labourers have the immense advantage of being "less dependent upon wages." Our contemporary says:—

"The labourers of France and Germany work for themselves more than for masters. They depend more upon the direct produce of their labour than upon wages received from employers. This is very often a great inconvenience to enterprising capitalists, who require work to be done at a time when the labourers choose rather to work for themselves. But in France and Germany the laws and customs of the country do not sacrifice the humbler classes to the interests of enterprising capitalists. \* \* Except in the few manufacturing towns and villages, wages, on the Continent, form rather an occasional than a complete and constant source of the people's subsistence. They have some plot of ground, or some little business of their own, which is their chief dependence, and, though they work for wages a considerable part of the year, they are not wholly dependent upon wages. They have more liberty than is enjoyed by the poor in this boasted land of liberty, for here the freedom is theoretical, while the tyranny of circumstances is absolute. The great mass of the people are without property, and must be continually the servants of the comparatively few who have property. Under no other system, we grant, could the great works be done, and the great fortunes be made, which are done and made in England. But we doubt that the happiness or the virtue of this British people is promoted by the great works which are done, and the great fortunes which are made. \* \* \* It is, we believe, unquestionably true, that the occasional superiority of the condition of the British labourer is one of his misfortunes. We believe it would be much better for him if he were not the sport of the great capitalist's shifting interests or changing views—it he were not at one time highly paid, and, at another, thrown off without any support at all, to suffer all the miseries of poverty. At certain periods the British labourer has indulgences which it were much better for him that he had never been acquainted with. We should rather see his condition more equal, and more independent of the vicissitudes of trade."

The *Post* need not have gone so far as France and Germany for illustrations of the advantages of making working men independent of wages. There is a country within the limits of the United Kingdom, whose "humbler classes" suffer as little as possible from the molestation of "enterprising capitalists," and are rarely troubled with the execution of "great works." In Ireland "wages form rather an occasional than a complete and constant source of the people's subsistence." The Irish peasantry have usually "some plot of ground" which is "their chief dependence;" and, "though they work for wages" during a "part of the year," they are as far as possible from being "wholly dependent upon wages." This singular omission of our contemporary's is, however, the less to be regretted, as it is amply supplied by one of his correspondents in a neighbouring column, writing under the signature of "Miles Emeritus," and the implied editorial sanction of leaded type. "Miles Emeritus" concludes a letter on "Currency and Labour" with the following significant comment on the doctrine of independence of wages:—

"I write from Ireland, where the desperate competition for land is producing such frightful consequences in wholesale murder. Why should there be such scenes enacted in any country? Few words will answer the question. This is the reason: no man can support himself by the sweat of his brow without land in his own possession, for his labour's market price will not buy food for himself, to say nothing of his family. \* \* \* Sir Robert Peel may rest satisfied that no concordat, no Charitable Bequests Bill, no interference between landlord and tenant, will ever produce quiet in Ireland, or stop bloodshed, until he legislates to raise the market price of labour, and to allow the population to live without having land in possession. \* \* \* The fact is, that nine-tenths of the misery of Ireland

must be attributed to the fact that there is no remunerating price for labour, and that, until this be set to rights, all other measures are like attempting to bale out the Atlantic with a bowl dish."

It has been remarked, as a creditable characteristic of the English press, that, however one-sided and partisan may be its editorial leaders, it gives all sorts of facts and opinions tolerably fair play in its columns of news and correspondence. We have seldom seen this impartiality of the broad sheet more happily exemplified than in last Wednesday's *Post*. The editor tells us that dependence on wages is a grievance, and that independence, with "some plot of ground," is the true thing; but, with admirable candour, he allows "Miles Emeritus" to tell us at the same time that the consequence of this transference of the labourer's reliance from wages to "some plot of ground" is, simply, "WHOLESALE MURDER." The editor much doubts whether the happiness and virtue of the British people are promoted by the great works which are done under the stimulus of wages: the correspondent is quite sure that bloodshed will never cease in Ireland until the régime of wages shall be fully established. The desideratum of the one writer is the abomination of the other. The editor thinks things will never go right in England till labourers learn to dispense with wages (except "occasionally"), and make their tenure of life contingent on their tenure of land: the correspondent is clear that there will be no quiet in Ireland until a good market rate of wages shall have made Irishmen careless of possessing land; and that, "until this be set to rights, all other measures are like attempting to bale out the Atlantic with a bowl dish."

We need scarcely say that in this matter we go with "Miles Emeritus." The great want of Ireland is precisely that which Great Britain has—enterprising capitalists, great works, public and private, and a consequent demand for labour, to whose steadiness and sufficiency the Corn Law and its associated monopolies are the only serious obstacle. And the great danger of Great Britain is, lest a longer continuance of monopolist policy, and of the aggravated miseries which it inflicts on all classes of labourers, and on the agricultural labourers most of all, should throw us on an Irish state of society by way of remedy. A densely-crowded pauper population, without a market for their labour—dependent for existence not on wages of labour, but on pitiful patches of potato-ground—and, consequently, fighting with their landlords and with one another for potato-ground, as for life;—this, the very ideal

of domestic misery and social disorganization, is what the *Post's* political economy would inevitably realize. Transfer the labourer's dependence from wages to land, make land his first necessary of life—and, with a fast-growing population on a limited soil, we should not be long of making a second Ireland.

But our purpose in noticing these lucubrations of our contemporary is not so much to reiterate old objections to his remedy for the case of the labourer, as to protest against his statement of the evil to be remedied. "Dependence on wages" is, in his view, the grand grievance of our labouring classes. Monopoly has, it must be allowed, odd notions on the point of "independence": it would have a commercial country independent of foreigners, and a labouring population independent of employers. But will the *Post* tell us why it need be a grievance for English working men to depend on wages? Dependence on wages—like every other sort of dependence—is good or evil according to the reliability or unreliability of the thing depended on. Dependence on wages is not, necessarily and in itself, an undesirable condition of existence. In a stationary or declining country, it is—but not in a growing country: the mischief is, that monopoly does so much to stop England from growing. Where there is plenty of profitable work to be done, and of capital to do it—i.e., where there is a natural and permanent demand for labour—the labourer's dependence on wages is just as safe as the landlord's dependence on labour, or the tradesman's dependence on custom, or the farmer's dependence on sun and rain, or the fundholder's dependence on public credit, or the State's dependence on the instinct or habit of popular obedience. In some conditions of society, the labourer dependent on wages is, in fact, the only independent member of the community. For our own part, we see not the shadow of a reason why dependence on wages should be deprecated as an evil in the case of the British labourer. Monopolist legislation apart, we have in these islands all the elements necessary to make one of the best labour-markets in the world. With untold millions of hoarded capital seeking profitable investment; with watery energy and inexhaustible fertility of enterprise in the owners of this capital; with manufacturing superiority, natural and acquired, maritime ascendancy, and an insular position lying convenient for all the commerce of the globe; with hundreds of millions of customers in the eastern and western worlds, wanting the very things we are best able to give, and ready and willing to pay for them with the things we most need to receive,—there

is no reason whatever why our working men should be afraid of dependence on wages. The English labourer has work enough cut out for him by nature to last for centuries: all he need ask is leave to do it. It is quite a mistake to call England an "old" country: England never was younger—never had more growing power—than in this year 1845. The wages-fund of Great Britain is perfectly capable of multiplying at the same rate with the claimants on it. Population may grow as it will: there is no danger, in the nature of things, of the numerical relations of masters and men, who are looking out for one another, being altered prejudicially to the latter. Only let the "enterprising capitalists" and their "great works" alone, and they are quite competent to the greatest work of all, that of meeting a rapidly-increasing demand for wages with a rapidly-increasing supply. Providence has laid on the capital of these islands the enormous burden of taking on a thousand new hands daily: but the capital of these islands is perfectly well able—give it room enough—to bear the burden.

Naturally, the demand for labour in this country is as steadily progressive—affords as good and solid a ground of reliance for a labouring population—as any people need desire. The "vicissitudes of trade" come not of the laws of trade, but of the laws of Parliament; and the "occasional superiority of the condition of the British labourer," which the monopolist organ deprecates as a "misfortune," might just as well be made habitual, for anything that Providence has enacted to the contrary. That at this time, in this country, wages are a precarious source of dependence to a working man, is purely the doing of monopoly. The British labour market is, naturally, as good a market as need be; but monopoly steps in and spoils it, by driving away the purchasers. The capital, the labour, and the field for their mutually profitable action—nature has them all ready waiting; but monopoly interdicts their union. Monopoly talks, at agricultural dinners, of the "importance" and "duty" of providing employment for labourers. Monopoly legislates, in Parliament, to make the employment of labourers, in ways which Nature has provided, penal. Monopolist philanthropy is certainly most oddly constituted. It first makes payment of wages a statutable offence, and then turns round to condole with the labourer on the precariousness of wages as a source of dependence, and to recommend, as a substitute, "some plot of ground."

We beg our readers of the working classes—who, after all, are the party chiefly interested in this matter—to note well what is implied in the doctrine of the landlord organ, and in the allotment philanthropy in general. The *Post* tells them that it is a bad thing for Englishmen to be dependent on wages; which is just a civil and circuitous way of saying that they, the working classes, are not wanted in England. The rationale of this alleged precariousness of wages is an assumed slackness of demand, or superfluity of supply. The working man, as a working man, has come to be a drag on the market. By wages of labour the English labourer must no longer hope to live; but philanthropy will see what it can do to find something for him instead of wages—"some plot of ground," perhaps. In the *Post's* philosophy, England has done growing (except in the matter of population). We have reached the limit of our industrial power. We are a used-up people. Our working men are now rather in the way; and the problem for philanthropy to solve is, how to put them gently and kindly out of the way. The *Post's* answer to the question, What is to be done with the labouring classes? is—anything and everything, except make them valuable as labourers. That is quietly taken for granted to be a permanent, intrinsic impossibility. The true working man's paradise—a state of things in which two masters are looking out for one man—has no place in the wildest day-dreams of landlord and monopolist benevolence. The fundamental hypothesis of this benevolence—that working men must give over believing in wages—is one of absolute despair. Those working men who have recently participated in, or benefited indirectly by, or sympathizingly witnessed, a successful strike, will need no aid from us to criticize the soundness of this dismal philosophy, or to judge how it strikes at the root of the honour and independence of their order.

And what would the *Post* and its patrons substitute for the dreaded and deprecated "dependence on wages?"

"Some plot of ground," to grow potatoes in:—held, at landlord's pleasure, by the tenure of good behaviour, at a rent determined by landlord's good nature: of which good nature, Corn Laws and Game Laws are the most authentic specimens we at present possess. One would sometimes think, indeed, from the way landlord philanthropy talks after dinner, that "allotment" means land given by a rich man to a poor man as a present, in fee simple, to make the poor man independent of the rich man. We can assure all working men, manufacturing and agricultural, that this is not what is

meant. Without professing to be deep in landlord counsels, we can state positively that there is no intention to make a general division of land. The *Post* does run out a little sometimes against the property-law of the country, and is apt to be Jacobinical when Parliament is not sitting, on the subject of title-deeds and estates of inheritance—which may tend to mislead provincial readers; but it is fully understood, in the best-informed political circles of the metropolis, that Lord Ashley will not bring in an agrarian bill next session.

After all, it is idle speculating on the advantages or disadvantages of "dependence on wages." Whether desirable or undesirable, dependence on wages is, once for all, a settled, permanent fact in the public economy of Great Britain—as is the rapid numerical increase of the labouring population. There is no help for it. Allotment system, or no-allotment system, this is the fact, and will remain the fact, to all present appearance, so long as England remains a country:—the chief dependence of the labourer is on wages of labour, and wages of labour can only be paid out of profits of capital. To obstruct the profitable employment of capital is to obstruct the payment of wages, and turn a natural and necessary fact into an artificial curse. The labouring man's only chance of rising is in the rising value of his labour; the value of his labour is measured by the demand for it; and the intensity or sharpness of the demand for labour, in this commercial and manufacturing country, mainly depends on our access to, or exclusion from, foreign markets. Every foreign market gained is money in the working man's pocket, and independence in his soul—every foreign market lost is a lapse in the direction of pauperism and servility. There is no sort of harm in the "plot of ground," if the working man likes it. Let him buy it freehold, and he will find excellent virtues in his plot of ground—political enfranchisement among the number. His social and personal independence, however, in no way rests on his growing his own potatoes. The true security for this is a strong and steady run on the labour market, in the shape of heavy orders from China, America, and Brazil.

#### THE LANDLORDS' LAST.

At the great meeting at Manchester, reported in our columns last week, Mr. Cobden said, in the course of some cruel allusions to the various "opposition shops" of landlord philanthropy—the emigration concern, the allotment concern, and the like—"What would be the next opposition affair he did not know; but, whatever it might happen to be, ten to one but it would assume the cloak of humanity, in order to deceive honest and not very shrewd people." Landlordism has lost no time in fulfilling, as usual, Mr. Cobden's prediction. Within the past week the new opposition affair has made its appearance; and a delectable affair it is—gracefully cloaked with humanity, and not ill-adapted to the capacities of those "honest and not very shrewd people" whose gullibility is landlordism's stronghold. Our contemporary of the *Morning Post* favoured the world, on Tuesday last ("from a correspondent"), with the following prospectus of the new concern:—

"The great disparity which exists, and for many years has existed, between the price of wheat and the price of bread, has been well known to every one who has paid attention to the subject. The public are aware that formerly the price of bread in the metropolis was regulated by the Lord Mayor, who fixed it according to the price of wheat, allowing a handsome profit to the miller and the baker. This law, called the law of assize, was repealed; it was imagined that Free Trade in grinding and making bread would cause such competition among the millers and the bakers that the public would obtain their flour and bread cheaper; but experience has proved that millers and bakers find it more profitable to combine than to compete, and the consequence is, that although the public pay a very high price for their bread, an association is about to be formed, for the benevolent purpose of supplying the poor with bread at prices more in proportion to the price of wheat than they at present pay. The profits of the association are to be limited to five per cent., consequently all profits beyond that will be applied to the reduction of the price of bread. Now, when it is considered that the price of bread in London is generally about forty-four per cent. higher than in Paris, although the British farmer, notwithstanding his greater burden, supplies wheat within thirteen per cent. of the French farmer, it is obvious that the price of bread might be very considerably lowered. We will assume that bread, with wheat averaging 40s., might be sold 2d. per loaf cheaper than at present; but let us be very moderate, and say that, by means of the association, it is only lowered 1d. That 1d. per loaf, taking the population of London at only 1,600,000 souls, and allowing 11lb. of bread per diem for each individual, would enable the population of London to save in hard cash no less a sum than £550,464 per annum, or to consume 22,738,000 more loaves of 4lb. each. This association will likewise prove a fact for which we have often contended—that the high price of bread is not to be attributed to the Corn Laws, or to what is called the grasping monopoly of the landed interest. It will prove that the high price of bread is not to be laid at their door, for the farmers sell their wheat at a price, which, under a different system, would enable the public to obtain bread as low as the most sanguine advocates for a repeal of the Corn Laws could desire. Indeed, we very much question whether any alteration in the Corn Laws would benefit the consumer of bread more than 1d. per loaf, although their repeal would be ruinous to the British farmer, for 1d. in a loaf is equal to from 8s. to 10s. a quarter in wheat."

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This association, if ably and honestly carried out, will, therefore, virtually effect as much reduction in the price of bread as a repeal of the Corn Laws, without lowering the rate of wages or the price of wheat, or throwing land out of cultivation. It is a matter of great moment with the agricultural interest to make known that such an association is about to be formed, for the advocates of a repeal of the Corn Laws whose cry is 'Cheap bread' will be obliged to abandon the vantage ground this popular cry has obtained for them, for the consumers of bread will not run the risk of having their wages lowered to the continental level."

Really, these boys will be the death of us. We have seen many odd things within the six years and more of our agitation, but of all our Corn-Law experiences this is about the oddest. Here we have the very landlords themselves crying out against "combination" to raise prices (the fastest thief cries loudest first)—extolling the virtues of cheapness—telling us that, after all, cheap bread does not mean low wages—and getting up a joint-stock cheap-bread company. They have got one monopoly, and they want another to mend it. They have long grown our corn dear—they insist now on baking our bread cheap, to square the account. They have turned their particular attention to the baking business, and will contract to do it cheaper than any other house in town. They answer an indictment for fraud, by asking for our custom in a new line. It is as if one caught a thief in the fact, with the property on him, and the fellow buttoned his pocket and collared somebody else, and offered to do policeman's duty on him. We are shockingly cheated in our bread, they tell us—a penny in every loaf we eat, making "no loss a sum than £568,464 per annum, hard cash," for the population of London alone. The League are right enough, after all, in saying that dear bread does not help the payment of the national debt; and that cheap bread has nothing to do with low wages; and that artificial dearth of the first necessary article of life is a cruel and infamous poll-tax. Only the League happens to be mistaken in thinking that the high price of bread is to be "attributed to the Corn Laws, or to what is called the grasping monopoly of the landed interest." Nothing of the sort. It is all the millers' and bakers' doing. The millers and bakers all over London, and all over England, are in combination. Depend upon it, there's where it is, gentlemen. They "combine," gentlemen, instead of competing—there are so few of them, and they live so near together, and they are on such excellent terms with one another. It is a great shame, gentlemen, and you must please let us see to it. What business have millers and bakers to combine? Why should

millers and bakers make more than the well-known ordinary maximum of trading profit, five per cent. per annum on the capital invested? Millers have no mortgages, and bakers' daughters don't want marriage portions. These millers and bakers want looking after, gentlemen, and we are the men to do it. Nobody shall take you in, if we can help it, but ourselves. Only give us the milling and baking business, and we will promise to put your bread at as low a figure "as the most sanguine advocate for a repeal of the Corn Laws could desire."

It is undeniable that landlordism here presents itself in an attitude at once novel and fascinating—i.e., to all those good people whose honesty is unqualified by shrewdness. A lord in a baker's apron, for the good of his country and his kind, is certainly a spectacle to do any man's heart good. Feudalism behind a counter, in the cause of humanity and the poor, speaks volumes for the progress of civilization. How soon the attractive prospect thus held out to our hopes is likely to be realized we are unable to say confidently. The squires will not, we fear, come to town and open shop during the shooting season; but, if we may credit our private letters, preparations are in a forward state. His Grace the Duke of Buckingham has consented, in the kindest manner, to put himself in training at a private oven immediately on the termination of the royal festivities at Stowe; and the noble proprietor of Goodwood, delighted at the notion of combining the retail of loaves with his wholesale fish concern, has handsomely entered his prize roarer to run in the first cart, at five per cent. interest on the Southampton valuation.

In the midst of so much to encourage there is, we are sorry to say, some matter for regret, and even apprehension. The association will not, we understand, have the distinguished aid and countenance of Lord Ashley. His lordship sets his face against the thing altogether, referring the disappointed applicants for his patronage to his recent declaration at the great needlewomen's meeting, when "he wished to impress upon the meeting, for he felt it very deeply himself, the very great evil arising in all directions from that constant and unceasing effort to get everything—not only the common trumperies of life, but even the greatest necessities—at the very minimum of remuneration." His lordship positively declines being made a party to a scheme for minimizing the remuneration of the capital and labour invested in the milling and baking branches of British industry, and which, in its more general operation, must, he conceives, produce a demoralising effect on the public mind. To offer this stimulus to the unhealthy popular craving for "greatest necessities" at the smallest cost must, in his judgment, lead to very

great evil. Coats or quarters, trousers or twists, shirts or shortbread—it is all one. His lordship objects to cheapness and cheap shops, on principle. We are told that his lordship's argument has had considerable weight with some of the original promoters of the scheme, and that symptoms have already been manifested of an alarming and extensive schism. Another difficulty, too, has been started, which threatens to paralyse the whole concern. As the members of the association very generally repudiate the principle of buying in the cheapest market, it has naturally occurred to some of the longer heads that they will have to buy their corn and flour above the Mark-lane price—to pay a considerably higher rent for their premises than the landlord asks (at least, supposing the landlord has a family of small children)—to adjust all clerks' salaries and porters' wages, not by the rules of trade, but by the principles of philanthropy—and, in general to give more for everything they use than it is worth in the market. All which, when added to the five per cent. interest on the capital employed, will, it is apprehended, sadly narrow the margin of surplus profit, and bring into serious doubt the society's ability to perform its promise of saving the Londoners £568,464 per annum, hard cash. What prospect exists of this difficulty being solved we are not informed, further than that it has been proposed, as a *via media*, by some of the parliamentary supporters of the scheme, to profess the principle of philanthropy "in the abstract," and manage the practical business of the shop on the ordinary shop principle.

We do not know whether any of our readers will expect a serious word from us on this deliciously-absurd business. We should find it next to impossible to say one; and must give them credit for combining with their honesty a sufficient amount of shrewdness, natural and acquired, to dispense with anything like a grave discussion of the statistics and economics of this piece of moonshine. Whether milling and baking are, upon the whole, taking one year with another, extraordinarily and extravagantly prosperous trades—whether millers and bakers make fortunes much faster than other folks—and, if they do, why there are not more of them—are queries which suggest their own answer. If the new Joint Stock Milling and Baking Company begin business with an ignorance of its first principles, which allows them to imagine that five per cent. per annum of interest on the capital employed is a living profit, we can only say that they are more likely to become dangerous to their creditors than to their competitors.

We accept, meanwhile, for what it is worth, the landlord admissions, that artificially-created dearth of bread is a wrong to the community, and a crime on the part of the selfish and greedy combination that inflicts it—and that cheap bread has no connexion with low wages. As it is stated to be "a matter of great moment with the agricultural interest" to get the prospectus of the new association well advertised, we cheerfully tender the agricultural interest our heartiest co-operation. Eight or ten shillings extra on the quarter of wheat—equal to a penny on the four-pound loaf—and a penny on the loaf equal to an annual tax of more than half a million sterling, in hard cash, for the population of London alone: if the gentlemen of the agricultural interest think they have any end to serve by setting people's minds going in this track, most assuredly the League will not stand in their way.

As for the association itself, we wish it all manner of success. The good works of this new fraternity of bread-cheapeners shall have, not our tolerance merely, but our active patronage. If we like their bread we will eat it, and recommend it. We trust, however, we may be permitted to add, without offence, that, after the taste we have had of these lords and gentlemen in their law-making capacity, we shall invariably insist on seeing our loaves weighed.

#### THE BAZAAR.

On the 4th of the present month, the Cambria steamer, for the United States, took out a large number of a prospectus of the Bazaar, embracing many of the points included in the one in circulation in this country, with others explanatory of the grounds on which the Council of the League seeks the co-operation of the friends of Free Trade in that country.

It is intended to insert this in the journals published in all the leading cities of the United States and Canada; so that in a short time the intention of the Council to hold the Bazaar will be disseminated through the whole of the northern part of the American continent, together with full information respecting the means of transmitting the contributions to England. The following extract from the paper referred to, will exhibit the character of the appeal thus made to the American public:—

"The Anti-Corn-Law League seek, by constitutional means alone, the abolition of all duties levied for the protection of any particular interest in this country. They seek no exclusive privileges for Great Britain. Free Trade with all the world, without drawback or qualification, is their watchword. They attack the Corn Laws as the fruitful parent of innumerable social evils—the keystone of the system of restriction; and, viewing the connexion of this great question with the world's progress, they will persevere till the object is attained.

"Free Trade is not the question of one particular class,

nor even of a single nation. Circumstances seem to point out England as the battle-field of this great principle; and all who desire to see the arts of peace flourish—civilization extending her limits, and national antipathies vanish before the humanizing influence of commerce—should identify themselves with this movement."

We trust that such of our readers as have relatives or friends resident in these countries, will urge this matter upon their attention; and we hope that the next mail that leaves our shores will bear many invitations to unite in assisting a cause which is equally interesting and important to England and America.

We subjoin, as usual, some extracts from the correspondence of the past week:—

"Castledown, Hastings, Jan. 2.

"MY DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 30th ult., I hasten to assure you that the subject of the Bazaar has not escaped my attention. We are not without parties who are employing themselves in the good cause.

"My friend Mr. Maw, of West-hill House, will contribute some scarce and valuable engravings, and is exercising his unrivalled talents as an amateur artist, by painting an attractive picture for the Bazaar. I have no doubt he will do more than he speaks of. The family of Benjamin Smith, Esq., M.P. for Norwich, who are residing here, have for some time been engaged in making a number of fancy matters usually current at bazaars; and one of our principal mechanics has his family similarly engaged; his name is Thwaites; and I am told that he has already quite a show of very pretty fancy articles. I intend to send a valuable old picture, in a costly and elegant frame, as my own contribution, which ought to bring a good price.

"Yours, &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"C. F. HARDMAN.

"Luton, Jan. 3.

"DEAR SIR,—Our committee have taken into consideration the subject of the Bazaar, and I am instructed to say we are fully alive to its interest, and purpose having a stall of our own manufactured goods; and hope we shall be able to get one or two ladies to superintend the same.

"Yours, &c.,

"G. Wilson, Esq."

"W. H. HIGGINS.

"Pitchcombe Mills, Stroud, Jan. 4.

"DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter, received some time since, relative to the Bazaar, I write to say that I shall feel much pleasure in contributing to so good an object. Any specimens of the produce of my chemical manufactory would not be interesting nor suitable; but I will forward some specimens of a manufacture which I have lately given up, viz., that of walking-sticks made from the woods of our neighbourhood: of these I will forward to London, free of expense, 500 of the best quality, with as great a variety as possible as to pattern, colour, &c. Should this, however, be an article with which you are already overstocked, please send me word, and I will devise some other means of showing my attachment to the Anti-Corn-Law League, and my desire for the success of the great object it has in view.

"Yours, &c. &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"E. H. DURDEN.

"Fairholm, Larkhall, N. B., Jan. 3.

"DEAR SIR,—I have received your letter regarding the Bazaar in London. As this is quite an agricultural district, it is difficult to find neighbours willing to advance the object of it. I have, however, got a committee formed at Larkhall, and you will receive from them a April or earlier, if you wish it, specimens of the work there, viz., of collars and veils worked; and Mrs. Hamilton proposes to send a sample of knitting. Wishing you every success in your noble exertions,

"I am, &c. &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"JOHN HAMILTON.

"London, Jan. 6.

"SIR,—My time is so occupied that I cannot assist the Council in the way suggested by Mr. Wilson's circular, received this day. I enclose, however, a number of autographs which may be presented to some lady who is preparing a Book of Autographs. Amongst them will be found those of the Duchess of Marlborough, C. J. Fox, Townsend, Walpole, &c. I saw in the *Aylesbury News* that a gentleman had refused £50 for an old Bank of England note. I also enclose three old exchequer bills: one for £5, paying a farthing a day interest, dated August 6, 1697; another for £25, 1701; and another for £100, 1709: perhaps something may be made of them. I shall take care to attend the Bazaar and make a purchase; and I should think that an annual exhibition might be made of the works of manufacturers similar to that existing at Berlin. I am, &c. &c.,

"AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIBER TO THE LEAGUE FUND.

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

(Extract) "Glasgow, Jan. 6.

"DEAR SIR,—I was on Saturday favoured with yours of the 2nd. Our meeting went off very well. I beg to send to you a copy of the *Argus* containing a report of it. To-morrow the committee are to meet to follow up the resolutions. The first thing will be to set a going a subscription. We shall then address a circular to such persons as may be likely to contribute in any way, including the ladies; and we propose to endeavour to get a shop in a central part, to be opened as a repository, and where articles may be received. And before they are sent off we propose to exhibit them here for eight or ten days.

"I am, &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"D. MURRAY.

THE CORN TRADE.—Although this trade has been very quiet for some time, we hear that considerable orders for the purchase of foreign grain have been sent out to the Baltic. At the present prices at home and abroad, good Baltic wheat could pay 20s. duty, the freight and charges, and just clear itself. There can, however, be no importation at present on account of the ice.—*Liverpool Times*.

MANUFACTURING ADVANTAGES.—It is precisely because of our peculiar advantages, and among others the machinery of our capitalists, along with the skill and industry of our workmen, that we are enabled to work up goods of various descriptions, which are in extensive demand all over the world, and which we alone can provide so cheaply, as in the sale of them to bear down all competition, and keep exclusive possession of so many markets abroad.—*North British Review*.

## MEETINGS.

## GREAT METROPOLITAN LEAGUE MEETING.

The first great Metropolitan gathering for the present year was held on Wednesday evening last. A more crowded and enthusiastic audience was never convened within the walls of that building than that which assembled to greet the leaders of the League upon their public entrance on a fresh year of labour in the Metropolis. The applications for tickets of admission were far more numerous than the ability of the Council to comply with, and the house was densely crammed from the floor to the ceiling. Long before the Chairman opened the proceedings, the entrances to every part of the house were obliged to be closed against the crowds of unsuccessful applicants for admission, and large placards were posted against the walls announcing the house was full. The meeting was presided over by Mr. George Wilson, and addressed by Messrs. Cobden, Milner Gibson, and Fox. The presence of Col. Thompson elicited marked applause.

Among the gentlemen present, were George Wilson, Esq., Chairman; Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P.; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; W. D. Christie, Esq., M.P.; Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; W. J. Fox, Esq.; Major-General Briggs, Col. T. P. Thompson, Dr. W. Cooke Taylor, Captain Cogan, Colonel Henderson, Messrs. William Leaf, William Wiles, P. A. Taylor, Jun., George Ridout, Joseph Ivimey, James Beattie, J. Cumming, R. Scholefield (Rochdale), J. Geratonsbery, — Parker, — Pugh, W. A. Wilkinson, George Thompson, L. and J. Travers, R. Palmer, R. Fowler, — Gosnell, Daniel Cooper, S. Smith, Edmund Garrett, Charles Wordsworth, Summers Harford, Abraham Baner, N. Overbury (Westbury), Robert Overbury, William Biggs, (ex-Mayor of Leicester), F. Alexander, J. Hunt, J. L. Ward, John Bedford, Rev. Henry Bedford, Thomas Ruston, Samuel Maunders (Exeter), W. J. Bower, Wm. Cooke, Henry Jones (Liverpool), Thos. Owen, Thomas Wilkinson, J. S. Stock, G. Hoffman, A. K. Watson, J. N. Senior, Press Granger, A. Harrison, C. Lloyd, T. B. Burton, Wm. Geesion, John Burd (Manchester), Thos. Graham (Glasgow), John Lambert (Salisbury), Samuel Whitfield (Birmingham), &c.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read by Mr. Saul, upon the motion of Colonel Thompson, who was again greeted with a cordial cheer, seconded by Mr. Christie, M.P. for Weymouth, were unanimously confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN then came forward amidst great applause, and spoke as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, since we last met together in this place, we have entered into the seventh year of our agitation. Fresh agreements have been made, and new bonds ratified, by thousands in the north, to stand together with an unwavering resolution to continue this agitation, and, if possible, to do so with increased energy; to demand that the labourers of this country shall be permitted to purchase from the world's markets as well as from the corn-stores of their Graces the Dukes of Buckingham and Richmond. (Hear.) Although six years is a portion of time of but small account in the history of a country, there have been some changes during that period not altogether undeserving of notice. It must be conceded that at the commencement of that period the term "Free Trade" had a very different signification to that which is attached to it in the present day. It then meant almost anything or everything. All men who sought for the slightest modification in the import duties were classed under the general head of Free-Traders; so in like manner every man who demanded the least alteration in our Corn Laws was denominated a Corn-Law Repealer. Those delusions, however, have since been completely exploded; and we now clearly understand who are in truth to be regarded as Free-Traders and who as monopolists. (Hear.) The division between the two classes is now perfect and complete. During that time we have seen one Administration attempting an approximation towards the principles of Free Trade, by introducing a measure bearing some resemblance to it; but which attempt utterly failed. We have beheld a second Ministry making a similar attempt successfully. We have witnessed the leaders of men brought into office for the avowed purpose of upholding monopoly, enunciating the principles of Free Trade and passing a fresh Corn Law, a new tariff, and a Canada Corn Bill—all measures in one direction, and that towards Free Trade; and yet during the whole of this period not all three shifts or expedients have detached from us a single individual favourable to the great principles which we have confederated ourselves as an association to establish in England. (Loud cheers.) Six years have not been passed without exposing the numerous fallacies which were then current. We hear no more of the old cries, "Do not depend upon foreigners for the supply of food;" "Cheap bread will bring down wages." These fallacies, and a host of others, have disappeared in Parliament; and I regard the fact as one of the most favourable symptoms of our present position, as compared with that of former days, that no question in the Legislature has ever had more able representatives than ours. (Applause.) Three months ago it was said that the League was dead. The meetings in this theatre were suspended, and none were being held elsewhere in the country. Everybody who did not know to the contrary took it for granted that nothing more would be done by this defunct body. (Laughter.) That delusion did not last long. (Hear.) In a few days after the conclusion had been arrived at, our own leaders, in the very same papers which had published our death, stating that, after all, the League was not quite dead, but was just as vigorous and as ever. (Cheers and laughter.) The old cries were ruled, "Bring out the Attorney-General!" "Where are the law officers of the Crown?" "Ah! this is just what we always expected. If our advice had been taken, we should have heard nothing of the League for many years past." (Laughter.) There are some people

who seem to have an idea that the object of the constitution is merely that whenever a grievance is discussed in the country, its agitation should be immediately suppressed; and, if their notions had been carried out, Mr. Villiers, Mr. Cobden, and a few others would have found themselves some fine morning standing before twelve "good men and true," to answer an indictment as bulky as that produced at the monster trial in Ireland, and certainly long enough to ensure a verdict against more innocent men than they were. (Laughter.) The last plan which has been adopted by the League is the application of their efforts to the registration courts, to which I shall now refer. The plan which Mr. Cobden proposed about ten weeks ago could not have had a better certificate of recommendation than the objections which have been urged against it by the monopolists. Since the idea was broached we have had 40 meetings in Lancashire and Yorkshire, for the purpose of inducing our friends in those counties to qualify as voters. All these have been thorough business meetings. We have had some experience in public meetings during the course of this agitation; but never since the League commenced its operations have there been such large assemblages convened for business objects as those to which I am now referring. (Cheers.) We want our friends in the counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Middlesex to run side by side—not in a spirit of jealousy, but with a feeling of honest rivalry—so that each county may present a proper return at the next election. The counties I have now enumerated are such as any man may well be proud of becoming a freeholder of: they are leading districts of this country, but they have not been made so by the influence of the aristocracy of the land. (Cheers.) Their inhabitants have not been raised to their present high position by the efforts of the aristocracy, nor have they attained their present standing by anything which mere rank and station may have contributed to their welfare; but it is attributable to the muscle and sinew, skill and intellect, of their operatives and capitalists, manufacturers, masters, and merchants. (Cheers.) It never can be long the destiny of these counties to be held in the thrall of an aristocracy, or to be misrepresented by men who are hostile to the very principles upon which their prosperity is founded. (Cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, you will be addressed this evening by the hon. member for Manchester, Mr. Milner Gibson, by Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Fox. (Cheers.) I have now great pleasure in calling upon Mr. Gibson.

Mr. M. GIBSON then came forward, and was received with loud cheering. The hon. gentleman said:—Sir, it must be deemed a great privilege to be permitted to address so imposing an assemblage as is now gathered within these walls; but I confess that, great as that privilege is, I do feel some difficulty in attempting to throw any fresh light upon a subject which has been so clearly and frequently explained by abler persons than myself, and which, I doubt not, is well understood by the great bulk of such an intelligent audience as we have collected here to-night. An actor forgot his part at the 140th representation in which he had appeared; and he pleaded, as his excuse, that it could not be expected that a man's memory should last for ever. (Laughter.) But we can plead no such apology here. In the first place, we are not actors, or men dealing with imaginary things, but with stern realities; we have before us facts which are patent to all our eyes; we are engaged upon the great subjects of justice, humanity, the spread of civilization, and of procuring for our fellow-countrymen that full reward of their industry which can only be secured by commercial freedom. (Hear.) If the present moment presents to us many signs that our cause is progressing, that the growth of public opinion in favour of Free Trade is sure, without being slow; why, on the other hand, when we look at the position of our adversaries, we find that public opinion as regards their views is moving in a retrograde direction. Can we possibly doubt that such is the fact, when we hear of the confused demands, and the differences of opinion, which prevail amongst the protectionists? (Hear, hear.) The monopolists are, at this moment, anything but "a happy family." (Laughter.) Sugar is frowning upon corn, and corn is looking black upon sugar. Sir Robert Peel has no confidence in the monopolists, the monopolists are equally suspicious of the right hon. baronet. Some are demanding the repeal of the malt tax; and others are insisting upon the abolition of the Canada corn bill. In one direction we hear that the currency would be depreciated; in another, we hear that the present Corn Law does not afford sufficient protection to the agricultural interest, and that the farmers are daily losing money under it. In whatever direction, in fact, we cast our eyes, we see no marks of harmony; there is nothing but one universal murmuring amongst the protectionists, the expression of discontent. (Hear.) When we look at our association—the ranks of the Free-Traders who compose this great combination, called the Anti-Corn-Law League—we find no difference of opinion prevailing there. Our demand is simple and straightforward, and our course uniform; we neither swerve to the right nor to the left. (Hear, hear.) We do not ask less to-day than we demanded yesterday; but one plain, "unvarnished claim" is now, what it has been from the first formation of this great association, namely, the total and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws, and all other monopolies. (Cheers.) This time last year the Anti-League meetings were convened in various parts of the country, and there then took place such a display of brutality and ignorance as must have left a stain upon the supporters of those associations which will not readily be wiped out. (Hear.) The case is different, however, now. The Central Protection Society, the London parent of the little local associations, dare not allow their smaller societies in the country to hold their meetings, for fear the public should be made aware of the discontent which prevails in the camp. (Hear.) We continue to hold our meetings; we have no desire to prevent any portion of our friends, in any portion of the United Kingdom, from assembling, and boldly expressing their opinions on Free Trade. (Hear, hear.) How certain it is that when a cause is not based upon truth, which is unchangeable, combustions in its support will break into different conflicting parties, and end in being blown entirely to the winds! (Cheers.) There can be no firm bond of union for any body of men associated in a great cause but truth; and the very duration of a society like this, after so much dis-

cussion, sifting of motives, and argumentation upon every point of view in which this question can be placed—the very duration and growth of the society, under such circumstances, is of itself a proof of the truth and justice of its cause, if at least the experience of all past times be any guide to us in framing an opinion upon such a subject. (Cheers.) It is said by our enemies that we are opposed to established institutions in Church and State; that under the guise of being Corn-Law repealers, we conceal revolutionary views; that we wish to interfere with the existing arrangements of society; are jealous of distinctions, and "speak evil of dignities." It is said that, under the plea of making known the principles of political economy, we are in reality endeavouring to excite class against class, and to spread through the land a feeling somewhat resembling that which prevailed in France previous to the Revolution. (Laughter.) Nothing can possibly be more untrue than these allegations. There are amongst us men of all opinions—individuals of all religious persuasions. (Hear, hear.) We have undoubtedly, in this great society, men who hold liberal opinions in connexion with the representative system and forms of Government; but, on the other hand, we have also gentlemen of Conservative opinions, who deem the present form of Government the best adapted to promote the happiness of the country. We have never made the profession of opinions on other subjects at all a condition of being a member of this association. The League unites men of all parties: the only common ground upon which they stand being that of Free Trade, the striking off the fetters from commerce, and the freeing mankind from those selfish combinations against the interest of the community for the benefit of a few which have been known and designated by the name of "monopolies." (Cheers.) We are what we profess to be: nothing less or more; and I am quite sure that I speak fully the sentiments of our distinguished leaders in this great society, when I say that there is no man, let his political opinions on general subjects, or his religious opinions, be what they may, who will not find a welcome in this society if he supports the great principle of commercial freedom. (Cheers.) It is said that we are the enemies of agriculture. Can anything be more absurd? Agriculture!—the art of tilling the land! We enemies to the extension of an art! We opposed to the progress of science in any form or shape, or to the advancement of any description of knowledge! We are not opposed to it, but, on the contrary, I believe that amongst the members of this association will be found some of the best supporters of that science at present existing in the United Kingdom. There will be found in the Anti-Corn-Law League some of the most celebrated improvers of agricultural science. (Cheers.) There are in this society men who have enlightened the agriculturists upon husbandry, and the different modes by which the produce of the earth may be increased. I venture to say that there is not in any part of this kingdom an individual to be found more anxious to improve the agriculture of the country, or to see two blades of grass grow where one only is now produced, than our excellent leader, Mr. Cobden. (Cheers.) His speeches have been replete with sound advice to the agriculturists. They have also, I believe, led to a practical improvement in agriculture. (Hear, hear.) In different parts of the kingdom where they have been delivered, they have turned the attention of the agriculturist to the improvement of his art, and have withdrawn him from that fatal reliance upon what Parliament can do for him, which has hitherto been the bane of the farming body. (Hear, hear.) We are no enemies, I say, to agriculture. It has been stated also that we are opposed to the British farmer. When the Anti-League meetings have been held, we have been told that "the British lion"—meaning, by the expression, the British farmer—"was shaking his mane at us." (Laughter.) The British farmer is beginning to think, at least in that part of the country where I reside, namely, the county of Suffolk, that perhaps the League will turn out to be his best friend. (Hear, hear.) We are not foes to the farmer. We desire to see him prosper; but we know that there can be no permanent stability in his calling until every vestige of protection is swept away; when he relies on Corn-Laws we know that he is building his prosperity upon an unsound basis; raising his house upon a sand, which will not stand the shocks with which it will have to contend. Experience has proved that no class in this kingdom has suffered more severely from the operation of the Corn Laws than the British farmer. (Hear, hear.) Then it is said that we are opposed to the landowner. We are not hostile to men merely because they own land. We are enemies to the principle which is laid down by the landowners of this country—or at least by many of them—that the possession of land entitles a man to go to the Legislature, and ask it to prevent persons from buying food of any one but himself. (Cheers.) If a shoemaker made the demand that the inhabitants of this metropolis should buy all their shoes of him, and we objected to such a monopoly, could it be said on that account that we were opposed to the body of shoemakers? ("Hear, hear," and great cheering.) We are opposed, undoubtedly, to the unjust demand of the landowners. We do object to the principle which is laid down by them, that trade is to be a secondary consideration in this country; that the merchant, manufacturer, all other classes are to be deemed in the eyes of the Legislature of minor importance to the landowner. We hold, on the contrary, that all are equally worthy of the regard of the Legislature. The landowners have legislated for England on the principle that they themselves constitute the country, and that the rest of the community are only to enjoy just so much of the comforts, trade, and conveniences of life as may suit the pecuniary interests of the dominant class. This has been the constant principle of landowners' legislation. You cannot look through our statute-book without discovering it in nearly every page. Can there be a more conclusive instance of the favouritism of such legislation than the statement which appeared in the *Times* newspaper the other day, in reference to the legacy duty? What could be more striking than that law, as one small instance of the way in which the landed proprietors of this country have used their power in the Legislature? (Hear, hear.) When personal property passes, after the death of its holder, to another, it pays a heavy duty to the Government. Landed property, however, is exempt from any such tax. (Hear, hear.) But, if I were to go through the numerous instances in which the landed interest have unjustly proved themselves in the distribution of the burdens of the country, I should detail you much longer than I desire, and trespass unwarrantably upon your time. Many of the landed proprietors tell us—and when I speak

of "landed proprietors" that term this association who hold it and who are these odious after all, a the expense there is a r their having commercial landowners saying to the are very for you never you are al people to g unfortunate legislators can abolish of the mon the advantage an excuse f sides, there all other in any s go into it ions who will not l capital will with those additional manufacture what mono industry, w petition of to the ord monopolies rest of the monopolists in a very sh receive the rived upon But it is no may build cannot add (Hear.) The agent—the although the never receive give these will be a sur upon this th eye. (Laug unwilling to we are prepa (Hear, hear. In these day propriety of merely at th of its popul human being chaire of l are in add of land in t Mr. Chadw sion, tells added to the of Ireland, responding which this we require 5 annually. M houses, and population are there must b would occu towns of M year the ter the purposes available sur we should ha and wisely te their wisdom from this I (great laugh man gravely actually for living upon a edly should food from fo wick, in that welcome upon country,—al have no dou scarcity of fo be added to the whole o enaling the more than it which the C trat grow mo leged for the shall get inc that we shal at home. T game island game without dence in the margins; I h lecture wh the applica no fall in a vestige of p farmers no boric. (Che which is bro Our opposer (Laughter.) tinglished cl political acou la. ("Hear coming to the repeal of the might arise (Laughter.) present upon



of "landed proprietors" perhaps I am wrong in using that term too generally, because we have, as members of this association, men of vast landed possessions, men who hold large quantities both of arable and pasture land and who are perfectly willing and even anxious to give up these odious monopolies, believing, as they do, that it is, after all, a vain effort to attempt to benefit themselves at the expense of the rest of the community; vain, because there is a recoil which falls upon themselves, and prevents their having that full prosperity which would ensue if commercial freedom were established;—the monopolist landowners of this country, however, are in the habit of saying to the Anti-Corn-Law League, "You gentlemen are very fond of talking about the corn monopoly, but you never say anything respecting any other similar tax; you are always attacking us; why don't you ask other people to give up their monopolies?" We do so; but, unfortunately, the landed proprietors themselves are the legislators of this country; it is they, and they only, who can abolish the monopolies of these other parties; many of the monopolies which they maintain are inoperative for the advantage of those parties, and are only continued as an excuse for the great corn monopoly. (Cheers.) Besides, there is a wide difference between the corn and all other monopolies. If we establish a monopoly in any species of manufacture, fresh capital can go into it; new mills may be built, and the persons who have had the monopoly granted to them will not long enjoy it because the profits of their capital will be brought down by competition to a level with those of every other description. You may build additional mills, or open fresh shops in a particular manufacture or trade, in order to remove the evil. Give what monopoly you please to the different branches of industry, with the exception of agriculture, and the competition of capitalists will always bring down the profits to the ordinary rate of all other capitalists. Those monopolies, indeed, will not be the less injurious to the rest of the community: but what I contend is, that the monopolists, under the appearance of an advantage, will, in a very short time have no advantage at all, but will receive the same profits upon their capital which are derived upon that of all other portions of the community. But it is not so with regard to land. (Hear, hear.) You may build more mills, and open more shops, but you cannot add additional acres to the island of England. (Hear.) The landed proprietors possess a monopolized agent—the land: that you cannot increase in size; and, although the farmers who hold the land under them will never receive more than the ordinary profits of capital, give these farmers what protection you may, yet there will be a surplus flowing over in the shape of rent, and upon this the owners of the land will keep a very steady eye. (Laughter.) This it is which makes them so very unwilling to relinquish their own monopoly, even though we are prepared to abolish those enjoyed by other people. (Hear, hear.) What a monstrous thing it appears that in these days there should be any question at all as to the propriety of the repeal of the Corn Laws, when you look merely at the limited extent of this island, and the growth of its population. (Hear, hear.) Why, 230,000 fresh human beings are added to our numbers in England, exclusive of Ireland, every year; but not one additional acre is added to the soil; on the contrary, a great quantity of land is taken from the country. I will tell you how Mr. Chadwick, the secretary of the Poor Law Commission, tells us that, as there are 230,000 fresh persons added to the population of England every year—exclusive of Ireland, Wales, and Scotland,—there must be a corresponding addition made to the number of houses in which this population is to reside. He calculates that we require 59,000 new tenements to be built in England annually. Now, Manchester alone contains only 30,000 houses, and Birmingham but 27,000; and therefore, if the population are not to die in ditches and upon the high roads, there must be built in England, a number of houses which would occupy a space equal in extent to the two large towns of Manchester and Birmingham. So that every year the territory of this island is becoming smaller for the purposes of agriculture and the growth of wheat; the available surface is growing less and less. To think that we should have men getting up in the House of Commons, and wisely telling the legislators,—or with a wise look, for their wisdom is based on the authority of their acres, and from this I suppose is derived the term "wiseacre" (great laughter).—To think that we should have these men gravely telling the assembled Commons that it is actually for the advantage of this increasing population, living upon such a limited soil, that every possible difficulty should be thrown in the way of an importation of food from foreign countries! (Hear, hear.) Mr. Chadwick, in that same volume to which I have referred,—a volume upon the sanitary condition of the people of this country,—also tells us, what you have heard repeatedly, I have no doubt, in this theatre, that, in order to grow a sufficiency of food for this increasing population, there must be added to England every year a county equal in size to the whole of Surrey, unless you can devise means of enacting the present extent of land to grow a great deal more than it does already. Now, I fear that, unless we abolish the Corn Laws, we shall not make the present extent grow more. I believe that two reasons may be alleged for the abolition of the Corn Laws: first, that we shall get increased supplies from abroad; and secondly, that we shall obtain an improved amount of production at home. They may tell me that there are some new guano islands discovered. (Laughter.) I have no faith in guano without Free Trade. (Hear, hear.) I have no confidence in the agriculturists of this country putting forth their manures; I have no reliance in their profiting by all the lectures which they receive upon under-dressing and the application of chemistry to agriculture; I can have no faith in any of these things until we remove every vestige of protection from agriculture, and teach the farmers no longer to rely upon that unsound and deceitful basis. (Cheers.) There is another charge, however, which is brought against the Anti-Corn-Law League. Our opponents say that we are opposed to the church. (Laughter.) Why, we have in this society some very distinguished clergymen; and one of our ablest writers upon political economy is Dr. Whately, the Archbishop of Dublin. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Still they say we are enemies to the Church, because when we demanded the repeal of the Corn Laws we omitted to state that we were prepared to indemnify the clergy from any loss which might arise to them in reference to the tithe rent-charge. (Laughter.) Now, I quite admit that that is entirely dependent upon prices. (Hear, hear.) No improvement

in agriculture can they look to with comfort; and any beneficial change which lowers the price of corn will, we may be sure, be regarded by them with no favourable eye. (Hear, hear.) The clergy derive no consolation from guano—(great laughter)—it is all price with them. The reason why so many of the clergy have, unfortunately, committed themselves to a somewhat extreme course, in opposition to the Anti-Corn-Law League wherefore we have them amongst our most determined opponents; is to be found in the fact that the tithe rent-charge is dependent entirely upon price. (Hear, hear.) We may console the landlord by saying to him, "Under-drain your land; expend capital upon it; and make it grow more; give leases to your tenants; have corn-rents; and you will get as good a return from your property as you ever obtained before." We may console the farmer by telling him that, if prices fall, rents and other charges will be lowered also; and that he will, in fact, be as well off as he was before. We may solace the labourer by telling him that when prices are low his wages will command a greater quantity of the necessities and comforts of life. I might also have added, in reference to the farmer's advantages, that all the rabbits and hares would be destroyed. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) But all these things afford no consolation whatever to the clergy. They say, "If a repeal of the Corn Laws reduces as it will do, the price of corn, our tithe rent-charge will be lowered in money value; and to this we are not prepared to consent." (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Our excellent friend Mr. Cobden has most ingeniously—and not only so, but with great truth—met the case with regard to the farmer, in some measure with respect to the landowner, and entirely with reference to the labourer. (Hear, hear.) But we have still to deal with the clergyman, and to consider how he is to be indemnified against loss. A clergyman of the Church of England, for whom I entertain a very deep respect, once said to me, "If you could only convince me that the abolition of the Corn Laws could, by no possibility, produce a lessening of the price of corn, then, indeed, I should not much mind supporting the Anti-Corn Law League." (Laughter.) It reminded me of one of Sheridan's plays, in which one of the dramatic personages says to his black servant, "Can you be honest Mungo?" The servant replies, "What you give me, massa?" (Great laughter.) That is the question which the clergyman has justly to consider. Is the Corn Law a just enactment? If it be unjust, abolish it, and take the consequences. That, I contend, is the course which they should pursue. (Cheers.) What I would say to the hesitating clergyman, who doubted between his income and his duty, would be this:—"If the repeal of the Corn Law make the Church poor, let it be poor; better be poor than unjust." (Cheers.) I would give such persons the same advice as the celebrated Dr. Channing gave to an American slaveholder. When the latter complained that the abolition of slavery might make him poor, that great man replied, "Be poor, then, and thank God for your honest poverty." (Cheers.) Now, I think that I have completely, as far as I am individually concerned, denied that hostility to the labourer, the farmer, the landowner, or even the clergyman which is imputed to the Anti-Corn-Law League. As far as I myself am concerned, I assure you that I have no hostility to any individual about corn. All I contend for is, that it would be to the advantage of all these individuals, and not the least to the clergy, if these laws were abolished. For, if there be a loss of income by their repeal, will there not be a gain in reputation? (Hear, hear.) Will there not be a relief from odium (hear, hear.) a settling of discord, a harmonizing of all classes in society, and an increase in social happiness? ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) And, if there be these gains, how can we for an instant set off against them the paltry additions which it is alleged are made to the income of some particular class by the great infringement of that first law of nature, and greatest principle of civil liberty, that every man has a right to the full benefit of his own industry; that all are entitled to the reward of their own labours, whether they be those of the head or of the hand? (Loud cheers.) Now, it is said, "If you reduce the price of corn you will lower the wages of the labourer." It is stated that the Anti-Corn-Law League is totally indifferent to the welfare of the labourer; that this question is a mere contest between the manufacturers, on the one hand, and the landowners on the other; and that the interest of the labourer is completely lost sight of in the matter. It is alleged that the interest of the labourer would be even injured by reducing the price of corn, and making food more abundant. Now, I should not have much difficulty in convicting our opponents, from their own proceedings, of uttering what they do not believe. What do I read in the papers? Why, even within the last two or three days I have seen, in the *Morning Post* and other journals, a statement that certain philanthropic gentlemen are about to establish a society for the purpose of grinding flour and baking bread for the poor. (Laughter.) They propose to raise a large sum of money, and to erect mills, offices, and bakeries, in order to undersell the present millers and bakers, who, they tell us, are extracting too high a price for their bread from the pockets of the poor. But how does this tally with the oft-repeated statement, that if you reduce the price of bread to the poor, you will bring down their wages? What is it to me who raises the price of bread, whether it be the miller, the landowner, or the baker? If the raising of the price be a heinous to me, I say, "Do not lower it." (Hear, hear.) The labourer does not buy his loaf in Mark-lane; we do not purchase our corn and food by the averages which are published in the *Gazette*. No, we buy our bread from the bakers. They tell us that if we make bread cheaper in price we shall reduce wages. "Well, then," we reply, "if you make it cheaper by baking or grinding more cheaply, you will cause wages to be lower than they are at present." So that these philanthropic gentlemen are convicted from their own course of conduct, of not really entertaining the belief that the wages of the labourer will be reduced by lowering the price of bread. (Cheers.) These worthless seem determined that nobody shall rob the poor except the landlords. (Great laughter.) Oh! it is a shocking thing for millers and bakers to be getting this large profit out of the hard earnings of the poor man, and it is a dreadful thing for people to take such advantage of the labourer; but yet my lord duke is entitled to increase the price of flour by an act of the Legislature, and he has a right to call men fools who do not believe that to do it in that way is a benefit,

though in all other modes he admits that it is a curse. (Hear, hear.) However, the day is not far distant when this great delusion will be thoroughly exposed and understood. I am convinced that we are approaching the time when the Corn-Law repeal and the question of Free Trade must have a practical issue. (Hear, hear.) The *Morning Post* is an honest paper, after all. (Laughter.) What did that journal tell the agriculturists but the other day? It said that the only difference between the policy which even Sir Robert Peel is prepared to pursue, and that of the League, is this, that Sir Robert's is a slow decay of gradual poverty saddened by disappointed hopes, while the policy of the other, namely of the League, is prompt as the gullotine: but he says they are both forms of extinction—both are going in the same direction to a certain extent. I believe this is true. I am sure, from all that I have heard Sir Robert Peel say in Parliament, that he is, in his own mind, firmly convinced of the truth of the principles of Free Trade (hear, hear); but that he is prevented from doing all he would do by the power of the aristocracy of this country, which rules not only Sir Robert Peel, but the Queen upon her throne. (Cheers.) The strongest Ministers that England has ever seen, have succumbed at last under the weight of this powerful landed aristocracy. (Hear, hear.) Pitt bowed under that pressure, when he yielded the point with regard to the legacy duties on landed and personal property. It was his intention to have placed the same tax on both those descriptions of property. It was his design that the lands of the great man should pay the same duty on passing to his heir as the money or the furniture of the poor man pays in its transfer. Such, I say, was his intention; but he was overborne by the great landed aristocracy of the country. Ministers have always quailed before that tyranny; and the only influence in this country which can overcome the landed aristocracy, is the power which exists in such meetings as these. (Loud cheers.) It is the firm and indignant voice of the industrious and intelligent classes of this community, conscious of their rights and determined to vindicate them, which will make that landed aristocracy concede justice. (Cheers.) The Corn Law is the last—no; I will not say the last, but it is one—of the badges of feudal barbarism. (Cheers.) It is a remnant of the Norman conquest; and it is for the Saxon population of this country to rise up and throw off this galling and disgraceful yoke. (Hear, hear.) They and they only can do it. No Ministers that ever were or will be born can make them a present of commercial freedom. It will never be a free gift at the hands of the great; but it will be wrested from them by the exertions of the people themselves. (Vehement cheering.) I know we are told that the majorities against us are large, that the landed gentlemen return numbers of members to Parliament, and that the towns can never compete with them there. I would not despair even if there were no plan so good as that which has been struck out by Mr. Cobden for the registration and formation of 40s. freeholders. No! I should not even then despair. I have faith in the ultimate conquest of truth over error, of reason over prejudice, of freedom over oppression. (Cheers.) The experience of mankind tells me that those triumphs have always been accomplished. The mind of this country has but to be awakened, and I am persuaded that the hearts of all good men will be united in the cause of commercial freedom. (Cheers.) It is emphatically the cause of justice, truth, civilization, and social happiness; and I cannot entertain the smallest shadow of a doubt of its ultimate and enduring triumph. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. COBDEN then came forward amidst the most enthusiastic applause, which for some time prevented his proceeding; silence having been at length restored, the hon. gentleman said:—Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, really I, who have almost lived in public meetings for the last three years, feel well-nigh daunted at this magnificent spectacle. Is there any friend or acquaintance of the Duke of Richmond here? (A laugh.) If there be, I hope he will describe to his grace this scene in Covent-garden Theatre to-night. (Hear.) I do not know how he may be impressed, but I am quite sure that if the Duke of Richmond could call such a meeting as this—ay, even one—in the metropolis, I should abandon in despair all hope of repealing the Corn Laws. But this is only one of many; and when we look back at the numerous gatherings we have had of a similar kind, and when we remember that not one discordant opinion, violation of order, or even breach of etiquette, has occurred at any of our meetings,—why, there is an amount of moral force about these great assemblages which I think it is impossible for any unjust law long to resist. (Hear, hear.) Ladies and gentlemen, I appear before you to-night as a kind of connecting link—and a very short one—between two gentlemen who have not so recently presented themselves here as I have: the one a most able and efficient fellow-labourer in the House of Commons, whose speech you have just heard; and the other, one of the most distinguished and accomplished orators of the age, who will follow me; and I promise you, that, on this occasion, I shall endeavour, in deference to your feelings and in justice to myself, to be very brief in my remarks. (Cries of "No, no.") Indeed I scarcely know that I should have had any pretence for appearing before you at all, had it not been that we are now preparing for our Parliamentary campaign, and probably, unless I took this occasion, it would be some time before I had a similar opportunity; and, as we are preparing for our Parliamentary labours, it may be as well, if we can possibly dive into futurity, to try and speculate, at least, upon what the course of proceeding may be, in connexion with our question. Now, I think I can venture, without any great risk of failure, to tell you what will be the course which the Prime Minister will pursue on this question. He will attempt his old arts of mystification. (Laughter.) He has acquired somehow, we are told, a great character as a "financier." Now, that is a distinction which, amongst men of business, does not place a person always in the very highest grade of respectability. (A laugh.) "A clever financier!" "He has put the revenue of the country in a satisfactory state!" Yes, he has done so; and how? Why—I hope, to your satisfaction, through the medium of the income-tax. ("Hear," and laughter.) We, as Free-Traders, have nothing to do with fiscal regulations here, nor with systems of taxation for revenue; but as I foresee that it will be the policy of the Government, and the Prime





power in this country is transferred from the landed oligarchy which has so misused it, and is placed absolutely—mind I say “absolutely”—in the hands of the intelligent middle and industrious classes, the better for the condition and destinies of this country. (Enthusiastic and prolonged cheering.) I hope that every man who has the ability to possess himself of the franchise for a county, will regard it as his solemn and sacred duty to do so before the 31st of this month. Recollect what it is we ask you to do: to take into your own hands the power of doing justice to twenty seven millions of people! (Hear.) When Watt presented himself before George III., the old Monarch asked him what article he made; and the immortal inventor of the steam-engine replied, “Your Majesty, I make that which kings are fond of—power.” Now, we seek to create a higher power in England, by inducing our fellow-countrymen to place themselves upon the electoral list in the counties. We must have not merely the boroughs belonging to the people; but give the counties to the towns, which are their right; and not the counties, as they have been heretofore. (Cheers.) There is not a father of a family, who has it at all in his power, but ought to place at the disposal of his son the franchise for a county: no; not one. It should be the parent's first gift to his son, upon his attaining the age of twenty. There are many ladies, I am happy to say, present; now, it is a very anomalous and singular fact, that they cannot vote themselves; and yet that they have a power of conferring votes upon other people. I wish they had the franchise, for they would often make a much better use of it than their husbands. (Cheers and laughter.) The day before yesterday, when I was in Manchester (for we are brought up now to interchange visits with each other by the miracle of steam in eight hours and a half), a lady presented herself to make inquiries how she could convey a freehold qualification to her son, previous to the 31st of this month; and she received due instructions for the purpose. Now, ladies who feel strongly on this question, who have the spirit to resent the injustice that is practised on their fellow-beings,—cannot do better than make a donation of a county vote to their sons, nephews, grandsons, brothers, or any one upon whom they can beneficially confer that privilege. (Hear, hear.) The time is short, ladies and gentlemen; between this and the 31st of the month, we must induce as many people to buy new qualifications as will secure the representation of Lancashire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, and Middlesex. I will guarantee the West Riding of Yorkshire and Lancashire; will you do the same by Middlesex? (Loud cheers, and cries of “We will.”) I am quite sure you will do what you can, each in his own private circle. This is a work which requires no gift of oratory, or powerful public appeals; it is a labour in which men can be useful privately and without ostentation. If there be any in this land who have seen others enduring probably more labour than their share, and feel anxious to contribute what they can to this good cause, let them take up this movement of qualifying for the counties; and in their several private walks do their best to aid us in carrying out this object. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, we have begun a new year, and it will not finish our work; but whether we win this year, the next, or the year after, in the meantime we are not without our consolations. When I think of this most odious, wicked, and oppressive system, and reflect that this nation, so renowned for its energy, independence and spirit, is submitting to have its bread taxed, its industry crippled, its people—the poorest in the land—deprived of the first necessities of life, I blush that such a country should submit to so vile a degradation. It is, however, consolation to me, and I hope it will be to all of you, that we do not submit to it without doing our best to put an end to the iniquity. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst the loudest applause.)

Mr. Fox upon coming forward was received with loud and prolonged applause, which having subsided he proceeded to address the meeting as follows:—The practical measure by which the policy of the Anti-Corn-Law League is characterized in the present year, is that to which Mr. Cobden has just adverted, namely, the correction of the county registration, and the enlargement of the county constituencies, by inducing the wealthy Free-Traders in the cities and towns, to employ a portion of their surplus money, and the industrial classes in those places to invest their savings, in the purchase of 40s. freeholds, in the contemplation, at no great distance of time, of meeting the lords of the soil upon their own ground, of having with them a fair fight, and, as we confidently reckon, driving them from their strongholds. (Cheers.) This policy has excited a remarkable degree both of satisfaction and dissatisfaction in different quarters. The displeasure has been expressed by the use of the word “unconstitutional,” which for the purpose of political displeasure is very analogous in its use to the term “respectable,” in moral praise. The late William Hazlitt in one of his essays says, that we never have recourse to that expression to praise anybody, if there is any quality whatever by which we can designate him. If capable of making good verses, we call him a poet; if skilled in diagrams and profound in problems, we term him a mathematician. We run the whole round of qualifications, and seek for any honourable distinction whatever, and in the failure of all we say, “Well, he is certainly a very respectable man.” (Hear, hear, and laughter.) So in politics, when persons are annoyed by a proposed measure, if they cannot pronounce it illegal, because it violates no enactment of the laws of the land,—or immoral, inasmuch as it implies no breach of the commandments— if they cannot allege that it is dishonourable in principle, and inconsistent with the conventional regulations of life,—why, they fall back upon this word “unconstitutional,” which means neither more nor less but that they dislike the thing exceedingly, and, having nothing else which they can assert against it, they say, “Well, at any rate it is very unconstitutional.” (Laughter.) It is, however, with singular impropriety that such displeasure is applied to a policy which tends to give life to the constitution, makes it something more than a mere dead letter, enlarges its power, extends the number of those who possess its privileges, and through that extension multiplies its blessings to the community. (Cheers.) The persons to whom the League policy imparts dissatisfaction are happily only to be found among those to whose proceedings that body is opposed—whose unjust gains or aggressive blunders it

seeks to bring to the standard of truth and justice. (Hear.) We have displeased our enemies by the course we are pursuing; but that same conduct has gratified our friends. (Cheers.) The case is reversed with the Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture. Whatever they may have done in facing their opponents during the last year, they have certainly succeeded in exciting the strongest dissatisfaction and reprobation of their friends. Throughout the country the cry is loud against them. Never was protection (if it really be so) more unthankfully repaid. The society say that they are set up as a safeguard to the tenant-farmer and the labourer; but throughout both classes there exists but one feeling of disappointment, annoyance, and rebuke. (Hear.) They held a meeting the other day; but not such an assemblage as this. They held, indeed, venture to compare theirs with ours, if every duke were counted for a thousand, and each member of Parliament for 100 or 200; but their great gathering in reality numbered some 40 persons. (Laughter.) It was an annual general meeting of the great Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture, held in a room upon the first floor of a house in Bond-street. (Laughter.) Then even the members of the committee found fault with their own report, and alleged that dissatisfaction at their proceedings was general throughout the country; that the agriculturists were everywhere crying out that the society neither did nor attempted to do anything (hear); that they would receive no suggestions from others, nor yet originate any proceedings; that they would not go down to Manchester and hold large meetings for open discussions—I should like to see them attempting it (hear);—that the farmers were not getting the price of 50s., which was promised to be secured to them by Sir Robert Peel's bill, but it had been down as low as 45s. (Hear, hear.) In truth there is reason for this dissatisfaction. It proves that the Central Society have undertaken more than they can perform. It may protect the Corn Law against legislative change, but not against the workings of that higher power which interferes with the practical operation of those enactments. (Hear.) The Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture, with all its dukes and squires, has failed to shield monopoly against the dispensations of Providence. (Cheers.) It has been unable to preserve the farmers from the calamity of a good harvest; or show itself strong enough to avert what it strangely deems the plague of plenty and the curse of cheapness. (Renewed cheers.) The endeavour has not been wanting; but such is the success which attempts of this description deserve. We seek not to please persons of this class by the proceedings of the League. We would not needlessly annoy them; if there be annoyance to any persons, the fault is their own. We cannot separate monopoly from the monopolist, nor sophistry from the sophist; they are bound too closely together. (Hear, hear.) The unholders of these unjust laws, whatever be their standing in the country or their dignity of station,—if they persist in clinging to these evils, and engaging in a mad struggle against the rights of mankind, the tendencies of the age, and even the dispensations of Providence,—must expect defeat and disgrace. Mortification awaits them; they see the shadow of the coming events in these efforts to enlarge the constituencies of counties: that is to say, in fact, to create what the counties have not at present—Independent constituencies. They know how much their own power has arisen out of the large extent of country of which they go to Parliament as the representatives; they have a foreboding, that it will not do long, should they be shaken in those seats, to fall back upon the little boroughs. They feel the humiliating position in which they must be placed, when, lords and dictators of these vast provinces, they are unhorsed from their power, and are taught to give way to those who recommend themselves to the general voice by their adhesion to the common principles of right and justice. (Hear, hear.) The counties have been their heavy artillery; the pocket boroughs, without them, will be worth no more than so many pocket pistols (cheers and laughter); and when the League has carried their cannon, do they think to make the fight good with their popguns? (Renewed cheering and laughter.) They must submit to drink the cup of humiliation, which an obstinate retention of these laws is mixing for their lips; and with the humiliation must come loss also—not merely of the proceeds of the bread-tax, but other things beside—if they persevere in holding by that tax until the result be that their political influence vanishes. Their ascendancy in the State is at peril in this conflict: it can only be saved by a timely compromise; and they know well enough that their land is worth to them, politically, much more than it is simply in an agricultural or commercial sense. It is not only wheat and barley that they seek from their acres; other things are grown there—offices, salaries, red coats and commissions in the army, preferment in the church; gowns and surplices are cultivated there peacefully together. (Cheers and laughter.) They have long had the undisputed gathering in of this vast harvest; and it is surely a species of infatuation, by which they are now perilling the whole, in vainly endeavouring to retain this imposition on the food of the people—a taxation which no nation conscious of its own power can possibly submit to, or regard otherwise than as a burden wrongfully bound upon it, which every effort is to be put forth to shake off on the very first opportunity. (Hear, hear.) Of all the undignified endings of a potent body, I think the humbling of the aristocracy of Great Britain for the sake of the bread-tax, would be one of the most preposterous. The old noblesse of France fell in defence of monarchy; the aristocracy of Poland sacrificed themselves for the sake of nationality; but to go after them into the gulf of insignificance and oblivion on such a score as this—for the aristocracy of Great Britain to sacrifice its power and greatness in order to tax the poor man's loaf—would be the most “lame and impotent conclusion” that ever followed a long and brilliant story. (Cheers.) Such an extinction and humiliation would reflect no lustre on their memories in the page of history; it would gain no monumental honours or records. A foreigner, a little while ago, visited Westminster Abbey, thinking he should be permitted to inspect the monuments in the same manner as those in foreign cathedrals are looked at; but, after having gone the round, the vergers demanded 15d. of him. The foreigner hesitated a little. “Why,” said the man in office, by way of argument. “I have shown you the monuments of the greater portion of the aristocracy of England.” “Have you?” said the foreigner, “why, then, I would give you half-a-crown if you would complete the collection.” (Great laughter and cheering.) But no mingling with the illustrations of former times would

await an aristocracy, martyred in the cause of the bread-tax. The only fitting memorial even for those who boast, like the Dukes of Buckingham and Richmond, of royal blood in their veins, would be some old empty warehouse where, in the days of the Corn Law, bonded wheat was locked up, while multitudes were starving around. (Cheers.) Such should be the monumental pile of the descendants of the Stuarts and the Plantagenets. (Renewed cheering.) They say something else, however, in reproach, besides adopting this word “unconstitutional.” The report of the Central Protection Society declares, that the leaders of the League use “all means” for the accomplishment of their ends. I humbly submit that this is something of a mistake. No; we do not use “all means.” We never send people scouring the country, in order to gather a meeting together. (Hear, hear.) We have no occasion for dilettanti charioteers, to drive dirty demagogues in dog-carts, in order that they may pass for peasantry upon the hustings. (Cheers.) We do not use “all means.” We do not garble Adam Smith; neither do we falsify quotations, nor repeat the practice after a promise has been made of revision and correction. (Cheering.) We do not use “all means.” We do not promise that the people shall have cheap bread within a given time, and then leave them to grumble over a very different price from that which was put forth in our prospectus. (Hear, hear.) We do not use “all means.” We do not, in a collective capacity, declare that it is very improper indeed to interfere in elections; that it is contrary to all our principles; that the most rigid abstinence shall be maintained; and then, whenever the occasion offers, employ all the dirtiest tricks of bribery and the most abominable arts of intimidation. (Cheers.) No; we do not employ “all means.” If her Majesty—God bless her (loud applause)—will but come to the Free-Trade Bazaar, next May, in this building,—and, though I do not expect her to take a stall there, I believe it would call forth a very grateful acclamation from her people if she did (hear, hear),—she will behold honourable specimens of the industry of the country in all its branches, deserving not only justice but the noblest praises that royal feeling can bestow; and she will not see there such tricks as sometimes are to be met with at a cattle-show, when a roarer wins the prize by being passed for an Arabian. (Great cheering.) Instead of employing “all means,” the League leaves such as these, and others of a similar description, making a fair partition with the antagonist society, they taking those which are most in harmony with their ends, we choosing those which are most accordant with our purposes, remembering that they are banded for the defence of an interest,—we leagued for the assertion of a principle. (Hear, hear.) If it be only meant “all means” which may become a man to use, why, then, accusation vanishes, and the fact is correctly stated. The leaders of the League have shown themselves men who will, in these circumstances, use “all means;” who will spare no time or labour, but undertake whatever the powers of the human body and mind are equal to, in the promotion of this great work; who seem to have consecrated to it their very lives, and will earn their honourable niche in history by the unceasing perseverance, the gigantic effort, the honourable virtue, the lofty and just principles in which they have pursued this great object, and will bring it, I trust, before long, to a triumphant termination. (Cheers.) It is a satisfactory characteristic of the cause of Free Trade, that, in all its successive phases, and in every stage of its progress, there has not only been a good end pursued, but just means employed; and the beneficial results produced by the operation might themselves be ranked as among the noblest objects of persevering endeavour. It has been thus from the very first. How did it commence? With such speculations as those of Adam Smith and other political economists. The cause of Free Trade was then enshrined in scientific volumes; it was an intellectual discovery. The talent and power of the philosopher were employed to make a science of that which theretofore had been a mere chaos of isolated facts. They accomplished this; but they did not realize Free Trade for the country by so doing, because legislators are not chosen for their knowledge of the science of national prosperity; and at that time the disregard of the seminaries of education, and the different taste which prevailed in both Houses of Parliament, made senators altogether heedless of any such study as that of political economy. The next stage in the process was, that from a science it became a polioy. Principles were wrought out into their details, and applied to the practical concerns of the country. Exhibition was made gradually, in different directions, of the way in which trade and commerce were affected. For this change let us never forget how largely we are indebted to the pages of the “Westminster Review,” and to the other writings of the author of the “Corn-Law Catechism.” (Cheers.) That noble veteran in our cause, Colonel Thompson (great cheering, and waving of hats and handkerchiefs),—soon may he fight the battle again on the floor of the House of Commons.—(Renewed cheers.) He may be said, almost single-handed, to have accomplished this stage of the process; to have advanced the politico-economical science into a national polioy; but still without result on the Legislature, for it was not one of the watchwords of party. Whig and Tory hoisted their old banners, held their review days as of yore, and fought out battles of much more importance to themselves, than to any other persons whatever through the length and breadth of the country. But a third phase was advancing, when a new form was taken—that of the interest of a class; an important class, but still only a class. The third stage of Free Trade was, when the great manufacturers began to feel the shoe pinch them. Monopoly interfered with the extension of their operations, prospects, and profits; and they, beginning to be uneasy under this load, forwarded the cause another stage. Whether any of the present leaders of the League first felt it in this particular way, I cannot undertake to say; if they did, we know how soon their views expanded, and their minds arose towards a nobler contemplation of the subject. But through this stage it had to pass; an intellectual one still, for there was another and a mightier class to interpose its veto upon anything which they would have had adopted for their relief. Then came the stage for which we are indebted to the Anti-Corn-Law League, and the efforts of those true-hearted men, so many of whom are before you on this occasion (cheers), and who have their road-jesters in the country; who made it a popular appeal, and called first on the inhabitants of the towns and cities to consider this matter, to see its bearing on the common

weal, to decide on the right and justice of the case, and to say whether this system of things was to be prolonged with their consent, or was entitled to their endurance. (Cheers.) What was this but a great national institution? It was a system, at first, of the communication of knowledge, much of which was altogether new to those who came together to be instructed; they had many of them to learn the very elements of that political economy which is now so familiar to their minds. They had to be formed and trained; and the result has been a clear conviction and a firm determination. But the monopolist landowners make fight still, even in the face of these great bodies of the people; and therefore the leaders of the League have given the word, "March onward," to gain another and a yet higher step, to make this great battle in the counties throughout the whole extent of the land, to arrive thus at the public mind, and then to take decisive measures that the national will shall become the law of the empire. (Loud cheers.) And if, of all the previous stages, it may be said that they were a public good, pre-eminently may it be so stated of that which is now in the course of being realized. The endeavour which is making to enlarge the county constituencies, and especially by the qualified votes of intelligent Free-Trade residents in towns, and of the industrious classes in particular, is, in every view of it, an important benefit in itself, even were it not the path through which we must pass to the repeal of the Corn Laws. For what is it but to make county representation a reality? County elections are what the Duke of Wellington once called county meetings, a mere "farce." (Cheers.) They are the result of the distribution of property, and the votes are reckoned upon according to the number of tenant-farmers on the different estates throughout the district. There you have them all beforehand. When the property passes from one party to another, the votes are transferred with it. They may be all marked out upon the map of the county. They should be so; we should have something like those very instructive geological maps, which by the different colourings of the districts tell us what mineral wealth lies hid beneath; and there is something analogous, I conceive, to a geological distribution. Had we such a map, the dark line that designates the bed of coal below would show where black monopoly was working in its deep recesses. (Cheers.) The indication that petrified remains were in abundance, might suggest to us that there would be the place to dig up, and to excavate the fossil Whigs, with their fixed-duty, remains of an antediluvian world. (Cheering.) In another direction, the soft alluvial deposit might suggest the yielding clay of the Ministerial followers (renewed cheers); whilst, to the eye of scientific observation, it would be plain, that beneath all this was that central fire, of which geologists tell us, intense and enduring as the principles of human nature, and which, at the appointed time, raises the lowest strata from their humble position, shatters down the higher, granite though it be of an older creation than any Norman nobility, and produces a new surface of things, where those that were unseen, scorned, and disregarded, become a fresh world of order, enjoyment, harmony, and beauty. (Great cheering.) We are a League, for the transformation of county voters into realities; for delivering them from the district dictatorship to which they are now subjected. (Hear, hear.) And this is to be done by infusing the lifeblood of city thought and independence into the constituencies. Bring the independent into contact with the dependent. Lay the factory alongside of the farm-house. (Cheers.) Let those who have been enslaved, even in the tone and spirit of their minds, be shamed by their friends and neighbours, who take a more decisive part in this matter. Let them perceive that there is for them a protective power. Surely, friends, neighbours, customers—those who purchase the produce of their soil—have some title to their care and confidence; for who is the best friend of the farmer—the man who pays him money for his corn, or the man who takes his money for a rent calculated on monopolist prices? (Cheers.) They call this "the interference of strangers." There is an absurd way of speaking of the League as "a stranger" everywhere. It is a stranger nowhere. (Hear, hear.) It has domesticated itself here in London; but "the League" is every one whose mind sees clearly, and whose heart beats strongly for the principles and the cause of Free Trade. (Cheers.) We are the League in London; and if we look abroad into the different towns and districts of the country, wherever there are men who see the real interests of the nation, who feel for the wrongs of the poor, who rise up against oppression and say, "These taxes on the bread of the indigent shall not continue," why, they are the League—the League is there. When my Lord Duke or Radnor rises in his place to address their fellow-peers, why, then the League is in the House of Lords. (Cheers.) When by any chance, however remote, a courageous thought shall arise in the mind of the Premier, and an honest determination on this matter come from his mouth amongst his colleagues, then the League will be in the Cabinet. (Renewed cheers.) Principles of this nature are like the air or the water—they have an elemental omnipresence. They are wherever there is the light of thought, and the warmth of feeling. Besides, as to county representation, are not towns and cities part and parcel of counties? Are they—foreign countries? Are they "allens in blood, language, or religion?" (Cheers.) Are not most counties made by the towns and cities which are in them? Do they not rise as the crown of the richness and fertility of the more productive counties? Where there is no such fertility, but mineral treasures exist below the surface, or ports and harbours are found along the coast, why, there towns and cities make counties by a work almost to be compared with that of creation, giving them numbers, wealth, grandeur, and importance, which Nature seems to have forgotten or overlooked. What would Middlesex be, if you were to strike London out of it? (Hear, hear.) Nay, what would the most rural counties be, if you were to take from them the advantage of towns, if not in them, at least in their vicinity, and within an easy reach—and what are not now within easy reach? The counties separate from, and independent of, the towns!—Do we not buy their wheat, even at their own monopolist prices? Do we not very often, indeed, feed their poor who seek refuge here; employ their idle and superfluous hands, and give a shelter to their victims? And, besides all this, do we not purchase their game? (Cheers and laughter.) Towns and cities are the hearts of counties—the last portion of them that should be left unrepresented.

If it should be said they have their own separate representation, I reply, that is not all. It is property that is represented, according to the theory of the law under which we live; and wherever there are freeholds which produce 40s a year, there the constitution supposes, and by supposing, requires and demands of us if we are patriots,—that there should be a corresponding vote also. Your 40s. freehold is not represented by the city and town members; it has yet its claim to make. Well is it when that claim can be urged with such happy results as promise to attend it in the present instance. For in this plan there is a moral good, beyond, perhaps, what in its original conception was thought of. It tends to act upon the character of the entire labouring population of the country,—the working classes,—the more toilsome section of the middle classes; it holds out to them a hope, promise, and incitement of the most desirable and elevating description. It says to them, "Become proprietors of a portion, however small, of this our England; have a stake in the country; be something here." It was thought a wise thing, when, by the measure introduced by the late George Rose, the savings-bank funds were connected with the public funds of the country; it was deemed judicious in this way to link those who could amass but very small sums with national institutions and public interests; and, if it was wise and good to endeavour to make all who could save their pittance become fund-holders, it must be at least as prudent and just to induce them, according to their proportion, to become land-owners also, joint shareholders in this lovely, and fruitful, and beautiful country—and their country as much as that of the wealthiest nobleman whose lands cover half a county. (Cheers.) It gives them a tangible bond of connexion with society; a feeling of independence and honest pride. They are put in the position which was deemed necessary to citizenship in the republics of ancient days; and this is adapted to cherish in them the emotions which best accord with consistency, propriety, and dignity of character. The poet Campbell has described the feelings of the outcast when he wanders through the village; how he looks wistfully at the cottage with its little garden; leans on the gate, and says to himself—

"Oh! that for me some home like this might smile,  
Some hamlet's shade, to yield my sickly form  
Health in the breeze, and shelter from the storm!"

To those whose lives are spent in toilsome exertion and constant endurance, but who can take time so far by the forelock as to accumulate a little sum, such hope and promise as this, does the present plan hold out and offer as an excitement. May their spirit arise to aspire towards, and seize it; and obtaining it, I think we shall be on the high-road towards a better choice of legislators, a more complete identification of the interests of those who toil with the advantages of those who think,—a better identification of the different classes that extend themselves through the demarcations of society; and our House of Commons will then be a fair way to show what it is to have a full, fair, and free representation of the Commons of England. (Great cheering.) You have had well dissected this evening the constituent elements of a great financier; and you have heard something of the prosperity of the revenue. I have a notion that the revenue is prosperous when more money remains in our own pockets rather than when more is taken out. (Hear, hear.) This comparative prosperity (for it is only such) has falsified every assertion of monopoly, and verified all the predictions of the leaders of the League. We rejoice that there is such a comparative prosperity; but yet, how far has it gone towards eradicating the miseries and the endurance of a very large portion of the community? Take up the daily newspapers, and I defy you to look at them many days in succession without meeting again and again with coroners' inquests on deaths by destitution; poor wretches perishing upon a bundle of straw in a corner of a hovel, where they have scarcely had any nutriment for days or weeks. Whilst there are such scenes as these, it is not for our efforts to relax, or for us to bate one jot of heart or hope in this great struggle, but still to press right onwards. (Cheers.) There is another testimony to the fearful amount of misery that yet remains untouched, in the different societies which are continually forming; societies, as you have heard, for grinding and baking bread for the poor; for furnishing them with baths and wash-houses; for setting them to work; putting them into better dwellings; and societies for relieving the wants of the poor needlewomen. The leaders of the League have sometimes been blamed, because they were thought to look coldly at these efforts; they have been accused of a sort of jealousy, or an indifferent feeling towards the wants of the poor, as though they must be careless about them unless they entered into the specific modes of attempted relief; the fact being that they were not less anxious than any of the promoters of those societies for the removal of the mischiefs of which they complained; but they saw at the same time that, as national measures for relief, these were mere pretensions so miserably inefficient that they were scarcely worth a thought, whilst the great battle was to be sustained as that which alone could reach the root of the evil, and banish it from the country. (Cheers.) It was their sympathy with, and not their want of feeling for, the poor that occasioned this mode of adverting to such exertions. But allow me to say that those who were so quick in detecting in the Free-Traders what they represented as hostile to humane attempts, might, if they had looked elsewhere, have seen a real collision with the object of these societies: for, while there are societies for all these purposes, there is also an association for rendering the poor needlewomen unable to buy more than three-fourths of the bread which they might otherwise purchase; for making the poor spend so much upon food that they cannot buy a stock of linen to go to the wash; a society which so interferes with the rights and wants of the poor, that they lose all heart and desire of putting themselves into a better habitation; there is a society that directly tends to diminish the amount of work for the poor, to curtail their employment, and deteriorate the worth of that employment. There is an antagonist society to all these professedly benevolent institutions; and that is the Central Society for keeping up the taxation upon bread. (Great cheering.) They are the parties that ought to be accused by those who are so much addicted to these special modes of charity. On their heads should the thunder-bolt fall. They should be put upon their trial, and not the leaders of the League. The League on their trial, indeed! Why, Providence has given them their trial, and they have stood it bravely and triumphantly. (Cheers.) They have summered and wintered this great cause. They have

been earnest for it in times of heaviest suffering, and in periods of comparative prosperity. They have pleaded it in the Legislature, and before assemblies of tremendous multitudes; they have been, to use an apostolic phrase, "instant in season, and out of season." Every time to them has been a season for striving to advance this great cause of justice and charity. (Cheers.) They are not merely acquitted, but are deserving of all honour for these proceedings. It is another party who are upon their trial: it is the moral courage of the Premier that is upon trial, and his disposition to carry into practice his own professed principles. It is the constitution of our country that is upon trial, in order to ascertain whether it furnishes the means of redress for this great and pervading wrong. It is the spirit, the energy, and the determination of the British people, to see whether it will hold out until it shall do itself this right, and put down the oppressions of a class. (Much cheering.) They call themselves a Protection Society; why, we are a Protection Society too, although antithetically distinguished from them. They are an association for the protection of the rich and powerful; we, for that of the needy and the helpless. They are a society for the protection of high prices of food; we, for the protection of the highest worth of wages. They are a society for the protection of indolence and of rent; we, for the encouragement of industry and of enterprise. They, for the protection of a demoralizing, degrading, and destructive system; we, for that of universal right, justice, and charity. (Mr. Fox sat down amidst loud and long-continued cheering.)

The CHAIRMAN then said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, I have to express my acknowledgments for the great order which has prevailed in this most crowded meeting, and the hope that we may see you all again on this day month.

After giving several cheers for Free Trade, the meeting separated.

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING AT BLACKBURN.

(Abridged from the *Blackburn Mercury*.)

Our readers are already aware that on many occasions we have had the satisfaction of recording the great gatherings of the friends of Free Trade in this country; but many of them are not aware of the rapid increase which has taken place, and is still progressing, in favour of the movements of the League. The glorious sight which presented itself to our view at the meeting on Monday evening was one well calculated to stimulate every one to renewed exertions in this great cause. The meeting was far more numerous attended than any of its predecessors, and the enthusiasm manifested was of the most intense nature. The meeting took place in the large schoolroom under James-street Chapel, and, spacious as that apartment is, hundreds were unable to obtain admission, although about 1300 were present during the speech, which so engrossed the attention of the audience that, save the repeated bursts of cheering, a deep intensity of silence prevailed, as though every one seemed afraid of losing a word of the eloquent and argumentative appeals to their hearts and understandings. The tables were amply supplied with refreshments, and a general feeling of enjoyment appeared to pervade every group. At the end of the room some very handsome crimson and blue banners were displayed, containing emblems of a steam-engine, a ship, and a plough, the mottoes in gold letters, "Protection Tariffs—Unjust to the Many"—"Every Country our Country"—"Free Trade is of No Party"—"Every Man our Brother"—"Commercial Tariffs for Revenue only." The room was also handsomely decorated with evergreens.

After the Rev. F. SKINNER had returned appropriate thanks for the excellent repast of which they had partaken,

The CHAIRMAN then addressed the meeting in an excellent speech, and introduced Edmund Ashworth, Esq., of Egerton, who was followed by Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., whose reception was most enthusiastic, and told with inspiring effect upon the audience.

Mr. Cobden was succeeded by Mr. Bright; after whom

JOSEPH ECOLES, Esq., of Mill-hill, proposed, and HAROLD POTTER, Esq., of Darwen, seconded, a vote of confidence in the League, and their admiration of its present movement.

The Rev. A. FRAZER moved, and WM. PILKINGTON, Esq., seconded, the thanks of the meeting to the deputation.

Mr. COBDEN returned thanks.

Mr. BRIGHT moved a vote of thanks to the trustees of James-street Chapel, for the use of their school, which was seconded by W. HOOKS, Esq.

WALTER BULLOCK, Esq., proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, seconded by the Rev. E. JONES.

Mr. COBDEN voted thanks to the ladies, seconded by Rev. F. SKINNER.

The meeting separated about ten o'clock.

**NEW INVENTION—COAL FROM PEAT.**—We are informed that, by the application of a chemical process, an ingenious party has succeeded in the conversion of peat into coal within a very short period of time. If the result of the great laboratory of nature, perfected during centuries, can thus be performed by art in a few weeks, it will indeed cause a great social and national revolution.—*Literary Gazette*.

**WHEAT.**—The agricultural reports state that the best wheat in the forward districts of England have been some under favourable auspices; but, in the north, much remains to be done in that respect, which cannot possibly be accomplished till the atmosphere becomes much milder than it is at present. One very important feature in the appearance of the young wheat plants, which, comparatively speaking, are looking well, yet it cannot be denied that they have suffered materially from the prevalent cold easterly and north-easterly winds, especially those exposed situations, which have stood greatly in need of good fall of snow to shelter them. More than the usual quantity of grain has been thrashed out during the month of December, owing, in a great measure, to the being much in want of straw for the stall-fed stock. The yield of wheat turns out extremely good, both as regards quality and quantity; but in that of barley a great deficiency is apparent. Oats appear to be barely an average crop, and the same may be said with regard to beans and peas.—*Leeds Mercury*.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending  
Wednesday, January 15, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from  
Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on  
Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the  
LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding,  
but are included in the list of the week following.

Peel, Henry, Fleet-street, Bury, Lancashire ..	21 0 0	Blake, C., ..	20 2 6	Watson, R., Woolstapler, Faversham ..	21 0 0
George, Mr., solicitor, Bradford, Yorkshire ..	1 0 0	Hutcher, Jeremiah, New Market-road, Norwich ..	1 0 0	Gamble, Thomas, Lisbon-street, West-street, Leeds ..	1 0 0
Bulke, Wm., 44, Sidney-st., C-on-M., Manchester ..	2 2 0	Barker, Robert, Conesey, near ..	1 0 0	Kelsington, Richard, Blerly street, ..	1 0 0
Marshall, John, Downing-street, ..	1 0 0	Ping, Joseph, Coleridge, ..	1 0 0	Cobb, Charles, Stroud, Kent ..	1 0 0
Aspinall, John, York-street, Hulme, ..	1 0 0	Sulzer, John, St. Augustine, ..	1 0 0	Pryce, Edward, 54, Baker-street, ..	1 0 0
Andrew, G., Lord Stanley, Chester at, C-on-M., do.	1 0 0	Mills, Frederick, All Saints, ..	1 0 0	Lewellin, Thomas, Forest House, Dalton ..	1 0 0
Driggs, T. Jun., Sharp street, St. George's-road, do.	1 0 0	Spratt, James, St. Gregory, ..	1 0 0	Wood, Robert, New-street, Doncaster ..	1 0 0
Hargreaves, Robert, Todmorden ..	1 0 0	Bolingbroke, A. F. C., Heigham, ..	1 0 0	Smith, Benjamin, 1, High Holborn ..	1 0 0
Knott, John, King-street, Oldham ..	1 0 0	Bolingbroke, C. N., do. ..	1 0 0	Jinks, Robert, Stanion ..	1 0 0
Shipman R. M., 3, Norfolk-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0	Youle, George, Nottingham ..	2 0 0	Gadsby, ..	1 0 0
Horne, John, Clarendon Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	1 0 0	Maw, J. H., West-hill House, Hastings ..	2 0 0	Bell, Charles, ..	1 0 0
A Friend, ..	1 0 0	Mead, Joseph, Luton ..	2 0 0	Forssyth, J. and J., Perth ..	1 0 0
A Friend, ..	1 0 0	Peacock, William, Perth ..	2 0 0	Freeman, Robert, Buntingford ..	1 0 0
A Friend, ..	1 0 0	Mosley, J. and Son, Nottingham ..	2 0 0	A Beckett, Wm. ..	1 0 0
Kinross, John, Ayrshire Bank, Ayr, N. B. ..	1 0 0	Wilkinson, John, Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	2 0 0	Gresin, William, 31, Golden-square, St. James's ..	1 0 0
Woolall and Percival, 18, Ardwick-green, Manchester ..	1 0 0	Ramsden, David, at Messrs. Henry's, stuffmerchants, ..	1 1 0	Harrison, George, 35, North-bridge, Edinburgh ..	1 0 0
Grundy, R. T., Bury, Lancashire ..	1 1 0	Canal-terrace, Bradford ..	1 1 0	A. Z. ..	1 0 0
Smith, Milton, 33, Faulkner-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0	Laycock, Thomas, St. James's-street, Leeds ..	1 1 0	X. Y. ..	1 0 0
Halley, Dr., St. John-street, ..	1 0 0	Watkins, R. and Son, Exchange arcade, Manchester ..	1 1 0	Harrison, Samuel, 68, Queen's-row, Baywater ..	1 0 0
Bury, Giles, 24, St. George's-st., Adelphi, Salford ..	1 0 0	Carruthers, Miss, 3, Frederick-street, Edinburgh ..	1 1 0	Poulton C. and G., 67, Blackfriars-road ..	1 0 0
Owen, John, 147, Chapel-street, ..	1 0 0	West, B., Wilby ..	1 1 0	Arundell, W., 32, Trevor square ..	1 0 0
Johnson, William, 2, Princess-street, Manchester ..	1 1 0	Palmer, James, pork butcher, Old-street, Ashton-under-Lyne ..	1 1 0	Sherman, .. Jun., Surrey Parsonage ..	1 0 0
Ogden Charles, 4, Ashton-street, Ardwick ..	1 1 0	Hirst, Mark, Dewsbury ..	1 1 0	Hutter, John, Mitcham ..	1 0 0
Stockwell, Thomas, 32, Downing-street, ..	0 5 0	Hanson, Joshua, Ellis-buildings, Chapel-hill, Hud-	1 1 0	Ewen, Robert, 25, Sutton-street, York-road ..	1 0 0
Nail, Matthew, 49, Wilcomb-street, Hulme ..	0 5 0	derfield ..	1 1 0	Edwards, George, Brook-street, Ipswich ..	0 5 0
Butterley, P., 59, High-street, ..	1 0 0	A Friend to Free-dom, Hull ..	1 1 0	Rumsey, John, Shadwell ..	0 5 0
Raven, Gerard, Rawtenstall, near ..	1 0 0	Robinson, G., draper, Carlisle ..	1 1 0	Downing, G. W., 21, Guildford-street ..	0 5 0
Smith, Peter, 3, Francis-street, Strangeways, do.	1 2 6	Bowman, E., surgeon, do. ..	1 1 0	Schofield, John, 4, Portsmouth-street, Lincoln's-inn-	0 5 0
Croxford, D., Shude-hill, ..	1 0 0	Sheffield, Mr., dentist, do. ..	1 1 0	fields ..	0 5 0
Wright, John, reedmaker, Yorkshire-st., Rochdale ..	1 0 0	Moore, George, St. James's Cottage, Northampton ..	1 1 0	Atkins, Michael, 9, Durham-place West, Hackney-rd.	0 5 0
Entwistle, James, Foxhill-bank, near Accrington ..	1 0 0	Edens, Joel, ..	1 0 0	Willis, Edwin, 2, Salisbury-place, Locksfield, Wal-	0 5 0
Hall, Mrs. Ann, Blue Boar, Market-pl., Manchester ..	1 0 0	Grundy, Thomas, ..	1 0 0	worth ..	0 5 0
Byre, Samuel, Queen-street, Derby ..	1 0 0	Peacock, T. P., Upton Lovell, Heytesbury ..	1 0 0	Ley, Robert, 17, King-street, Long-acre ..	0 5 0
Flower, Thomas, Smithydoor, ..	1 0 0	Booth, Thos., at Mr. Marsland's, Burnley ..	1 0 0	Vaughan, George, 279, High Holborn ..	0 5 0
Andrew, Alfred, 97, Dean's-gate, ..	1 0 0	Garstang, T. B., Bolton ..	1 0 0	Palmer, Thomas, 39, Dewdney-street ..	0 5 0
Horn, R. H., Hamden-cottage, Lower Broughton, do.	1 0 0	Whitworth, J. and Sons, Earlsheaton, near Dewsbury ..	1 0 0	Little, George, 1, Liverpool-street, King's-cross ..	0 5 0
Kay, Joseph, Bury, Lancashire ..	2 2 0	Shaw, George, Rodworth ..	1 0 0	Selwyn Daniel, 2, St. John's-street-road ..	0 5 0
Hervey, James, Ordsall-hall, ..	1 0 0	Hawwood, W. Redware, Rugeley, Staffordshire ..	1 0 0	Hoddimore, G., 2, Park-road, New Peckham ..	0 5 0
Hervey, Robert, Old Strangeways-hall, do.	1 0 0	Berry, Mrs., Leicester ..	1 0 0	Newman, John, 178, Goswell street ..	0 5 0
Al-ris, David, Mill-street, Little Bolton, Lancashire ..	3 0 0	Lewarn, Thos. S., St. Austell, Cornwall ..	1 0 0	Clarke, Wm., Haves, Middlesex ..	0 5 0
Robinson, J. M., Bank-house, ..	1 0 0	Gilbert, T., Shifnal ..	1 0 0	Oldridge, Wm., 34, Queen-street, Chespalde ..	0 5 0
Stott, James, Edge-lane, Royton, Lancashire ..	1 0 0	Parratt, Edwd. Hawksworth, ironmonger, Bradford ..	1 0 0	Somers, George, 9, Victoria-road ..	0 5 0
Hateman, T. H., Esq., Halton-park, Lancaster ..	1 0 0	Dale, John, Ive-gate, ..	1 0 0	Adams, James, 14, Henry-street, Portland-town ..	0 5 0
Wilkinson, Samuel, Eccles, near Manchester ..	1 0 0	Burges, W. H., Battle ..	1 0 0	Stewart, Alexander, 38, Perceval-street, Clerkenwell ..	0 5 0
Taylor, Wm., Croft Head, Royton, Lancashire ..	1 0 0	Lawton, Matthew, Wortley ..	1 0 0	Paton, William, ..	0 5 0
Travis, Joseph, Highlands, do., ..	1 0 0	Fox, Edward, ..	1 0 0	Gulfe, Mrs. Mary, 76, Margaret-street, do.	0 5 0
Holden, John, do., ..	1 0 0	Brook, George, M. D. do., ..	1 0 0	Sandovee, John, 27, ..	0 5 0
Acton, Joseph, ..	1 0 0	Lawson, James, Whitburn, N.B. ..	1 0 0	Payne, James, 1, King's-terrace, Bagnigge-wells-rd.	0 5 0
Weich, John, Ancoats Grove, ..	1 0 0	Scholes, Wm., Sight House, Hightown, near Leeds ..	1 0 0	Davis, Christopher, 9, Acton-place, do.	0 5 0
Askew, Wm., Victoria-place, Bury New-road, do.	1 0 0	Slipson, James, advocate, 33, Northumberland-st., ..	1 0 0	Y. M. ..	0 5 0
Grondrick, S., 10, Oxford-rd., Dukinfield, ur. do.	1 0 0	Edinburgh ..	1 0 0	Marshall, N., 5, Cumberland-row, King's-cross ..	0 5 0
K. A. ..	1 0 0	Marshall, Wm., 18, Albany-street, ..	1 0 0	Furnace, Robert, 21, ..	0 5 0
Stansfield, John, Ewood, Todmorden, ..	2 2 0	Hastie, John, ..	1 0 0	Ashley, Edwd., 21, Frederick-street, Bagnigge-wells-	0 5 0
Jesper, Samuel, Macclesfield, ..	1 0 0	Whigham, James, Spring-garden, do.	1 0 0	road ..	0 5 0
Haddfield, John, at Hyde, Sons, and Sowerby's, Du-	1 0 0	Elgond, William, 21, Rutland-street, ..	1 0 0	Hawall, Alex., 8, Charles-street, City-road ..	0 5 0
kindfield, Chester ..	1 0 0	Russell, Benjamin, jun., Horns-lair-street, do.	1 0 0	Grey, William, ..	0 5 0
Wardell, A., Town-hall-buildings, Manchester ..	1 0 0	Speed, Robert, 8, Smoiford street, Leeds ..	1 0 0	Wilson, George, do.	0 5 0
Lathwaite, Jeremiah, Bolton street, Bury ..	1 0 0	Harker, John, Burnley ..	1 0 0	Small subscriptions ..	2 10 0
Bowman, Wm., ..	1 0 0	Carwell, Robert, Lonsdale place, Whitehaven ..	1 0 0		
Littlewood, Nathan, grocer, Holmfirth, Yorkshire ..	1 0 0	Reid, James, worsted spinner, Greenock ..	1 0 0		
Crump, Thomas, Cavendish-street, Derby ..	1 0 0	A Friend to the Cause, ..	1 0 0		
Whitworth, Isaac, Water-street, near Bury, Lancashire ..	1 0 0	Bayne, George, Dunbar ..	1 0 0		
Johnson, Thomas, 21, Rosholme-road, C-on-M., ..	1 0 0	Challiner, William, Derby ..	1 0 0		
Manchester ..	1 0 0	Boyle, Chas., Regent-street, Welford-road, Leicester ..	1 0 0		
Duke and Bennett, Box 547, Post-office, ..	0 2 6	Cartwright, Samuel, dyer, Braunstone-gate, do.	1 0 0		
Bransby, John, Blithe street, Old Churchyard, do.	1 0 0	Peacock, John, Perth ..	1 0 0		
A Yorkshire Friend, per do., ..	0 5 0	Kirk, John, 118, Meadow-lane, Leeds ..	1 0 0		
Firth, Wm., Downing-street, Ardwick, ..	1 1 0	Mallinson, A., Clarendon ..	1 0 0		
Kelth, Wm., 20, Cross street, ..	1 1 0	Higgin, James, Horwick, near Bolton ..	1 0 0		
Taylor, Thos., 5, Mason-street, ..	1 0 0	Huson, George, manufacturer, Canongate, Jedburgh ..	1 0 0		
J. C. ..	1 0 0	Skirrik, John, cabinet maker, High street, do.	1 0 0		
Dates, John, Melbourne-street, Staleybridge ..	0 5 0	Oliver, William, Laugraiv, near Hawick ..	1 0 0		
Brown, Thos., 9, Pigot-street, Green Hall, Green ..	1 0 0	Field, Francis, Luton ..	1 0 0		
Heye, Manchester ..	1 0 0				
Bosfield, Thos., 2, Bridge-water-buildings ..	1 0 0				
Barton, Mrs. C., 159, Coburg-terrace, Stretford ..	5 0 0				
New-road, Hulme, ..	1 0 0				
Novell, John, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury, ..	0 5 0				
Lee, Benjamin, Cluckley, ..	1 0 0				
Rhodes, Wm., Earlsheaton, near do.	1 0 0				
Aties, Samuel, ..	1 0 0				
Miles, Matthew, Batley Carr, ur. do.	1 0 0				
Porter, Gales, ..	1 0 0				
Lobley, T., Ravens Wharf, near do.	1 0 0				
Walker, Jm., Bank, ..	1 0 0				
Mallet, John, St. George's-road, Little Bolton ..	1 0 0				
Hawood, Robert, Deangate, ..	1 0 0				
Hawburton, Wm., ..	1 0 0				
Hutton, Henry, Bradshaw-gate, ..	1 0 0				
Bolton, Thos., Well-street, Little Bolton ..	1 0 0				
Coker, P., Leigh, Lancashire, ..	1 0 0				
Burwick, Mr., do., ..	1 0 0				
Burford, Mr., do., ..	1 0 0				
Dee, John, Silverwell House, Bolton ..	1 0 0				
Westwaite, Anthony, Bullock-st., Little Bolton ..	1 0 0				
Wheeler, Joseph, King's Head Inn, Halifax ..	1 0 0				
Wheeler, Thomas, Northgate, ..	1 0 0				
J. O., Brunswick-buildings, Brunswick-st., ..	1 0 0				
Liverpool ..	1 0 0				
Lee, Alex., 12, North John-street, ..	1 1 0				
Tuer, William, 20, Islington, ..	2 0 0				
Warp, Alex., Richmond-row ..	1 0 0				
Harvey and Co. ..	2 2 0				
Clarke, John, Keresforth-hall, near ..	1 0 0				
Taylor, William, Redbrook, near ..	1 0 0				
Parker, Edward, Commercial News-room ..	1 0 0				
Parkinson, J. B. ..	1 0 0				
Alletson, George, ..	1 0 0				
Brady, John, Foundry ..	1 0 0				
Chalk, Robert ..	1 0 0				
Tee, Thomas ..	1 0 0				
Brady, Edward ..	1 0 0				
Smith and Davies, dyers ..	1 0 0				
Bickers, Sykes ..	1 0 0				
Park, William ..	0 13 0				
Carter, John, St. George's-place ..	1 0 0				
Carter, Joseph ..	1 0 0				
Hill, Benjamin ..	1 0 0				
Smith, George, manufacturer ..	1 0 0				
Parkinson, W. R. ..	1 0 0				
Spencer, H. J. ..	1 0 0				
Hoskisson, George ..	1 0 0				
Pigott, J. and Newton ..	0 13 0				
Frudd, James, Bank ..	1 0 0				
Pepper, Thomas, Monk Bretton, near ..	1 0 0				
Gonservall, Thomas, Castlerough-street ..	1 0 0				
Mycroft, John ..	0 13 0				
Jackson and Holdham ..	1 0 0				
Bromley, Edward ..	1 0 0				
Tee, William, at Mr. Hancock's, Kilmistr, ..	1 0 0				
near Cawthorne ..	1 0 0				
Taylor, James, druggist ..	1 0 0				
Harrison, Thomas, Shambles-street ..	1 0 0				
Walker, Mark, Monk Bretton, near ..	1 0 0				

### Contributions TOTAL

Kennedy, William, Ayrshire Bank, Ayr, N. B. ..	21 0 0
Wood, Frederick, George, ..	0 5 0
Dalton, Thomas, 1, Temple-street, Dalton, near ..	1 0 0
London ..	0 0 0
Allen, Alex., 12, North John-street, Liverpool ..	2 0 0
Youle, George, Nottingham ..	2 0 0

## ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 68, for John Hume, Macclesfield, read John Ome. For Thomas Crew, Macclesfield, read William Crew.

## MR. BRIGHT, M.P., AND HIS CONSTITUENTS

Durham, Thursday Morning.  
Last evening, Mr. Bright, the member for this city, addressed a very numerous meeting of the constituency in the Theatre, Sadler-street. The building was crowded to excess in every part, the passages and avenues were filled, and many persons had even gained access to the space beneath the stage, and endeavoured there to hear some part of the proceedings.

JOHN HENDERSON, Esq., of Leaze-house, was called to the chair.

When Mr. BRIGHT appeared upon the stage he was received with reiterated bursts of cheering, and these manifestations of approbation were renewed again and again when he rose to speak. The hon. gentleman spoke for an hour and three-quarters, alluding to the debates of last session on the Corn Law, the sugar duties, the lucenary fires, and the factory bill. The present position of the Free Trade question and of the Anti-Corn Law League was dwelt upon, and the principles of Free Trade were explained and enforced in a manner which created a strong impression on the minds of the audience. Mr. Bright reminded the electors of their memorable victory over two great public foes: in their election they had given a blow to monopoly, and had in their city overthrown the system of corruption which the enemies of public liberty had so long fostered among them. He exhorted them never to forget what they had accomplished, but in future to fight all their elections on some good principle, not for party objects, whether Whig or Tory; and to fight only with the weapons of purity which become the advocates of a good cause. The speech was greatly cheered throughout, and we regret the impossibility of transferring it to our columns.

JOHN BRAMWELL, Esq., moved the following resolution, which was seconded by JOHN MARSHALL, Esq.: "That the able review which has been taken this evening by the honourable member for this city, of his parliamentary conduct, is highly satisfactory to this meeting; that his conduct in Parliament entitles him to the warmest thanks of this constituency, and that the meeting and the constituency feel perfect confidence in the course which he will pursue in the proud situation in which he is placed as the member for this city."

This resolution was carried unanimously, amidst prolonged cheering, every hand having been raised in its favour. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the meeting separated. A more gratifying meeting has never been held in Durham; and it was well if the practice of meeting the constituency, thus introduced into Durham by Mr. Bright, were continued by all who may represent it in future.

Mr. Bright proceeds to Newcastle this evening, and will probably attend a Free-Trade meeting in Gateshead to-morrow.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XVI.

## TO THE CAMLET WEAVERS OF NORWICH.

I have been reading, in the Norfolk news, a report of your proceedings, or rather a selection from your speeches, at a meeting last Monday week to consider the best means for resisting an alleged attempt on the part of Mr. Worth, manufacturer, to reduce your wages. On this attempt I am not qualified to speak—none of the circumstances have come under my cognizance; and although an attempt to lower wages in Norwich, at a time when they have generally been raised in the great manufacturing towns of the north, excited both my surprise and regret, yet without more information it would ill become me to express an opinion. If you are wronged, may your resistance be successful. My present business is with the extracts before me, which are alike creditable to your good sense, your patient endurance, and your honest purposes, although not free from mistake, which, pointed out, in a friendly spirit, by one who formerly belonged both to your town and your occupation, you will not perhaps be backward to perceive and to avoid.

The privations you suffer were feelingly and forcibly described:—

"One speaker at the meeting observed, that time was when there used to be something like a friendly feeling between the employer and the employed; but now times were altered, and the poor weaver could scarcely wear his own clothes, eat his own food, or pay his rent. In many cases they were doted worse than the pauper, or the felon who had broken the laws of his country. The felon did not get meat three times a week; but where was the handloom weaver to be found who could get it? The practice of reducing wages had been too long the fashion—that they knew to their sorrow—that their homes, their ragged garments, and their care-worn and half-starved appearance would fully testify. The individual who sat at the loom was not the indifferent person some thought him to be. Without him, where would be the fine dresses which adorned the persons of the fairer sex? Without him, where the garments which clothed the other sex? But while, however, nothing could be done in the shape of clothing without the aid of the handloom weaver, that individual and his family were left half-naked. It was said that he that tolled should be the first partaker of the fruits of his toil; but with the weaver the reverse of this was the fact. What could be the state of that man's mind, who was beholden to his friends for raiment, and who heard his children crying for food, without having it to give them? Yet such was the condition of the weaver."

That you, who contribute to clothe others, should yourselves be clothed and fed in return—that your honest industry should not fare worse than the felon in the goal—is too evident to be denied, and too sad not to be deplored. But can you give no better reason for this lamentable result than that "the practice of reducing wages has been too long the fashion?" A master manufacturer has other things to do besides following a fashion. In the old times you lament, was there ever a Mr. Worth that gave more than its worth for your work? And will not the present Mr. Worth, unless he be a very wrongheaded man, and blind to his own interest, pay for it now whatever it is worth to him? Knowing nothing of the individual case, I can only argue on general facts. There is no such thing as fashion in the rate of wages. The competition of the men tends to keep them from rising; and the competition of masters tends to check them falling; and between the two they find their true level, from which, to any great extent, or for any long time, they cannot deviate. By this "true level" I mean, not the remuneration which industry deserves, but that which the state of any particular trade fairly allows. In a trade locally declining, and overdone by too many hands, this level is but too likely to fall far below what is requisite for the decent maintenance of the workman himself, to say nothing of a family. Such, I fear, is your case, and that of a large proportion of that much-suffering body, the handloom weavers.

No master manufacturer can dictate the price at which his goods shall sell. He is quite as dependent upon the market as you are upon him. The most generous disposition in the world will not help him. He must encounter, at home and abroad, as fierce a competition as that which sometimes rages amongst yourselves. If he cannot sell as low as the foreigner in distant markets, or his countrymen in those at hand, there is an end of his ability to pay you any wages at all. He goes to the dogs; and so must you. On the other hand, extending trade makes him dependent upon you. He must advance his bidding for your help until he gets it, or he is thrown out in the race. Talk not, then, of "fashion." It is fact, not fashion, with which you have to do. You might as well say that bad harvests were the fashion a few years ago, and that better harvests are coming into fashion now. The laws of trade work upon men and masters as mightily as the laws of nature on the farm and cornfield.

Is there no help? The needful preliminary to answering that question is that the case be rightly understood. One of your speakers demanded indignantly, "What! do they think they do us good by enabling us to look upon our own misery?" We can do that now with very little instruction." Un-

happily, you can. Athenæums and Institutes will not feed you. But does it not make some difference whether even the wretched spectacle of your own misery be contemplated by an intelligent or an unintelligent eye? Would you beat the stone that hurts you, like a stupid child? Look further into your own misery and its causes.

You are too many for the funds that exist to be divided amongst you. Is not that a plain truth? No worth or worthlessness of masters can alter that. Those who can should turn their hands to almost any other kind of work which they are able to find. And don't bring up your children to a trade that is going down. Handloom-weaving is not an operation requiring much skill. It is a sort of receptacle for those who can do nothing better; a refuge for the incurable, and a very miserable refuge. There is strength in wood and iron. They will beat the bones and sinews of a man. Skill is the quality in growing request. Little skill, little pay, is a sure rule in wages. Here the Athenæums and Institutes may tell, in spite of the question just quoted. Another of your speakers seems to have perceived this truth; and his appeal to the civic magnates for such provision on behalf of the weavers, no less than on that of the drapers' assistants, is well and powerfully urged:—

"Another speaker said, 'I feel for every man in distress: I feel for the drapers' assistants. I will not dispute that they are overworked. But so are the weavers. I am glad to see the bishop of the diocese with all his theological lore, Mr. Gurney with his philanthropy, and the mayor with all his magisterial authority assisting the drapers' assistants to better their condition; but I do not think it would be beneath the theological reputation of the bishop, the philanthropy of Mr. Gurney, or the magisterial authority of the mayor, for them to endeavour to do something for the handloom weaver. Have we not minds and feelings as acute as the drapers' assistants? And surely, if those assistants, who are by us kept at work, deserve protection, we have a claim. I hope that, if the weavers are to be denied an Athenæum, some plan will be thought of whereby we can have our minds filled with knowledge, as we wish to have our bodies filled with food. If it is important that we should have knowledge, all we want are the means to attain it.'"

Fairly reasoned, and with some home thrusts. I trust it will not be disregarded in the proper quarters. And yet, after all, there is something better than charitable instruction, however frankly the means be given. Mechanics' institutes will never flourish as they ought until they are supported and governed by the mechanics themselves. A little help meanwhile is not amiss; but that is the condition of their permanent prosperity and highest utility.

And when is that time to come? When labour has fair play and free scope. All the world wants clothing; all the world is willing to pay for it; and all the world has got something or other wherewith to pay, which, if it be not exactly the thing that is wanted here, can be exchanged when it is wanted elsewhere for something of which we are in need. In itself, your labour is money's worth; though it be not Mr. Worth's money, under present circumstances. The free exchange of products is not obstructed by your masters, but by their masters and yours: by the landowning legislators who make laws to keep up food, and so keep down trade; to keep out foreign produce, and so cripple commerce. This is ruination both to your masters and yourselves.

Read, I pray you, the speech of Joseph Shaw, a working man, at the Oldham Free-Trade meeting. You will find, it quoted in Mr. Cobden's speech at Covent-garden Theatre, reported in this number of the League; and the whole proceedings of that and other meetings in last week's LEAGUE. Read it now, and say if it does not very plainly show the general operation of the Corn Laws upon the condition of the working classes.

The action of those laws upon you is doubly mischievous: it injures trade and raises the price of food. You have less work, consequently lower wages; and those wages go for less in the market. Is not this to be thought of? Is not the Anti-Corn-Law League entitled to your hearty sympathy and co-operation?

Norwich returns one member who supports these laws, and helps to keep you down in your abyss of misery. Certain of your freemen, as the slaves are called, sold the cause of trade and commerce for drink and a bribe. Those men did you more mischief than the most grinding masters. They stood between you and the only hope that exists for your class. The only hope: for if Free Trade cannot bring improvement and deliverance, the world has nothing for you but penury and starvation. That the blunder and guilt of your last elections may be, on the first opportunity, redeemed, is the heart's wish of one whom neither years nor distance can make forgetful of his entrance in life as

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

**REDUCTION OF CRIME.**—It is our pleasing task to report this week a greatly diminished number of cases for trial at our quarter sessions. There were only eighteen cases of felony, and three for misdemeanour. Only three of the cases were from Preston.—*Preston Guardian*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the EDITOR of the LEAGUE.

De Bruijes-hall, Jan. 14.

SIR,—In your last LEAGUE you make remarks on a speech delivered at the Conservative meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne, by a Mr. De Hollingsworth. Now, if this is the same person who, some years ago, purchased an estate in the parish of Mottram, in Longdendale, called Hollingsworth-hall—and I am much inclined to think it is—he is entitled to be spoken of as one who has seen something of the world, and understands both men and things. I do not know what county, or even what part of her Majesty's empire, had the honour of his birth; but I have understood that he came to reside amongst cotton-spinners and weavers, in this remote and almost unknown part of Cheshire (till he made it his home), because it either belonged, or he thought it might have belonged, to his forefathers, which to an imaginative mind is sometimes the same thing; but, let this be as it may, his neighbours have greatly the advantage. I mean that those who have grown rich by manufacturing cotton the "last twenty-five years" will learn from him to retire on their fortunes and look out for estates of the same names as their own, where they can subscribe their notes of invitation. De Mellor of Mellor, "De Harrop of Harrop," &c., &c., and, like their friend Mr. De Hollingsworth, rail at us, at politicians and spinners, even if any of them should be known by the name of Peel, unless he has the "De" put before Peel.

I do not know what use you will make of this bit of mine, for reminding you of what I and the spinners of Ashton-under-Lyne think of Mr. De Hollingsworth's speech, and your remarks upon it; but they are at least all of them who attend Ashton-under-Lyne Conservative dinners) greatly obliged to him for such a rich treat as he gave them at their last meeting, although, as you say, there might "be a sprinkling of dirt" mixed with it. You, Mr. Editor, I think, should have a little more patience than you have shown in your remarks on this gathering at Ashton-under-Lyne, because it may have the effect of making people think, who have never thought before, and that is what you say you write your LEAGUE for. At any rate, the people of Ashton-under-Lyne will now have an opportunity of knowing which of their Conservative neighbours possess moral courage enough to spurn the man who has dared to spurn the memory of their fathers' or their own industry, as well as those who can meanly stoop to be told in their own Town-hall, that they are a low, degraded, and despised class, and unfit for a seat in the great assembly of the nation.

A CALM LOOKER-ON.

P.S.—There is a small house, of the annual value of say £4, in the gorge of the glen which bounds Mr. De Hollingsworth's estate on the north side, and this gorge is called *the Bruijes*; and in this house Mr. De Hollingsworth lived for some time, three or four years ago, when he advertised the Hollingsworth estate to let at a rent of, I believe, £350 per annum.

## THE LAST LEAGUE MOVEMENT.

(From "Tait's Magazine.")

The recent movements of the Anti-Corn-Law League have been singularly successful in putting new life (not that life was at all lacking before) into an old agitation. The credit of their last move—the attack on the English county registration by means of the old constitutional weapon of the forty-shilling freehold franchise—is especially due, we believe, to the sagacious, inventive genius of Mr. Cobden. However this may be (it is a matter we are sure, about which Mr. Cobden and his coadjutors care extremely little), the scheme is the work of a master-mind in the art and science of agitation, and is plainly destined to exert a most powerful influence, not merely on the particular cause of Free Trade, but on all cognate questions of popular right and good government.

In every point of view, we rejoice to see this most important work in the hands of men who, of all our agitators and reformers, seem best to know precisely what they mean to do, and how to do it. This attack on the counties, so well opened with the conquest of South Lancashire, is the beginning of the end of the old conflict between industrialism and feudalism, the first move in the last campaign against aristocratic domination. In this good, plain, old-fashioned forty-shilling freehold franchise, so easy of attainment and defence—so happily left free from the "quidnits and quilllets" of revising barristers' law—the people of England have a lever power capable of uplifting the incubus of Toryism, not as in 1832, by a violent convulsive effort which it was impossible to sustain, but quietly, effectually, and once for all. Let a few more counties be won, as South Lancashire has been won, and never again will a Lord Stanley make the insolent boast that the results of county elections are ascertained by cataloguing the "great landed proprietors," and marking opposite to each man's name the twenty, fifty, or hundred vote power that he may have at his command. The great landed proprietors will be reduced to their constitutional dimensions at the polling-booth, by the little landed proprietors; and the "natural and legitimate influence of property" will be asserted, after a quite novel fashion, by the new democratic landed interest. It is not a little amusing, by the way, to see landlordism itself playing the game of the League, with its plans for remedying national distress by means of an "allotment system," a system whose virtues, whatever there may be, will probably be seen to best advantage in conjunction with freehold tenure and political independence. The allotment system of landlord philanthropy is, at the best, but a charitable make-shift for finding paupers in potatoes without troubling the rate-payers; the allotment system of the Free-Traders will supersede the philanthropy, by opening the ports to cheap bread, and making new markets for the paupers' labour. We wish the League all manner of success in the work, ing-out of this idea, and only regret that we, in Scotland, are disabled, by the state of our electoral law, from tendering our aid in any form more effectual than that of good wishes.

The attention which has of late been paid to the fair of registration, both by the English Free-Traders and the Irish Repealers, is a satisfactory sign of the growing strength of the popular cause in both countries. Active and successful management of registration business, we take to be the most decisive proof that any



agitators can give, of being thoroughly in earnest. It is the best test we know of a people's or a party's political mettle. The business of the registration courts, is a tedious, troublesome, disagreeable, expensive business, in which your mere holiday patriots will never be seen meddling. It is a dry, mean-looking affair; a thing of petty and frivolous-seeming details, unrelieved by the excitement and enthusiasm that make the charm of Tara and Covent-garden meetings. It is easier to find men who, under the inspiration of "tremendous cheering," will speak valiant speeches, well spiced with sedition, than men who will go through the drudging of registration in a business-like way. Whenever we see men do this work well, we may be sure they will do any thing well that belongs to the civil department of political warfare. For the first time, since 1832, the people are now coming to understand their true position under the Reform Act. The fact is, that act, with its complicated registration machinery, effected a revolution in our politics of a far less obvious and appreciable kind than that wrought by its resumption and re-distribution of electoral franchises; a revolution which, from the very nature of it, the people have been slow of comprehending—and by which, hitherto, the operation of the main provisions of the measure has been virtually defeated. The Reform Act nullified popular excitement and enthusiasm as a power in electoral contests. The "enthusiasm" must take place some months before the election, and not wait for the Queen's writ. It must be annual, not septennial. A good "cry" at a dissolution is of little or no avail, if the lists have not been properly attended to. No ministry, party, or principle, can now take the country by storm. Such elections as those of 1830 and 1831 are henceforth impossible. The real business of an election is not now done at election time, but months and even years before, in the revising barrister's court. Virtually and practically, the registration is the election. Not eloquence, enthusiasm, public spirit, and principle, carry the day—but dogged patience and unsleeping attention in complying with the provisions of the statute. It is not enough for a man to be enlightened and patriotic: he must cultivate the habit of inspecting the lists on the church doors. In this state of things there are obviously great evils; we have experienced them to the full, during the last ten years, in a series of elections, each one of which has given us a worse House of Commons than its predecessor. But there are also some advantages, which, it is to be hoped—now that the subject is coming to be popularly and practically understood—will incredibly appear in future years, until the system shall be radically altered. It was in the nature of the thing that the first working of the new arrangement should be adverse to the people. The popular party, having the least and worst party organization, and being habitually prone to trust over-confidently in the inherent strength of a good cause, have, until very recently, grossly neglected registration; while the oligarchy have carefully obeyed, with untiring zeal and unscrupulous morality, the memorable mandate of their leader. It is among the best of the many good services which the Anti-Corn-Law League have rendered to the people's cause, that they have completely changed this. They have taught reformers to be as wary, as long-sighted, and as business-like as the Tories—to reinforce enthusiasm with patience and discipline—to "keep their powder dry," as well as "trust in the Providence" that defends and aids the right. Under the tuition of this extraordinary body of men, registration is every year becoming, more and more, the character of an annual election—an annual test of the strength of parties, and measure of the progress of opinion. The advantage is purchased, it must be confessed, at an extravagantly dear rate; still, we think it is an advantage, a useful item in a people's political education, to be thus compelled, by a disagreeable necessity, to exercise the most difficult of political virtues—habitual alertness and vigilance with a view to results of remote and uncertain occurrence. It is something to have learned, at whatever cost, to bring deliberate conviction, and steady, working activity, into the service of enthusiasm and patriotic principle. The people that can begin, in the second year of a new Parliament, to work for the next general election, may be said to have mastered the last and hardest lesson in the art and science of political freedom.

#### THE REVENUE.—THE HERALD'S "CURIOUS" DISCOVERY.

(From the Economist.)

The Morning Herald of Monday last attempts the following explanation:—

"We have made a discovery in the course of our researches, as curious, perhaps, as any discovery ever made in political science—namely, that the public revenue always runs almost pound for pound for every quarter of foreign grain imported—viz., that if one million, one million and a half, two millions, &c., are in given years paid for foreign corn, the public revenue always declines so nearly to the same sum as rarely to vary from it in the proportion of ten per cent. The present is not the fitting occasion to exhibit the tabular proofs, but we affirm the fact, and we submit it to all who have an interest in public credit as a demonstration that a repeal of the Corn Laws would, among many other calamitous results, inevitably lead to a national bankruptcy—a matter worthy the consideration of all whose property is either directly or indirectly committed to the public funds."

The Herald has made a "curious" discovery,—the revenue sinks one pound for every pound's worth of foreign corn imported; ergo, a repeal of the Corn Laws will "lead to a national bankruptcy." But why, then, does the Herald applaud Sir Robert Peel for his new Corn Bill, which has created nearly a Free Trade between that country and us? Why does the Herald rather not join the Morning Post, and cry out for strict protection—for a complete prohibition? For it is quite clear that if a free import of corn is to result in "national bankruptcy"—if for every pound's worth of corn imported, one pound of revenue is to be sacrificed, then the public creditor can never be safe, except with absolute prohibition.

We thank the Herald for this admission: but is it possible that our contemporary does not see how damaging it is to the whole policy which that journal advocates? We have heard so little of late of the Corn Laws, that the policy has been inadvertently forgot by our contemporary. It is quite true, as a general principle, that the revenue rises and falls with the quantity of corn imported;

but had the Herald, in a "momentary forgetfulness," overlooked the fact, that its own dear principle is, that the imports of corn shall only slide into importance as the price slides into a famine state. In 1835 the price of wheat was 39s. per quarter; we imported no foreign corn, for under the sliding scale the duty was then higher than the whole price. In 1839 the price was upwards of 70s. per quarter; and the duty being reduced to one shilling per quarter, we imported 2,500,000 quarters of wheat.

In 1835 commerce was prosperous, manufactures flourished, labour was in great demand, with ample wages, and the revenue presented a large surplus. In 1839 all was the reverse—ruin, discredit, and sinking finances alarmed the stoutest hearts. The Herald will no doubt quote those two years as an evidence of its "curious discovery." The Herald sees that in the former year no corn was imported—in the latter, wheat alone to the value of upwards of £7,000,000 was imported; but the Herald overlooks the fact, that wheat was 39s. the quarter in 1835, and 72s. the quarter in 1839. And to which of these facts, thinks the Herald, are we to attribute the loss of revenue in 1839? To a famine price of 70s. a quarter, or to an import of 2,500,000 quarters of wheat, to prevent its rising to 100s. per quarter? But enough of this childishness. To what a pass must this would-be Government organ be reduced to parade this new and "curious discovery," made in the "course of its researches" in its leading columns, containing a fallacy so glaring and so manifest that every schoolboy must detect it.

If, however, the Herald wants one conclusive evidence that it is not large imports, but high prices, that are destructive of revenue; that it is not the absence of imports, but low prices that are so effective in increasing prosperity, we refer it only to the year just expired—to the year in respect to the revenue of which it is so exulting. It seldom has happened that we have had any considerable import of corn, except in years when prices have been very high. Last year has been an exception, and through the operation of the sliding scale very large sums of money have been lost; still we have had large imports. The comparison with the previous year, of the first eleven months of each, is as follows:—

CORN imported in the first eleven months of			
	1843.		1844.
Wheat ....	895,294 qrs. ....		978,308 qrs.
Barley ....	169,533		920,614
Oats ....	83,066		282,846
	1,147,893		2,081,768
Flour ....	315,786 cwt. ....		957,038 cwt.

—See Official Table in this paper.

The Herald has made the "curious discovery," that, to whatever extent the imports of grain take place, "the revenue always declines so nearly that precise sum as rarely to vary from it in the proportion of ten per cent.," but here, in the very year of which that paper is treating, in which the revenue has increased in its main features upwards of £2,000,000, the import of only three kinds of grain has increased nearly one million of quarters, and of flour upwards of six hundred thousand cwt. According to the rule of the new and "curious discovery" of our contemporary, the revenue of the year just expired ought to have diminished, at least, as much as it has increased, compared with that of 1843.

#### HEROIC versus SHOP-KEEPING POLICY.

(From the Spectator.)

French statesmen seek to extend the manufactures and commerce of their country and increase its wealth, with a view to increase its naval and military power. English statesmen seek to render the defensive establishments of their country by sea and land more perfect, in order to protect its manufactures and commerce. The statesmen of both countries direct their attention to the same objects; but what is the means with the one is the end with the other.

An interesting paper on the Mining Statistics of France, by Mr. Porter of the Board of Trade, which has just been published in the Journal of the Statistical Society, affords an opportunity of contrasting the results of what may be called the direct and indirect processes for increasing national power.

A strong steam-navy has become an object of desire in both countries. The most important material elements of a steam-navy are coal and iron. The French Government has set itself with energy to construct war-steamers; and has laboured strenuously by a system of artificial protection to increase the internal production of coal and iron, in order that in the event of a war it might be independent of foreign supplies. The protection afforded to the iron trade of France has been prompted less by a desire to increase the national wealth than to obtain a home supply of materials for war. Meanwhile, the English Government, though not inattentive to augmenting its force of war-steamers, has pursued with respect to the coal and iron trades a course of policy which had in view solely the general development of the national resources, regardless of their bearing upon our means of defence. While the French Government has been hedging its iron trade round with fiscal protection, the English Government has gradually been stripping its iron trade of every vestige of protection. The French Government, with an eye to contingent war, has been labouring to ensure a stock of warlike materials; the English Government, with an eye to turning peace to the best account, has left the day of war to care for itself.

The result has been, that in 1841 the quantity of coal raised in this country was at least ten times the quantity raised in France; and that in the same year four tons of iron were made in this country for every ton made in France. The coal consumed in the iron-works alone of Great Britain rather more than doubled the whole quantity of coal raised in France. In Great Britain, the average quantity of coal raised within the year by each person employed in coalmines was 253 tons; in France, it was only 116 tons. In France, 47,600 persons were employed in producing one-fourth the quantity of iron produced in Great Britain by 42,400. The price of iron to the consumer in France are from 100 to 250 per cent. higher than in England. France has not even succeeded in making herself independent of foreign supplies: the quantity of coal imported in 1841 was within a trifle of half the quantity raised; and nearly 50,000 tons of British iron was imported,—pig iron being subject to a duty of £3. 2s. 6d., and plates, bars, and rods, to a duty varying from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 12d.

Britain, in whose policy war has been scarcely taken into account at all, possesses at this moment a more abundant and cheap supply of materials for its steam-navy than France, which by the artificial encouragement given to its iron manufacture has diverted industry and capital from other branches of trade, voluntarily sacrificing wealth to increase its warlike force. France has in consequence only its royal steam navy to rely upon; while the steam navy of our wealthier traders could at a short notice supply a formidable body of war-steamers. If French statesmen would take a leaf out of the British book, and adopt a commercial policy really and sincerely intended to promote their country's commercial prosperity without any *arrière pensée* of war, they would find this indirect way of increasing the national strength by far the most certain.

However, British statesmen have little reason to assume airs of superiority over French statesmen, so long as the corn-protection folly of Great Britain survives to keep the iron-protection folly of France in countenance.

#### COUNTIES REGISTRATION MOVEMENT.

##### WIGAN.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright attended a Free-Trade meeting at Wigan. The large room adjoining the Buck i' th' Vine Hotel was crowded to excess. Ralph Thicknesse, Esq., was called to the chair, and on and about the platform were Reece Bevan, Esq., Joseph Acton, Esq., Mr. Thos. Taylor, E. Evans, R. Leigh, T. C. Riley, Thos. Cook, and other leading gentlemen of the Free-Trade party.

Mr. Cobden spoke at length on the question of the Corn Law, especially dwelling upon the effects of monopoly upon the manufacturers and operatives of the district. He alluded in terms of merited severity to those employers who support the Corn Law in obedience to the call of party, when in private they admit the mischievous effects inflicted by it upon trade. The operatives had now a proof of the benefits of moderate prices of food, in the increased demand for their labour, and the higher wages now paid in almost every branch of manufacture. Mr. Cobden then explained the process by which the power of the squire might be effectually overcome, and the populous and manufacturing counties gained to Free Trade, and exhorted the Free-Traders of Wigan to enrol themselves upon the county register.

Mr. Bright directed the attention of the meeting to the sugar monopoly, explaining the injustice which it inflicts upon the consumer, and arguing from this one case how false are all the pretences of giving "protection" by a system whose principle is one of wrong, and which, if in active operation, must necessarily plunder the community. He then referred to the state of the borough of Wigan, returning one member for monopoly and one for Free-Trade; and strongly urged its electors to a more sensible exercise of their electoral trust. The Wigan elections have been notorious for expense to candidates and corruption among a portion of the voters; and Mr. Bright, in severe and powerful language, denounced the practices which have obtained among them, and entreated them to strive to redeem the character of the borough. The temporary gain of a bribe was little compared with the loss of self-respect and the upbraidings of conscience which the giver and the receiver of a bribe must feel; and, when the prosperity of trade and the comforts of multitudes of families depended upon the measures of the Government, a greater crime could scarcely be imagined than that which an elector committed who, for any base consideration, sold the interests of the country, and betrayed the trust reposed in him.

On the motion of Mr. EVANS, a committee was appointed to superintend and promote the registration for the county. JOSEPH ACTON Esq., then moved, and THOS. TAYLOR, Esq., seconded, a vote of thanks to the deputation, which was carried with great cheering.

Mr. COBDEN proposed thanks to the Chairman, which were carried with cheers; and the proceedings terminated. It is probable that on no former occasion has there been so good a Free-Trade meeting in Wigan; and there is every reason to hope that before long that borough will take its proper place among the constituencies returning none but Free-Traders to Parliament. There is material in the borough, and all that is wanting is a little more courageous leadership on the part of the more influential gentlemen.

From the proceedings of this evening we can foresee a great change for the better in the management of the Free-Trade question in Wigan.

##### BRAMLEY—WEST RIDING.

On Friday, the 10th instant, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright attended a very numerous meeting at Bramley. The townships of Bramley, Pudsey, Stanningley, and Farsley, contain a large number of county voters, and, from their being manufacturing townships, it was believed that a large addition might be made to the register. Bramley was selected as the place where the meeting should be held, and the Baptist Chapel in that village was crowded with an audience drawn from the surrounding villages. Mr. HATTON STANNFIELD, of Leeds, accompanied the deputation from the Council of the League, and on entering the chapel they were loudly cheered.

JOHN CLIFFE, Esq., a veteran Free-Trade, was called to the chair. On the platform were—Mr. George Andrews, Mr. Calvert, Mr. D. HAINSWORTH, Mr. P. HAINSWORTH, Mr. R. WILSON, Mr. Saul MURRAY, Mr. John AQUILLO, the Rev. James MACPHERSON (minister of the chapel), and other gentlemen.

Mr. COBDEN and Mr. BRIGHT addressed the meeting in most effective speeches. Every argument was responded to by the audience, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed.

Mr. HATTON STANNFIELD briefly spoke, as also did Mr. S. MURRAY, Mr. P. HAINSWORTH, and other gentlemen.

The Rev. Mr. MACPHERSON expressed his gratification with the meeting, considering its object one of humanity, and in accordance with the benign precepts of the Christian religion.

A committee was appointed to carry out the plans of the League, and the utmost determination was manifested to increase the Free-Trade register for the district as much as possible.

The gentlemen of the deputation drove off amid the loud and reiterated cheering of the crowd by whom the carriage was surrounded.

## MEETINGS IN THE HALIFAX POLLING DISTRICT.

The Halifax Committee, with a view to rouse the whole polling district, arranged for public meetings to be held in some of the more important townships, and procured the aid of Mr. Plint, of Leeds, at each of them. The series commenced at Elland, on Thursday evening, the 2nd inst., and was held in the school-room of the Wesleyan Chapel. Mr. Smith, of Elland, filled the chair. Mr. Plint addressed the audience, about 100 in number, for upwards of an hour and a half, and was heard with great attention and evident interest. At the conclusion, twelve names of persons who intend to qualify were given in, and it is believed that number will be made up to 16 or 18 before the 31st.—The following evening, Friday, the 3rd, a second meeting was held at Brighouse; the chair was ably filled by J. T. Clay, Esq., of Ristrick, and on the platform were Messrs. Holland (Sled-house), Messrs. Ormerod, and Mr. Sugden, and several other influential gentlemen of Brighouse and the neighbourhood. Mr. James Houston, and Messrs. R. and F. Crossley, of Halifax, attended as a deputation from that place. Mr. Houston, Mr. Plint, and Mr. R. Crossley addressed a very attentive and enthusiastic audience, consisting of nearly 300 persons, at some length; and at the conclusion of a vote of thanks to the chairman and the deputation, three hearty cheers were given for the League.—The third meeting was held in the school-room of the Independent Chapel, Northowram, on Monday, the 6th. The Rev. Mr. White was chairman, and Messrs J. Crossley, and — Whitworth, of Halifax, and Mr. Plint, were the speakers on the occasion. The audience was thin, and it was evident that information on the whole subject of Free Trade needs to be disseminated in this township. The population is principally engaged in the getting of stone and slate, and is palpably behind the population of the neighbouring townships, which is engaged in manufactures, in its appreciation of Free Trade.—On Tuesday, the 7th, a fourth meeting was held in the Methodist Association Chapel, Luddenden Foot. The chapel was well filled, and the chair was taken and ably filled by James Aker, Esq., of Kershaw-house. Mr. Dunbar, of Halifax, and Mr. Plint, successively addressed the meeting.—On the following evening, the concluding meeting was held at Sowerby Bridge, and a deputation of 10 gentlemen from the Halifax committee accompanied Mr. Plint. The chair was honourably filled by Mr. Thompson, corn miller, of Halifax, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Plint. Notwithstanding the most unseemly interruptions of the Monopolist-Chartists at the two latter meetings, committees were formed at each place, and there appears to be the more zeal to canvass in consequence of the very conduct which was obviously intended to thwart the whole scheme.—*Leeds Mercury.*

## NORTH CHESHIRE REGISTRATION.

The following letter, from one of the largest landed proprietors in North Cheshire, was sent to the committee which called the late meeting at Macclesfield to hear an address from Mr. Cobden:—

"GENTLEMEN,—As I cannot conveniently attend night meetings at a distance from home, you must accept my good wishes instead of my presence. Meanwhile I send you what is better than either, namely, an argument in favour of your cause—the extraordinary change which has occurred in the last four years in the economy of agriculture, and consequent facility of producing and selling the necessities of life. Improved machinery has supplied draining tiles at one-fourth of the old prices, and guano has enabled us to manure the land at a nearly similar saving of time, labour, and money. There is, moreover, no mode of investing capital more profitable than by the improvement of the soil, and thus turning sterility into fertility and abundance. With these appliances it is not difficult to show that protection to agriculture, though it may console the sloven who has neither money nor skill to do justice to the soil, is an unnecessary to enlightened farmers as it is offensive and unjust to the rest of society. Your obedient servant,

"E. D. DAVENPORT.

"Capethorne, Jan. 7, 1845."

## REGISTRATION APPEALS.

## IMPORTANT DECISIONS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—Thursday, January 16, 1845.—Before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice MAULE, Mr. Justice CROFT, and Mr. Justice KELL.

## SOUTHERN DIVISION OF LANCAHIRE.

## TOWNSHIP OF CHADDERTON.

*Eckersley, appellant; Barker, respondent.*

The respondent's name appeared on the list of voters for property situate in Chadderton, and was objected to by the appellant. The revising barrister retained the name, subject to the opinion of the court, on the following case:—

The respondent is seized, in fee-simple, of an undivided moiety of two cottages, situate in Tinker's-lane, Hollinwood. It appeared in evidence that none of the cottages were numbered, nor were they known by any name that any person inquiring in Tinker's-lane or the neighbourhood for the cottages claimed for would readily find them. It was objected, on the part of the appellant, that the description given, namely, "Tinker's lane, Hollinwood," was not a sufficient description, as required by 6 Vict., c. 18, reference being had to the form in the schedule A of that statute; and that, neither of the cottages being numbered or known by any name, the names of the occupying tenants should be inserted. The revising barrister ruled the contrary.

The case was argued last Michaelmas term, and the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE now delivered the judgment of the court. He said:—The objection in this case was, that the description in the list of voters of property in respect of which the respondent claimed the right to vote was insufficient, inasmuch as it omitted to state the name of the occupying tenant. The qualification is described to be in respect of "an undivided moiety of two firehold cottages in Tinker's-lane, Hollinwood," and it is stated as a fact in the case, that none of the cottages in Tinker's-lane, Hollinwood, are numbered, nor are either of the two cottages known by any particular name. The question therefore is, whether, under the circumstances of this case, the name of the occupying tenant is required to be inserted; and we think, upon the proper construction of the act, it is not. The 4th section of the statute 6 Vict., c. 18, requires the names of claim

to be delivered or sent to the overseers, according to the form in schedule A, No. 2, or to that effect; and that form requires the street, lane, or other like place, and number of the house (if any) where the property is situate, or name of the property, if known by any, or name of the occupying tenant, to be inserted; and we think the word "or" in this form is disjunctive, and creates three different descriptions, and that it is sufficient if the qualification be brought within any one of them: namely, either the street or lane, and number, if any; the name of the property, if any; or the name of the occupying tenant, if any. And although it is contended that the fifth section of the act, which requires the overseers to make out, according to the form No. 3, in schedule A, an alphabetical list of the claimants,—containing (amongst other things) "the nature of his qualification, and the local or other description of his property, and the name of the occupying tenant thereof," and that, consequently, the name of the occupying tenant must be inserted in each case,—yet it appears a sufficient answer that this direction is qualified and restricted by the words which immediately follow, namely, "That the same shall be written as they are stated in the claim." The direction at the head of the form No. 2 appears to us to intend, that if the house is in a street, lane, or other like place in the parish, the street or lane should be mentioned, and if the houses are numbered the number also should be given; but that if the house and premises are not in a street or lane or other like place, but in a road or on a common, or the like, then the name of the property should be given, if known by any, or the name of the occupying tenant. If, however, the two latter requisites are held to apply necessarily to the house or premises, when situate in a street or lane, then this inconvenience would follow, that there is no description required by the act to be given to a house or premises not situate in a street or lane, or other like place. The direction given by the Legislature to the overseers in the statute 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, sec. 37, for the framing of their notice, according to the form No. 1 in the schedule H to that act, which is a notice precisely for the same object as that required by the 6 Vict., c. 18, sec. 4, is so expressed as to leave no doubt but that the requisition to give the name of the property, or the name of the occupying tenant, only holds where the house is not situate in a street, lane, or other like place. The act 6 Vict., c. 18, is made in *pari materia* with the former act, it may be properly inferred that no more is required by the later act than by the former. The court, therefore, think the decision of the revising barrister was right.—Decision affirmed.

## DECISION AGAINST THE RIGHT OF LODGERS IN BOROUGHS VOTING.

## CITY OF WESTMINSTER, ST. MARY-LE-STRAND.

*Pitts, appellant; Smedley, respondent.*

Samuel Marshall is owner of a house, 17, Catherine-street, Strand. He occupies the shop and first floor; he lets the other floors to several lodgers, Samuel Pitts being one, who rents the second and third floors, at a weekly rent amounting to £26 a year; he has the exclusive control over those rooms, and has the keys, which are in his own possession, and also a latch-key by which he lets himself in at night. There are other lodgers in the house, to some of whom the landlord gives latch-keys; but he sometimes has young men as lodgers, and to them he does not intrust the latch-keys. Claimant's right of egress and ingress has never been interfered with by the landlord. There is another lock to the entrance-door, but he has never seen the key of it; when he has found it locked, he has entered through the shop. Pitts's name appears along with Marshall's in the rate made in November, 1843, and upon the subsequent rates; there was no rate made between April and November, 1843. Charles Marshall not only occupies the ground floor and the shop, but also resides with his family on the premises. The question for the opinion of the court was, whether Samuel Pitts had such an exclusive occupation of the second and third floors, in the house, 17, Catherine-street, as to confer the franchise on that point.

The revising barrister held that the claimant had not such exclusive occupation.

Mr. COCKBURN having addressed the court for the appellant,

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE (without calling upon the learned counsel for the respondent to address them) delivered the judgment of the court as follows:—It appears to me that this case is free from any doubt. The question is whether the claimant here occupies this part of the house as "owner or tenant," for these are the words of the statute; and the question does not turn upon the description of the premises or building, but upon the nature of the occupation. This is a case in which the landlord occupies the ground floor, and resides in the house—living there. All that he has done has been to give a limited enjoyment of this part of the house to such person as the claimant; I call it a limited enjoyment, because the door of the house has a lock upon it, and it is stated in the case that the party has no key to that lock; it is also stated that when he found it locked that he has gone through the shop; and this is not an actual occupation of a separate building in any way, but the party is merely a lodger of the landlord; therefore, the decision of the revising barrister was right, and therefore must be confirmed.

The learned counsel for the respondent applied for costs, which the court allowed.

*Score v. Hugget.*

This was an appeal from the decision of the revising barrister of the city of Westminster.

At the revision, George Bedford claimed to be inserted in the list of voters for the parish of St. James, Westminster, in respect of the occupation of apartments at No. 7, Leicester-street, Regent-street. The apartments consisted of two rooms on the second floor, for which he paid £20. 10s. a year rent. Other rooms in the house were occupied by other persons. The access to the first and other floors was by the common street door of the house, a key of which was in the possession of each of the occupiers, who had each a key of the respective apartments in his own occupation, and the exclusive right of access thereto. The landlord did not reside in or occupy any part of the house. The revising barrister decided that the occupation of the two rooms in question by Bedford was sufficient, and allowed the claim.

Mr. MANWATERMAN appeared for the appellant, and

endeavoured to distinguish this from the case of "Wright v. the Town-clerk of Stockport," but

The COURT (without calling on Mr. Cockburn, who was on the other side) at once held that there was a separate occupation by the parties, quite different from that in "Pitts v. Smedley," and that the decision of the revising barrister must be affirmed, with costs.

## BOROUGH OF TOTNESS.

*Toms, appellant; Cuming, respondent.*

In this case the point reserved for the opinion of the court was whether a copy of a notice of objection was a duplicate if the copy was not signed by the objector himself, but with his name by some other party.

The revising barrister decided that the duplicate notice was void, it not bearing the personal signature of the objector.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, in giving judgment, said it appeared to him that the objector had not put himself within the meaning of the 100th section of the 6 Vict., c. 18, by which section he was to deliver the notice open and in duplicate to the postmaster, thereby making both of them originals. In this case the objector had not signed the duplicate: he, therefore, thought that the objector had not delivered the notice to the postmaster "open and in duplicate." The decision must, therefore, be affirmed.

The other Judges were of the same opinion.

Decision affirmed.

## HILARY TERM, 1845.

On Tuesday the Court of Common Pleas appointed the following days for hearing the appeals from the revising barristers' courts, viz.:—

Thursday, the 16th of January, 1845.

Monday, the 20th do.

Thursday, the 23rd do.

Monday, the 27th do.

The following is the order in which they will be taken:

No.	Place from which the appeal comes.	Appellant.	Respondent.
1	Westminster, city of ..	Pitts.	Smedley.
8	Yorkshire, west riding ..	Baxter.	Newman.
14	Totness, borough of ..	Toms.	Cuming.
15	Westminster, city of ..	Score.	Hugget.
16	Bristol, city of ..	Daniel.	Campbell.
17	Do. ..	Do.	Connelley.
18	Northampton, borough of ..	Jeffery.	Kitchener.
19	Do. ..	Stanton.	Jeffery.
20	Cambridge, borough of ..	Cooper.	Harris, Town-clk. of Cambridge.
21	Do. ..	Do.	Perkins.
22	London, city of ..	Wansley.	Do.
23	Do. ..	Do.	Do.
24	Do. ..	Do.	Do.
25	Do. ..	Bage.	Do.
26	Westbury, borough of ..	Dyer.	Gough.
27	Taunton, borough of ..	Allen.	House.
28	Lambeth, borough of ..	Crocker.	Overseer of St. Mary, Lambeth.
29	London, city of ..	Wansley.	Overseer of St. Peter-le-Poor.
30	Wenlock, borough of ..	Hinton.	Hinton, Town-clk. of Wenlock.
31	Do. ..	Do.	Do.
32	Do. ..	Do.	Do.
33	Blackburn, borough of Nth. Div. of Lancashire ..	Dewhurst.	Fielden.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—As a proof that the condition of the operative classes has improved in this neighbourhood, we may instance that, in the course of the week, upwards of 150 marriages have been solemnized in the town.—*Bolton Free Press.*

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS.—A contemporary, in answer to a querulous correspondent, has the following note, which will be found applicable to, probably, every newspaper in Great Britain:—"The correspondent who will best understand this paragraph is respectfully requested to recollect that newspapers are not produced by supernatural means, nor even prepared, and printed, and published after the manner that many patent and very useful articles are manufactured, 'to order.' He will have the liberality to consider how obliging an editor must become before he can satisfy every reader—every contributor—every correspondent—and every applicant. He will have the kindness to reflect upon the amount of mental and physical labour necessary for producing a paper calculated to please everybody. He will good-naturedly calculate the profit likely to accrue from editorial pursuits—and, above all, he will have the honest manliness to admit that, in the management of a journal, it is better to deserve general support than to strive for individual patronage."

LECTURE ON PEACE.—On Wednesday evening the 15th inst., Mr. George Thompson, at the request of the committee of the London Peace Society, delivered a lecture to a crowded audience in the Hall of Commerce, Finsbury-street. The hon. gentleman on rising was loudly cheered. He stated that the merchants of the city of London had lately paid a very high compliment to a distinguished and gallant individual, who, as the representative of her gracious Majesty, had brought about a peace with China, and had negotiated a treaty of commerce with that empire. He, Mr. Thompson, had no wish to diminish the gratitude and respect with which Sir H. Pottinger was regarded by the people of this country. As a public servant he had nobly done his duty, and was entitled to the thanks of his employers. As, however, there had not been in any of the entertainments recently given to Sir Henry Pottinger an allusion even to the origin of the war with China, or any description of the circumstances by which that war was characterized, he deemed it right to avail himself of the present opportunity of directing attention to the real grounds of the quarrel, and to the nature and consequences of the war to which it had given rise. Mr. Thompson then related the history of British intercourse with China, down to the year 1839, and afterwards gave a vivid description of the horrors of the war, which then dilated upon the unchristian and brutal character of such expeditions and aggressions, under the plea of promoting the ends of commerce, and called upon his audience to determine with what amount of joy the truly patriotic should be hailed, when viewed in connection with the barbarities which had been perpetrated, and the crimes committed against all the laws of morality as well as of nations. Mr. Thompson concluded by an earnest exhortation to his audience to consider the subject of war in connection with the happiness of mankind, and the duties imposed by religion, and not down to the narrow and selfish views of the mercantile class.



## AGRICULTURE.

## A HINT TO GAME-PRESERVERS.

A Correspondent at Hertford writes to us:—"Lord Essex has given Mr John Hardcastle (the tenant of his who occupied close to the palls of his park, and who showed him up very cleverly respecting the game system) notice to quit, and we are now getting subscriptions from the farmers to present him with a piece of plate, in order to testify our hatred of LANDLORDISM and GAME-PRESERVERS, and our approbation of the manly and spirited conduct of Mr. Hardcastle, who, I believe, is, or was a CONSERVATIVE; but, perhaps, this lesson may make him a Free-Trader. As you have already noticed this case in your paper, probably you may think these facts worthy of notice."

## MONOPOLY RENTS, OR CORN RENTS?

## WHO GETS THE LION'S SHARE?

Future historians of British agriculture will probably refer to the expectations farmers have entertained that profit could be created by high prices and artificial scarcity, as the most extraordinary of popular delusions. That landowners should desire high prices, the result of small produce, is intelligible. Their object is high rent, and the shortest road to a high rent is an artificially-enhanced scale of prices. But that the actual cultivators of land should seek an artificial enhancement of prices seems surprising. In the first place, prices are always tending towards the natural, and receding from the artificial standard. Good harvests, improved cultivation over any considerable portion of the country, sudden or excessive importation, and various other circumstances cause prices frequently to fall below the rate at which the makers of the artificial standard tried to fix them. But as both landlords and tenants have believed in the efficacy of the law—the Corn Law—to create an artificial scarcity, and thereby to obtain permanently high prices, rents have been fixed according to the artificial standard. In other words, farmers and land-valuers have agreed to estimate rents as if wheat grown on all the land of this country could always be sold at from 56s. to 60s. a quarter. But in fact wheat now sells for only 41s. a quarter. That alone would account for the distress of farmers. That will in a great measure explain such paragraphs as the following, which we have taken from the *Mark-lane Express*:

"Lord Bagot, at his recent audit, taking into consideration the depression prevailing in all agricultural produce, made a remission of 15 per cent. on the rents of his numerous tenantry in Staffordshire," and probably the same thing has been done

upon most of the large estates in England. Now what is this but an admission on the part of the landowners that they have made an unconscientious bargain with their tenantry? And is there any one simple enough to imagine that, by these paragraph-paraded abatements of rent, the landlords give back all they have unfairly obtained from their tenants?

There is but one way in which these fluctuations can be provided for with common fairness and honesty towards tenant-farmers, namely, by the immediate adoption of corn-rents. On this topic our agricultural readers will peruse with advantage a letter addressed by Mr. Cobden to the *Mark-lane Express*, which we shall refer to more particularly next week, and which forms part of a controversy on the subject of rent now going on in that journal.

In the next place, the effect of high prices, and the expectation—whether well-founded or not—of high prices is to give the landlord as rent an undue proportion of the gross produce of a farm; and that at the expense of the tenant's profits.

It has been again and again shown that nearly as much as one-half of the whole produce, saleable produce, of a farm is usually required to pay the rent and tithes. Yet in the face of this we constantly find landlords and their land-agents offering certain ideal calculations of the cost of growing an acre of wheat, barley, or oats, and then they refer to the amount of the rent per acre, and say, "How small a proportion does the rent bear to the whole expense of cultivation." These people seem to forget that rent can properly be only the surplus after repayment to the farmer of all the costs of cultivation, with the ordinary profit on the capital employed. How few farmers, under our present system, are able to realize this! The way in which these calculations are concocted cannot be better illustrated than by taking from Mr. Robert Baker's prize essay on the agriculture of Essex, what he calls the expense of an acre of barley:—

First year, making the fallow, three whole tithes, and one strike, at 8s.	£	s.	d.
Two harrowings	0	1	4
Seed tithes	0	8	0
Harrowing	0	1	4
Seed, four bushels	0	16	0
Sowing	0	0	4
	£2	15	0"

He then adds other items of the same sort, with two years' rent, tithes, taxes, and so forth, and makes the whole cost £28. 1s. 8d., estimating the total crop to be worth £10, "leaving £18. 4d. for implements, wear and tear, consumed and property

taxes, and for two years' profit." Now, the absurdity of this mode of calculation is manifest; for why are all the ploughings, harrowings, &c., to be estimated in money? The true and the only mode of keeping a farming account, is to state the aggregate sum invested as capital, and then to enter the actual yearly money payments and money receipts. Let that be done, and we shall soon see who gets the lion's share of the produce of the soil.

And this view is borne out by Mr. Bacon's prize essay on Norfolk agriculture, wherein, after giving, in great detail, the debtor and creditor money accounts of various farms in Norfolk for periods extending over several years, he says, "In comparing the gross produce with the rent, it must be borne in mind that the expenditure for manure is 10s. an acre, and the consumption of artificial food (oilcake, &c.) about 8s.; if these last be considered as a fixed sum, it would about double the rent, and the gross produce would hardly exceed 2.55 of the rent."

We are glad to learn that farmers are looking into this question, of what proportion rent bears to their whole selling produce; they will find that it will repay them for their trouble.

The Corn Laws materially increase the landlord's share of the whole produce of the farm. It is true they cause the whole produce to be far less than it would be under a natural state of things, but the landlord obtains as much, or nearly as much, now as he would if the farmer should become really an occupier on his own account, instead of living a mere bailiff to scrape up the landlord's rent, as he too commonly is at present. This may be easily made evident. Under the existing competition for farms amongst farmers, the landlord obtains as rent an enormous proportion of the whole produce which can be raised upon a system of yearly tenancies. He also obtains a rent calculated according to the Corn-Law scale. Land-agents assume that prices will always be up to the top of the act-of-Parliament scale, and that the land will every year produce what it may grow in the most favourable seasons; and farmers, especially those short of capital, who are eager to get or to keep farms, blindly fall into the pit, and enter into engagements which, in three years out of five, render them helpless supplicants for abatements of rent and other indulgences.

Now, let the trade in corn be free, and farmers will no longer be deluded into the expectation of making a profit by high prices with short crops, and then they will not take farms unless they can get them for long terms of years. They will enter upon their business with more caution and calculation, and will look to the results of outlays extending over several years for profitable returns. They will invest more capital, and, of course, obtain much larger produce. But of this produce a much greater amount than at present will be raised, through the capital, enterprise, and skill of the farmers, which will form their own reward. Landlords will be thankful if they get as high rents as they do now, and must no longer seek to grasp more than a fair surplus after the costs of cultivation have been repaid to the farmer; at the same time the lease will give the farmer independence, and advance his social happiness and personal respectability, no less than it will increase his pecuniary gains.

Free Trade is necessary to render the farmer's business one in which, taking one year with another, a man of moderate means and intelligence can secure a livelihood and a competency. This is so obvious that nothing more is required to make all farmers Free-Traders, than thoroughly to understand their own position, especially as regards the immense proportion of their saleable produce which goes "to make up the rent." This we will try to help them to comprehend.

## THE MODERN MOLOCH.

The following unequivocal expression of the opinion generally entertained by the public, was given on the occasion of an inquest held on the body of a man whose life had been sacrificed at the shrine of landlords' sports:—

"THE GAME LAWS.—A jury impanelled at Worcester, touching the death of a gamekeeper, made the following important declaration:—That the jury cannot but deplore the continuance of laws so immoral in their tendency, so fruitful in crime, and so destructive to human life as the game laws have proved, after long experience throughout the length and breadth of the country, and that they strongly recommend their abrogation."—*Provincial paper*.

This is significant; will our landowning legislators regard the warning on the wall?

A meeting was held last week in the Town-hall, Galtonborough, for the purpose of forming an association to arrest the progress of lucubration. Several influential farmers and landowners were present. Resolutions were agreed to, and a committee appointed to carry out the objects of the meeting. About £700 was subscribed before the meeting separated.

A mendicant, named James Burnett, was committed for fourteen days at Queen-square, on Wednesday last, for begging in the streets. He is one of those wretched looking beings who abstract money from the burials by lying on the flags with the word "starvation" written before them; when taken by the police, he was found to have his pocket well stored with "coppers," the fruits of this "ingenious device."

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Leaguer."—A father can claim a vote, and the property would carry four other votes. If he grants by deed 40s. rent-charges to each, the conveyance must be before the 31st inst. Several reviews and other articles, in type, are unavoidably postponed.

FREEDOM—COMMERCIAL, POLITICAL, AND RELIGIOUS. THE CHRISTIAN EXAMINER, a Political, Scientific, Literary, and Ecclesiastical Journal, same size and form as the LEAGUE, is published on the 15th day of each month, and being stamped is transmitted by post. Annual Subscription, in advance, 5s. No 1, Vol. II., is this day published, when new Subscribers have a good opportunity to begin. —London: J. Snow, 35, Paternoster-row.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 18, 1845.

All parties that feel themselves specially aggrieved by taxation are pressing their claims for reduction on the Ministry and the country with all the earnestness that self-interest can inspire. The most reasonable and forcible arguments are put forward by those who object to the taxes that have been imposed upon the raw materials of manufacture, and certainly nothing but the most stringent exigencies of the State can justify their continuance. Now, the heaviest and most extensive tax imposed on the raw materials of manufacture is one which may be abolished with very little loss to the revenue, and the remission of which would most effectually benefit the artisan, the operative, and the labourer. Food is an element of manufacture in every one of the departments of industry; that which supports the labourer is obviously an essential element of labour; food is therefore worked up in our clothes and our calicoes, in our glass and our earthenware, in our tin and in our iron; in all that we produce for exportation, and in all that we retain for consumption at home. While various sections of manufacturers are pressing their claims on the Cabinet and the Legislature, precedence should be given to that demand for relief which includes the common interest of them all. The repeal of this iniquitous and impolitic tax, which injures the consumer without benefiting the revenue, is so strongly recommended by moral as well as economic considerations, that nothing but the intense selfishness of class could resist the reasonable demands for its remission. Cheap food has been proved to be concomitant with increased demand for labour, an increased amount of wages, an increased consumption of articles taxed for the benefit of the State, and an increased revenue. Here, then, is a tax the repeal of which will be equally advantageous to the industrial classes and to the State itself.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The discussion in the French Chamber of Deputies on the address commenced on Monday, and was continued on Tuesday and Wednesday. There prevails considerable doubt as to whether the Ministry of M. Guizot will have a majority. They are opposed by M. Molé, who is known to be the favourite of the King; from which it is conceived that his Majesty is not averse to a change of Ministry. If this be the case, the defeat of the Ministry, and their consequent resignation, may be looked for. The newest and most important fact of the sitting, was the announcement that the English Government had consented to a mixed commission, for inquiring as to the means of revising the right-of-search treaties.

SPAIN.—On the 7th instant the Senate adopted the Slave-Trade Suppression Bill.

SWITZERLAND.—At the sitting of the Grand Council of Lucerne, held on the 7th, a decree was passed whereby all the expenses of the Government in securing the arrest of the authors of the late revolution, and in carrying into effect the measures resolved upon for its suppression, are to be paid out of the property of the delinquents. All persons implicated in the revolt are declared incapable of disposing of any part of their property.

The *New Zurich Gazette* states that the Council of Regency of Lucerne has announced the definite adoption of the arrangement with the Jesuits, and that it entered into operation on the 5th instant.

REPORTED DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—News reached London on Thursday, through Brussels, of the death of the Emperor of Russia. It was not official, but the *Belair*, a Ministerial paper, published in that city, stated that there was no doubt of its authenticity. This intelligence caused a fall in the funds, both at Brussels and Amsterdam. Since doubt, however, has been cast upon it in consequence of no report of the event having reached the Russian Embassy in London, and also that it is not probable it would have been forwarded through Brussels, but by way of Berlin. This doubt is further increased by the absence of any positive intelligence up to yesterday (Friday). It is, however, supposed to be a mere stock-jubbing rumour.

PRAQUE.—A letter from Prague of the 2nd states, that from the commencement of the disease in horned cattle up to Dec. 22, the disease raged in 129 different places in Bohemia, that 2143 horned cattle were attacked by it, of which number 106 only had recovered; 1044 having died of the complaint, 880 were necessarily killed, and 33 were still under the scourge.

SWEDEN.—We learn from Stockholm, December 27, that the King of Sweden, although strongly desirous of effecting capital punishment from the penal code of that country, has consented to its being retained, a large majority of the Council of State having decided for the maintenance of it.

UNITED STATES.—The British and North American Royal Mail steamer Acadia arrived at Liverpool, on Tuesday, bringing intelligence from New York to the 31st ult. Another joint resolution, providing for the annexation of Texas to the United States, "in conformity

with the treaty of 1803 for the purchase of Louisiana," was making way through the House of Representatives, having been introduced, read a first and second time, and referred to the committee of the whole house, in one day. The *New York Herald* states, that annexation would be consummated in the course of a few days by both houses. A memorial from respectable citizens of Pennsylvania, praying Congress to appropriate the public domain for the purchase and liberation of the slaves of the United States, was laid on the table of the House of Representatives on the 23rd ult.—by ayes, 49; noes, 117. A stormy debate had arisen on a series of resolutions proposed by the Pro-Slavery member for South Carolina, Mr. Pickens declaring the recent resolve of the House of Representatives to receive petitions against slavery a flagrant outrage on the rights of South Carolina, and dangerous to the stability of the federal compact, &c. Considerable agitation prevails in the States on the subject of slavery, the slaveholders being evidently apprehensive of the further spread of abolitionism.

Miss Della Webster, recently convicted of aiding slaves to escape at Lexington, Kentucky, has been sentenced to two years' confinement in the Penitentiary; the Rev. Mr. Torrey, at Baltimore, convicted of a similar act, to several terms of confinement, amounting in the whole to seven years and three months; and Mr. Walker, Missouri, and Mr. Kelly, in Virginia, have had the like sentence passed upon them.

A terrible steamboat explosion occurred, on the 14th ult., on the Mississippi. The *Belle*, of Clarksville, from New Orleans for Nashville, came into collision with the *Louisiana*, from Memphis to Orleans, and immediately sunk; the number of passengers who perished was thirty-one.

MEXICO.—Latest accounts represent that the insurrection against Santa Anna was spreading, the principal towns having pronounced against him. The great object of the revolution is to decide whether Santa Anna shall be precipitated from power, or whether, on the other hand, he shall be the permanent dictator and arbitrary master of the Government.

VENEZUELA.—Accounts from Lagunayra, of the 15th of November, state that an insurrection, of rather a serious character, had recently broken out in the neighbourhood of Lezama, in this province, some sixty or seventy miles from Caracas. A body of troops was immediately despatched by the Government to the camp of the insurgents, for the purpose of restoring order; on their arrival, a flag of truce was sent to the hostile army, with offers of pardon and protection to all who would return peacefully to their homes. These offers were, however, rejected, and a battle ensued, which resulted in the complete overthrow of the rebels, and the death of their leaders, Centeno and Alvarado.

## DOMESTIC.

On Monday the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh Strelitz (daughter of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge) was safely delivered of a Prince, though unhappily it shortly afterwards expired.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Windsor Castle on Wednesday for Stowe, the seat of the Duke of Buckingham, with whom they are now stopping on a visit.

The foundation-stone of a steam busin was laid at Portsmouth on Monday, by Sir Hyde Parker, C.B., superintendent of the dockyard.

On Monday morning, at ten o'clock, an inquiry, adjourned from the previous Friday, was resumed and concluded before Mr. Wakley, M.P., at the Horse and Groam, Seven Dials, on the body of Joseph Leonard, an Italian boy, aged fifteen, who was found dying in the streets in a state of destitution, and expired on Wednesday last in St. Giles's workhouse, to which he was conveyed. The deceased was one of those unfortunate creatures who are brought over in shoals to this country to perambulate the streets with hand-organs, and to solicit charity. In the course of the investigation, which lasted six hours, and excited great interest, it appeared that the deceased, named Rabbotti, was in the employment of an Italian, named Rabbotti; they were obliged to go out at nine in the morning, and remain out pursuing their avocation till eleven at night. Two of the boys said that they were well treated by their master, but a lad named Fortunati alleged several acts of cruelty by Rabbotti towards the deceased. Deceased was labouring under disease of the chest, and constantly complained. Notwithstanding this, he was compelled to go for the usual time into the streets with his organ. There was no written agreement between Rabbotti and those he employed, but the term for which they were engaged on being brought from Italy was two years and a half. Whatever money a boy brought home at night, he had to divide with the master for the use of the organ. A gentleman who was present said that the amount of cruelty practised upon these poor defenceless boys by their rapacious masters was inconceivable. The jury returned a verdict of natural death, but accompanied it with a severe censure on the conduct of Rabbotti, for allowing the deceased to be exposed to the inclemency of the weather whilst labouring under illness. It was stated, in the course of the inquiry, that in the metropolis and principal manufacturing towns of England there are 1000 Italian organ boys, who draw from the public a sum exceeding £20,000 annually.

A woman named Sarah Freeman, a most abandoned character, has been committed, on the verdict of a coroner's jury, held on the body of her brother Charles Diamond, at Shipwick, Somersetshire, to take her trial for having wilfully murdered him, there being strong suspicion that she administered arsenic in some food which she gave him on the 24th ultimo, of which he died. The case has created intense excitement at Shipwick, not simply arising from the circumstances connected with the case for which the prisoner stands committed, but from the fact, that within a short time she has buried no less than five of her nearest relatives, besides her brother—viz., her mother, who was buried about three weeks since, three of her illegitimate children, and her husband. The body of the mother has been exhumed, and no doubt is stated to exist of the fact that the unfortunate woman was poisoned.

On Monday the 6th inst. the Berwick Theatre and Assembly-rooms were destroyed by fire. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is believed to have been accidental.

The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation Hall on Monday. The chair was occupied by Mr. Davis, barrister, one of the editors of the *Nation*. A letter was read from Mr. O'Connell, announcing his intention to

be in Dublin on the 18th or the 19th inst. Several speeches were made, strongly deprecating the Pope's letter to Dr. Crolly, and denying his right to interfere, or to use his spiritual influence or authority, in the political affairs of Ireland. The rent for the week amounted to £230.

The Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland, Dr. Crolly, has addressed a letter to Mr. O'Connell, expressing his regret and surprise at Mr. O'Connell's denial that the letter sent to him (Dr. Crolly) some time since from the see of Rome was not canonical. Dr. Crolly publishes the referred-to document, which is in Latin, and the purport of which is to urge the Primate to use his official authority and influence to check the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood from engaging in political agitation. The Archbishop also publishes a resolution passed unanimously by the assembled bishops in November last, in Dublin, acknowledging the receipt of the Pope's letter, and pledging themselves to carry the spirit of it into effect.

Meetings hostile to the Charitable Bequests' Act continue to be held in Ireland.

The Manchester subscription for public parks, &c., now amounts to a sum of nearly £30,000, so that the committee is now in a position to apply to Government for a grant.

The Manchester testimonial to Rowland Hill, amounting to upwards of £1400, (after deducting expenses) has been presented, by Sir Thomas Potter, treasurer, to that gentleman.

## THE FUNDS.

	Jan. 11	Jan. 13	Jan. 14	Jan. 15	Jan. 16	Jan. 17
Bank Stock.....	212	—	—	211	211	—
3 per Ct. R.R. Ann.	101	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. Com. Ann. ex. d.	100	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. R.R. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Long An. Ex. 1860	124	124	124	124	124	124
Cons. for Opng.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Exc. Dills, p. 100	65	64	61	61	61	—
Ind. R.R. und. 1000	78	—	75	77	77	—
India Stock.....	288	—	289	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds.....	104	—	—	—	—	—
Brazilian Bonds.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres.....	40	40	—	40	89	—
Chilian.....	—	104	—	—	—	—
Colombian Veneas.....	—	144	—	144	144	144
Danish.....	—	60	60	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	94	94	—	—	98	98
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	34	34	—	34	34	34
Peruvian.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. Govt.....	60	60	—	—	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	27	26	—	26	27	27
Do. 2 per Cent.	37	36	—	36	37	37

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Jan. 18.—The supply of English Wheat last week was large; it was chiefly from Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, and direct to the millers; there was only a moderate quantity fresh up this morning from the home counties, and the condition being generally indifferent it was taken off slowly at about the same prices as this day week. There was a fair demand for Foreign Wheat at former rates. The secondary quality of English Harley were 1s. cheaper, and even the best samples barely maintained the rates of this day week, but there was no alteration in the value of Foreign. Beans were again rather cheaper. No alteration in Peas. The return shows a large arrival of Irish Oats, in addition to which several vessels arrived in time for this day's market; there was a free sale to country buyers at 1s. decline from last Monday. The supply of Scotch Oats not being so large as last week, prices were little if any lower.

## BRITISH.

	Per Imperial Quarter.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 45 to 54	—	—
— Ditto..... New 42 to 48	44	44
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old 42 to 48	44	44
— Scotch..... 42 to 46	44	44
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed.....	23	23
— Ditto..... ditto.. Polands.....	23	23
— Scotch Feed..... 28 to 25 Polats.....	26	26
— Limerick.....	23	23
— Ditto.....	23	23
— Cork.....	24	24
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black Old and New 22	23	23
— Sligo..... New.....	23	23
— Galway..... do.....	21 6	22 6
Barley, New.....	30	30
Beans, Mazagan Old 35 to 37..... New.....	32	32
— Harrow..... do. 40 to 43..... do.....	34	34
— Small..... do.....	42	42
Peas, White, New.....	34	34
— Grey..... 31 to 32..... Maple.....	32	32
Flour, Town-made..... per sack of 280 lbs.....	36	36
— Norfolk and Suffolk.....	34	34

## FOREIGN.

	Per Imperial Quarter.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed.....	48 to 56	—
— Rostock.....	47 to 54	—
— Stettin.....	44 to 52	—
— Hamburg.....	42 to 48	—
— Odessa.....	42 to 46	—
— Ditto..... Polish.....	47 to 50	—
— Rumania..... soft.....	42 to 46	—
— Ditto..... hard.....	40 to 44	—
— Rumania..... Red.....	45 to 49	—
— Ditto..... White.....	50 to 54	—
Barley, Grinding.....	38 to 40	—
— Distilling.....	30 to 33	—
Oats, Archangel.....	22 to 23	16 to 17
— Swedish.....	22 to 23	—
— Danish.....	22 to 21	—
— Stralsund.....	23 to 24	—
— Dutch Brew.....	24 to 26	19 to 20
— Polands.....	—	19 to 20
Beans, Egyptian.....	32 to 34	32 to 37
Peas, White.....	33 to 36	—
— Ditto Boilers.....	36 to 38	—
Flour, Canada..... per barrel of 195 lbs.....	36 to 38	—
— United States.....	36 to 38	18 to 20
— Danzig.....	35 to 38	18 to 20

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Jan. 6 to Jan. 11, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English.....	11344	6064	3809	1840
Scotch.....	—	4338	4987	—
Irish.....	—	—	54930	—
Foreign.....	3330	4179	—	1035

Flour, 5370 sacks, 3083 bars.

FRIDAY, Jan. 17.—We have had liberal supplies of all Grain since Monday, particularly of Oats from Ireland. Of the Wheat which has arrived, much of it is direct to the millers. There is but little inquiry for the samples offered for sale, and they are disposed of with difficulty at Monday's rates. The quantity of good Foreign Wheat left on hand is so small, that the holders do not press sales, and former prices are therefore fully maintained, but the demand is by no means active. English Harley of all descriptions is difficult of disposal. Factors

have been unwilling to force sales, so that prices are not at present lower than last Monday, but much of this week's supply remains on hand. Foreign Barley for distilling and grinding is held firmly, and the few sales made are at former rates. The impression being truly general that Oats are not at safe prices, the dealers have shown more disposition to get into stock, and a fair proportion of the supply has been disposed of on Wednesday and to-day at about Monday's rates. No alteration in Beans and Peas. There was no variation in the duties yesterday.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	7320	—	200
Barley.....	4080	270	—
Oats.....	2490	27860	270

Flour, 5450 sacks.

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
7th Dec.	45	2.34	9.21	10.31	2.37	5.36
14th "	45	1.34	5.21	11.32	0.36	9.36
21st "	45	3.34	2.21	10.32	0.35	11.33
28th "	45	6.34	3.20	10.31	9.35	7.35
4th Jan.	45	8.34	2.21	10.33	9.36	3.36
11th "	45	10.34	5.21	7.31	4.35	9.36

Aggregate Averages of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 4d.; Barley, 34s. 4d.; Oats, 21s. 8d.; Rye, 32s. 0d.; Beans, 36s. 3d.; Peas 35s. 11d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 4s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 6s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

## LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Jan. 12, 1844.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Grain.	4901	49s. 4d.	—	—	—	—
Barley..	923s	36s. 1d.	—	—	1753	24s. 4d.
Oats ..	22101	22s. 10d.	—	—	866	36s. 7d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Dec. 5, 1844.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
In London,	128582	6089	24303	20	1042	1285
Unit. King.	364278	21363	74755	5	8970	7011

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 10.

## BANKRUPTCY.

J. BROWN, Regent-street, St. John's, Westminster, grocer. (Baylis, Basinghall-street.)  
G. FLINTOFF, Plymouth, bookseller. (Surr, Lombard-street.)  
W. VALLANCE, Liverpool, merchant. (Gilbank, Coleman-street; Lowndes and Co., Liverpool.)

## DIVIDENDS.

Jan. 31. W. Copper, Reading, Berkshire, grocer.—Feb. 3. J. Johnson, sen., and Co., Romford, Essex, bankers.—Jan. 31. Cox, Hendon, Middlesex, horse dealer.—Jan. 31. T. Midgley, Upper North-place, Gray's Inn-road, coach builder.—Jan. 31. R. Robinson, Strand, coal merchant.—Jan. 23. J. Garnett, Liverpool, merchant.—Feb. 1. R. T. Abbott and A. T. Tebbitt, Birmingham, tea dealers.—Jan. 31. A. Wise and Co., Tonnes, Devonshire, bankers.—Feb. 4. S. W. Winn, Bristol, builder.—Jan. 31. J. A. and D. Arthur, Neath, Glamorganshire, ironmasters.—Feb. 4. J. C. Petrie, Bedlington, Durham, miller.—Feb. 6. J. Sorby, Sheffield, steel manufacturer.—Feb. 6. J. Pirih, Hockmondwike, Yorkshire, merchant.—Feb. 7. F. Parker, Maborough, Yorkshire, seed crusher.—Feb. 1. D. Jones, Birmingham, victualler.

## CERTIFICATES.

Jan. 31. W. Cox, Crown-street, Soho, general dealer.—Feb. 6. G. F. Giles, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, carver and gilder.—Feb. 4. G. F. Davidson, John-street, Adelphi, merchant.—Feb. 4. H. Addenbrook, Ryehill, Worcestershire, druggist.—Feb. 4. J. F. Figg, Dunster-court, Mincing-lane, merchant.—Feb. 4. E. T. Watson and W. Hyers, Skinner-street, Soho, Scotland and Manchester warehousemen.—Feb. 7. W. Broome and W. Hardy, Oxford-street, drapers.—Feb. 4. J. Pegrum, North Briston, carpenter.—Feb. 6. R. J. Webb, Bath, merchant.

## SCOTCH REQUISITION.

D. MARSHALL, Johnston, Innkeeper.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 14.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. HARVEY, St. Mary-axe, City, builder.  
J. CURWEN, Bridge-place, Vauxhall, cheesemonger. (Dean and Dixon, St. Swithin's-lane, City.)  
L. J. B. VAUDEAU and L. O. B. VAUDEAU, Wood-street, Cheapside, dealers in artificial flowers. (Hodgson and Burton, Salisbury-street, Strand.)  
W. TYDEMAN, Chelmsford, Essex, timber merchant. (Hooker, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn.)  
C. F. WARMAN, Houndsditch, City, china and glass dealer. (Heath, Gracechurch-street, City.)  
W. MOYES and T. MORING, Caimonille-street, City. (Hullery and Co., Fenchurch-street, City.)  
J. P. YALLOP, Durham-street, Hackney-road, carpenter. (Norton and Son, New-street, Bishopsgate.)  
A. BRIDGSON, Clare-street, Clare-market, cheesemonger. (Perring and Co., Laurence Pountney-place.)  
J. STEADMAN, Hayfield-place, Mile-end-road, engineer. (Morris and Co., Moorgate-street.)  
M. CRONACH and M. HIRSCHMANN, Size-lane, City, merchants. (Linklater, Lendenhall-street.)  
H. GREENHOW, North Shields, ship broker. (Dale, North Shields; Daw and Dixon, St. Swithin's-lane.)  
T. JOPLIN, Sunderland, linen draper. (Hartley, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury; Brignall, Durham.)  
J. BLAKE, Ballast-bill, Durham, hardwareman. (Price and Co., Wolverhampton; Moore, Bishopwearmouth; Bone and Son, Chancery-lane.)  
C. LEWIN, Bath, Innkeeper. (Mooros, Crutwell, Bath.)  
R. BRATTON, sen., Shrewsbury, cabinet maker. (Mottam and Knowles, Birmingham; Parkes and Co., Bedford-row.)

## DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 6. W. C. Clough, Rye, Suffolk, apothecary.—Feb. 4. W. L. Dore, Egham, Surrey, innkeeper.—Feb. 6. J. Cole, New Bond-street, jeweller.—Feb. 14. J. F. Cork and J. L. De Cote, New Bond-street, coachbuilders.—Feb. 4. W. A. Moore, A. J. Webb, Rosamond-buildings, Islington, mineral water manufacturer.—Feb. 6. R. J. Webb, Bath, wine and spirit merchant.—Feb. 7. M. Martin, Bristol, upholsterer.—Feb. 7. R. B. P. user, Bath, watchmaker.—Feb. 4. B. Williams, Bristol, dealer in butter.—Feb. 6. W. and P. Charters, Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, tea dealers.—Feb. 6. J. Holdroyd, North-west, Northumberland, farmer.—Feb. 6. J. Baunister and D. Simpson, Liverpool, shipwrights.—Feb. 14. W. Newall, jun., and Harrison, Manchester, grocers.—Feb. 14. J. Tristram, Bradford, Nottingham, beer housekeeper.—Feb. 11. R. Kammell, Bradford, Yorkshire, provision merchant.—Feb. 11. A. and J. Kitchin, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, merchants.—Feb. 4. J. J. Jordan, Huddersfield, New Brunswick, merchant.—Feb. 7. J. H. Dransfield, Bridport, Dorsetshire, grocer.—Feb. 7. J. and W. Wolcott, Ketter, turners.—Feb. 11. W. H. Bates, Warrington, hosiery.

## CERTIFICATES.

Feb. 6. J. Tomlin, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, shipbroker.—Feb. 6. R. E. Lee and J. Haddock, Craven-yard, Drury-lane, steam machine printers.—Feb. 6. W. K. Roberts, Abingdon, grocer.—Feb. 4. C. S. T. Walker, Oxford-street, artificial hosiery.—Feb. 6. W. Sawyer, William-street, St. George's East, oilman.—Feb. 6. W. L. Dore, Egham, Surrey, innkeeper.—Feb. 4. A. Lawrence, Old Kent-road, Surrey, victualler.—Feb. 4. J. C. Ross, Bury, Chingford-mills, Essex, miller.—Feb. 4. J. C. Ross, Bury, Tipton, City, merchant.—Feb. 4. M. Waller, Percy-street, Tottenham-court-road, patent electro-plate.—Feb. 14. M. M. M. Park-street, Bristol, upholsterer.

## SCOTCH REQUISITION.

D. McDONNELL, Glasgow, coal merchant.









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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 70.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward their contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

Persons wishing to be on the Register next year, as Freeholders for County Votes, must be in possession of the property, or in the receipt of the rents and profits, before the 31st of January.

## QUALIFY, QUALIFY, QUALIFY.

### PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTORAL QUALIFICATION.

The electors for counties are as follows:—Freeholders, copyholders, leaseholders, occupying tenants.

**FREEHOLDERS.**—The following persons are entitled to vote as freeholders:—1. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for himself and his heirs, or, as it is called, an estate of inheritance, of the yearly value of 40s. 2. Any person possessed of a freehold estate for life or lives of the yearly value of £10. 3. Any person possessed of such an estate for life or lives of the yearly value of 40s., under any one of the following circumstances:—If the estate was acquired on or before the 7th of June, 1832; or since, if by marriage or marriage settlement, by devise (i.e., by will), or by promotion to any benefice or office, or if the freeholder is himself the actual occupier of the property. In any of these cases it is sufficient if the property be of the yearly value of 40s. Parish clerks, sextons, schoolmasters, Dissenting ministers, and holders of offices have a right to vote if entitled to emoluments of 40s. per annum, arising out of, or charged upon, land, and may be registered as voters in the parish wherein the land is situate. The appointment must, however, be for life, not for a temporary purpose, or at the pleasure of any other party; but an appointment during good behaviour is considered to be an appointment for life. If the freeholder occupy his own freehold property in a borough, of such a nature and value as would confer upon him the right to vote for the borough, he will not be entitled, in respect of that property, to vote for the county. But if the freehold is not of the right of voting for the borough, that is, if it be not of the annual value of £10, or if it be land without building, the freeholder may vote for the county, though he occupy it himself. And if the freeholder do not occupy his freehold situate within a borough, he may vote in respect of it for the county, and his tenant may also vote for the borough. Six months' possession prior to the 31st of July will entitle a freeholder to be registered. And if the freehold lands or tenements should be sold to him by descent, succession, marriage, marriage-settlement, will, or promotion to any benefice in a church, or to any office, no definite period of previous possession will be necessary.

**COPYHOLDERS.**—Any person possessed of any lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of £10, whether of copyhold or any other tenure than freehold, is entitled to vote in ancient demesne may in general vote as a freeholder, if they do not hold by copy of court-roll, but they will be entitled as copyholders. As freeholders, £10 a year is required. The same period of possession is required in respect of copyhold property.

**LEASEHOLDERS.**—The right of voting in respect of leasehold property extends to—1. Any person who is entitled by virtue of a lease made or assigned to him of any lands or tenements for the unexpired residue of any term originally created for a period of not less than 60 years, if the property is of the clear yearly value of £10 above all rents and charges. 2. Any person who is in like manner entitled to the unexpired residue of a term originally of 20 years, if the lands and tenements are of the clear yearly value of £50. The party to whom the lease was originally made, or a party to whom such lease may have assigned the original lease, may vote, though not in occupation of the premises. Any sub-lessee or assignee of an under-lease may also vote, but only when in occupation of the premises. Lessees or assignees must have been in actual possession for 12 months previous to the 31st of July, unless the qualification is acquired by any of the modes before mentioned as excepted; that is to say, by the death of a relative, by marriage, by will, or by promotion to any benefice or office. Leasehold property in a borough, if of such nature and value as will give any person a vote for the borough, will not give a vote for the county.

**OCCUPYING TENANT.**—Any person occupying lands or tenements for which he is liable to pay a yearly rent of £50 is entitled to vote, if not within a borough, and not of such nature as would qualify a person to vote for the borough. In respect of the period of previous possession required, occupying tenants are placed on the same footing as leaseholders; but it is not requisite that the occupation be of the same lands or tenements: different lands and tenements occupied in immediate succession for twelve months previous to the 31st of July in each year will give the qualification.

**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.**—Besides lands, houses, buildings, and the like, property and interests of the following description will entitle the owner to be registered and to vote, viz.—tithes, an annuity charged on land, a rent-charge, fee-farm rents issuing out of an estate in fee; shares in navigable rivers, canals, &c., where the shareholders possess an interest in the soil; tolls of bridges, tolls of fairs and markets, purchases of unredeemed land-tax. Persons who have entered into an agreement of purchase of property, or who have paid any part of the purchase-money, or done any other act in part performance of the agreement, are considered to have equitable estates, and are entitled to vote and to be registered. Joint tenants and tenants in common have each a right to vote, provided the property be of sufficient amount to give to the share of each the value required. Mortgagees may vote, if in actual possession or in receipt of the rents and profits, but not otherwise. Trustees are expressly excluded from voting for any trust estate; the right of voting in respect of trust property is reserved for the cestui que trust. In estimating the value of freehold or copyhold property, the marketable value of the property to let is the criterion to be attended to. If, owing to accidental circumstances, the rent should be less than might be obtained, the property will still give a right to vote. As regards leaseholds, the value required does not depend on the amount of rent. It is to be estimated by the profit which the tenant can make of the property, over and above the amount of rent reserved and any encumbrance charged on the property. The value required is to be "above all rents and charges." Under these words are included all encumbrances affecting the property, but not any public or parliamentary taxes.

## BOROUGH FRANCHISE FOR 1845.

In order to secure a borough vote next year, those who occupy premises giving a qualification should immediately see that their names are placed on the poor's rate-book.

A claimant must be rated, or have claimed to be rated, to all rates made during the year ending the 31st of July. If, therefore, his name is omitted from any rate made during that time, he should immediately claim to be rated. The overseers are required to put the name of a person so claiming on the rate last made; consequently, if the claimant suffers two rates to be made before he claims, he will be unable to get upon the former one, and will thereby lose his vote for one year.

No particular form of claim to be rated is prescribed by the Reform or Registration Acts; but the following form may be adopted:—

### "CLAIM TO BE RATED."

"To the Overseers of the Parish of \_\_\_\_\_,  
"I hereby give you notice that I occupy a \_\_\_\_\_ at No. \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Street, in your parish, and I claim to be rated to the relief of the poor in respect of such premises, in order that I may be entitled to vote in the election of a member (or members) of Parliament for the city (or borough) of \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1844.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

Insert the name of the parish, the nature of the premises, as house, shop, room, or as the case may be, and the name of the street, &c., and of the city or borough, also the date. The christian and surname and place of residence of the claimant should be inserted at full length. Give the claim to an overseer, keeping a correct copy, on which should be written the date when, and the name of the overseer on whom, it was served. If any poor's rates are due for the premises at the time of making the claim they must be paid, or the amount due tendered. Should the overseer refuse to accept the money, or omit to enter the claimant's name in the rate-book, he will be deemed to be rated notwithstanding; but, if the claimant's name be omitted from any future rate, he should again claim to be rated.

No registration of annuities or rent-charges with the clerk of the poor is requisite. The Act, &c., is repealed.

## MR. GRANTLEY BERKELEY ON THE GAME LAWS.

We have rarely read a more thoroughly sincere and earnest piece of writing than the lately-published "Defence of the Game Laws," by the Honourable Grantley Fitzhardinge Berkeley, M.P. It is such a defence of an unpopular and losing cause as one does not often see in these milk-and-water times. We should scarcely have inferred, from internal evidence alone, that the author was a strong liberal Whig politician; but the dullest critic could never be so far at fault as to mistake our pamphleteer for a Conservative of the Peel and Gladstone school. There is no "expediency" about Mr. Berkeley. His principles are neither those of "common sense," nor does he hold them "in the abstract." He is ready any hour of the day or night, to give them concrete and practical embodiment in a "simple, well-directed punch on the head" of any person or persons inviting their application.

Without particularly admiring Mr. Berkeley's style, in a mere grammatical point of view, we must allow that he has, in an eminent degree, the first great qualification for writing well. He perfectly understands his subject. He writes from a large experience and a full heart. A more practical man, or a more practical book, never came in our way. His theories are taken from an induction of at least "a million facts that have come under his own immediate observation." He is armed to the teeth with facts. Probably there is not a second man in all England so well provided with game-law facts as Mr. Grantley Berkeley. He has seen the thing on the large scale and on the small scale. He is conversant with estates where game is well preserved, and with estates where game is ill preserved. He has preserved game himself in three or four counties. He has not only enforced the law as a game-preserver, but administered it as a magistrate; and not as a magistrate only, but as a policeman. Mr. Berkeley can execute warrants as well as grant them. To his zeal for the service, the useful and the dignified functions of the law are, on occasion, equally acceptable. He has been actively concerned as a principal

in porching affairs of all descriptions, from "a mere personal encounter with a list" to serious armed mobs, against the formidable odds of two, three, and four to one. For, in addition to his magisterial duties, and constabulary recreations, he has occasionally done a little amateur and scientific gamekeeping: "for his pleasure, and in order to observe more closely both causes and effects," he has "amused himself by watching night and day, and setting an example to his servants." Twenty-six times has he been "personally engaged with poachers" and "always with success"—it being his invariable rule to "strike first and speak afterwards." The opinions of such a man on game and game laws are decidedly worth having. Constable, gamekeeper, sportsman, landlord, magistrate, and lawgiver, all in one, the Honourable Grantley Fitzhardinge Berkeley, M.P., may well be allowed to speak with the tone of authority. We are only sorry that his opinions do not seem so clearly settled on corn as on game. A "Defence of the Corn Law" by the same hand would afford a welcome relief from the statistical mystifications of the Premier and the dull dishonesties of the Society for the Protection of Agriculture.

Mr. Berkeley's theory of society and government is simple in the extreme. For Mr. Berkeley, though a practical man, has his theory, too, like the rest of us. He has not escaped the philosophical epidemic of the day; he has studied the Condition-of-England Question: the true solution of which he has ascertained to be—not Protection to Agriculture, nor Free Trade, nor Education, nor Currency, nor the Charter, nor Guano, nor Church Extension, but—A LARGE HEAD OF GAME. A "large head of game" is Mr. Berkeley's ideal of a healthy state of society. It is at once cause and effect of national prosperity and greatness. Give him a large head of game, with a "wholesome administration of the law for its preservation," and he, Mr. Berkeley, will answer for all the rest. Where there is a large head of game, "the people are well to do;" men "follow their honest occupations," "obey the laws" (both from interest and pleasure), and "please the resident proprietor." Where there is a large head of game, employment is plentiful, wages are liberal, the best feeling pervades and unites all classes, and the squire's life is a succession and combination of "pursuits and pleasures, good for himself, good for his tenants, and of immeasurable benefit, morally and temporally, to the surrounding poor." And, what is better, still, where there is a good head of game, "the blood of the acres circulates through domestic veins, and returns again to the full furrows whence it commenced its flow"—an interesting physiological play.



which Mr. Grantley Berkeley has "witnessed" with an "honest pride" at Berkeley Castle. Nay, a good head of game advances not only the moral and temporal but the spiritual and eternal interests of the poor. It promotes "attendance on divine worship," transforming the "systematic Sabbath-breaker"—Mr. Berkeley has this from his "pastor's" lips—into a diligent church-goer. On the whole, it is not agriculture, nor commerce, nor manufactures, nor schools, nor consols, nor trial by jury, that is the true palladium of British greatness and glory—but a large head of well-protected game. The church establishment itself would do little for us without the aid and alliance of the game establishment.

As the social, moral, and economical advantages of a large head of game must be new to many of our readers, we borrow Mr. Berkeley's account of some of the more conspicuous of them. The following is an interesting picture of paternal landlordism dispensing morality and comfort through the medium of game-persevering:—

"At Berkeley there are eight head-keepers, twenty under-keepers, and thirty additional night-watchers; to speak in round numbers, there are *sixty men employed in nothing else than the care of the game and deer*. Almost all these men, certainly all the keepers, have families dependent upon them for support. In addition to these, during the winter, there are a number of men employed at the shooting parties as beaters for game. These poor people all regard themselves as a regular part of the establishment; and they even make a newly-enlisted beater 'pay his footing' on coming among them. Now, in addition to the employment and comfortable subsistence thus afforded to so many men and their families by the preservation of a large head of game alone, if you add the immense number of grooms and helpers, a huntsman, whippers-in and kennel-men, necessary to the care and condition of from fifty to sixty hunters, besides other horses, and from eighty to a hundred couples of foxhounds, besides other dogs, let any man imagine the amount of wages expended on such species of labour, and then reflect on the misery which would arise if all these men and their families were deprived of their employment and subsistence. There are other men attached to establishments of this sort, such as men for the decoys of wild-fowl, for the fisheries, in the gardens, and on the lands reserved for the use of the estate; and, I repeat again, let the cavalier pause and consider the mischief if all these people were cast out of employment and added to the present numbers of the poor. By the talked-of abolition of the game laws you risk all this; for it is not his hounds alone that will keep a proprietor in the country."

What would people have? Here is a "practical result." "You cannot rob me of such facts as these." With all the corn land of England drained and tilled to the highest point of perfection, and no room for another shilling of capital to be expended on the soil—with production positively at its maximum—

what are labouring men to do but consume? In this view, the economical benefits of sporting establishments like that above described are incalculable. They turn producers into consumers, and thus work off the plethora of the national stomach. Where would the farmer be, as Mr. Berkeley suggests, without a large head of game in his parish? He would lose his best customer:—

"People ignorant in these matters speak as if the pheasants lived solely at the expense of the farmer, whereas the pheasant is often the best customer the farmer has; for the landlord purchases at the best price whole flocks of barley, beans, and buckwheat, besides potatoes and Swede turnips, with which to stock his woods and feed his game."

In the present glut of food, with a stationary or declining population of consumers, these things are worth thinking of. Happy the people for whose waste corn the pheasant is the best customer!

It is wonderful how zeal for a favourite art or science enables the philosophic mind to trace remote and unperceived connexions between its beloved pursuit and things seemingly the most alien from it. Did ever mortal man dream, before Mr. Grantley Berkeley, that a large head of game has anything to do with liberty of conscience? Yet so it is. Rob us of our large head of game, and "liberty of conscience" becomes an empty sound; the teacher of religion, too, is left without countenance, and the law of the land lies a dead letter. A large head of game is rather a more serious affair than people suppose:—

"If, by untimely and ruinous interference with their amusements (for rich men will have their pleasures), you drive them to seek the joys of life at Paris, or in foreign lands, who remains to stand up for the liberty of conscience who to countenance the teacher of religion, whether Protestant, Catholic, or Dissenter? and who to give effect to the local administration of the laws?"

Liberty of conscience had used to be considered as requiring, and presupposing in its champions, something of the spirit of martyrdom. According to the old philosophy, ease, enjoyment, riches, liberty, and life, must be heroically sacrificed by the man who would make good, for himself and his fellows, this sacred franchise. Not a bit of it, says Mr. Grantley Berkeley. The prophet-and-apostle are quite out of date. We don't want saints and martyrs to champion our spiritual rights. "Rich men will have their pleasures," can do the work as well—only give them, for humanity and religion's sake, their large head of game.

After this it is needless to add that Mr. Grantley Berkeley's "Defence" of the laws guaranteeing the

pleasures of the singularly patriotic rich men who will have their pleasures, or else cut their country, is vigorous and thoroughgoing. That the actual working of the game laws is not in all respects satisfactory he candidly allows. But the fault lies, not with the laws (which can't be better), but with the indolence, timidity, selfishness, or "surface-founded humanity" of their unworthy ministers. Our game-law system is in theory perfect, but in action it is sadly defective, owing to the almost criminal supineness of men who cannot be got to understand the value of a good head of game. This peculiar domestic institution is, as an institution, all that could be desired—"founded on sound and rational principles"—and producing "a beneficial effect in regard to the proprietor, the tenant, the yeoman, and the poor." But we are not worthy of it. We might be a virtuous and happy people, but our rich men—as Mr. Berkeley tells them roundly—do not "value virtue." Nobody does his duty. Landlords don't do their duty. "Neglected woods" and "abandoned manors," those loathed of every crime, stud the country in all directions, ruining both virtue and sport. Magistrates don't do their duty; they fine where they ought to imprison; and they talk too much prose. When Mr. Berkeley resided in Wiltshire, he was dreadfully "hampered" in the exercise of his sporting rights, not merely by the "rebellious spirit of the lower orders," but by "the weak and prosy decisions of timid injustice." In fact, he "seldom attained justice;" and seems at last to have left off looking for it, except through his own "determination of purpose and aptness of hand." Judges and juries don't do their duty: "mistaken clemency" is disgracefully substituted for "the cold and calculating severity of law." Gamekeepers and constables don't do their duty: "talk to them as you will, teach them as you may, keepers never can be made to adopt the simple and humane plan"—they will "speak before they strike." In particular, these men have a most ridiculous delicacy (it is the foolish magistrates' fault, however) about using *handcuffs* without obvious occasion—a "precautionary and humane measure," which Mr. Berkeley, "as a magistrate, always recommends." If gamekeepers could only be made to understand the policy and humanity of anticipating a murderous intent, by showing poachers "the sight of their own blood!"—but there is no driving it into them. The Berkeleyan philosophy—"more fighting and fewer words," "blows and no talking," a "simple, well-directed punch on the head" (an excellent specific for "banishing an inclination to commit murder")—might as well be preached to the winds as to the gamekeeping and constabulary intellect. In fact, society in general, from the highest personage in the realm (nothing can be more demoralizing than the present state of the royal forests) down to the lowest dregs of poaching vagabondism, is leagued together to frustrate the action of these admirable laws. That the evil is as deeply-rooted and obstinate as it is extensive in its ramifications may be inferred from the circumstance, now for the first time made known, that the very newspapers themselves are secretly directed by convict poachers—which of course, more than accounts for the efforts of the press to throw discredit on the system. We can now understand why Mr. Grantley Berkeley's pamphlet has been so ill received by "anonymous writers in the daily papers," "most of whom," he says, "if not all, have, in all probability, suffered from punishment rightly inflicted by the laws they are, for that reason, so sedulous to condemn."

In taking leave, for the present, of this extravagant and insolent brochure, we must thank Mr. Berkeley for a valuable service unwittingly rendered to the cause we have at heart. He has spoken out, truly and boldly, much that is in the landlord mind which landlords usually keep to themselves. We regard the appearance of this "Defence of the Game Laws" as most timely. It shows, more forcibly than nine tenths of the attacks on those laws, their abominable character; and will, if we mistake not, greatly facilitate their downfall. That Mr. Grantley Berkeley is right in what he seems to regard as his main point, viz., that if game is to be preserved at all it must be done with a high hand and a hard heart; that the game-preserving squire would do well to surround himself with a corps of armed police—half spies, half gendarmes—well trained to punch suspicious-looking people on the head, and to show vagrants "the sight of their own blood," without stopping to ask questions, we are quite prepared to believe. Mr. Berkeley's experience coincides here with the general experience of humanity. A little tyranny commonly needs a great tyranny to make it work—cruel laws require ruthless ministers, and a bad end can only be reached by bad means. Whether it be possible, by any amount of violence and terrorism, to get this particular tyranny patiently submitted to by Englishmen, is another question, which the experience of eight hundred years would seem to answer in the negative. Our own opinion is, that the realization of the landlord's idea of "England as it should be" is just now more hopeless than ever; for the reason, that some landlords are poor, and cannot afford private military establishments—and other landlords are prudent, and look

to the safety of their ricks and mansions—and some others are humane, and would decline a civil war in the cause of battu-shooting; and that, on the whole, England is still a Christian country, and will not be made an Aeldama to give a few thousand individuals a few hours per annum of a sport, the only known parallel to which is to be found in the exploits of the celebrated dog Billy.

We shall take an early opportunity of returning to this subject.

## IRELAND AND THE REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS.

Ireland is pre-eminently an agricultural country. There are men who say that the Corn Laws should be maintained for the sake of the Irish farmers and the Irish farm-labourers; there are men, calling themselves emphatically the friends of the Irish people, who affect to sneer at the exertions of the League to obtain justice for the labouring population of the empire, as if the industrial classes in Ireland would derive no benefit from measures that would profit their brethren in Great Britain. It is always an invidious task to scrutinize motives; we abstain, therefore, from inquiring whether these efforts to conceal the universality of the justice which it is the object of the League to obtain, are the results of sheer ignorance or wilful perversion. They are certainly made with conscious obliviousness of the fact that this universality was proclaimed by Mr. O'Connell, at Covent-garden, in the name of the people of Ireland, and responded to by one of the most enthusiastic meetings ever assembled in any country. But we may go much further: we may safely assert that no country under the sun exhibits more palpably and more deplorably the necessary results of the monopoly which disguises itself under the name of protection than the Emerald Isle. A population fed on lumps, housed in hovels, miserably clad, subjected to periodical visits of famine, exposed to the chances of "a clearing system" which turns out its hundreds, and even its thousands, to perish unsheltered, is assuredly no evidence of the perfection of a system. But Ireland in its protective legislation has not only had the benefit of duties to prevent import; it had its bounties to stimulate export; both being designed to subserve the same purpose—to furnish an excuse for raising the amount of rent by artificially raising the price of corn.

This artificial price of food has doubly cursed the Irish farmers and farm-labourers: it has placed wholesome food beyond the reach of themselves and their families, while it has stimulated a competition for land so as to raise the price to an amount which has left nothing to remunerate the occupying tenant. It has happened frequently that people were perishing for want of food in the streets of seaport towns, the harbours of which were crowded with vessels laden with provisions for export. Nay, more: ships have come into these ports, laden with meal and flour purchased by English charity, at the very moment when vessels were sailing out laden with similar produce, exported for the benefit of rapacious landlords. Corn Laws have enabled the Irish lords of the soil to regard the tenants and labourers as mere machines, necessary to produce articles for an artificial market, and unworthy of the slightest regard the moment that this object was accomplished. Corn Laws have been the mainstay and support of absenteeism: they have enabled Irish landlords to adopt a system of management by which the returns from the soil should form a rude but tolerably definite routine, requiring no personal superintendence beyond that of the land-agent and the driver. The Irish labourers have had ample experience of the benefits derived from high prices; they can exclaim,

"Oh! yes, 'tis a blessing that bread is so dear; Yes, yes, 'tis a comfort that rent is so high. Give the rich man his chariot, the poor man his bier; 'Tis a favour, untaxed to be suffered to die."

These high prices have exhausted the powers of the Irish people as consumers, and rendered their powers as producers available only for the increase of their toil and the decrease of their remuneration. What is the rate of wages paid to the Irish farm-labourers? We know districts where 4s. per week is above the average, and this, too, when the taxed loaf was at its highest price in the market.

"Oh God! that bread should be so dear! And flesh and blood so cheap."

It is made the subject of complaint that the League, in its collective capacity, takes no part in the discussion of other grievances of which the Irish people complain. This objection is obviously employed to convey the impression, that the members of the League, in their individual capacity, are restricted to the course of conduct which is prescribed to the general body. The League is formed for a specific object, but its members are no more limited to that object than a subscriber to a school is prevented from subscribing to a fever hospital. The great object of our association is to raise the condition of the industrial classes, and particularly of the agricultural classes—whether English, Welsh, Scotch, or Irish; and we feel most interested in behalf of the Irish peasants, because they have been most

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jured and most oppressed by the direct agency of the iniquitous corn monopoly. There may be other grievances of equal magnitude: we interfere not to prevent their removal, but we say to those who claim to be the friends of Ireland—"Look at your labourers! Is their condition such as a friend to humanity can endure? Is the food proper for their sustenance placed within their reach? Does their daily toil procure the adequate remuneration of labour?"

"Low rents, cheap bread," the people cry;  
"Untrammelled labour's hands!"  
"Taxed corn—high rents—low wages!" sneer  
The callous ruling bands.

What means, then, this mockery of saying that the objects of the League have no connexion with the interests of the Irish people? Is it meant that the misery of the Irish peasants should be preserved as a kind of leverage to help political party to the attainment of its objects? We have no sympathy with any such party: we seek the common rights and common good of all; we seek sustenance for those who are insufficiently fed, and a fair remuneration for those who are inadequately paid. We say that the under-fed and under-paid peasants of Ireland have a direct and immediate interest in such an object, and that they are not the friends of the Irish people who interfere in any way to prevent its accomplishment.

#### CRIME INCREASES WITH DEAR BREAD AND DECREASES WITH CHEAP BREAD.

There are few things more unpalatable to the monopolists than figures—they are so plain that "he who runs may read." The remarks of the Chairman at the last Manchester Quarter Sessions on the diminution of crime, and the annual Reports of the state of crime for a long series of years, published, for the use of the magistrates, by the Governor of the New Bailey Prison at Manchester, are worthy attention as proving what we have so frequently stated, that the Corn Laws are the sources of poverty and crime.

It will be seen, from the following official statement of the number of prisoners convicted at the New Bailey Prison, that the increase of crime has gone on precisely as the price of corn and the difficulty of obtaining food have increased; and that so soon as bread becomes cheaper and employment is more easily obtained, crime diminishes:—

Year.	Total convicted.	Average price of wheat.
1845	868	39s. 4d.
1846	871	48 9
1847	1118	55 10 year of panic.
1848	1065	61 4
1849	1215	70 6
1850	1360	66 4
1851	1483	61 5
1852	1565	57 5
1853	1008	50 1
1854	1004	51 5

It appears, also, from a further statement of the governor, that the daily average number of prisoners confined in the New Bailey was as under:—

1840	713
1841	723
1842	750
1843	673
1844	602
1845	500 only on the 1st of January!! wheat 45s. per quarter.

These statements afford the gratifying reflection to every benevolent mind that the people of this country are not naturally profligate and criminal, but are driven by destitution and want to commit crimes. The philosophy of the whole matter is contained in the saying of Poor Richard, "It's hard for an empty bag to stand upright." We commend these facts to those pseudo-philanthropists who, whilst they affect great piety and zealous interest in the welfare of the working classes, tax their bread, rob them of employment by upholding monopoly, and thus fill our poor-houses and prisons with the victims of their own selfishness. The people now understand the question too well to be any longer bamboozled by human-mongers. He who upholds the bread-tax is an enemy to his poor neighbour, he his pretensions what they may. Holy Writ declareth, "The bread of the needy is his life; he that defraudeth him thereof is a man of blood."

#### LEAGUE BAZAAR.

##### THE GENERAL COMMITTEES.

Some weeks since, we urged upon our readers the desirability of replying to the invitation of the Council, to join one of the two committees of ladies and gentlemen respectively, to be formed for the purpose of assisting them in the preparations for the Bazaar, and we are happy to learn that a very considerable number of the friends of commercial freedom have done so; but, as the point is one of considerable importance, we feel no scruples in again referring to it.

The officers of the several local committees are especially requested to forward the names of the members of the same at their earliest convenience, together with the names of all the ladies in their several neighbour-

hoods who may be willing to lend their sanction to the Bazaar.

We have reason to believe that many ladies have answered the application of the Council in the negative, from a supposition that important and onerous duties were attached to the engagement, and they were unwilling to accept an office, the duties of which their numerous domestic engagements, and other causes, would prevent them from adequately fulfilling.

We are, therefore, anxious to correct this misapprehension. All that the addition of a lady's name to the committee is understood to signify, is simply an attachment to the principles which are sought to be promoted by the Bazaar, and a willingness to contribute to its success in any way compatible with other duties; and, even where these render personal co-operation totally impracticable, the addition of their names is of the highest importance, as evincing the deep interest taken in the Free-Trade movement by those who, having no party or political prejudices to gratify, protest against the Corn Laws on other and higher grounds.

We give below extracts from some letters received during the last few days, though the increase of the correspondence relative to the Bazaar renders the selection every week more difficult.

"Coalbrookdale, Salop, Jan. 14.

"DEAR SIR,—I am sorry not to have replied to your previous letter before, but I have not been unkindful of it. Pray excuse the seeming neglect. I can promise you a contribution from this place somewhere between £200 and £300, consisting of various articles of English manufacture, chiefly in iron, yet not cumbersome or very bulky. Could you let us have a stall or space, say 20 to 30 feet by 10 feet, or thereabouts?"

"We shall deliver the things in London free of cost. Would it not be desirable to open the Bazaar for two or three days previous to any sale commencing, to allow the public to inspect the beauty of the stalls? If the sale commences the moment the Bazaar is opened, most of the best things will be snapped up, and a great portion of the public would be deprived of the pleasure of seeing them.

Yours, &c., &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq." "ABRAHAM DARRY.

"Swansea, Jan. 16.

"DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of January 2nd, in reference to the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, I beg to observe that, on receiving your former favour, I made applications to several parties in this town and neighbourhood for assistance. The result has been promises of aid from several ladies.

"What I have done may be thus enumerated, in the way of preparation:—

"1st. Models of farthings, pence, &c., rolled out into their copper sheets. 2nd. Specimens of copper ore, foreign and British, arranged comparatively. 3rd. Copper in its several stages of manufacture. 4th. Illustrations of the national costume of Welshwomen. 5th. Models of steam-engine, &c.

"I shall feel obliged by suggestions which may prove useful in carrying out this object, and the time by which models &c., should be in town. Yours, &c.,

"JOHN JENKINS."

An esteemed friend writes thus from Maidstone:—

"I have in my possession, which I purchased at a great cost as a relic, the very orrery made by James Ferguson, as described by him in his life and in his lectures on astronomy. I propose, if it will be acceptable, to present the same to the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar; but it would be desirable that some person who may have the 'Life of Ferguson' would present that, to go with the orrery. I recollect to have seen it when I was a lad, but do not recollect by whom published. Yours, &c.,

"J. BARNETT."

"Relief Manse, Newlands, by Noblehouse, N. B., Jan. 8.

"SIR,—I observe, from a recent number of the LEAGUE, that the Rev. Dr. Hewlett, of Coventry, has offered to supply you, for the Bazaar, with a few copies of a work of his, entitled 'Thoughts upon Thought.' I feel very much disposed to adopt his language and follow his example in this matter. I have just published a small work, entitled 'The Apostleship and Apostolical Succession,' and if you deem my offer of a few copies such as you can accept, or as being suitable for the Bazaar, I shall have much pleasure in causing my publisher to send them to whatever address you may be good enough to mention to me. Wishing you every success in your truly patriotic and benevolent endeavours to emancipate British trade and commerce from unrighteous and oppressive restrictions, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"JOHN CRAIG."

"Paisley, Jan. 10.

"DEAR SIR,—I duly received your circular referring to the proposed Bazaar, and would have replied sooner, but our committee were busy collecting the renewed subscriptions to your fund: that being now nearly finished, we had a meeting last night, at which the matter was talked over, and resolutions agreed to, highly approving of the proposal. Our committee have already remitted you to London upwards of £400 towards the £100,000 Fund; and from the good feeling existing towards the League in this neighbourhood—a feeling of admiration and gratitude towards your Council for their great and unprecedented exertions in the cause of commercial freedom—I am certain that something respectable will be done towards supplying a stall at the Bazaar. You must bear in mind, however, that Paisley is a comparatively poor town, and that we have been suffering, and suffering severely, for many years, from the effects of those iniquitous laws you are associated to abolish. With best wishes for the cause, I am, &c., &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq." "H. MACFARLANE, Junr.

The following pleasant lines convey a hint which, we trust, will not be lost upon our juvenile readers:—

"ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

"Scarborough, near Halifax, Dec. 24, 1844.

"DEAR SIR,—Expect not much from me, I'm but a little girl indeed; And 'tis but a short time ago That I could neither write nor read."

"I'm but eleven years of age,  
Yet glad would I the cause befriend;  
Then let me see, what can I do?  
Why, nothing that is fit to send!"

"O yes, two drawings which, I'm sure,  
The Queen herself will gladly buy,  
If you'll just tell her they've been done  
By such a little girl as I."

"Yours, respectfully,

"ADA HINCHLIFFE."

"Hull, Jan. 14.

"DEAR SIR,—I have purchased for the League Bazaar a neat timepiece, of the best workmanship, and cost 10 guineas. It is now packed up at my jeweller's, and ready to be sent either to yourself or any other place or person as you may direct. Yours, &c., &c.,

"WM. LOWTHROP."

#### MEETINGS.

##### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE AT MANCHESTER.

The annual meeting of the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League was held on Wednesday evening, at the Free-Trade Hall, Manchester. It was preceded by a general meeting of the members of the Council, specially summoned from different parts of the kingdom, and held in the Council-room, Newall's-buildings, Market-street; the proceedings of which, of course, were not intended for publication in detail, but as they are calculated to excite very general interest, and show that the agitation of this great question—judging from the muster of influential gentlemen present, and the sentiments there expressed of confidence and satisfaction in the proceedings of the Executive—has lost none of its vigour, but is likely to go on with even increased energy, we propose to give a brief outline of the business.

##### PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The preliminary meeting commenced at half-past two o'clock, and among the gentlemen present we observed George Wilson, the Chairman; Richard Cobden, M.P.; T. Milner Gibson, M.P.; John Bright, M.P.; John Burd, John Brooks, Nicholas Heald, Lawrence Roston, William Harvey, T. Woolley, John Standing, W. Evans, J. B. Smith, William Rawson, James Chadwick, J. Whitworth, J. Leadbeater, Thomas Bazley, jun., A. Prentice, W. R. Callender, R. H. Greg, Samuel Lees, J. Barratt, and P. Steiner, Manchester; Thomas Mason, Ashton; James Midgley, Rochdale; W. Ackroyd, Otley; John Mather and Robert Mather, Liverpool; William Brown, Liverpool; W. Biggs, Leicester; William Hargreaves, Grange, Milnthorpe; — Boden, Derby; C. Hotter, Darwen; E. Hollins, Stockport; C. E. Rawlins, Liverpool; J. T. Crook, Liverpool; E. Bines, jun., Leeds; Lawrence Heyworth, Liverpool; E. Ashworth and H. Ashworth, Bolton; Joseph Crook, Bolton; F. Schwann and R. D. Jackson, Huddersfield; — Skinner; James Wrigley, Bury; John Whittaker, Ashton; John Walker, Bury; and J. G. Marshall, Leeds.

THE CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said:—He took it for granted that most of the gentlemen present at this meeting were acquainted with its objects. It was that they (the Executive), who met in that room from day to day (and for whose acts the General Council were in some degree responsible), might lay before them a detail of what its proceeding had been. A report had been prepared, which it was proposed should be submitted for their adoption, together with an account of the receipts and disbursements for the past year. He could assure the meeting that it was gratifying to them, who met there from day to day, to find themselves surrounded by a number of gentlemen, from different parts of the kingdom, of such influence and standing in society; and they felt confidence that a cause which was supported by such men could neither be much longer misunderstood by the country, nor resisted by the Government. The report contained a general outline of the proceedings of the League during the last fifteen months. It would be impossible to descend to details in such a document; but, if it was thought desirable to go more fully into the operations, it would be necessary only to take the books, which were lying on the table, and they would show the business as it was transacted from day to day. [He then read the report, a copy of which will be found in our account of the subsequent meeting in the Free-Trade Hall.] It would be observed that in this report they had referred to the last report, presented in 1843, more especially as regarded the fund of £100,000 asked for on that occasion, and which the Council then stated that they thought would be fully equal to meet all the engagements of the year. They had now received towards that sum about £85,000. (Cheers.) When they stated £100,000 as a fund necessary to their operations, and as the amount they were likely to realize, they included, of course, in their estimate, the probable proceeds of a Bazaar intended to be held in Covent Garden Theatre. That Bazaar had not yet been held, but it would be held; and when the proceeds of it should be added to the amount already received, the fund would as far exceed the amount calculated upon, probably, as it now fell short of that sum. (Cheers.) However, let the amount they had received and should receive be whatever it might, the sum in hand had been much more than was actually necessary for carrying out the objects in view. (Hear, hear.) They had never been restricted in their operations for want of money, at all events (hear, hear, hear); and if they had they had always felt confidence when more money was required the country would support them (hear, hear, hear); and now they met them with a balance in hand of somewhere about £20,000. (Loud cheers.) The account would be laid before them, but in the first place the report would have to be dealt with, and he should beg to call upon Mr. Biggs, of Leicester, to move its adoption.

Mr. Biggs said he had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the interesting report now submitted to them. He had been in the habit of hearing reports from public bodies, but he had never before met with one, to his mind, so interesting as this. It appeared that they had an overflowing consequence; they undertook to manage and



transact the business; and all they now required from the meeting was to pass the report, which it would be actually a dereliction of duty to withhold from doing. (Hear, hear.) It might probably have been better had some gentleman from this part of the country been selected to move the report; but so far as he was concerned, his feeling, and he might say the feeling generally in Leicester towards them, was that of gratitude to them as one of the most useful and important bodies to the interests of this great country that ever had existence. While other associations had been formed for the carrying of great public measures, and had failed, they felt confident that this would go on increasing in power and public estimation, till the Government of the country should be no longer able to resist its demands. (Cheers.) He could speak with a little more knowledge than he possessed in the morning, of the machinery employed, and the manner in which the business was transacted. A kind friend had introduced him into the arena, and shown him over the premises of the Anti-Corn-Law League; and, though he had had a general impression of its excellent management before, he confessed that he had been agreeably surprised at the perfection and completeness of its plans of operation—its comprehensiveness of arrangement on the one hand, and its accurate attention to minutiae on the other. Why, gentlemen (Mr. Biggs continued), they have the most accurate statistics in regard to political affairs of any that are extant. They have, as it were, the whole country in a string; they have the whole of the borough constituencies upon record—the number of electors, the names of members, the proportion the electors bear to the population; the history of the past, and (reasoning from what has been) the most probable and rational expectations of the future. The public is not, and cannot possibly be, aware of the extent and influential character of the operations of the League. Judging from all that he had seen and learned of those operations, he felt more than ever convinced that they must succeed. As to the course to be pursued for the future, it appeared to him they could not retract or go back: they were, like Hannibal, sworn upon the altars of their country; they could not retrace their steps, and if they pursued their course they must succeed. (Cheers.) It was the opinion of all his friends, wherever they met upon this question,—whether in Leicester or the midland counties,—that not only their thanks but their deep gratitude was due to this Council for the manner in which they had conducted the agitation. He believed that Washington, in America, had not a higher and holier end in view, when he led the struggle for independence, than they had. From his heart he wished them success, and was convinced that they would have, as they deserved, the thanks and the gratitude of the country and of ages to come. He was obliged to them for this excellent report, and had great pleasure in moving its adoption. (Great applause.)

Mr. W. BROWN, of Liverpool, rose to second the motion. He said:—Mr. Biggs had so ably laid before them the advantages to be derived from the industry of the gentlemen who had taken an active part in the management of the League, that little was left for him to say; but when he looked at what other leagues had done whose measures were founded on truth and justice, and that they had never failed of success, he could not doubt that the onward progress of this agitation would be as certain as theirs. (Cheers.) He alluded, when he mentioned previous leagues, to the opposition which was raised in America to the system of taxation without representation, and which led to the loss of our colonies there; and to the Helvetic League, which was established to protect the people within its operations from the exactions of the barons of those times. The more he looked at the position which this League occupied, and the object for which it was established—which was not unlike that to which he had last referred (hear, hear),—the more he was convinced that success was within their grasp. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the motion, said:—It was due to the meeting to state, that a number of gentlemen in the commission of the peace had been prevented from being present, in consequence of a county meeting of the magistrates holding at Preston. He had also a number of letters from other gentlemen, who, for various reasons, could not be present, and he would now read them. He then read the letters, which were from Robert Munro, Esq., John Graham, Esq., Arthur Morse, John Dixon; Samuel Bean, Brothers; and Thomas Mather; and all expressive of confidence in the League, and of willingness to lend further pecuniary support. These letters were loudly cheered.—The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. CONNOR next read the financial statement of the treasurer (which will be found in the proceedings of the evening); and on the motion of Mr. LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, of Liverpool, seconded by Mr. J. CHADWICK, of Eccles, it was unanimously resolved,—

"That the account of the receipts and expenditure now presented are highly satisfactory, and that they be, and are hereby approved."

A discussion followed as to the form in which the accounts should be published, in the course of which Mr. Mather, of Liverpool, Mr. Biggs, of Leicester, Mr. Schwann, of Huddersfield, and other gentlemen from a distance expressed their confidence in the Executive; and Mr. E. Baines, jun., of Leeds, expressed his admiration of the systematic and satisfactory manner in which the books of the establishment were kept, and every proceeding of the body recorded.

Mr. R. MATHIAS (of Liverpool) then moved:—

"That the accounts now passed be published in the same manner as last year."

Mr. J. G. MARSHALL, of Leeds, seconded the resolution, which passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN (at the suggestion of Mr. Lawrence Heyworth) gave an outline of the plan of operations which the League proposed to follow this year, which, he said, was that adopted within the last few months principally, of acting upon the county registration by inducing Free-Traders to become freeholders; and by attending also to the registration in boroughs. The lecturers would be sent out as usual, and meetings would also be held wherever desirable, which would be attended by deputations of the Council.

Mr. BROWN gave a detail of the measures taken to put the registration for South Leicestershire on a more satisfactory footing, by which it appeared that they expected to strike off 300 bad votes at the next registration, and to add 500 new claims—making a difference of 800. By these means, and by the number of parties they hoped to induce to become freeholders, he had great confidence that they

should be able to place the representation in the hands of Free-Traders.

Mr. EDWARD BAINES then moved the following resolution, expressing his perfect satisfaction with all the operations of the League, and entire confidence in the executive body of the Council:—

"That this meeting of the General Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League, having received very full and detailed reports of the proceedings of the executive Council in Manchester, expresses its perfect satisfaction with those proceedings; its warm gratitude for the patriotic, self-denying, and most laborious exertions of the Council in the great cause of Free Trade, and requests them to continue their labours in directing the future operations of the League."

Mr. LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, in seconding the resolution, said he had not only the most unbounded confidence in the League, but he would go further, and say they had his warmest gratitude for their labours in the great work in which they were engaged. (Cheers.)

Mr. SCHWANN, of Huddersfield, supported the resolution, and said he would not only express his satisfaction with what the Council had done, but his entire confidence in what they might do for the future. (Laughter and applause.)—The resolution then passed unanimously.

The meeting, after a few words in acknowledgment of the last vote from the Chairman, then separated; and Mr. Wilson subsequently conducted most of the strangers through the extensive premises of the League, to see the machinery by which its operations were carried on, and respecting which we understand they expressed themselves in terms of high satisfaction and gratification.

#### THE GREAT AGGREGATE MEETING.

The aggregate meeting in the evening, at the Free Trade Hall, was a large and splendid assemblage; and the platform (capable of holding 600, and not 300 persons only, as we stated on the occasion of the last meeting), the galleries, and the body of the hall were in every part extremely crowded. The proceedings were announced for half-past seven, and precisely at that time, George Wilson, Esq., the Chairman, Richard Cobden, M.P., John Bright, M.P., Joseph Brotherton, M.P., T. M. Gibson, M.P., Esq., and other members of the Council, appeared in front of the platform, and were received with great and prolonged cheering. Nearly the whole of the gentlemen named as present at the foregoing meeting were on the platform; and in addition we noticed Messrs. Alderman Walker, J. B. Potter, J. Rawson, B. Syddell, J. B. Scott, T. Bright, Alderman Armitage, J. T. Clay (Ratrick, near Halifax), G. Thompson (tenant-farmer, Goodmanham, near Beverley), James Brotherton, Alfred Charlton, J. S. Ormerod, J. N. Rawson, R. Ryder, and Samuel Kay, jun.

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the meeting by calling upon Mr. HICKIN, the Secretary, to read the minutes of the last meeting, held in Covent Garden Theatre. The minutes having been read:—

R. COBEN, Esq., moved, and J. T. CLAY, Esq., of Ratrick, seconded the motion, that the minutes be confirmed. The motion having been agreed to,

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said:—

Ladies and gentlemen, as this meeting will partake more, perhaps, in the commencement, of a business character than any which have been held here previously, and as a number of documents will have to be read, I will not occupy your attention one moment by any observations of my own; suffice it to say, at a meeting of the Council of the League, held this day at Newall's-buildings, to receive a report of the proceedings and the transactions in the past year, as well as to receive the financial statement of the Treasurer, certain resolutions were adopted which will be submitted to this meeting for farther approval. You will be addressed at this meeting by Mr. Baines, of Leeds (cheers); by Mr. Heyworth, of Liverpool (cheers); by one of the members for Manchester, Mr. Gibson (loud cheers); and by our excellent friend, Mr. Bright (renewed cheering); and I therefore at once call upon the Secretary to read the report and resolutions which have been adopted by the Council this afternoon. (Cheers.)

Mr. HICKIN read the following report and financial statement:—

"The report which the Council have now to submit to their constituents extends over a period of fifteen months—from September 28, 1843, to the 31st December, 1844.

"In the address presented at the meeting in Covent Garden Theatre, September 28, 1843, the Council explained the course of action it proposed for the future; and the distinguishing feature of this plan was the determination to make the movement essentially an electoral one.

"To give effect to the extensive operations here proposed, the Council, having a full reliance on the zeal and co-operation of their countrymen, asked for a contribution of £100,000,—a sum which, whilst it would furnish evidence of the increasing influence of Free-Trade opinions, would be sufficient to meet the estimated expenditure of the League.

"In conformity with this plan, the whole of England and Wales was divided into thirteen electoral districts. To each of these districts a competent agent was appointed by the Council, whose duty it was personally and repeatedly to visit each borough in his district; to promote and superintend the formation of local registration committees; and to give advice and render assistance in all matters relating to the registration, and, wherever, practicable, to secure the appointment of an active local agent, having a knowledge of the law and practice of the revision courts. It was also his duty to make periodical returns of the state of each constituency, and of the means available for increasing the strength of the Free-Traders on the register.

"Under this arrangement 160 boroughs, in England and Wales, have been visited during the past year. The Council have obtained a mass of information which will enable them to direct their future efforts with greater efficiency, while the returns already in their possession show an undoubted gain in 112 of the boroughs thus acted upon, and in many of these the improvement on the register is such as to ensure the return of Free-Traders in the place of monopolists, in the event of an election.

"Simultaneously with these electoral movements, the communications between the Council of the League and

every portion of the kingdom have, by means of correspondence and deputations, been not only maintained, but greatly increased during the past year. More than 240 meetings, attended by a deputation from the Council, have been held in England and Scotland since October, 1843. Of these meetings more than 150 have been held in parliamentary boroughs; and the increased numbers by which they have been in all cases attended, and the zeal and enthusiasm manifested, prove the extent and the depth of the public conviction in favour of Free Trade. Besides these, the great meetings held in Covent Garden Theatre, London, and in the Free-Trade Hall, Manchester, show that the great question has lost none of its hold on the public mind in the metropolis, or in this town, the birthplace of the League.

"The lecturers of the League have visited and lectured in thirty-six out of forty counties of England, and in nearly all the Welsh counties. The demand for this mode of instruction has been much greater than the Council have been able to supply, the desire for lecturers having been especially manifested in the agricultural districts.

"More than 2,000,000 of stamped and other publications have been distributed. In addition to these, there has been an average weekly publication of 20,000 copies of the LEAGUE paper,—15,000 to subscribers to the League Fund, besides a sale of 5000 copies weekly,—amounting, in 67 weeks, to 1,340,000 copies, making the total distribution of publications nearly 34 millions.

"The correspondence, since the last report, has more than doubled: the number of letters received at the League offices in London and Manchester being about 25,000, while the numbers despatched from the two offices have been about 300,000.

"Until recently, with the exception of Lancashire and Middlesex, the Council had not directed their attention to the county registration. In South Lancashire, having the data furnished by the late contested election, they proceeded at once to a thorough examination of the register, and the result of the last registration in this division of the county was a gain of 1750 votes to the Free-Traders. In North Lancashire there was a gain of more than 500 votes; and in Middlesex an accession of strength was also secured.

"Hitherto the county registration has been almost entirely neglected by the commercial, trading, and industrial classes; and the Council resolved to invite their friends everywhere to acquire that political influence to which they are so justly entitled, by taking up their enfranchisement for the counties. The appeal has been received and acted upon with a promptitude and an enthusiasm surpassing their most sanguine expectations. The Council have reason to believe that, within the last three months, a sufficient number of persons have purchased freehold qualifications in North Cheshire, South Lancashire, and the West Riding of York, to secure to those important constituencies a Free-Trade majority; whilst a large addition to our ranks has been made in Middlesex, North Lancashire, and several other populous counties.

"The Council view this as but the encouraging commencement of a movement to which they will devote their primary attention during the ensuing year. The Government of this country is at present in the hands of a class solely through the instrumentality of the Chaucer clause, which places the county representation at the mercy of

the landlords, through the votes of less than 200,000 tenants-at-will in England and Wales. From calculations carefully made, the Council are convinced that it will be practicable, in a short time, to induce such a number of the friends of Free Trade to purchase freehold qualifications as will neutralize these dependent voters at the poll, and give to the intelligent middle and industrial classes their due influence in the government of this commercial country.

"The Council have now entered upon the seventh year of their labours. Of the past they can speak with satisfaction. They have seen public opinion gradually, but surely, becoming more and more settled in favour of Free Trade; the public press, the organ of that opinion, uniting more cordially and earnestly with the exertions of the League; the Cabinet chosen by the monopolists, moving slowly it may be, but still moving on in the direction of Free Trade; whilst, throughout the manufacturing districts, the return of active and prosperous commerce has not only done nothing to abate the enthusiasm and determination of their friends, but has given them enlarged means of advancing the object they have so greatly at heart.

"The League is emphatically the representation of the classes that live by industry—it is an embodiment of the spirit and energy of trade which is struggling to be free; it seeks no private, no partial good, but the true and permanent interests of the whole people; hitherto it has received a degree of support unknown to any other organization in this country; it has sought, by a faithful discharge of its duties, to deserve the confidence reposed in it: its success is to be seen wherever the opinion of the people is freely manifested, and its complete and not distant triumph is as certain as its determination is firm and its principles are impregnable.

"By order of the Council,  
GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.

"Manchester, Jan. 22, 1845."

Dr. £100,000 LEAGUE FUND, 1843-4.  
1843.  
Sept. 9.—To balance of cash in hand .. £2,476 10 3  
Amount of subscriptions, &c., received to this date .. 62,735 3 3  
Interest allowed by bankers .. 797 13 7  
£66,009 7 3

1845.  
Jan. 1.—To balance of cash in hand .. £26,675 19 9

Cs. £100,000 LEAGUE FUND, 1844-5.

1844.  
Dec. 31.—By registration and tract distribution, including expenses in registration courts, wages of clerks, and travelling expenses on registration business, and the distribution of about 2,000,000 tracts; by expenses of meetings, more than 200 in number, including hire of rooms, erection of bustings, and all expenses connected with public meetings; by printing and stationery, newspapers, reporting, &c., in expenses of LEAGUE newspaper, including salaries of conductors, editors, and contributors, stamps, paper, and printing,—the average circulation of the fifteen months being 20,000 copies weekly, or 1,340,000 copies in the whole; by

*deputation expenses*, including travelling expenses to attend meetings and parliamentary elections in various parts of the United Kingdom; *by salaries and expenses of lecturers*, including travelling expenses for lectures delivered in 36 English and many Welsh counties, in all exceeding 600 lectures; *by grants to local Free-Trade committees* for local expenses in registration, collection of League Fund, &c.; *by agents, salaries of clerks, and weekly wages*; *by postage stamps* for 300,000 letters, carriage, and postages; *by furniture and fixtures*; *by local expenses*; by sundry office expenses, petty cash and incidental expenses, including repairs and alterations; by rent, taxes, and gas, including rent of Covent Garden Theatre, house, offices, &c., in London and Manchester .. £59,333 7 6  
Balance down .. 26,675 19 9

Wm. Rawson, Treasurer. £86,009 7 3  
The announcement of the balance in hand was received with loud and reiterated bursts of cheering.

The SECRETARY also read the minutes of the meeting of the Council above reported.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Baines will now move the adoption of the report. Before he does so, perhaps the meeting will allow me one explanation with respect to the fund. When we first launched the address in which we asked from the country a contribution of £100,000, we had it in contemplation to raise a large portion of the amount by a Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre. That Bazaar has not been held, and therefore the sum here stated is fully as large as we expected to realize. (Cheers.) We propose still to hold the Bazaar; and I have no doubt the proceeds will carry us far beyond the sum we expected. (Loud cheers.) With this explanation I beg to call upon Mr. Baines.

EDWARD BAINES, jun., Esq., Leeds, came forward, and was received with loud cheers. He said he had the honour to submit the first resolution, "That the report of the proceedings of the General Council of the League, which has now been read, be adopted and confirmed by this meeting." He had had the privilege to attend the meeting alluded to in the report, and the minutes of which had been read, that afternoon, consisting of gentlemen—some of them the largest contributors to the League—from various parts of the northern and midland counties—gentlemen among the largest employers of labour and of capital in the country (hear, hear)—gentlemen who might be said to belong to the most intelligent class of the community (hear, hear); and he was sure he might speak for them, as well as himself, when he said that the impression upon their minds, after the report and detail laid before them had been gone into, was one of full satisfaction—and not only full satisfaction, but of perfect confidence—and not only of perfect confidence, but of lively gratitude to the Council, who had performed such stupendous things in the cause of Free Trade. (Loud cheers, which were prolonged for some moments.) They had the opportunity of asking many questions, and going into many details with regard to the operations of the Council and the Executive Council; they had the opportunity of questioning the treasurer, and going over the whole system of accounts, with the admirably contrived checks and counter-checks by which the business of that Council was carried on; and he must say that nothing more perfectly regular, systematic, and business-like ever met his eye than the

business of that vast establishment was now conducted. (Loud cheers.) He spoke the sentiments of all the gentlemen present when he went through the establishment—men of business habits and intelligence, men accustomed to the working of large establishments in various parts of the country—when he expressed this opinion. He felt it an honour to have an opportunity of expressing before this vast meeting of Free-Traders his own unbounded and increasing attachment to the cause of the National Anti-Corn-Law League. He looked upon it as a great national confederation for the overturning of an oppressive and unjust law, and for the vindication of the rights of industry and capital, and for establishing a system by which the wrongs of the people of England might be redressed, by which the resources of the country might be developed, and her prosperity be carried to the highest possible pitch. (Loud cheers.) He looked upon this as a League not only for times of bad trade, but times of good trade ("hear, hear," and cheers), and for all times until the system of a perfectly Free Trade be established with all who were willing to trade with us. We had heard of "fair-weather" friends, and it might have been said, perhaps, that the League were "foul-weather" friends; but they had proved to be something more (cheers); and it was creditable, at least, to the members of this League and the men of Manchester, who had conducted its operations, as showing their sincerity, that when the return of prosperity had arrived they had not abandoned the cause, thus showing that their principles were too well founded and enduring to be affected by any mere temporary alteration in the state of the country; and that, having put on their armour, they had been resolved not to take it off till they had accomplished the full measure of justice which they set before themselves at the outset of this agitation. (Cheers.) So he had lost the honour of addressing an assemblage in Manchester—upon nearly this spot of ground, though in a more frail and temporary building—a vast change had come over the circumstances of the country. (Hear.) At that time they had but a small committee, and had to get up a case; they were a distress committee (laughter), and very black was the hudget they had to exhibit. The distress existing over the whole manufacturing districts was very great—and not existing in the manufacturing parts of the country alone, but extending into the agricultural districts. (Hear, hear.) Now, the change was indeed great, and if they had to form a distress committee it was probable they would have to bring up a nearly empty bag. But did that alter or negative the principles they held? On the contrary, it was in exact accordance with what they had always contended for, namely, that cheap food was above all things essential to national prosperity. (Cheers.) He had now seen a somewhat lengthened period of agitation for the repeal of the obnoxious Corn Laws. Twenty years ago, once March, he made his first public speech on the subject of the Corn Laws, in direct opposition to them (laughter); and that might seem discouraging at first view, but if they looked to the experience of the working of the law at that time, he thought it might be shown that there was something interesting, and from which they

might derive hope, in the history of the question in that period—between 1825 and 1845. (Hear, hear.) But he mentioned it to show them this—and he had been a pretty close observer of the changes which the country had undergone in that time—that there had been in those twenty years, he might say, no less than six distinctly marked periods of distress and prosperity—three of prosperity and three of distress. (Hear, hear.) But he would confine himself more particularly to four of them as coming within the recollection of almost all present, and enabling them to bear out the lessons he sought to deduce from them. He had seen a period from the year 1823 to 1831 of dear food and of great distress, and this was followed by a period from 1833 to 1836 of high prosperity. (Hear, hear.) From 1838 to 1842 was again a period of dear food, and again deep and extensive and unparalleled distress prevailed. (Hear, hear, hear.) And again in 1833 and 1834, with cheap food once more we had again a revival of prosperity. (Loud cheers.) Not only did he himself observe, and know from personal recollection, what the state of the country was during those periods, but he had gone through various public records, which enabled him to show the lessons he deduced from them to be founded on correct data. It would be unwise for him to trouble them now with a minute statement of facts or figures on this subject; he should not do so; but he would briefly state the grand results of inquiries he had made, all of which tended to show that with cheap food we had national prosperity, as an invariable accompaniment, and that with dear food we had national distress. (Loud cheers.) Now, there were, he might say, seven grand heads or features into which he might divide his subject, distinguishing the country during these periods, all of which were capable of being proved by the public records of the country; and on each of these he would say two words. First, of trade and manufactures: he said (and would unhesitatingly challenge any man to meet him in the discussion of that subject to prove the contrary)—he said, in regard to the state of trade and manufactures, in each of those periods of dear food, trade and manufactures were languishing; and in each of those periods of cheap food, trade and manufactures were flourishing. (Hear, hear.) The second head was as to the comforts and luxuries of life. He said that, in times of dear food, the consumption of those articles was comparatively small; and that in seasons of cheap food it was comparatively large. (Hear, hear.) The third head of national prosperity or distress under which he should illustrate his argument was in reference to the public revenue. In times of cheap food, the revenue had been invariably found to flourish, so as to more than answer the wants of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and so that he had been able to repeal taxes (hear, hear, hear); in times of dear food, it had as unquestionably languished and declined, and new taxes had been imposed to meet the expenditure. (Cheers.) The fourth feature had reference to pauperism and the poor-rates. Now, he could show how, during several years of cheap food, they had declined; and that in the years of dear food they had gradually and as certainly increased. (Hear, hear.) The fifth head was emigration (cheers); and on that he might say that he could prove that, during the years of dear food and scarcity, the tide of emigration had considerably increased; and that during the years of cheap food it had as certainly ebbed, and materially decreased. (Cheers.) The sixth head he would adduce—equally decisive on the subject—was that of crime. (Hear, hear.) They had had it stated in their

local organs, within a few days, that the same features marked the statistics of crime, so far as regarded this neighbourhood; and the experience of Manchester was that of the whole country: in times of cheap food it was found that crime invariably diminished; and that in times of dear food the increase was fearfully great. (Hear, hear.) The seventh and last head was that of wages (cheers); and he would observe, in reference to this question, that throughout the country they would find that wages fell in times of dear food, and rose in times of cheap food. (Loud and reiterated cheers.) He was happy to have the confirmation of that great meeting to the truth of the deductions he had drawn from the documents he had examined for his own satisfaction on these subjects, and which entirely bore out his recollection on the subject. And he might say that these results applied not only to the periods he had named, but to previous ones—particularly he might mention those of 1818-19 and 1824-25. Now, if this was true, what was the great lesson they should deduce from it? Why, that whatever the effect of these laws might be upon particular classes, the effect upon the nation at large, tested in all the ways they could test it, showed that it was the interest of the people to have their food cheap, and that the greatest calamity that could befall them was to have their food dear. (Great cheering.)

LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Esq. (Liverpool), in seconding the motion, made some excellent statements calculated to show the absurdity of the monopolist doctrines which attributed the alternations of distress and prosperity to panics and mere monetary operations; he traced the origin of commercial depressions clearly to the laws which made food scarce and dear, and made some interesting statements as to the effect which returning prosperity (consequent on cheapness and plenty) had had upon railway returns and profits—a result which he had predicted at a railway meeting several years ago, when his opinions on the subject were received with distrust or sneered at. His address was loudly cheered, and at its conclusion the resolution was put and carried unanimously and with loud cheers.

T. M. GIBSON, Esq., M.P., on rising was received with vehement cheering, which was prolonged for a considerable time. He spoke as follows:—Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I have the greatest satisfaction in supporting the resolution, which affirms the efficiency of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) It has happened to me several times, within, perhaps, I may say, a recent period, to be asked in a sneering tone, by gentlemen in the south of England, how the Anti-Corn-Law League was getting on. (Hear, hear.) There's a way of asking a question which conveys, beyond the mere words, a very clear meaning. The meaning of the question was, the idea, the fond notion that has been vainly invented in the south of England, that the League was retrograding; and some even have gone the length of saying that the League was extinct. (Hear, hear, hear.) Nay, more: rumour says, Sir, that a subscription was even

entered into to give a very large testimonial to a writer who was supposed to have been instrumental in bringing about the dissolution of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheering and laughter.) I wish some of my southern friends could be present at this great assembly. (Hear.) And I think, when they hear of the large sums which have been so willingly subscribed by the people of this country in support of the League, and the large balance of something like £27,000 which now remains in hand to carry on the agitation (loud cheers), that they will feel assured that the Anti-Corn-Law League has escaped all the dangers of its infancy, and is now established in a mature and robust manhood, and that it will live until it has accomplished the object for which it was brought into existence. (Cheers.) It was predicted that the League could not live because the Anti-Corn-Law demand was only a political cry. It was no "cry." (Hear, hear.) A "cry" is a very different thing; it means a something used as a watchword of a party, without any real intention of carrying the object into effect. (Hear, hear.) That is a "cry," to talk of "our young Queen and our old constitution" (laughter); and "The wooden walls of old England." (Loud cheers and laughter.) These are political cries. But the distinction between the watchword or bond of union of this great association and those political cries is this,—that the one is real, but the other is merely used as a means of binding men together in a sort of livery, which is known by the cry, as it were, that they utter, though there is no real intention of carrying any political movement into effect. (Cheers.) But not so with the Anti-Corn-Law League. Politicians are beginning to find that something is really meant (hear, hear); that something is meant to be done, and that this cry of "Free Trade,"—the demand for Free Trade—is not intended merely to bring political partisans into office and into the enjoyment of power, but it is intended to place in the possession of the great body of the intelligent middle and working classes of this country their full rights, which consist in having the free use of their power, and the full enjoyment of the fruits of their industry. (Cheers.) It has been predicted also, that, when good times came, the Anti Corn-Law League could not carry on its agitation. It has been said, when men are making money fast, they cannot attend to politics. The reason that they have so deceived themselves is this, that they never knew the reality of this movement. (Cheers.) This movement has not been adopted from a mere impulse, but is based upon an intelligent conviction. (Cheers.) It is not based upon the mere contingency of whether times are good or bad, or whether there be prosperity or whether there be distress; it is based upon the immutable principles of justice, that can never change. (Cheers.) You have had placed before your eyes by the Anti-Corn-Law League a plain, intelligible, broad, and clear idea; and what is this idea? That merchants and manufacturers are something in the land, as well as landowners and farmers (loud cheers); that commerce is as lawful and as legitimate a pursuit, and as advantageous to the community, as agriculture (cheers); and that it is as much the right of the merchant to supply his fellow-countrymen with food, by the agency of commerce, as it is the right of the landowner to supply the community with food by the agency of his acres. (Loud cheers.) That is the plain, intelligible principle which has been placed before the country. They now understand that commerce—that the agency of commerce—is a productive power, that it is as much a producer as agriculture; and that the one producer is as much entitled to the favour of the Legislature as the other. (Cheers.) All should be equal in the eyes of the Legislature; and, since you cannot protect or give special advantages to all, you must give special advantages and privileges to none. (Cheers.) All must stand upon the same common ground; and all must have the same free use of their powers, and the same advantages—the full advantage of whatever resources Providence may have placed within the reach of their honest industry. (Cheers.) And I say, the very object of government—the very principle upon which civil society is formed, and upon which it is based—is to carry out the spirit of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Cheers.) The object of government is to prevent individuals from encroaching upon the rights of individuals, and class from encroaching upon the rights of class. (Cheers.) But when our Legislature assists in promoting the maintenance of the Corn Law, I say it is itself guilty of one of those very wrongs which government was intended to repress. (Cheers.) Your excellent friend, who has addressed you before me, has so well pointed out how favourable the present movement is for testing the truth of the theory of the Anti Corn-Law League, by comparing its conclusions with the facts which are now around us—namely, the fact of an improving trade, with cheapness of food,—that I will not enter further into the detail of that branch of the question. Nothing in the world can be so clear—nothing but the wilful blindness which arises from self-interest, one would suppose, could ever prevent a man from admitting that, when food is abundant, when the necessities of life are cheap and accessible to the great mass of the community, there must be an increased demand for other products of industry; and with that increased demand for the other products of industry there must be rising wages and increased employment. (Loud cheers.) That is a self-evident proposition, and needs not any lengthened demonstration to satisfy any meeting, and especially one so well acquainted with the subject as that now gathered within these walls. (Cheers.) But with regard to the farmers: the farmers are grumbling together; and, grumblers though they are reputed generally to be, their grumbling is now somewhat more remarkable than usual. And I think they have good reason to grumble. (Hear, hear.) I think that of all people in this community, notwithstanding what the Legislature has professed to do for them, no class has been worse treated than the farmers. (Loud cheers.) It has been pretended that the Legislature has had the welfare of the farmer in view when it has reduced the taxes upon the land. It was said—"What a saving the farmer has had by the alteration consequent on the New Poor Law; the poor-rate is much less than it used to be; the poor farmer will be able to get a better return from his occupation." (Hear, hear.) But all that the farmer saved in poor-rate goes to rent. (Cheers.) There never was a greater mistake than to suppose that the Legislature, when professing to benefit the farmer, was not really putting more money into the pocket of the landowner. (Loud cheers.) The landowner was the object of favour—the farmer was merely held up as a mask to their intentions. (Cheers.)



Now, we have said this of the Anti-Corn-Law League all along: It has constantly been said that the Corn-Law question was a question of rent (hear, hear, hear); that the Corn Law was never intended to compensate the farmer for the different charges which pressed upon the land, because all those charges were calculated upon when the farmer took his land, and allowed for in the rent. (Hear, hear.) When the tithes rent-charge is high, when the poor-rate is high, when the various other burdens are high—of course a man who takes land cannot afford to give so much rent for it; therefore, the farmer has nothing whatever to do with the various burdens which have been alleged as the reason for protecting him. Now, as a proof that farmers themselves, compelled by the pressure of the times, having made their contracts for their present rents under the notion that prices would be higher than they now are,—are beginning to speak out upon this question, I will take the liberty of reading you one or two remarks from the speeches of tenant-farmers, at a meeting which took place in Gloucester, and which appeared in the *Times* newspaper of yesterday. And when I quote from this meeting, I quote from a meeting which resembles a great many others; for I have seen similar remarks to those which I shall read, as made at a great many meetings in different parts of the country. And were it not for the fear which prevails, in consequence of the sort of influence that is possessed by the landed proprietary over the tenants-at-will in this country, there would be at the present moment a very general expression of indignation on the part of the farmers, at the way in which their credulity has been practised upon by the Legislature, and at the way in which they have been induced to rely upon these faithful patrons of protection. (Cheers.) The article is headed, "The Farmers' Difficulties." It sets out by remarking that the guests were rather fewer than usual. It says:—

"The room was as commodious and the viands as abundant and inviting as on any previous occasion, and the charge was the same—but the guests were wanting. About thirty persons only were present, and of these a number were landlords, and several belonged to the city."

Mr. Watts, a tenant-farmer, then volunteered an explanation, and he said:—"I am sorry that our club is continuing to fall off, and that the attendance at our meetings has been so small. But, gentlemen, I told you last year the reason of this, namely, the unwillingness of many landlords to help their tenants in these times of difficulty and distress."

Then he goes on to say:—"I am aware, that many land-surveyors will advise their employers not to grant leases; the reason is obvious—instead of these men being called upon once in seven years, they perhaps will not be required to value the farm oftener than once in twenty-one years. (Laughter.) I hope the time is not very far distant when every good farmer will be protected by a fair lease, and at such a rent as the prices of produce, permanently reduced as they undoubtedly are, will enable him to pay." (Cheers.) So that, it seems, after all, when the farmer wants relief, he does not look to rent. He knows there is a margin there that can be burrowed upon. (Cheers.) We have been told—I dare say my excellent friend, Mr. Cobden, has been frequently told—"If you were to abolish rent altogether, the farmers could not afford to farm their lands under a repeal of the Corn Laws."

They don't say where. (Hear, hear.) We have not a word said about "special burdens," either; there is not a word said about poor-rate, nor about the seasons, nor about any other difficulties whatever. (Cheers.) The only remark made by this tenant-farmer is, that he wants a lease, and he wants it at a fair rent. (Hear, hear.) And that is the whole question. Now, what is it the farmers are afraid of, at the present moment, from a repeal of the Corn Laws? Is it low prices that they are afraid of?

Why, they have the low prices now; prices are low. They say they want a lowering of rent. (Hear, hear, hear.) But I ask them, will they ever get that lowering of rent until the Corn Law is abolished? (No, no.) Will there ever be a general adjustment of rent between the landlord and his tenant throughout the kingdom until there is a total abolition of protection? Never. (Cheers.) Now, as a proof that I am speaking not without authority when I say this—what did Lord Liverpool say when the Corn Law was passed? He said:—"If you don't pass this Corn Law, there will be a general adjustment of rents between landlord and tenant all over the kingdom, and the farmer will start afresh upon a new basis." (Cheers.) That would be the state of things now. Repeal the Corn Laws, and there would be an adjustment of rent, and there would be leases; and those are the very demands which these farmers are making at the agricultural meetings. (Cheers.) Now, the Anti-Corn-Law League proposes to do all in its power to accomplish this object; and therefore, I say, the Anti-Corn-Law League is emphatically the farmers' friend. (Cheers.) We are not enemies to the farmer; we desire to see the farmer prosper. We are enemies to landlord legislation (cheers); and we are enemies to the delusion which has been palmed upon the community—that it is an advantage that the landlord class should be elevated in the social scale by the depression of the mercantile community. (Loud applause.) There never was a time more favourable for the total abolition of the Corn Laws than the present moment. (Cheers.) We are often told in the House of Commons when we make a proposition—and by no means more frequently than by our State physician, Sir Robert Peel (hear, hear)—"Your proposition may be very reasonable in principle; but this is not the time." (Laughter.) Now, I defy them, if ever they mean to repeal these Corn Laws, to point to any future time which can by any possibility be more favourable than the present moment. (Cheers.) Prices are already moderate; there would be no change in the position of the farmer in that respect. Labourers are not now thrown out of employment because prices are reduced; but there is growing up at this moment, from the speculations in railroads, from a manufacturing prosperity, and from various causes, very greatly-increased demand for labour. (Hear, hear.) Now, altogether, I do not believe that one single individual would be thrown out of employment upon the land by the repeal of the Corn Laws; yet, allowing all they say about the non-employment of labour without the Corn Laws to be true, I say that there are now abundant means for employing the labour that may be thrown out of employment; for there are the railroads, and there is your manufacturing prosperity. (Cheers.) But, after all, what a nonsensical argument this is about throwing labourers out of employment by the repeal of the Corn Laws. Labourers can only be thrown out of employment (and by being thrown out of employment I suppose they mean the labourers will be deprived of bread) by the land going out of cultivation. Now, I will take the most extreme case that can possibly be imagined—that of a great number of acres of land being thrown out of cultivation, and, as they say, a great number of labourers being deprived of employment. Why, there are only three labourers employed on one hundred acres of land. (Hear, hear.) And does any sane man, any human being who is fit to be at large, mean to assert that these three men could not, by their own industry, live out of these one hundred acres of land, which it is alleged would be thrown out of cultivation? (Loud cheers.) But we know that it is a mere pretence this throwing of labourers out of employment. Why, what was said when the New Poor Law was introduced in the year 1835? It was said then—"Prices are very low, and this is a very favourable moment, therefore, for trying the effect of a more stringent poor law, which is to throw the labourer upon his own resources." (Hear, hear.) This was said by landed proprietors in those days, who wanted the New Poor Law to reduce the poor-rate; it was said by the Poor Law Commissions, it was said by all parties having influence or authority in the State. It was said then that it was a favourable moment to introduce the New Poor Law, simply because prices were very low, and, therefore, there was increased employment in other branches of industry, and greater facility for the labourer to find the means of living by his own industry. (Cheers.) But hundreds of instances of this kind of inconsistency may be discovered by only looking through a certain book called "Hansard's Parliamentary Debates." (Laughter.) You will find that every good Anti-Corn-Law argument is used by the supporters of the Corn Laws when it suits their own interests. (Cheers.) There is scarcely a single argument that we use in support of a repeal of the Corn Laws that has not been used by the supporters of those laws on other subjects; and the case was remarkably so, most undoubtedly, when the new poor law was introduced into this country. (Cheers.) But we have a great show of philanthropy in these days. Persons say—"We cannot support this Anti-Corn-Law League; but, at any rate, we'll do something in the way of charitable subscription for enabling the poor to enjoy some of the comforts of life, when they are unable to find employment to earn them for themselves." Now, I hold in my hand a book that has just been published in London—namely, the "Report of an Association for Promoting the Relief of Destitution in the Metropolis, and for Improving the Condition of the Poor by Means of Parochial and District Visiting, under the Superintendence and Direction of the Bishop and Clergy." Now, this is the report of the Lord Bishop of London. (Hear, hear.) What does he say upon this subject? I would just observe that we are entitled to have a little conversation with the Lord Bishop of London upon the question of the Corn Laws; not because he is a bishop—not because, as the late Mr. Cobden said, "he has a mitre on his head, and has a crosier in his holy hands." (Laughter.) No; but because he is a legislator; he sits in the House of Lords; he is a party to these laws; if he does not object to them, he assents to them. (Cheers.) Therefore, we are entitled to have a little conversation with him as to the operation of those Corn Laws in bringing about the results which this association is endeavouring to remedy. The Bishop says, in the course of this investigation,—"But it soon appeared, that, whatever might be the severity of the immediate

pressure, a still greater and more alarming evil existed in its cause. It was found on investigation that the condition of the labouring classes, in too many instances, exhibited a downward tendency, declining from comparative comfort and respectability into poverty and ultimate pauperism. Whether this tendency might be ascribed to the great competition in trade, the manifold interruptions to which so vast a traffic as that of Great Britain is unavoidably exposed, and the consequent fluctuation in wages and uncertainty of employment; or whether, in particular districts, it might be traced to circumstances affecting the immediate locality alone, the fact remained the same. Now, the Bishop says—"a more alarming evil exists in the cause of all these disasters." A very sensible remark. (Cheers and laughter.) Perhaps it may not be thought wrong to say that the Bishop himself is a cause. (Laughter.) But, unless we are totally wrong in all our conclusions, the Bishop of London, by not testifying his disapprobation of the Corn Laws in the House of Lords, unless we be completely deceived in all our notions of cheap food, as a source of happiness to the community,—I say there is nothing so very extreme in the remark that the Bishop of London himself may be considered as one of the causes of the evils which he deplors. (Cheers.) "Why," the Bishop may say, "prices are low now—what would you have? The Corn Laws have not prevented you, you see, from having abundance of food." Yes, but I say the Corn Law answers no purpose at all, unless it be to raise the price of food. (Cheers.) The object of that law is to raise the price of food: it does effect that sometimes; and, therefore, by not opposing that law as far as in him lies, the Bishop of London does all he can to keep up the price of corn. (Cheers.) This is the great delusion into which men fall upon this subject, that because we have a momentary cheapness of corn, therefore we are not to object to the maintenance of the Corn Law. Why, the fact is this: either the Corn Law is operative, or it is not. If it be operative it is a great public wrong and a great injustice; and if it be inoperative at any moment, that, of course, can be no possible reason against its total repeal. (Cheers.) Now, I think the Bishop of London and this association, who are so anxious to inquire by their report into the cause of the distress of the poor, can hardly deny that cheapness and abundance are necessary to promote employment, to promote the welfare of the poorer classes of the community. Surely, it can never be necessary to discuss a question with the church, whether plenty is an evil, or whether scarcity be a blessing. (Hear, hear.) The very prayer, as we have often heard it said, which is used in our churches, assumes that cheapness and plenty are blessings. (Cheers.) True, undoubtedly it is, that sometimes these things are interpreted in what is called a non-natural sense (laughter); but I never heard that these words, "cheapness and plenty," meant anything but the plain meaning which they convey. (Cheers.) Well, then, I ask these gentlemen—we will not venture to impugn their motives, we will give them full credit for a desire to benefit the poorer classes of their fellow-countrymen; but I ask them in the name of common sense, in the name of all that is sacred, why don't they

come forward to assist us to abolish a law whose only object, if it have any object at all, is to make food scarce, and therefore dear? (Loud and continued cheering.) Is there anything unreasonable in this request? ("No," and laughter.) And is there anything unreasonable in attesting that the Bishop of London, if he do not, in the House of Lords, use his authority for denouncing this law, gives his assent to it? (Cheers.) You have heard the story, I dare say, at least you have read what the late Lord Eldon said. He made use of the silence of the bishops in respect to the slave trade as an argument in its defence. He said:—"The slave trade cannot be such a horrible thing as is represented, or, surely, my lords the bishops would have denounced it long ago." (Cheers and laughter.) We are entitled to call upon all who profess to carry into practice the doctrines of Christianity (cheers), and all who have a voice in the making of laws for their fellow-countrymen, to express some clear and definite opinion as to the operation of this Corn Law. (Hear, hear.) It is necessary that it should be settled; and I think that, if opinions be expressed, the repeal of that law must be the necessary consequence. (Cheers.) I defy men in these days to make use of the exploded follies of past times. Society has begun to think; society has begun to reason upon this question in a spirit that has never existed in any previous period. (Cheers.) Now, I should like to ask whether there can be any gentleman found in this kingdom who would boldly assert—except it be the editor of the *Morning Post* (great laughter)—that scarcity in itself is a blessing to the community? (Hear, hear.) I do verily believe that, if we had the opportunity of fair and dispassionate argument, free from all party, with any man who supported the Corn Law, we should reduce him to the necessity of asserting that scarcity was, *per se*, and abstractedly, a blessing to the community. (Great cheering.) I think when we consider the great advantage, too, which the agitation of the Anti-Corn-Law League has been to the promotion of practical agriculture in this kingdom—when we consider how the farmers through the whole kingdom are more or less curious as to new manures, and new investments in respect of agricultural improvements, we shall be satisfied that our agitation has had a most beneficial effect upon the cultivation of the soil. (Cheers.) No man—I say it emphatically, I say it conscientiously, as somewhat of an agriculturist myself, and as residing in an agricultural county—I say no man has proved a better friend to agriculture than our excellent leader, Mr. Cobden. (Loud cheering.) We never should have heard so much about guano, and under-draining, and organic chemistry, and lectures upon the nature of soils, if there had not been a foreboding that days of competition were at hand, and that it would be no longer possible to rely upon the Legislature and the promises of members of Parliament. (Applause.) That has proved a broken reed; and I have heard this very uncertainty mentioned by several friends of our cause as in itself a good thing for the community. (Applause.) For this uncertainty causes an increase of zeal—an increased energy, I should rather say, in the adoption of various improvements, and in the testing of these new inventions. Perhaps Sir Robert Peel may think that uncertainty is, after all, a good thing for the farmers; I don't know that he does not. (Laughter.) He seems to adopt that cautious reserve as to his future intentions upon all matters of public policy, that would lead one almost to imagine that uncertainty itself is a part of his studied intentions. (Applause and laughter.) It may have its benefits; but I confess that I think a certainty would be a far more beneficial thing for this community. I cannot help thinking that, if we could now repeal the Corn Laws, we should see rendered permanent that prosperity which now will be such a source of satisfaction and joy to the Premier when he meets the coming Parliament. (Applause.) But I doubt myself, although our Prime Minister has undoubtedly made some footsteps in the direction of Free Trade, whether we can give to him the full credit of all these improvements in our commerce and in our manufactures. (Hear, hear, hear.) I rather think that unless we deem—as some extreme partisans have been held to deem—that the weather even is influenced by the Ministers in power, we cannot allow Sir Robert Peel that meed of credit. (Laughter.) No. His measures have been useful, inasmuch as they have affirmed a principle (hear, hear), but their practical result, I believe, has been but small. (Loud applause.) We are indebted to a power which has defeated the intentions of monopoly—(loud applause)—we are indebted to Providence, we are indebted to abundant harvests for the prosperity which we now enjoy; and we can only consider ourselves under an obligation to Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham, for having, in their places in Parliament, affirmed that the principle of Free Trade is the principle of common sense. (Cheers.) We are satisfied with that declaration, because I am persuaded that it will be long and hard to lead the people of this country to the belief that it is not expedient to carry into practice the principles of common sense. (Loud cheers.) Certainly the object for which the League contends is a glorious one. The struggle for commercial freedom has been compared to the struggles which took place in former times for religious liberty, for the freedom of the press, for the freedom of speech, and various other great struggles of freedom against oppression. But I believe that the result of our success will be greater in benefit to the community than all the other results that have preceded it. I believe that Free Trade contains within itself something which is not merely beneficial to this community in which we live, but that if we adopt its principles it will confer a benefit upon mankind at large. (Cheers.) It is no less, depend upon it, than the highest and dearest interests of mankind at large that are involved in the struggle for commercial freedom. (Cheers.) We are not engaged in any narrow or confined object,—in anything which partakes either of the nature of privilege on the one hand, or of exclusion on the other. (Cheers.) Whilst the Free-Traders vindicate their own rights, they have an equal regard for the rights of others. (Cheers.) There is nothing in our principle that is inconsistent with universal justice; and I feel persuaded that the day is not far distant—it may be nearer than any of us imagine—when the Corn Law shall be erased from the statute-book of England, and consigned, as many other barbarisms have been before it, to everlasting oblivion. (Loud cheers.)

JOHN BAUMER, Esq., M.P., then presented himself, and was most warmly cheered. He said:—"It seems to me a very becoming thing that the Council of the Anti-Corn-

Law League should render its annual report to this audience, and in this hall, and on this spot. For this audience is a fair representation of the numbers and the influence of the Free-Trade party in this country; and this great hall is a temple which has been reared to Free-Trade principles, to justice, and to freedom; and this spot whereon we are now assembled is memorable in the annals of the struggle for Free Trade—for on this spot, a quarter of a century ago, your fellow-townsmen were attacked by a brutal and cowardly soldiery (loud cheers); and the blood of men and women, who had assembled here to protest against the iniquity of the Corn Law, was then shed. (Hear, hear.) There are two things which strike my mind at this moment, in connexion with this question. One is, that the tendency and object of all Corn-Law legislation of late years has been the same—to plunder the industry of the country by creating an artificial famine, and thereby to enrich the great proprietors of the soil, and those who call themselves the nobility of the land. (Loud cheers.) When the law was passed in 1815, £4 a quarter was fixed as the price of wheat. Now, the price is 45s. a quarter—only a little more than half. (Hear, hear.) Now, we think £4 a quarter a famine price. It was a famine price then; the law intended that it should be perpetual; but only two years since that time have witnessed the price of wheat so high as 80s. In 1817 and 1818 the act-of-Parliament-famine price was reached; and those years were years of great distress and discontent, and menaced insurrection in all the densely-populated districts of the kingdom. (Cheers.) But the Corn Law intended that, from 1815 to 1815, or as long as it should last, the famine price should be kept in view, and should be attained if possible; the object of these men, the views of these men, had only this limit—"Get as near that price always as it may be safe to go." (Loud cheers.) Get all out of the industry of the country which the industrious classes will bear quietly. (Hear.) Don't mind starving a few of the poor, who will go down to premature graves, and their voices will not be heard amongst the strife of parties and the contentions for political power." (Loud cheers.) This Corn Law has no mercy in it; and its framers had none. (Cheers.) There have been periods when distress has not extensively prevailed. We are now passing through one of them; but it is not by the mercy of the Corn Law that we are not now plunged into utter desolation. (Cheers.) We have heard already, and I may here repeat it, that there is a power, a beneficent power, a power which does not make its arrangements to suit the ignorant and the sordid views of the proprietors of land in Britain; and that power, omnipotent—far above all the potentates that sit in the halls of human legislation—that power it is which has baffled the intentions of the framers of the Corn Law, and has given at this moment plenty and comfort to the millions of the people. (Loud cheers.) We hear sometimes that the slave flies from the lash and the chain, and makes his escape into a country where slavery is unknown; he escapes although the bloodhounds are upon his track; but does any man attribute his escape and safety to that quality of mercy which is not to be found in the nature of the bloodhound? And will any man now say that it is the effect of protection, that it is owing to a quality of mercy in this protection, or to any feature in this Corn Law, that you are not now overwhelmed with pauperism, and that every valued institution of your country is not threatened by the menaced insurrection of millions who are starving around you? (Cheers.) The next thing to be remembered is this,—and it should never for a moment be forgotten,—that the Corn Law was passed by military force, and by the power of that alone (hear, hear); that the houses of legislation in this free country were garrisoned the night when that law passed the senate (cheers); that the very police, and the very military who are sustained by taxes taken from the people, were employed to impose upon the neck of the people—y, and to rivet fast the collar which was to be at once the mark of their servitude, and the penalty they were to pay for their subjugation. (Loud cheers.) It was passed, and it has been maintained, by force applied to the population of our towns; it has been maintained by the grossest fraud and cajolery applied to the population of our rural districts. It has never been asked for by the people. No petitions have gone to Parliament signed by tens, twenties, and fifties of thousands of people, asking for the enactment of a Corn Law. (Hear, hear.) It has never even been consented to by the people; there has been from the moment of its first enactment a continual protest against its iniquity. (Cheers.) Your own meeting, of which I have already spoken, in 1810, was one to protest against it; and from that time to this there have not been wanted men—men in every part of the country, ay, and intelligent men in every part of the world—to rise up and to speak in denunciation of the infamy of this law. (Cheers.) And the Anti-Corn-Law League is but the embodiment, as it were, of a long-held opinion; we are but taking up the question which our fathers have also had a deep interest in. We are here, better organized, and, if possible, more resolved; and that is just the difference between the agitation in which we are now engaged, and that which was being carried on upon this very spot of earth twenty-five years ago. (Cheers.) Now, this may be a fitting time to ask the question, which some of our opponents, perhaps, are asking—What has the League done? In many gigantic works, in the building of some vast edifice, you see the progress daily; stone is placed upon stone, until the whole immense fabric is complete. Our object is to promote the passing of a bill in Parliament to repeal the acts affecting the importation of corn; but it is not to be expected that we should see, by successive steps, clause after clause of that bill put into shape, or that it should be read a first time, and be waiting for further agitation to compel its reading a second time. Our work is to create public feeling, and to array public feeling against this law to such an extent that the law shall be virtually repealed, that the triumph shall be consummated; and then the act of Parliament, the mere sanction of the Legislature, will be but the formal acknowledgment and ratification of that which public opinion has already decreed. (Cheers.) I was tracing our progress in my mind; and I recollected that in the year 1815 the Anti-Corn-Law League raised a subscription of about £5000, and it was thought a very serious attempt; and one knowing man promised to repeal the

Corn Laws for about £3000. (Laughter.) In 1840 another subscription was entered into—a guarantee fund for three years, to be paid by instalments. In 1841 there took place that very memorable meeting when 700 ministers of religion assembled in this town, deputed by 700 congregations of Christian men and women. (Hear, hear.) These men assembled here, and, with all the force and all the power which their character and their calling could give them, they denounced this Corn Law as one violating every human right, and offensive in the sight of Heaven. (Great cheering.) Oh, it was a noble spectacle! (Cheers.) There are many who have not sufficiently valued it. But in our journeys through various parts of the country we have met with scores and scores of those men, and we have found that they went back from that meeting to the most remote corners of the island, and there they spread the principles which in themselves had been strengthened here, and formed a centre of agitation in favour of Free Trade, from which the very best results have succeeded. (Cheers.) In 1842, we held a bazaar in this town which realized the sum of £10,000—(cheers)—more, I believe, by some thousands, than was ever before received from any bazaar in this country, however great and noble were its patrons and patronesses. (Cheers.) In 1843, we raised a subscription of £50,000—(loud cheers)—and that was done with the greatest ease. (Cheers.) In 1844, the subscription of £100,000 was asked for; and you have heard from the report that about £82,000 or £83,000 have been received, although one of the great means by which it was to have been collected has not yet been employed. (Hear, hear.) But what shall I say of 1845, not yet a month old? (Hear, hear.) This: that within the last three months, at the recommendation of the Council of the League, aided by a large number of meetings which have been attended by deputations from the Council, the Free-Traders of Lancashire, of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and of North Cheshire, have expended certainly nearly a quarter of a million of money in qualifying new votes for the counties I have named. (Loud cheers.) When, more than a year ago, a few despised manufacturers met in the Town-hall, and (being a business day they could not stay long) put down their names for upwards of £12,000; the *Times* newspaper said that it was "a great fact." Now, I should like to know what description of fact is this?—that, within three months, at the recommendation of the Council, more, certainly, than £200,000, I believe £250,000, have been expended in the purchase of property, for the sake of augmenting the Free-Trade register in the counties I have named. (Loud cheers.) Well, now, I ask this meeting, after this brief description of our progress so far, can this movement fail? (Cries of "No, no," and "Never.") I ask the monopolists themselves, who have any share of intelligence, and who know anything of how public questions are carried in this country,—I ask the members of the Queen's Government themselves whether they think there can be any rest for their Ministry, or for any succeeding Ministry, whilst this infamous law shall disgrace the statute-book of the country? (Cheers, and "Never.") This movement began when trade was gradually failing; it strengthened when trade was at the worst; it has passed through that period, and it is marching on now with firmer and faster steps when trade has again become prosperous. (Cheers.) What a delusion—what a miserable, wretched delusion was it, that improved trade would stop the agitation for the repeal of the Corn Law. (Hear, hear.) These men to whom we are opposed never understood us; they thought we were like themselves (hear, hear)—that we did this, either for a living, or for the sake of power, or for the sake of popularity. I believe there is little of that—however mixed may be our motives, and however frail we all are—I believe there is little of any such unworthy motive to actuate any member of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Tremendous cheers.) Our movement arose from a deep conviction—a conviction which has become a faith—a faith which was strong before, but which has become much stronger by the experience of recent years. We have before us such extraordinary proof that, if I were to be asked to make facts for the purpose of proving our case, I could take nothing better than those which every year is bringing before our notice. (Hear, hear.) For four or five years, from 1838 to 1842, the average price of wheat was 61s. 8d. a quarter; now it is 45s. a quarter—within 4d. of 20s. difference. (Hear, hear.) What is the effect? That if we consume 20 millions of quarters of wheat, we save 20 millions now in the purchase of our food, compared with the price we gave in the dear years to which I have alluded. In those years the landlords were above, and they were dropping down their great landlord sponge (great laughter), and were absorbing from the industry of all the industrious classes of the country 20 millions per annum, without rendering for it one atom of good, or even near so much food as they are giving us now for a lower price. (Loud cheers.) Well, the difference now is simply this, that that 20 millions is running into a thousand channels, fertilizing every district of the country, drying up nothing but tears, and spreading smiles and happiness all around. (Immense cheering.) We have read lately what a good thing it is that the China market has been opened. True; but how much better a thing that the English market has been opened! (Cheers.) If you look at the whole of our exports to our colonies, you will find that they were only 13 millions in 1842. Therefore this alteration in the price of food is tantamount to the opening of markets half as extensive again as the whole of the colonies of Great Britain. (Cheers.) If you take the markets of Germany, Holland, France, Italy and the Italian Islands, Russia, Belgium, and Brazil,—all those markets only take from us—or did take from us in 1842—goods to the amount of £20,200,416. But this reduction in the price of food gives us an extended home market equal to the demand of all those markets, and exceeding by one-half the demand which arises from all the colonies of Britain in every part of the globe. (Loud cheers.) Well, then, our present prosperity enjoins upon us that we should continue this agitation. (Loud cheers.) And if it did not, agricultural misery imperatively demands it of us. (Loud cheers.) Thirty years' protection has left some 800,000 or 900,000 of our countrymen, agricultural labourers, for the most part paupers, hopeless and reckless. (Hear, hear.) We now find, on inquiry into the condition of those districts, that the very population who, our opponents said, supported our home trade and supported the revenue, buy almost no clothing, and consume almost no excisable articles. We find these labourers are helpless amidst

their wrongs. Protection to them has been of a sort which they dread almost to think of. If I were to be asked of its results, I would say—

"Tis to see their children weak,  
With their mothers, pline and peak  
While the wintry winds are bleak,—  
They are dying whilst I speak.

"Tis to hunger for such diet  
As the rich man in his riot  
Casts to the fat dogs that lie  
Surfeiting beneath his eye!"

(Cheers.) This is the protection which the Corn Law has given to the rural labourers; and I appeal to themselves and their actual condition for the truth of the statement. (Loud cheers.) And then the farmers, of whom Mr. Gibson has spoken, are just about as helpless. There is a case to prove it. Ninety-nine farmers out of every hundred in the kingdom are altogether against the game law; that is notorious, and yet there are not ten farmers in a district who dare meet to denounce that law in the face of their landlords. (Cheers.) I have letters in my pocket just now, I am receiving them nearly every day, signed—"Plain Truth," and "A Friend to Justice to the Farmer," and a variety of other anonymous names of that kind, asking the League to go on with their work, and especially to agitate against the game law. (Cheers.) They dare not even put their names to a letter, for fear they should come out before the public. Now, I ask you, not only to deliver yourselves but to deliver these farmers; they are suffering under the same tyranny which has so long trampled upon you and your class. This battle in which we are engaged is the battle of trade against lordly plunder. (Cheers.) You know what they say of trade; you know, or you ought to know, what the *Standard* newspaper said of your district:—"England would be as great as she now is, and all useful Englishmen as rich and as happy as they now are, if all the manufacturing towns and districts of the empire were involved in one common ruin." (Hisses, and cries of "Shame!") It was an unhappy sentiment for any paper to utter; it is a horrible and diabolic sentiment; but it is suited admirably to the columns in which it appeared. (Loud cheers.) Many attempts have been made to explain it away. Doubtless, when you come fairly to the belief that that sentiment expresses the real opinions of the party to whom we are opposed,—then, I suppose, there will be no difficulty whatever in rousing all the industrious classes of the empire to one general execration of this tyranny, and that it will be swept away, and for ever. (Cheers.) This battle is one of honest industry against dishonest idleness. (Cheers and laughter.) Mr. Baines has spoken of the fact that some of us who are prominent in this matter are calico-printers, and cotton-spinners, and the like. Well, we own it. (Cheers.) We confess that we are guilty, and that our fathers have been guilty, of doing something for our own living. (Cheers.) We make no pretensions to high blood; we don't pretend even to be *high-bred*. (Cheers and laughter.) If our fathers did throw a shuttle—and I'll never deny that mine did—(loud cheers)—yet I take it that we are born upon this soil of England, and, somehow or other, we have a strong impression that, whatsoever Government rules over this land, we, equally with the richest and the noblest born, have a claim to impartiality and to justice at the hands of that Government. (Loud cheers.) But now trade is getting off its knees, standing up a little, looking around, and surveying those who have for years been trampling it in the dust. Trade is now enfranchising itself. This,—shall I call it, new move?—this great move, this ulterior weapon of the League, is doing wonders, and is destined to do wonders for the trade and commerce of this district, and of the country at large. (Cheers.) When I consider the effect which it has had, the enthusiasm which it has produced, it appears to be more as if I had looked upon some battle-field, and had seen the forces of monopoly on one side, and of Free Trade on the other,—that the struggle had been long and deadly, with the alternations of loss and of gain, the forces rather unequally matched, the issue for a long time doubtful; and it seems as if some superior intelligence had thrown to the Free-Trade warriors an armour which was invulnerable to the shafts of their enemies, and weapons of such exquisite temper that their foes could no longer stand for a moment against them. (Tremendous cheers.) It is a long struggle, and it is a death struggle; it is a struggle where men come and grapple with men, and principle with principle. But, looking back over the ground we have trod, over the dangers and the perils which we have surmounted, is there not enough to stimulate us for the future? (Great cheering.) I ask you, here, men of Manchester,—you, to whose everlasting honour it will be said, that amongst you this League was cradled,—I ask you whether you will not be valiant for the future? (Cheers.) I feel that every step we take we tread on firmer and firmer ground; that on every hand the foe is retreating; and from whatever I see and hear—from the support we have received from the gentlemen who have come from various parts of the country to-day—and from all I see around us, I do augur that we approach the end of this conflict; and after the tolls, and the perils, and the sacrifices of warfare, we shall have the reward and all the enjoyments of a well-earned and a perpetual peace. (At the conclusion of Mr. Bright's speech the whole audience rose *en masse*, and the cheering was loud and prolonged.)

Mr. Brooks, in moving the thanks of the meeting to the speakers, expressed his gratification with the progress of the cause. He said that his friends—his constituents he called them—at Ashton and Staleybridge were the best constituency in the kingdom, always up to the mark, and willing to come again to the charge. He had met one of them recently, who asked if the money was all done, as he expected him (Mr. Brooks) coming again, and he was ready for them. Mr. Brooks expressed his opinion that, at their next meeting in the Town-hall, if another subscription should be needed, we should get up another great fact, and get more money than before.

Mr. AUKROYD seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The vast assemblage then separated.

#### ANNUAL AGGREGATE MEETING OF THE LIVERPOOL ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION.

(Abridged from the *Liverpool Times*.)

The annual aggregate meeting of the members and friends of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association was held on Monday night in the Music-hall, when, notwithstanding the absence of any exciting temporary subject,



or of any of the leading advocates of Free Trade from any other part of the country, the large room was densely crowded in every part. On the platform we noticed Thos. Thorneley, Esq., M.P.; Rawdon Briggs, Esq., ex-M.P. for Halifax; Joel White, Esq., the newly-appointed consul of the United States in Liverpool; Wm. Brown, Esq.; Christopher Rawdon, Esq.; Thomas Blackburn, Esq.; Lawrence Heyworth, Esq.; T. Jevons, Esq.; J. B. Cooke, Esq.; J. T. Crook, Esq.; C. E. Rawlins, sen., Esq.; Charles Holland, Esq.; Charles Robertson, Esq.; C. E. Rawlins, jun., Esq.; T. Blackburn, jun., Esq.; James Harvey, Esq.; John Finch, jun., Esq.; Mr. John Murray, &c.

Shortly after seven o'clock, the chair was taken amidst much applause, by THOMAS THORNELEY, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN addressed the meeting, and in the course of his speech noticed the progress of Free-Trade principles during the past year, referring in proof, to the repeal of the wool duties, the sugar duties debates, and the reduction of the duties on coffee. If those partial efforts had afforded them thus much good, how great would be the good that would be accomplished when the principles of Free Trade were thoroughly carried out, as he was persuaded they would be in the end. (Cheers.) It was extraordinary that the Legislature should not look around and see the progress manufactures were making in foreign countries, because foreigners said, and, as he thought, unwisely said, that parties who did not take their goods should be prevented from sending their goods in return. (Hear, hear.) He had the curiosity to look at what the consumption of cotton was in the United States of America last year, and he found that in 1844 those states had consumed as much American cotton as we in this country consumed of American cotton in 1824. This was very extraordinary, that the consumption of American cotton in the United States of America last year was equal to what we consumed 20 years ago. (Hear, hear.) He must always acknowledge, in meeting the people of Liverpool on an occasion of this sort, what an admirable expression of public opinion they had made on various occasions in favour of Free Trade, but he could not meet them without referring them again to that admirable subscription which they had made to the funds of the League, amounting to no less than £6000. (Cheers.) The Chairman having exhorted them to persevere, concluded by stating that the meeting would be addressed by a number of gentlemen; that Mr. Crook would read a statement of the funds, and Mr. Rawlins the report.

JOHN TAYLOR CROOK, Esq., one of the treasurers of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, read the accounts for the past year. It appeared that at the end of 1843 there was in hand a balance of about £46, which, together with the subscriptions and donations during the year 1844, made a total income of £1053. 2s. 1d. The expenditure had amounted to £896. 15s. 6d., leaving a balance of £156. 6s. 7d., with no outstanding accounts. (Cheers.)

C. E. RAWLINS, jun., Esq., secretary, read the report for the past year, and moved its adoption.

The Report commenced by congratulating the members on the flourishing condition of our local association for the advancement of Free Trade. "The number of our members has," it was observed, "very greatly increased—our funds are ample—and the confidence of our fellow-townsmen in our object and movements is daily augmenting. It is perfectly obvious that for these favourable circumstances we are indebted to our steady adherence to the principle of entire Free Trade. Whatever difference of opinion upon this point there might have existed among our friends at one time, it is fast dying away. It is now acknowledged that the public mind can only be moved to action by a clear definitive principle of justice, admitting of no mystification, and implying no mental reserve."

The Report then proceeded to point out the many indications given during the past year of the progress made towards a Free-Trade policy, as proved by the large number of votes given for Mr. Brown in South Lancashire; the gradual application by the present Ministry of Free-Trade principles to the destruction of monopoly; and the proof given of the truth of those principles by the progress of events. "Events have indeed spoken trumpet-tongued in our favour. Every fallacy which a selfish policy had endeavoured to impress on the public mind is, at this passing moment, in process of refutation. Cheaper food was to lower wages! We have had cheaper food, and in a great number of trades even money wages have been actually increased, in some cases voluntarily, by the employers; in others at the demand of the operatives, and the combinations of the latter have, in almost every instance, been successful. Every where real wages—the amount of comforts for which money wages stand as only the representative—have advanced, and we believe that the working classes are becoming more and more convinced that the only permanent and true protection for the labourer is in the active demand for his labour. Our late distress was said to be owing to over-production of manufactures and the use of machinery! Returning prosperity has been accompanied by increased production, while an unexampled extension of machinery has led to a like extension in the employment of manual labour. Cheaper food was to injure the revenue! The revenue, which had declined in years of scarcity, has flourished in seasons of abundance."

The Parliamentary report on the occupations of the people had been one powerful cause in producing this change of opinion. This report showed that the whole number of the population engaged in commerce and manufactures was more than two to one of the number engaged in agriculture, being upwards of three millions in the former, and only one million and a half in the latter; that this relative disproportion was constantly increasing; and that, while the population has been rapidly increasing, the employment afforded in agriculture has not only relatively but actually diminished since 1821. Having furnished the returns proving these statements, the report of the Association added, "Thus while in 1821 the cultivation of the soil had not only failed to employ any portion of the natural increase of the population, but even 30,487 able-bodied labourers less than it did ten years before, commerce, manufactures, and all other occupations had employed upwards of three quarters of a million (774,963) additional hands." Other causes which had been operative in the production of this change of opinion were next adverted to.

The repeal or modification of the duties on vinegar, dist-glass, currants, coffee, marine insurances, and wool, was noticed; and the report advocated a total repeal of

the duty on vinegar, as a raw material in calico-printing, and on glass, as a manufacture for which England was eminently fitted, though the vexatious excise duties had caused it to be a declining one. A sweeping reduction and equalization of the duties on all coffee, no matter whence imported, was advocated; and this article was selected to show the remarkable effects produced on consumption by legislation. Some interesting facts were given with respect to the wool trade, which afford a striking lesson to the friends of restriction, and show how completely the fears of the agriculturists have been falsified.

The article of sugar was next referred to, an attack on the grinding monopoly in which has at length been made. The object of the ministerial measure passed last session was (said the report) twofold:—1. To prevent the consumption of slave-grown sugar in this country. 2. To discourage the continuance of slave labour in countries where it is now established.

"1. The Ministerial measure will not prevent the consumption of slave-grown sugar in this country."

"The question has been practically settled by Messrs. Ackers and Co., of this town, who entered the first parcel of sugar under the new act. It was the production, according to certificate, of the state of Venezuela, and the production of slaves. Its admission was founded on a treaty existing between that country and our own, which entitles their produce to admission on the most favoured terms of other nations."

"Now, let us see in what position this admission has placed us. The total produce of the world, according to M'Culloch, is about 670,000 tons per annum, of which 267,000 tons are the product of Cuba, Porto Rico, and Brazil, by slave labour. These countries are situated in the immediate vicinity of the following countries, with whom we have commercial treaties on the footing of the most favoured nations, viz.:—Dutch Guiana (Holland), the United States, Buenos Ayres, Columbia, Mexico, Venezuela, Peru, Bolivia, Texas, and Paraguay. What, then, is to prevent every one of these countries exporting every cwt. of their own produce, and supplying themselves from the great sugar countries we have named? Dutch Guiana alone exports 25,000 tons, the surplus produce of her 60,000 slaves. We think these facts justify the assertion that the object of keeping out slave produce is a mere chimera. That Government contemplated such admission is also clear, from the very circumstances of the alteration of the duty being fixed after the expiration of our treaty with Brazil. This treaty was of the same character as those we have described, and Ministers have thus secretly connived at what they dare not openly avow. While noticing the singular fact of the very first operation of their measure detecting the fraud, we are struck by the coincidence that Lord Sandon, the unflinching advocate of West India monopoly, and the loud declaimer against slave-grown sugar, acted on behalf of Messrs. Ackers, in procuring its first admission for home consumption into the country."

"2. The Ministerial measure will not discourage slavery in countries where it is now established."

"This could only be done by lowering the present price of slave produce, or preventing its increase in the same ratio as free produce. Granting, for the sake of argument, that additional consumption will all be of the latter, we still affirm the same effect will be produced on the market prices of the world as if it had been exclusively slave-grown."

A glance is then taken at the results of the principal alterations effected by the tariff of 1842; and it is shown that the reduction of the duty on copper ore, which it was predicted by Sir Richard Vivian would ruin the whole mining interest, had been so highly beneficial as to convert copper monopolists into copper Free-Traders.

The operation of the new Corn Law was the next subject taken up. This new law was expressly framed with the view of remedying two evils—great unsteadiness of price, and great inequality of supply.

"1. Has it produced steadiness of price? To ascertain this, we should compare its operations with those of the old law upon the produce of similar harvests. It will be generally admitted that the last cycle of cheap years, viz., from 1833 to 1837, will afford us a parallel with the present cycle of 1842, 1843, and 1844, the latter having been at least as abundant as the previous one. Now, we find that in the first twelve months ensuing after the enactment of the new law—

The highest *Gazette* average price was, on July 2, s. d.  
1842 .. .. . 64 3  
The lowest ditto, April 6, 1843 .. .. . 46 2

Showing a difference, in nine months, of 18 1

In the second twelve months—

The highest price was, on August 4, 1843 .. .. . 57 7  
" lowest " May 5, " .. .. . 47 0

Difference in four months .. .. . 10 7

In the part of the three years which has expired—

The highest price was, on May 2, 1844 .. .. . 55 8  
" lowest " Dec. 5, " .. .. . 45 11

Difference in seven months .. .. . 9 7

Under the old law, the difference between the highest and the lowest prices, in the years before named, was as follows:—

	Highest Price.	Lowest Price.	Difference.
1833 ..	56s. 9d.	49s. 8d.	6s. 9d.
1834 ..	49s. 2d.	41s. 11d.	7s. 3d.
1835 ..	43s. 8d.	36s. 9d.	6s. 5d.
1837 ..	60s. 1d.	51s. 7d.	8s. 6d.

So far, then, from producing steadiness of price, it must be evident that, under similar circumstances, the new Corn Law shows worse results than the last.

"2. Has it prevented inequality of supply? One of the heaviest charges against the old Corn Law was, that it alternately injured the consumer and the producer—the one by withholding supplies when most needed; the other by admitting them all at once, and at the very time he had his produce to sell. How stands the account with the new Corn Law?

	Entered for Home Consumption in 7 months—January to July.	Entered for Home Consumption—August and September.
1840 .....	784,538 qrs.	1,567,111 qrs.
1841 .....	808,403 "	2,510,524 "
1842 .....	646,008 "	2,630,514 "
1843 .....	61,573 "	64,500 "

There is a complete and unexampled inequality here.

The timber monopoly and the shipping interest were next passed under review in a very able manner.

This report was read by Mr. Rawlins with a spirit and animation which gave it all the impressiveness of a spoken speech. It frequently elicited warm expressions of approval, and at the close there was a burst of enthusiastic applause from the whole audience.

WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., who was greeted with rapturous cheering, said that it was with very great satisfaction that he rose to second the motion for the adoption of the report. It had been very ably and properly drawn up, and forestalled a great deal of what he had intended to say. Mr. Brown then delivered an able speech, abounding with valuable statistics, and concluded, amidst warm applause, by seconding the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously.

LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, Esq., who experienced a most cordial reception, moved the second resolution—a vote of thanks to the Council of the Association for their labours during the past year.

THOMAS BLACKBURN, Esq., in an eloquent address, which was frequently received with loud plaudits, seconded the resolution, which passed unanimously.

CHARLES HOLLAND, Esq., in an able speech, moved the re-election of Mr. Thorneley, M.P., as President, and the appointment of a committee and officers for the ensuing year.

Mr. THOMAS BLACKBURN, Jun., seconded the resolution.

Upon the motion of CHARLES ROBERTSON, Esq., seconded by C. RAWDON, Esq., a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman by acclamation.

#### FREE-TRADE TEA PARTY AT BURY.

(Abridged from the *Manchester Guardian*.)

On Monday last upwards of 700 friends of Free Trade sat down to tea together in the Brunswick School-room, Bury. Mr. Hacking's band was in attendance. After the things were removed, when upwards of one thousand persons were present, the business of the evening commenced. Richard Walker, Esq., M.P., was called to the chair. On the platform were Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; John Walker, Esq.; Richard Walker, Esq., jun.; Richard Bailey, Esq., Radcliffe; John Grundy, Esq., Bellevue; James Wrigley, Esq., sen., and James Wrigley, Esq., jun.; Ash Meadows; Edmund Grundy, Esq., Park Hills; Wm. Ascroft, Esq.; Gigg; James Kay, Esq., R. T. Grundy, Esq., Revds. F. Howarth, — Roseman, and — Molyneux; John Brooks, Esq., and Edward Watkin, Esq., of Manchester.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings with a short speech.

The Rev. F. HOWARTH then spoke on the justice of Free Trade, maintaining that a repeal of the bread-tax was in accordance with true Christianity.

The Rev. Mr. ROSEMAN contended that it was the duty of Christian ministers to advocate those things that were good for the body as well as for the soul.

RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P., on being called on to address the meeting, was received with cheers. He said:—He remembered that the first meeting of the sort he attended after being returned for Stockport was at Bury, and he was now happy to meet them again previous to going to Parliament. The hon. member for Bury and himself had generally voted together, but had often been in minority. He then proceeded to point out the benefits which the country derived from cheap food, as evidenced in the improved state of trade, and the increased wages of the operatives, consequent upon two abundant harvests. He next pointed out how necessary it was, to secure a repeal of the Corn Laws, that the present House of Commons should be changed, and that this could be effected only by Free-Traders swelling the registry: he, therefore, urged upon them to qualify, and secure the franchise. In conclusion, Mr. Cobden said he was certain no man could advocate with a clear conscience anything that would tend to deprive the labourer of his daily bread; he ought to have plenty of food and clothing; it was his right; it was justice that he should have them, for there was plenty and to spare. (Cheers.)

Mr. JOHN BROOKS, of Manchester, was next called on. He said:—The questions they had met upon were of a religious nature. He was a member of the Church of England. He had laboured hard for many years to convert the church parsons to his opinions, but he had only succeeded in obtaining a single convert, and that was a church clergyman without a church. (Cheers.) He would say all things should be free.

Mr. EDWARD WATKIN, of Manchester, said:—There was not a less sum than £50,000 annually taken from the hard earnings of the people of Bury, in the shape of a tax on provisions. In England, there was £23,000,000 in the savings' banks, belonging to the middle and working classes; it was paying only 2½ per cent; if that money was laid out in the purchase of 40s. freeholds it would soon bring about a reform.

JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P., was received with loud cheers. The honourable member spoke with his accustomed power on various branches of the question of Free Trade. "The Corn Laws," he said, "had been forced upon the people against their wishes; but they would force them off again by argument. Real reforms must be brought about by sound arguments; and public opinion, on this point, was already gaining ground in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and North Cheshire. During the last three months, he and Mr. Cobden had visited 16 boroughs in Yorkshire; he had also lately been at Durham, and other places, and the cause of Free Trade and a repeal of the Corn Laws was gaining ground rapidly. If the people of England had made all the railways, canals, built large towns, &c., they could also raise a new set of men to Parliament, and then a real reform would take place; then the labourers would be in a better condition, and would obtain a fair remuneration for their labour. Free Trade, too, would, without doubt, cause a unanimity amongst all classes, in all countries and nations." (Cheers.)

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Messrs. James Fielding, of Heywood; Edmund Grundy, of Park Hills; and Henry Rostron, of Radcliffe. Votes of thanks were given to the chairman, Messrs. Cobden, Bright, Brooks, and Watkins; and also to Mrs. T. R. Grundy, and the ladies who had got up the tea party.

The company separated a quarter before ten o'clock, highly delighted with the proceedings of the evening.

#### MR. BRIGHT, M.P., IN GATESHEAD.

(Abridged from the *Gateshead Observer*.)

The honourable member for the county of Durham having

visited his constituents on Wednesday the 15th inst., he was invited to come forward to Gateshead, and address the inhabitants at a public meeting. This invitation was at once accepted, and the use of the Independent Chapel, Melbourn-street, obtained for the occasion. Friday the 17th was the day appointed; and, notwithstanding the shortness of the notice, there was a numerous muster, when GEORGE CRAWSHAY, Esq., the President of the Gateshead Free-Trade Society, took the chair. This was shortly after eight o'clock in the evening. After some introductory remarks from the chairman,

Mr. BRIGHT rose, amidst loud cheers, and delivered an able address, in the course of which he discussed various important points having a bearing on the question of Free Trade: he concluded with a forcible appeal to the inhabitants of Gateshead to come forward on behalf of the League, and take the question as it were a question on which their own families and property depended—working at it zealously, constantly, and uncompromisingly, and proving that, whether as electors or in a more private way, everything that the borough of Gateshead said or did should be in favour of that cause, and tend to the unshackling of those interests upon which the prosperity of the country depended. (Mr. Bright resumed his seat amidst general and loud applause.)

Mr. BLAGBURN then proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. member for Durham. He said he could number 24 broken farmers of his own acquaintance; and, if the Corn Law were framed for their protection, it had proved a most miserable failure.

Mr. WINDHART seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. BRIGHT acknowledged the compliment. Thanks were voted to the trustees for the use of the chapel.

Mr. BRIGHT then moved the thanks of the meeting to the chairman, who, he said, first began his subscription to the League Fund when a student at Cambridge—a much less genial soil for the nourishment of Free-Trade principles than Gateshead, in whatever other respect it might be superior. He congratulated the borough and the district on the accession of a gentleman of Mr. Crawshaw's ability and influence; and thanked him especially for his services in that great cause.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks; and announced that it was intended to form a central committee in Newcastle, by means of which to agitate the whole district.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Brighton, Jan. 23.

MY DEAR SIR,—I was in hopes of being able to send you a report of the meeting of the monopolists, held in Brighton to-day; but the paper will not be published till to-morrow.

There has been both a meeting and dinner. The meeting was held at twelve o'clock, at the Town-hall; the dinner at two, at the Old Ship. Tickets, 5s. each for members, not transferable, could be obtained only at the Society's offices. No one was allowed to attend the meeting except those who had dinner tickets; but the reporters for the press who had dinner tickets were not allowed to attend the meeting: only one was present, that of their Brighton organ, and he was forbidden to take notes. The plan evidently was that, in case of any complaint being made, it would most probably be at the meeting when no reporter was present.

Early this morning, I sent a person with a packet of pamphlets, sent me by the League, to a public-house where the farmers usually resort when visiting Brighton, so that most of them had a tract early; and afterwards a man was placed at the door and gave one to every one attending. Both the Duke of Richmond and Norfolk attended (the latter duke was behind his time), and on his Grace of Richmond having one of Mr. Cobden's speeches handed to him, he refused to accept it, and was politely told that, as a wholesale dealer in fish and corn, it was supposed he would feel much interested. I had some of the *Struggle*, and one representing the duke as a fishmonger was given to Colonel Wyndham, who was much pleased with it. Of all the miserable bore-and-corner meetings, this was the most contemptible, for hardly a dozen people in Brighton knew when and where the meeting was to be held, and the fear shown, and care taken prevented any person like myself being present: the person who distributed the bills declares there were not 250 persons present. Since writing this, our friend

who reports for the —, has come in, and he tells me he attended the dinner; that a printed list of toasts were placed in every plate, and both Sir Robert Peel's name and her Majesty's Ministers were pointedly excluded—that hardly any allusions were made to them; that abuse of the League was the staple commodity. A Mr. Denman proposed the health of the labourers, and called on the company to drink it in a bumper; on which Mr. Wood, who employs more labourers than the Duke of Richmond, said it ought to be in water—that was the only beverage the labourers could get. Hereupon the Duke of Richmond got up in a rage, and declared "that no man was out of employment except through his own misconduct, and that in his part of the country he considered them well remunerated for their labour." He alluded to these pamphlets being distributed; and in allusion to himself being represented as a fishmonger, wished his friends to cut off the rubbish attached to the picture, and preserve that. Our friend says, that after the Duke had left the chair, seven o'clock, the whole company separated en masse; that several of the farmers complained that when a man like Mr. Wood made his observations about the labourers, which were true, he was immediately put down, and were compelled to attend, and they left the place more like persons who had attended a dry, uninteresting meeting than a convivial party.

As the tracts, &c., were sent to me, and I knew you would feel an interest in this, I thought I ought to send an account of my stewardship. Excuse this, as I have hardly time to save the post.

Yours, very truly,

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, January 22, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Roberts, Richard, Globe Iron Works, Manchester ..	£50 0 0
Dalton, John, Hull ..	5 0 0
Small subscriptions from Exeter, per C. Richards ..	3 5 0
*A Tory Friend ..	2 2 0
*Cottrill, John, Market-place, Bolton ..	2 0 0
*Gough, Charles, 13, King-street, Manchester ..	2 0 0
*Barge, George, 34, Grosvenor-street, C.-on-M., Manchester ..	1 10 0
*Collins, Robert, Mile House, Cheetham, near do. ..	1 10 0
*Buckley, John, Greenacre-moor, near do. ..	1 5 0
*Hailwood, Joseph, Spear-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Higgin, James and Joseph, 31, Sackville-st., do. ..	1 1 0
*Fogg, Charles and George, Prescott, Lancashire ..	1 1 0
*Prockter, H. and S., do. ..	1 1 0
*Houghton, P. H., do. ..	1 1 0
*Hollis, William, Northampton ..	1 1 0
*Whittaker, J., 188, Great Ancoats-st., Manchester ..	1 1 0
*Woodward, Adam, 33, Mill-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Pate, Whittaker, Parsonage, do. ..	1 1 0
*Masie, Rev. Dr., Camp-st., Lr. Broughton, do. ..	1 1 0
*Pickering, Wm., 7, Moreton-st., C.-on-M., do. ..	1 1 0
*Hodgson, John, Latchford, near Warrington ..	1 1 0
*Warburton, Thos., Broad-street, Pendleton, Salford ..	1 0 0
*Smith, James, Hill Maraden, near Barnsley ..	1 0 0
*Robinson, James, Yew Tree-place, Prescott, Lancashire ..	1 0 0
*Atkin, Henry, 19, Eyre-street, Sheffield ..	1 0 0
*Royle, R. and W., Macclesfield ..	1 0 0
*Rathbone, James, do. ..	1 0 0
One who has swept his own warehouse ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, John, 3, Princess-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Hotham, J., Leeds ..	1 0 0
*Cottrill, Joseph, Fairfield, near Buxton ..	1 0 0
*Bettleley, Joseph, Oakfield House, Nantwich ..	1 0 0
*Gibbons, William, Tame-street, Ancoats, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Windsor, John, 65, Piccadilly, do. ..	1 0 0
*Marsden, William, Magdalen's, Doncaster ..	1 0 0
*Gammon, Mrs., Knitford ..	1 0 0
*Harrison, Asa, Drake-street, Rochdale ..	1 0 0
*Tinker, Frederick, surgeon, Hyde, Cheshire ..	1 0 0
*Booth, Jas., 10, Bradshaw-st., Shudehill, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*M'Hutchison, Adam, Ayr, N.B. ..	1 0 0
*Branson, George, Ducie-bridge, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Branson, Mrs., do. ..	1 0 0
*Muir, William, 41, Oxford-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Plockton, Joseph, 26, do. ..	1 0 0
*Lee, John, 1, Mount-st., Great Ancoats-st., do. ..	1 0 0
*Brown, Geo., 39, Canal-st., Ancoats-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Ker, Andrew, Ancoats-crescent, do. ..	1 0 0
*Miller, George, 4, Green-street, Ardwick, do. ..	1 0 0
*Mitchell, Alexander, 4, Hyde-grove, Plymouth-grove, Choriton-upon-Medlock, do. ..	1 0 0
*Wilson, Alexander, Ducie-st., Strangeways, do. ..	1 0 0
*Nelson, William, Red-bank, do. ..	1 0 0
*Chatterton, J., 24, George-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Poulkes, R., New Concert Tavern, Oxford-st., do. ..	1 0 0
*Holden, Thomas, Holden Fold, Royton, near Oldham ..	1 0 0
*Bentley, John, butcher, Bottom-o'-th'-Moor, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hopkinson, Joseph, 16, Aqueduct-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Greenwood, James, Kearsley, near Bolton ..	1 0 0
*Garry, John, and friends, Hen and Chickens, Deansgate, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Stevens, Charles, Greenfield, Holywell, Flintshire ..	1 0 0
*Stevens, Montague, do. ..	1 0 0
*Royle, John, 4, Victoria-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Rogers, Robert, 17, Oxford-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Brindley, Thos., 7, Brindley-street, C.-on-M., do. ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, Samuel, 3, Princess-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Watson, John, 87, Market-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hepp, John, Top of Fold, Royton, Oldham ..	1 0 0
*Kay, John, Sandy-lane, do. ..	1 0 0
*Ashworth, James, Union, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hamer, Samuel, Newport-street, Bolton ..	1 0 0
*Chadwick, Thomas, Royton, near Oldham ..	1 0 0
*Shepherd, Thos., shopkeeper, do. ..	1 0 0
*Clemishaw, Christopher, Bolton-street, Bury ..	1 0 0
*Sutton, James, Radcliffe-bridge, near Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Richardson, Henry, York ..	1 0 0
*Holden, Joseph, Ely Clough, Royton, near Oldham ..	1 0 0
*Hall, Tennant, saddler, Becca-o'-th'-Barn, near Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Davy, Jas., Murray-street, Oldham-road, do. ..	1 0 0
*Haslam, Roger, St. George-street, Bolton ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, William Henry, Stand-lane, near Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Allen, Walker, do. ..	1 0 0
*Scholes, Peter, do. ..	1 0 0
*Allanson, John, Union-street, Bury ..	1 0 0
*Kendall, George, Market-street, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Thompson, Robert, Kaunau, Blackburn ..	1 0 0
*Barrow, James, 94, Great Ancoats-st., Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Buckley, John, Mount Pleasant, Oldham ..	1 0 0
*Austin, Joseph, Rose-hill, Bolton ..	1 0 0
*Edelton, J. B., file manufacturer, Warrington ..	1 0 0
*Marson, James, Bewsey-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Robinson, John, 1, Stanley-st., Red-bank, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Cunningham, Thomas, Broughton, do. ..	0 10 0
*Spetch, Mrs. T. J., and friends, 128, Moss-lane, Hulme, do. ..	0 9 6
*A Friend, Dale-street, do. ..	0 8 0
*Hemmers, William, 38, New Richmond, Pendleton, Salford ..	0 5 0
*Irving, Matthew, 18, Maskell-street, C.-on-M., Manchester ..	0 5 0
*Pitt, Francis, Royton, near Oldham ..	0 5 0
*Gadby, Wm., Elcom-terrace, New North-rd., London ..	0 2 6
*Mitchell, W., 14, Chancery-lane, Ardwick, Manchester ..	0 2 6
*Robinson, J., Clarendon-street, C.-on-M., do. ..	0 2 6
*Williams, Colonel, Little Woolton ..	1 0 0
*Pitt, William, 2, Strand-street ..	1 0 0
*Jewett, Samuel, Radcliffe, Prescott-road, near ..	1 0 0
*Francis, George, 109, St. James's-street ..	1 0 0
*Jackson, John, 50, Berkeley-street ..	1 0 0
*Wield, Nathaniel, 50, Percy-street ..	1 0 0
*McMillan, William, Grant George-place ..	1 0 0
*Gillson, H. H., 1, Strand-street ..	1 0 0
*Reynier, James, 6, Exchange-alley North ..	1 1 0
*Dolley, Samuel Marshall, Virgula-buildings, South Chapel-street ..	1 0 0
*Carr, Thomas, 10, Byron-street ..	1 0 0
*Bowers, George, 58, Bond-street ..	1 0 0
*Logan, J. P., 8, Cook-street ..	1 0 0
*Bottomley, Joseph, Longlands, Slith-wait, near ..	1 0 0
*Sykes, C., and Sons, Lindley, near ..	1 0 0
*Sykes, Joseph, do. ..	1 0 0
*Pilling, Joseph, do. ..	1 0 0
*Carter, Mrs., Upper Head-row ..	1 0 0
*Wrigley, Thomas, jun., care of H. Roebuck, King-street ..	1 0 0
*Sykes, William, Lindley, near ..	1 0 0
*Barrow, William, Kirkgate ..	1 0 0
*Jones, C. H. ..	1 0 0
*Andrew, Aaron ..	1 1 0
*Andrew, Stephen ..	1 1 0

Todmorden.	*Lord, John, George-street ..	£1 0 0
	*Lord, Samuel, Hanging-ditch ..	1 0 0
	*Lord, Thomas ..	1 0 0
	*Lord, Joshua ..	1 0 0
	*Lord, Abraham ..	1 0 0
	*Lord, Edward, Odd Fellows' Hall ..	1 0 0
	*Young, Archibald, 79, Princess-street ..	1 1 0
	*Harron, George, 1, Randolph-place ..	1 0 0
	*Thomson, Thomas A., 1, Annandale-street ..	1 0 0
	*Robertson, David, 7, Pirbright-street ..	1 0 0
	*Robertson, James, 30, Hanover-street ..	1 0 0
	*Graham, Miss Stirling, 29, Forth-street ..	1 0 0
	*Smith, J. S., 1, Antiguan-street ..	1 0 0
	*Simpson, John, 2, Melville-street ..	1 0 0
	*Kirkhope, John, 24, India-street ..	1 0 0
	*Bladworth, Jonathan, 129, Grass-market ..	1 0 0
	*Hill, John, 60, Broughton-street ..	1 0 0
	*Hume, Robert, 3, East Register-street ..	2 0 0
	*Willis, G. W., 42, Rankellor-street ..	1 0 0
	*Scott, Robert, 20, Great Stuart-street ..	1 1 0
	*The Son of a Corn-merchant ..	1 0 0
	*Reid, William, 28, George-street ..	1 0 0
	*Barclay, Colonel, Belton-lodge, near ..	1 0 0
	*Anderson, Rev. C., 5, North Charlotte-street ..	1 1 0
	*Tod, James B., 5, Rife-place ..	1 0 0
	*Duncan, Colonel, 19, Carlton-terrace ..	1 0 0
	*Lillie, Mr., 41, George-square ..	2 2 0
	*Herry, Lawrence, 3, Greenside-road ..	1 1 0
	*Kidd, John, 5, Arncliffe-street ..	1 0 0
	*Jamieson, Peter, 6, Nicolson-square ..	1 0 0
	*Richardson, R., 23, Minto-street ..	1 0 0
	*Pike, William, 37, Princes-street ..	1 1 0
	*Wemyss, Andrew, 20, James-square ..	1 1 0
	*Calder, Thomas, 2, Albany-street ..	1 0 0
	*Disher, Robert, 6, St. John's-hill ..	1 0 0
	*Moffat, W., Butterworth, 7, Infirmary-street ..	1 0 0
	*Johnston, Adam, 33, St. Andrew's-square ..	1 0 0
	*Paterson, George, 13, Montgomery-street ..	1 1 0
	*Darling, William, 94, South-bridge ..	1 0 0
	*Stewart, John, M.D., 4, Albany-street ..	1 1 0
	*Scott, William, 10, South College-street ..	1 0 0
	*Baker, Thos. M., 1, Bread-st., Port Hopetoun ..	1 1 0
	*Howden, Mathew, 50, Minto-street ..	1 0 0
	*D. T. R., Alva-street ..	1 0 0
	*Hoyden, Thomas, 9, Nicolson-street ..	1 0 0
	*Sinclair, Alexander, Shott's Foundry ..	1 0 0
	*Horsburgh, John, 18, Buccleuch-place ..	1 0 0
	*Caunter, R., 60, Great King-street ..	1 0 0
	*Cushnie, R., Malta-green ..	1 0 0
	*Turnbull, Wm., Muscelburgh, near ..	1 0 0
	*J. R., Hanover-street ..	1 0 0
	*Mercer, George, and Son, 17, Nicolson-street, (3rd subscription) ..	3 0 0
	*Russell, Miss, 16, Cornely-bank ..	1 0 0
	*Allen, T., and Co. ..	1 1 0
	*M'Farlane, D., 8, Ainslie-place ..	1 0 0
	*M'Kinlay, F., 11, Leith street ..	1 0 0
	"Money makes the Mare to go;" Doubtless the League have found it so. My one-pound-one, I give again, A kick—at what? the ROOGERS IN GRAIN. ..	1 1 0
	*Tod, Alexander, Ormiston, by Tranent ..	1 0 0
	*Russell, Robert, Canon-mills ..	1 0 0
	*Adam, Alexander, and Son, Bonnington ..	1 0 0
	*Rye, Andrew, S. S. C., 15, Leopold-place ..	1 0 0
	*Robertson, William, Summerhall Brewery ..	1 0 0
	*Mitchell, Stephen, and Son, tobacconists, 62, St. Andrew's-square ..	4 0 0
	*Corbett, Alexander, 7, Montrose-street ..	3 0 0
	*Corbett, John, 7, do. ..	2 0 0
	*Robertson, William, Edwin-place ..	1 1 0
	*M'Kindlay, Neil, St. Rollox ..	1 0 0
	*Faulds, Robert, Jun., Townhead ..	1 0 0
	*Hayd, C., and Son, 72, Clyde-street, Anderson ..	1 0 0
	*Kaye, Robert, Turner's-court ..	1 0 0
	*Hoss, Alexander, 110, George-street ..	1 0 0
	*French, Robert, 89, Tron-gate ..	1 0 0
	*Steele, George M., Reform-street ..	1 0 0
	*Toab, Robert, Dock-street ..	1 0 0
	*Aberdeen, James, Barrack-street ..	1 0 0
	*Kirkland, J., Reform-street ..	1 1 0
	*M'Leish, David, manufacturer ..	1 0 0
	*Low, Andrew, Park-place ..	1 0 0
	*Lawson, John, and Son ..	1 0 0
	*A Friend ..	1 0 0
	*Don, Wm. and John, and Co., manufacturers ..	1 0 0
	*Reid, Peter, merchant ..	1 0 0
	*Wilson, John ..	2 0 0
	*Young, John, Grahamston ..	1 1 0
	*Smith, John, writer ..	1 1 0
	*Curren, Robert, watchmaker, High-street ..	1 1 0
	*Hosie, James ..	1 1 0
	*Gartshore, Joseph ..	1 0 0
	*Wye, William ..	1 0 0
	*Smith, John, brickmaker ..	1 0 0
	*Adam, Robert ..	1 0 0
Hereford.	*Henbow, John ..	2 2 0
	*Z. N. ..	1 1 0
	*Z. Z. ..	0 2 6
	*Pegg, Joseph, Stockdale-terrace ..	2 0 0
	*Thorpe, George, and Sons, Helvair-street ..	1 0 0
	*Mowbray, William, Navigation-street ..	1 0 0
	*Collin, Thomas, Belgrave-gate ..	1 0 0
	*Cooke, Richard, 45, Humberstone-gate ..	1 0 0
	*Palmer, Robert ..	1 0 0
	*Holland, John, Humberstone-gate ..	1 0 0
	*Roberts, Joseph, grocer, Hotel-street ..	1 0 0
	*Wass, W., Marlborough-street, King-street ..	1 0 0
Huddersfield.	*Jewson, Joseph, Lancelotti-hall, near ..	1 0 0
	*Bankroger, A., Kirkburton, near ..	1 0 0
	*Whiteley, S., Minnibridge, near ..	1 0 0
	*Crossley, John, Brighouse, near ..	1 0 0
	*Dodge, J., surgeon, Bramley, near ..	1 2 6
	*Wright, Robert, 176, Briggate ..	1 0 0
	*Rowling, S., Rough-house, Headingley, near ..	1 0 0
	*Harrison, John, Stanningley, near ..	1 1 0
	*Morgan, Thomas, 20, Commercial-buildings ..	1 0 0
	*Vickers, James, Tutton-hill, Holbeck, near ..	1 0 0
	*Walker, Thomas, 10, Springfield-wood, Little Woodhouse ..	5 0 0
	*Thompson, Isaac, Knostrop, near ..	1 0 0
	*Hewitson, William W., Hunstret ..	1 0 0
	*Kittson, James, do. ..	1 0 0
	*Mellor, Benjamin, do. ..	1 0 0
	*Clark, Robert, Joiner, do. ..	1 0 0
	*Swift, James, Lowfold Mill-yard, Leylands ..	1 0 0
	*Whalley, James, Greenmount-fer., Holbeck ..	1 1 0
	*Sneyd, Thomas, Belmont ..	1 0 0
	*Alcock, James, Queen-street ..	1 0 0
	*Ball, Charles, Bridge ..	1 0 0
	*Hrough, John, Mount ..	1 0 0
	*Hrough, Joshua, Huxton-road ..	1 0 0
	*Whitley, J. G., Market-place ..	1 0 0
	*Birch, Thomas, Overton's bank ..	1 0 0
	*Johnson, James, Queen-street ..	1 0 0
	*Bell, W., Fort-house ..	1 0 0
	*Bell, W. T., High street ..	1 0 0
	*Attey, W., Sans-street ..	1 0 0
	*Wilkinson, Moses, High-street ..	1 0 0
	*J. P. ..	1 0 0
Sunderland.	*Tooke, T. H., Trinity College, Cambridge ..	5 5 0
	*Horton, R., 4, Albion-place, Blackfriars ..	5 5 0
	*Horton, R., and Co., Fife Pottery, by Kirkcaldy ..	3 0 0



*Edward, John, roodmaker, Welbeck-street, Henry-squares, Ashton-under-Lyne .. .. .	23	0	0
*A Friend of Free-Trade principles .. .. .	1	5	0
*M'Naughton, Mr., William, Essex .. .. .	0	1	0
*Donnelly, Thomas, Woodborough, near Nottingham .. .. .	1	1	0
*Price, George, solicitor, Mile-end, Portsea .. .. .	1	1	0
Chapman, William, 18, Edward-terrace, Pentonville, per Charles Essex .. .. .	1	1	0
*Shuter, Richard, Jun., 66, St. Martin's-lane .. .. .	1	1	0
*Stewart, Frederick, 107, Moineau-street, Chelsea .. .. .	1	1	0
*Worsdell, J. C., 13, English-street, Hull .. .. .	1	1	0
*Cobbett, T. H., Deptford-bridge .. .. .	1	1	0
*Medes, W., Chertsey .. .. .	1	1	0
*Fairfoot, Henry Spence, 25, Lloyd-square, Pentonville .. .. .	1	1	0
*Ruston, William, Upper Tulse-hill .. .. .	1	1	0
*Allingham, John, 8, Grange-road, Bermondsey .. .. .	1	1	0
*Doubleday, William, Hamburg .. .. .	1	1	0
*Paterson, James, tanner, 3, Denburn-ter., Aberdeen .. .. .	1	0	0
*Kox, John, Water-gate, Dewsbury .. .. .	1	0	0
*Lemmon, Levi, Hoee, Sussex .. .. .	1	0	0
*Clarkson, Richard, Moorend, Dewsbury .. .. .	1	0	0
*Coulthard, Jos., Croft-house, Brampton, Cumberl. .. .. .	1	0	0
*Coffey, Wm., Hick-street, Newcastle-under-Lyne .. .. .	1	0	0
*Walton, R. T., Roe, Marsden-hall, n. Colne, Lancas. .. .. .	1	0	0
*Smith, James, Burgh, near Woodbridge .. .. .	1	0	0
*Pugh, William, Hay, Brecknockshire .. .. .	1	0	0
*Castle, J., High-street, Wallingford .. .. .	1	0	0
*Sharman, William, Bitterwell, near Lutterworth .. .. .	1	0	0
*Shirreff, Patrick, Buckover, Thornbury, near Bristol .. .. .	1	0	0
*Dorville, Henry, Alphonston, near Exeter .. .. .	1	0	0
*Glover, James, Jeffery's row, Exeter .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hayon, Joshua, Over Darwen, Lancashire .. .. .	1	0	0
*Heron, Samuel, do., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hory, W. H., White-hill, n. Newton Abbott, Dorsets. .. .. .	1	0	0
*Crack, Charles, at James Alexander's, 33, Great Winchester-street, Broad-street .. .. .	1	0	0
*Roberts, Wolston, Market-head, Derby .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hyllis, Mr., Church, near Accrington .. .. .	1	0	0
*Rogers, Francis H., surgeon, West Meon, Hants .. .. .	1	0	0
*Bulley, John, Calne .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hutlin, Mrs. Elizabeth, George Inn, Luton .. .. .	1	0	0
*Workmen of Thos. Threlfall, Morton, near Bingley .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hartlet, S., Week-street, Maidstone .. .. .	1	0	0
*Vineux, S. H., 62, George-street, Euston-square .. .. .	1	0	0
*Newton, Henry, Ashton-under-Lyne .. .. .	1	0	0
*Knox, W. and J., Kilblinle, Ayrshire .. .. .	1	0	0
*Horton, John, New Bedford, near Nottingham .. .. .	1	0	0
*Marsh, Richard, Bank-buildings, side of Greenacres Moor, near Manchester .. .. .	1	0	0
*Eills, William Viner, King-street, Gloucester .. .. .	1	0	0
*Clements, James, Woodlands, Bishop Stortford .. .. .	1	0	0
*Froggatt, Benj., 27, Newington-causway, Southwark .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hall, Thomas, Henry, 48, Finsbury-square .. .. .	1	0	0
*Chandler, Richard Edwards, Pelham Arms Inn, Hastings .. .. .	1	0	0
*Atcock, William, Knutsford .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hooley, James, Chester-gate, Macclesfield .. .. .	1	0	0
*From the Frequenters of Prosser's Barley Mow Brewery, King's-place, Commercial-road East (6th subscription) .. .. .	1	0	0
*Hitchcock, Wm. M., South Molton, Devon .. .. .	1	0	0
*Preston, William Thomas, barrister-at-law, 2, Fig Tree-court, Temple .. .. .	1	0	0
*Macdonnell, Alexander, 12, New Weston-st., King-street, Southwark .. .. .	1	0	0
*Munk, William, North-street, Whitechapel .. .. .	1	0	0
*Patten, Wm., 20, Old Fish-st., Doctors' Commons .. .. .	1	0	0
*S. S. .. .. .	1	0	0
*Cooper, Wm. M., St. Mary Gate, Derby .. .. .	1	0	0
*Lampard, George, Longbridge Beverill, Wilts .. .. .	1	0	0
*Ham, Ralph, Castle-green, Taunton .. .. .	1	0	0
*A Cheshire Farmer .. .. .	1	0	0
*Williams, Colonel, Catfield House, Battle .. .. .	1	0	0
*Platt, James, Hatfield Iron Works, Greenacres-moor, near Manchester .. .. .	1	0	0
*Wilson, William, 30, King-street, Whitehaven .. .. .	1	0	0
A few of the Men at Messrs. Havers', tanners, Bermondsey, per Thos. Featherstone, foreman .. .. .	0	11	0
An Association of Operatives at the George IV. Bag-nidge Wells-road, Clerkenwell (6th subscription) .. .. .	0	6	0
John B. Moody, Wandsworth .. .. .	0	5	0
*Patt, Mr., 11, Great Pultney-street, St. James's .. .. .	0	5	0
*Eiffand, Augustus Frederick, 1, Princess-place, Westminster-road .. .. .	0	4	0
*Oates, Mrs., Wandl-place, Wandsworth .. .. .	0	2	0
*Kelly, William, Duke-street, Chelsea .. .. .	0	2	0
*Collinson, J. .. .. .	0	2	0
*Rees, Henry, 45, George-street, Portman-square .. .. .	0	2	0
*Copes, John, 46, Moorgate-street .. .. .	0	2	0
*Newman, W. H., 7, Cleveland-street, Mile End-road .. .. .	0	2	0
*Starbuck, Joseph, Whitford, Cheshire .. .. .	0	2	0
*Bailey, H., Pitt's Head, Bermondsey .. .. .	0	2	0
Small subscriptions .. .. .	0	1	0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Little, Mr., 41, George-square, Edinburgh .. .. .	3	3	0
Kirkland, J., Reform-street, Dundee .. .. .	1	1	0
Fairfoot, Henry Spence, 25, Lloyd-square, Pentonville .. .. .	1	1	0
Fairfoot, Miss, 25, do., do. .. .. .	1	1	0
M'Hutchison, Adam, Ayr, N.B. .. .. .	1	0	0

### ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 68, for Harvey, William, 10, Parker-street, Derby, 21, read 21. In LEAGUE No. 69, for Waddell, Alexander, Town hall buildings, Manchester, 21, read 21. In; and for Dr. Halley, St. John-street, Manchester, read Dr. Halley. And in the same LEAGUE, "Contributions to the Bazaar," for Dalton, Thomas, 1, Temple-street, Dalton, read Norman, Thomas.

**MORE ADVANCES IN WAGES.**—The miners in the employ of Messrs. Lloyd, Foster, and Co., the extensive coal and iron masters, of Wednesbury, have received an advance in their wages, the thin coal men to the amount of 3d. per day, and the thick coal men 6d. a day. The iron trade is in a most flourishing condition, and it is most gratifying to find the men partaking of the prosperity which prevails throughout the district.—*Hirmingham Journal*.

**FREE-TRADE LECTURES.**—A lecture on the Corn and Provision Laws was delivered by Mr. Falvey, from the Anti-Corn-Law League, in the Crown Inn Assembly-room, Gosport, on Thursday evening the 16th inst. The meeting was highly influential, both as to numbers and respectability. Samuel Bayliff, Esq., was, on the motion of Mr. Adams, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Silley, unanimously called to the chair. At the close of Mr. Falvey's address, a Chartist from Landport offered some opposition, but got so far wide of the question that the audience became tired, and refused to listen to what the chairman very properly termed "nonsense." Votes of thanks were proposed to the chairman and lecturer, and carried with three times three cheers. It is expected Mr. Falvey will soon deliver a second lecture in Gosport.—An eloquent address in favour of the principle advocated by the Anti-Corn-Law League, was delivered on Friday evening, at the Honorary Society's Hall, by Mr. Falvey.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XVII.

### TO ONE OF THE FIVE HUNDRED LABOURERS PARADED LATELY AT STOWE.

So you took the five shillings and the dinner, to do duty on the lawn at Stowe, and show her Majesty the semblance of "a bold peasantry, our country's pride." You are a fine outline of a fellow; the smock-frock, whole and clean for the occasion, and the green riband round your hat, became you well; and you, no doubt, shouted as lustily as any other of the hired company. You have earned your money, and had your pay. And, now, is there sense enough in you to ask your conscience whether the bargain was an honest one?

The question affects not your loyalty. Do not get rid of it by pretending to swell out an imputation on that. Probably you would, as certainly you could, have shouted "God save the Queen" as lustily without the pay. You might have gone to see her Majesty, and worn your best garments, whatever they may be, to show your respect. That, too, could have been accomplished without being hired for the purpose. Nobody waits for a bounty, to bless the Queen. She reigns over many hearts in which her predecessors had rendered homage to royalty a rare thing. Unbought greetings strew her path like flowers, and spontaneous acclamations fill the air as if they were a portion of the element. When she appears, the expression of discontent, or even (unless in respect) the maintenance of silence, is scarcely conceivable: and the purchase of popularity is as unnecessary as it is extraordinary.

Well, then; being as loyal as any proud peer or ragged rascal in your county, or the kingdom, why should you have objected to the clean frock and green ribands, the dinner or the crown, for doing precisely that which you would have done of yourself? Hodge, I will tell you. What you did was not precisely that which you would or could have done of yourself. That would have been a true thing, and this was untrue. No smarter smock-frock than your own would have covered your torn coat or your no coat. You could not have afforded the ribands on your hat, no not to hide its holes. You would have looked Buckinghamshire, and not Arcadian. You would have been a ploughman, and not a player. And you would not have deceived the royal mind by a false exhibition of the labouring classes of your neighbourhood. There is the difference, and it is a great one. You have helped to impose on her Majesty, and leave a delusive impression on her memory. The whole five hundred of you have acted a falsehood. By appearances and action, though not in words, you are all accomplices; and, in the face of high Heaven, you have told your Queen a LIE.

"On the estates of his Grace the Duke of Buckingham, and through the many parishes where he is paramount, we, the farm-labourers, are well to do: thriving, clothed, fed, and happy. We are free of his lawn as he is of our love. We rally around him as his retainers. Our green ribands are bound in gratitude for his blue one. He is the first of farmers' friends, and of ploughmen's patrons. The Queen shall long remember him, as a princely host, and us, as the merry multitude of his men."

That is what the five hundred told her Majesty, in the language of appearances most unmistakable. Is it true? Is it within miles of the truth? If so, Buckinghamshire is much beheld. People say that you, labourers, are most of you in rags; that you don't know the taste of butcher's meat from year's end to year's end; that your gaols are half filled with pouchers; that you are packed off anywhere to seek for work and wages; and that you get 8s. a week to keep yourselves and your wives and families. The Queen will never believe it. Her own eyes have seen to the contrary. You have forfeited your right to talk of distress. She knows what a set of trim fellows and jolly dogs you are—nothing like the wretched factory folks of whom some farmers' friends have told her Majesty. You will always occur to her memory as a demonstration that the Duke of Buckingham's estates are manned by most prosperous ploughmen, ribanded reapers, dandy diggers, and thriving threshers: altogether a sort of pastoral paradise.

But, you say, it was only to welcome a gracious Queen; and the Duke's gardener or gamekeeper tempted you; and who could resist the crown and dinner? You would, if you had been a MAN, and not a down-trodden scurf. You would have shown your own loyalty, in your own way, and not become the varnish for his vanity. The more gracious her Majesty is, the more ungracious are you to sell yourself for her deception. She would have smiled on your careworn wives and dirty children. She would have bent to the hurrahs of the ragged; and the memory of the sad reality would have sunk into her soul. There would have been pity for your poverty, as well as pleasure in your praises. You made a dear bargain with the Duke. You became traitors to yourselves, your families, and your class; and all for five pieces of silver. Judas got thirty from a priest; and you had only to deal

with a duke. Have you any hope that, now the job is done, he will better the bidding; or give any more of you a guinea to go away to Manchester?

Is this your first offence? Have none of you taken money before, to bellow at meetings or bully at elections? Some of you are said to have served against the League. It is not unlikely. The falsehood and the bribe are both of the same sort as the present. And who is to pity you, if you take pay to tell the world how well off you are? Your conduct tends to vilify the farm-labourers all over the country. Judged by you, they can only be reckoned a set of most unreasonable rogues. The scamps, to let their wives go without bonnets, when they can afford to riband their own hats. You brand their complaints as causeless, and their deeds of desperation as most detestable. Mr. Dickens has sought to inspire the world with sympathy for the poacher under his oppressions; and with compassion even for the guilty madness of the incendiary. But, were there any truth in your exhibition of the labourers' condition, such wanton crime would mark the culprits as mere wild beasts, deserving only of extermination. You should be beaten together for a *battue*, and humanity would scarcely condemn the butchery of such brutality. Down on your knees and bless Heaven that you are not believed. Only have a little manhood in you another time, whoever may be the tempter; and find some means of retrieving your fault and folly.

The labourers in Northamptonshire have been signing parish petitions for agricultural protection; you may be ordered, perhaps have been, to do the like. All right, provided that you really have too much meat, and are in danger from over-eating. That is the case with the Northamptonshire labourers; or else they have made as big fools of themselves as you have. Sir Charles Knightley distinctly explained this matter, last Wednesday, at the association dinner. He complained that, two years ago, "meat was about 6d. per lb., and it was now reduced to 4½d." That is the grievance against which your Northamptonshire brethren have petitioned. Of course you suffer from it also. Then he foresees a danger. "They would soon find that meat could and would be brought from abroad as fresh and as good as it could be had in Herefordshire." Against that peril the peasantry are united to help their masters. "Then there was another measure, allowing salt provisions to be imported." You perceive what an injury it would be to you for salt meat to be more plentiful and cheaper, hey? Petition against that too; will you not? Sir Charles Knightley's fears and troubles are endless. "For his own part, he did not see in what way it would be possible to prevent this market from being glutted with foreign meat." O horrible, you hungry dogs! Think of the misery of being "glutted with foreign meat." Shout against that, at the Duke's bidding. Petition against that, at the Duke's bidding. It would affect his pocket a little, and your stomachs a good deal. He is at the head of all these societies against more meat and more bread. He is their head; and you are their tail, whenever you do anything so dirty as to take pay, or obey orders, for a falsification of your own condition.

Did you ever see tall chimneys? Tramp into Lancashire and take a look at them. They rise as high as church spires; and they take no tithe. In their neighbourhood, the farm-labourer is always better off. He lives in the atmosphere of trade. So would you, were the Corn Laws repealed. It is a healthier air than that of monopoly. There would, under the impulse of Free Trade, be more demand for corn; people would eat more; the farmers would want you, and you would thereby get more to eat. There would also, under Free Trade, be a livelier spirit of competition and improvement among the farmers; that, again, would make them want you, and give you better wages. You would eat meat dinners, though the Queen was not coming to Stowe. And should she drive your way, your wives would take care of your clean smock-frocks and green ribands to meet her with; nor would her fine car fail to detect the difference of your hearty from your hired hurrahs. Poverty is kept out of sight, in these royal progressers. The more's the pity, while there is so much of it in the land. Yet better for it to keep away altogether, than to come masked and bedizened into the royal presence, and, for the bribe of bread-taxers, perform the disgraceful mummery of well-fed jollification.

### A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

**HAND-LOOM WEAVERS.**—We are glad to learn that, within the last fortnight, the Carlisle manufacturers have advanced the weavers' wages fully nine per cent., making a total advance of 20 per cent. since the spring of 1844.—*Manchester Guardian*.

We are glad to learn that the gingham weavers in Whitehaven, in the employ of Messrs. Chambers and Co., of Carlisle, have lately had an advance in their wages of one penny per head, which will amount to from 6d. to 9d. per week to ordinary workmen, and perhaps to 1s. per week to the quickest hands in their employment.—*Chesham and Piquet*.

## THE COUNTY QUALIFICATION.

ROCHDALE, Jan. 23.—A correspondent writes—"Between sixty and seventy gentlemen have just paid their money for qualifications in South Lancashire; after securing their deeds, a sumptuous supper was provided by Mr. Holland, Roebuck Inn. There being four streets to the property, it was unanimously agreed that they be called Bright, Cobden, League, and Crawford streets. We shall secure 150 new qualifications for this district for South Lancashire."

LEICESTER.—The committee for South Leicestershire are actively engaged in carrying out Mr. Cobden's plan; and their having an office regularly open, and an agent in attendance with all requisite information, is of great service to the cause.

## REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Jan. 20.—Before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice MAULE, Mr. Justice CRESSWELL, and Mr. Justice ERLE.

## BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON.

Jeffery, appellant; Kitchener, respondent.

The facts of this case are these:—William Kitchener, the respondent, had been an inhabitant householder of the borough of Northampton, and at the time of the passing of the Reform Act was entitled to vote as such in the election of members of Parliament for that borough. Before the Reform Act passed, every person who had been an inhabitant householder within the borough of Northampton, for six calendar months next before the day of election, and who had not received parochial relief or other alms for the space of twelve months then next, was entitled to vote at such election. The respondent, in October, 1832, ceased to be an inhabitant householder of Northampton, and went with his family to Bedford, where he resided fourteen weeks; after which he again came back to Northampton and resided there as an occupier, which he had continued to do up to the time of the revision. He had in every year since the passing of the Reform Act been an inhabitant householder duly qualified, according to the usages and customs of the borough, on the last day of July in each year. The revising barrister thought the respondent came within the saving of the 33rd section of the statute 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, and disallowed the objection; he being of opinion that, inasmuch as the respondent's absence from Northampton occurred during a period which was not necessary to qualify him as an inhabitant householder, he was entitled to retain his reserved right of voting.

Mr. HUMPHREY was for the appellant, and Mr. WADSWORTH for the respondent.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, in giving judgment, said:—It is impossible to read the 33rd section of the Reform Act without perceiving that the intention of the Legislature was that, after the passing of that act, there should be but one right of voting in respect of cities and boroughs, namely, that which is commonly called the £10 householder qualification; but it was thought extremely hard, as it would have been, that persons who were in the possession of other rights of voting, in respect of other qualifications, should at once be deprived by those general and sweeping words, and, therefore, there is an exception or a proviso made, "that every person now having a right to vote in the election for any city or borough, by virtue of any other qualification than as a burgess or freeman, or as a freeman and liveryman, or, in the case of a city or town being a county of itself, as a freholder or burgage tenant, as hereinbefore mentioned, shall retain such right of voting, so long as he shall be qualified as an elector, according to the usages and customs of such city or borough, or any law now in force." And the qualification that is here stated on the part of the person whose name appears on the list, is that he was qualified to vote on the 7th of June, 1832, the day on which that act received the royal assent, as an inhabitant householder of the borough of Northampton; therefore, the proviso as to this right must be read and interpreted as if there had been a section in the act which said, "he shall retain the right of voting so long as he is an inhabitant householder of the borough." On the part of the claimant it is contended, that that is too stringent a mode of interpreting the clause, but, that it ought to be, "so long as he continues an inhabitant householder of the borough, or does acquire afterwards, though he ceases to be an inhabitant householder, a new right as an inhabitant householder of that borough." It seems to me, however, that that would be in effect giving not only the right he had at the time of the passing of the act, but the right of acquiring a new qualification in respect of a new residence. Suppose the Reform Act had never passed, and a person qualified to vote as an inhabitant householder had ceased to reside in the borough, as this person has done, and went and took up his residence in another place; no one can contend that if he came back again to the borough, and took a new house, and began fresh to be an inhabitant householder, it would be his old qualification. In the first place, the necessity of the residence there for six calendar months shows that it was not his old qualification; then, if it is not his old qualification, why, it must be a new qualification. And I cannot understand what object there can be gained by the court holding, that a man once an inhabitant householder should have the privilege through his life, not having been omitted from the list for two years, of acquiring a second qualification by again becoming an inhabitant householder. Why should he have the right to vote which was refused to every other subject in the kingdom? It seems to me that the question is simple enough, because the subsequent clauses of the act commence by saying, if any person applies to be put upon the register, such and such qualifications must be observed before his name is inserted on the list. These words are limited to the actual qualification existing at the time of the passing of the act. I therefore think that this person ought not to have been retained on this list.

The other judges were of the same opinion.—Decision reversed.

## BOROUGH OF WESTBURY.

Dyer, appellant; Gough, respondent.

John Dyer, the appellant, claimed in respect of property situate in the parish of Westbury. An objection was taken to his being retained on the list, and the revising barrister expunged the name, subject to the opinion of the court on the following case:—

It appeared that at the time of making out the list of

voters, the appellant was a person employed in collecting the duties on windows, and that he was appointed such collector by the commissioners for executing the acts of Parliament relating to duties of assessed taxes. It was admitted that the two commissioners making the appointment were also commissioners of the land-tax. The question for the opinion of the court was, whether the appellant came under the words of the disqualifying section 22nd Geo. III., c. 41.

Mr. Serjeant SHEP was for the appellant, and Mr. COCKBURN, Q.C., for the respondent.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, in giving judgment, said:—This question arises on 22nd Geo. III., c. 41; and, if the first section of that statute had been the only section in the act, there could be no doubt but that the appellant would have been disqualified, because he would have been a person employed as collector of window duties, and that is one of the disqualified persons mentioned in the first section; but then comes the second section, which appears to me to be an exception, and which takes certain persons out of the range of the disqualifying provisions of the first section. The question, therefore, is whether this person falls within that exception; it appears to me that he does, because, after the very general words used in the first section, the second section says, that nothing in the act contained shall be construed to extend to any person by reason of his being a commissioner of land-tax, or acting under their appointment;—I pause here for a moment, and if it had rested here the proper construction would have been that he is not exempt from the general terms of the first section, unless employed by the land-tax commissioners, but it goes on to say,—"for the purpose of assessing, levying, or managing the land-tax, or other rates or duties already granted or imposed, or which shall be hereafter granted or imposed by authority of Parliament." Then, looking to the acts that have imposed other duties upon the commissioners of land-tax, one of which duties is the collecting and raising the assessed taxes, by the 23rd Geo. III., c. 99, coupled with subsequent acts; it appears, therefore, to me that the appointment of Dyer being under the hands and seals of two of the commissioners of land-tax, although it was an appointment for the purpose of raising duties that are of a different nature from those which the land-tax commissioners originally had, yet, as it is for the purpose of raising those duties which are cast upon the commissioners of land-tax, the disqualification never was intended to extend to the appellant. If the court decided otherwise, it appears to me we should be putting a constrained construction upon the act in order to disqualify a vote, which ought never to be done.

The other judges were of the same opinion.—Decision reversed.

CITY OF LONDON.—Thursday, January 23.—Before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice CRESSWELL, and Mr. Justice ERLE.

Wansey, appellant; Perkins, respondent.

Richard Loakey was objected to as not being entitled to vote; the revising barrister disallowed the claim, subject to the opinion of the court on the following case:—

On the 26th of July, 1837, Richard Loakey was occupier of a warehouse, No. 8, Wood-street, City, as tenant; and on or about that day claimed to be rated in respect of those premises, there being then a rate for the time being in the said parish; but there not being any rate due in respect of such premises, the overseers neglected to put the name of the claimant on the rate for the time being. Other rates were subsequently made in the said parish between the said 26th day of July, 1837, and the 31st day of July, 1843. And between the 31st of July, 1843, and 31st of July, 1844, four rates were made. The claimant occupied the premises from the 26th of July, 1837, to the 31st of July, 1844 inclusive; but he was not rated in respect of such premises after the 26th of July, 1837, and he did not make any claim to be rated after that date.

On behalf of the claimant, it was contended that inasmuch as the overseers had neglected to put his name on the rate for the time being, when he so claimed to be rated, and as he was by part of the 30th section of the Reform Act to be deemed to have been rated in respect of the premises from the period at which the rate had been made in respect of which he had so claimed to be rated, that he was to be deemed to be rated to the future poor-rates so long as he continued in the occupation of the premises.

Mr. HILL, Q.C., having addressed the court on behalf of the appellant,

The COURT (without calling upon Mr. Humphreys, who was counsel for the respondent), decided that the claimant should have sent in a claim to be rated on each rate that was made; so that, if twelve rates were made during the year, he must claim to be rated on each of those rates, or any of them his name was omitted from. They thought there was nothing in the objection, and the decision of the revising barrister must therefore be affirmed with costs.—Decision affirmed.

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Wansey, appellant; Perkins, respondent.

James Hill claimed to have his name inserted in the list of persons entitled to vote for the city of London. His qualification was stated to be in respect of "three rooms, 16, Budge-row." The claimant occupied the whole of the second floor, which consisted of three rooms, which were in his exclusive occupation, and were occupied by him as a dwelling-house and printing-office. The claimant occupied the rooms in question as tenant to one Knight, who occupied the shop and first floor, and who resided therein. The outer or street door of the house was kept closed, and Knight had the key thereof, as had also the claimant.—The revising barrister rejected the claim.

Mr. HILL, Q.C., appeared for the appellant; and Mr. HUMPHREYS for the respondent.

The COURT said, that the case had been decided twice before during this term. This did not appear to the court to be a separate house or tenement within the meaning of the act. The claimant was only a lodger in the house, and the proper person to be on the list would be the landlord.—The decision must therefore be affirmed.

## CITY OF BRISTOL.

Daniel, appellant; Condliffe, respondent.

The claimant in this case was described on the list as claiming for a "house." It was objected that the description was bad, inasmuch as the building was used only for

a warehouse, that the claim should have been "warehouse."—The revising barrister allowed the claim.

The COURT, in giving judgment, thought that the qualification in the list of voters was sufficient. The question was whether the building stated in this case did or did not constitute a house, within the meaning of the act of Parliament: it having walls, rooms, chimneys, and all the requisites of a dwelling-house. The words of the act were "house, warehouse, outhouse, shop, or other building;" there was no necessity that the party should dwell in the house, or that the house itself should be a dwelling-house. The case found that it was in fact a dwelling-house, but was used as a warehouse. The act merely required that the party claiming to vote should be the occupier. The decision of the revising barrister must, therefore, be affirmed with costs, as the point was so clear.

Decision affirmed.

## REVIEW.

The Life of Sir Thomas Gresham (Knight's Weekly Volume, No. 28). London, Charles Knight.

This is an admirable piece of biography, and one which must obtain a permanent place in our literature. The Greshams were the Barings of Elizabeth's days, and, like their modern parallels, they were as much behind in the science of trade as they were advanced in its practice. Under the Tudors merchants held high rank as diplomatists, but the exercise of political trickery was not favourable to the development of commercial intelligence. Sir Thomas Gresham changed his creed to all the fluctuating fancies that Henry VIII. propounded as articles of faith. At the accession of Edward VI. he became a sound Protestant and the possessor of forfeited monastic lands; when Mary succeeded he went back to the Church of Rome, but contrived to keep his Protestant lands; and finally, when Elizabeth was settled on the throne and in her creed, he became a zealous Anglican, equally opposed to Romanism and Puritanism. He was as loose in his commercial principles as in his religious faith; he recommended restrictions and monopolies, while he was himself a free-trading smuggler of the first head; and, though his prosperity depended on commerce, he was as great a recreant to his order as the supporters of monopoly in Manchester:—

"In all times nothing could be further from our royal agent's mind than the great *laissez faire* doctrine: on the contrary, his doctrine was *faite pour*. He writes to Cecil—"If you will enter upon this matter, you must in no wise relent by no persuasion of the merchants: whereby you may keep them in fear and in good order; for otherwise, if they get the bridle, you shall never rule them. . . . As the merchants be one of the best members in our commonwealth, so they be the very worst if their doings be not looked into in time, and themselves forced to keep good order."

Like all who cease to respect their order, Gresham was badly treated by the different classes which he was anxious to conciliate. Cecil treated him with great indignity on many occasions, and, what he deemed a still greater grievance, the Queen stinted him in his pay:—

"The great Elizabeth was given to little savings, and at present she was sadly straitened for money. The total of such reductions must have amounted to a very insignificant sum, but it appears that she diminished the diet or daily pay of many of her servants. She certainly reduced that of Gresham. Perhaps she thought that a man who had so many estates in Norfolk, and who was building for himself a sumptuous palace in the city of London, could very well bear some diminution to his twenty shillings per diem; and perhaps she also thought that, as he could not succeed in borrowing such large sums for her as he had done in more peaceful and prosperous times, his allowance ought to be less than it had been. But the rich Sir Thomas did not enter into either of these views of his case, and he set up a loud lamentation about his twenty shillings. He enumerated to Cecil all the services he had rendered to the King her Majesty's father, to the King her brother, to the late Queen her sister, and to herself: he afterwards affirmed that he had done money business for Elizabeth alone to the amount of eight hundred and thirty thousand pounds, that he had saved her much cash, and had hitherto always accomplished her Majesty's commandments and instructions in all points to her Majesty's great honour and credit throughout all Christendom: he put in his broken leg, as a soldier does his wounds, and he said that he was become lame and was now waxing old! He also recalled the promises which the Queen had made to him at Hatfield, when she told him that she would do as much for him as had been done by Edward VI. and Queen Mary together. He declared that his expenses, when abroad, exceeded four times twenty shillings a day; but he said nothing of his numerous commissions and profits, or of the large allowances paid him for house-rent, posting, &c. &c. It is evident that he was very fond of money, and that his 'poor wife' was fonder of money than he was himself, and could not brook any diminution, however small, of the income."

We wish not to dwell further on the career of a man who atoned in a subsequent part of his life for the injury his example and influence had wrought on the mercantile character. But we commend the perusal of this cheap little work to our mercantile young men: it will teach them that they can only become respectable by "being themselves," not by imitating others. It shows that in their order they can be great, but that out of their order they must be little, and that self-respect is absolutely requisite for obtaining the respect of others.

MENTAL FREEDOM.—No human power can force the impenetrable intrenchments of the freedom of the mind; compulsion never persuades, it only makes hypocrites.—Hansen.



## AGRICULTURE.

## THE SPORT OF DEATH.

WHAT ROYALTY DID, AND DID NOT SEE, AT STOWE.

Happening the other day to say to a landed proprietor of Buckinghamshire, "What is the Duke of Buckingham about?" we received this remarkable response, "Why, Sir, he is selling outlying property, buying up everything he can in Buckinghamshire, and creating a desert around him." It was only in September last that the newspapers were for several days filled with details of the "festivities at Stowe," on the occasion of the Duke of Buckingham's son, the Marquis of Chandos, coming of age; and the readers were either amused by the pompous silliness of the Duke's mimic feudalism, or disgusted by the revival amongst the peasantry of the brutalizing sports of a barbarous age. And foolish as this attempted revival of obsolete practices—obsolete because the world's intelligence has outgrown them—appeared in the one instance, and detestable as it was in the other, it was perhaps not altogether inappropriate to the occasion. Now, that occasion was the perpetuation of landlordism for another generation, in the waste created by the Dukes of Buckingham. A short explanation will make this plain. It is a rule of law that landed property cannot be settled, that is rendered inalienable, for any longer period than during the lives of persons in existence at the time of the settlement and twenty-one years afterwards. For instance, if a settlement is made on the occasion of a marriage, and the property is settled on the first unborn son,—as is the case in all great landed families,—the parents taking only life interests, no disposition of the property can be made until there is a son of the marriage, of the age of twenty-one. Now, the Duke's estates were resettled by his father and himself before or upon his marriage, and consequently, until the present Marquis of Chandos became of age, there could be no dealing with the capital of the family property. But the Duke was notoriously and deeply indebted, and in all probability—for beyond local reputation we have no knowledge of the fact—the occasion of the son's majority was embroiled to charge the father's debts on the estate, to give the son, as a sop, a present increased allowance, and to resettle the estate; so that until the present Marquis of Chandos shall have a son twenty-one years old nothing more can be done with the capital of the estate. No doubt that a large surplus income remains after payment of interest upon all encumbrances; but, whether that surplus be £6 or £60,000 a year, a family thus situated must be poor, and unable to improve the family estates by draining, and other expensive outlays in permanent improvements. Thus, unless they grant long and rational leases to enterprising farmers, the Buckingham property must remain for another generation a half-cultivated nursery for paupers; and a desire to retain influence over the votes of their tenantry will prevent the grant of leases by the Dukes of Buckingham.

Thus it is that the encumbered aristocracy of England, dog-in-the-manger-like, hold property they cannot properly manage or enjoy, and continue from generation to generation a sort of wilderness around them.

The Queen's visit to Stowe has again brought the Duke of Buckingham and his domains before the public. It is not within our province, and it is far from our wish, to say a word in disparagement of the Duke's efforts to do honour to her Majesty and her court, or to criticise the gorgeous hospitality of Stowe; but there is one portion of the amusement offered to royalty which it is impossible to pass unnoticed. We allude to the *battue* reserved for Prince Albert and his party; which is thus described in the *Times* newspaper:—

"At about half-past ten the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Buckingham, Sir Robert Peel, Lord Jersey, the Marquis of Chandos, Lord Orkney, Colonel Bouverie, Captain Carrington, Lord Delawar, and Mr. Anson, repaired to a *battue* which took place at Guernsey-hill and Paper-mill Spinney preserves, near the mansion, which had been rigidly kept this season for the amusement of his Royal Highness, should he, as was fully expected, honour Stowe with his presence. Hunters to the number of about fifty, under the command of an experienced hand, were made to enter at the extreme end of a thick cover, while the shooting party were stationed in positions from which the game might most conveniently be destroyed, as they were driven forth into the open space of the park. Out-seconds were appointed to drive back the hares which issued forth before the sportsmen took up their positions. So plentiful was the game, that abundant opportunities for displaying his skill were afforded to every gentleman of the party. Immediately that the beaters received the word of command they marched forward, keeping in close together, side by side, that their sticks might have touched. A regular 'running fire' instantly commenced upon the devoted hares. Out they rushed from every quarter—so many that it was often impossible to 'stop' more than one out of half a dozen. The ground immediately in front of the shooters became strewn with dead and dying; within a semicircle of about sixty yards from his Royal Highness, the havoc was evidently greatest. The gun was no sooner to his shoulder than the animal was dead. In other cases, wounded hares vainly endeavoured to limp away, but every precaution had been made to avoid the infliction of prolonged

torture. Keepers were in readiness to follow up and kill such as were maimed.

"It was curious to behold the evident reluctance with which the hares left their retreat, and then their perplexity at finding themselves so bereft without. Many actually made for the canal, and swam like dogs across a piece of water nigh one hundred yards wide, shaking themselves upon landing, and making off without any apparent distress. The pheasants were still more averse to 'come and be killed.' For some time not one appeared above the trees. The cocks were heard crowing like domestic fowls, as their numerous tribe retreated before the sticks of the advancing army of beaters. Upon arriving, however, at the verge of the wood, quite a cloud ascended, and the slaughter was proportionately great. The total amount of game shot by the party was 200 hares, 100 pheasants, and 1 snipe. Prince Albert shot 114 hares, 29 pheasants, and the only snipe killed."

And all this, as is stated in another part of the paper, occurred in two hours. How such wholesale butchery can be deemed sport, we cannot imagine. The nearest poultry-yard would any day afford as good. With that, however, the public would have nothing to do, did not this vast "head of game" inflict countless evils on the community. Let the farmers on whose substance these hares and pheasants have been fed venture to speak out, and they would declare that, though this death-doing may be sport to the mighty of the land, the keeping up the game is pain, misery, and loss, ay, and too often ruin, to the tenant-farmers.

In two short hours, and out of two small woods, TWO HUNDRED HARES were killed; and the report states, "it was impossible to stop more than one out of half a dozen." Here, then, on one corner of the Duke's estate, we find TWELVE HUNDRED HARES fed at the expense of the Duke's tenants for their landlord's gratification and profit. We know not whether such truths as these ever penetrate into the palace, but, if they do, we would ask her Majesty and Prince Albert to reflect upon the extent to which the vermin kept for this two hours' sport (!) had desolated the crops, blighted the hopes, and rendered nugatory all the industrious efforts of the tenant-farmers at Stowe. And we would remind them of a recorded fact, that one-third of the criminals confined in the Bucks county gaol have been committed for poaching; and, further, that one whole wing of the new prison is required expressly to punish those of the starving peasantry—wages are 7s. a week in Buckinghamshire—who are tempted to poach on the overflowing preserves of the Duke of Buckingham and his fellow-game-preservers. Why did not the Duke show his wing of the county gaol to her Majesty? Why did he not enable Prince Albert—who is reported to be of a kindly disposition—to understand that the "infliction of prolonged torture" upon wounded hares was by far the least horrible of the "tortures" by which that fraction of a day's amusement was obtained? The halls, the gardens, the preserves at Stowe, are not fairly and fully exhibited unless the poachers' wing of the county gaol is shown at the same time. Nay, more: the latter is the reality of the spectacle. The mock feudalism, the "Bucks horse-artillery," the 500 labourers in "smock-frocks," and the tenants on horseback, form but tinsel and tawdry imitations of baronial times. The Duke's feudalism is real only in the dungeon. Until royalty has seen the poachers' cell, as well as the Stowe preserves, the true extent and effect of the social and political power of the Duke of Buckingham, and such has he, cannot be appreciated.

## COMMON SENSE AT A RENT FEAST.

Every day brings proofs that the bolder and more intelligent landlords have come to the conclusion that the restrictive system is no longer tenable, and are placing themselves at the head of their tenants in opposition to the Corn Laws. This is their natural position. Every landowner, not inextricably mortgaged, must feel that the existing relations of landlord and tenant are most unsatisfactory, such as it is not the interest of either party should be continued, and, therefore, he will be glad to hasten the removal of that incubus on agriculture, the Corn Law, which effectually prevents either landlord or tenant coming to an equitable adjustment. This is forcibly illustrated by a very sensible speech made by Captain Pechell, M.P., to his tenants at his recent audit. He commenced by regretting the little advantage they had derived from their business during the past year; "when he considered the zeal, the perseverance, and exertions" they had exercised in that business, "he could not be wrong in attributing the present depressed state of agriculture to some other cause than want of intelligence or application on their parts. Some great cause must be in operation which thwarted all their exertions." He said:—

"It was acknowledged at all agricultural meetings that distress was more or less to be found in the farming interest. That was admitted even by those who were called the farmers' friends. But at none of those meetings had it been shown or attempted to be shown what was the cause of that distress."

They would recollect the formation of "protection" societies to oppose the League:—

"The farmers were called upon at that time to subscribe their money, and they were led to believe that all their distresses were occasioned by the agitation of that powerful association [the League], and they were told that, if they would join heart and hand, and subscribe to

the Protection Association funds, prosperity would be sure to return to them. He now asked them whether any advantage had resulted from that counter association, whether it had been the means of procuring them more steady prices, whether it had procured for them any reduction of their rents? If this could not be shown, then he did say that the farmers who had been persuaded to join the Protection Society had been completely led away by the most delusive hopes and expectations. [Mr. Oliver: We are in a worse position now than we were then.] He (Captain Pechell) should be glad to hear from any person who had joined the Protection Association what benefit had been derived from it."

Let every farmer apply Captain Pechell's question to himself and his own case, and he will be satisfied that the Pro-Corn Law agitation of last year was only a part of a series of delusions got up by the monopolist landowners to prevent the tenants from examining the existing management of landed property. Captain Pechell said he felt that it was proper he should explain some of the real causes of the depression, which the "farmers' friends" had failed to account for or remove:—

"It was of no use attempting to disguise the facts which must sooner or later present themselves. The first and principal cause of which the farmers had to complain was undoubtedly the operation of the Corn Laws; and, as that was a very wide question to enter upon at the present moment, he would merely ask them whether the Corn Law had or had not been beneficial to them? He also considered among the grievances of which they had to complain was the competition for the occupation of land. (Hear, hear.) And again he considered that the rental of land, the tithe rent-charge, and taxes, also required consideration. The unfavourable nature of the seasons had contributed very much to their distress; but that was beyond their control. These were the four principal subjects which he would venture to touch upon, because they were points which had been entirely overlooked, with one exception, at the agricultural meetings."

Oh no! nothing but the seasons is ever mentioned at agricultural meetings to account for agricultural distress: all the rest is political, and therefore forbidden! How long will farmers be so gulled?

He said:—

"The time when they were in the most flourishing condition was when they were not hampered by the Corn Laws. Under those laws prices had fluctuated from 112s. to 36s. a quarter. In 1822 the price of wheat was 42s., though the Corn Law promised 80s. In 1834 it was 36s., though the Corn Law promised 70s. At the last change, in 1842, Sir Robert Peel promised them 56s., and he would leave it to them to tell Sir R. Peel, through their representatives, the difference between the sum he promised them and the price they received for their wheat. (Cheers.) Thus he had shown them that, under the operation of the Corn Law, prices had been of a most fluctuating character, and their business had not been successful. They would naturally say, 'Let us have an amendment—let us have anything which will make prices steady, and we shall then know how to manage our capital.'"

The Corn Laws induced competition injurious to men of capital by bringing needy persons into the market as candidates for farms:—

"This competition for land was a serious evil; it gave an advantage to the landlord, because in some cases it enabled him to do that in a summary manner which, without that competition, he might not think it prudent to do. A landlord might have a prejudice, either political or otherwise, and give a tenant notice to quit, when, perhaps, if there were no such competition, he would be slow in untenancing his farm."

Besides, rents generally are too high:—

"He now came to what all in that room, no doubt, considered a most important point. It was notorious that a great part of the land in England was let at a rental far above what the present prices warranted. Under these circumstances there could be but one opinion—that rent must be paid out of capital."

The tithe system, also, operated hardly against the tenant-farmers:—

"They were now paying after the rate of £15 or £16 a load, when they were only receiving £10; while at the same time all the rates and all the taxes remained undiminished. He thought that an equalisation of rent must take place, so as to make it bear its fair proportion to the price of produce; as well as an alteration in the present mode of averaging the tithe-rent charge. It was ever intended by those who passed the Commutation Act that tithes should remain a plague to the occupiers of the land; and he had no doubt the farmers' friends even would join them in a question which would, perhaps, relieve payments."

As to remedies, Captain Pechell observed:—

"There were many schemes which had been adopted to encourage the farmers, which he considered merely as auxiliaries to improvement. He supported the Cattle Show and Agricultural Association at Arundel because he thought it was a means of bringing persons together, and so long as they had the security of such a president as the Duke of Norfolk, who was totally free from all interested and political motives, it was well to give countenance to such associations. But he quite changed his opinion when a different practice was observed, because it was possible that cunning persons might contrive, whilst bamboozling the farmers and talking about themselves and their families, to advance and further their own political purposes. At the agricultural meetings the farmers were strongly recommended to use their exertions, and in some cases they were reproached for their want of intelligence or diligence in improving their land. Some of them might have drained their land, and their pockets too. (Hear, hear.)"

This is a very hard bit at that cunning intriguer the Duke of Richmond. Then as to the employment of labourers:—

"They would also remember that great sympathy was exhibited for the labourer, and the farmers were called

upon to employ them. Now, he thought it most unwarrantable to interfere with the business of the farmer by requiring him to employ what was termed the surplus population of the parish. *This was an interference exercised in no other trade, and it worked very oppressively in parishes where the landlord was not an occupier of land, and where he did not happen to reside.* When such recommendations were made, it was only right to look to the quarter whence they originated. All parishes were not similarly circumstanced. In some localities the labourers were employed during the whole of the winter out of a fund subscribed for other purposes, whereby the landlords and the farmers were entirely relieved to the amount of those payments. *It was very easy to be generous with other people's money, in recommending the farmers to employ the surplus population: which meant that they were to employ more labourers than they required. That was an interference which he thought ought to be discountenanced.*

Every farmer will agree in this. Indeed, the advice of the squires on this subject has gone far to open the farmers' eyes. Why should farmers be dictated to as to the mode of managing their business?

"The prosperity of the manufacturer was solely to be attributed to the application of science; and why were the farmers to be prevented from having recourse to the same appliances, and to be discouraged from the employment of the same advantages?"

Of the present aspect of the protectionist cause he remarked:—

"He had noticed the absence of all information affecting their interests from what were called the farmers' friends; but to supply this deficiency he perceived by the county press in the interest of 'farmers' friends,' that instructions had been issued directing the tenants to attend a grand dinner at Brighton before the assembling of Parliament. He was glad they had selected that locality, as at any rate the public would be certain of being acquainted with the proceedings of the Protection Society. It was said that the voice of the British farmer should be forced on the attention of every member of Parliament in such a way as to fortify the opinion of the wavering and strengthen the hands of the acknowledged advocates of British protection. It was also said 'that the Protection Society had done much good, that it had opposed the Anti-Corn-Law League,' but that the full extent of its benefits had not been acknowledged, and would not—*alluding, he supposed, to the failure of the subscription—unless a spirit of perfect union prevailed;* and then the farmers' friends who made the present Ministry would be strong enough to unmake them, as they greatly encouraged the growth of Free-Trade principles." And, finally, it was ordered and declared (hear), that 'the farmers should not presume to join in the repeal of the malt-tax, as the example might serve other parties for the repeal of another law.' Now, they would observe there were some symptoms of a split. One portion were for the repeal of the malt-tax; and the other party, who had committed themselves to the Minister, and who got up the sham fight against the Canada corn bill and other measures, were not in a condition to throw any embarrassment in the way of the Government. Those who were deluded into the hope that they would improve their interests by subscribing to the protection fund were now discovering their mistake, and a dinner was now being got up in the hope that these differences might be adjusted; and he had no doubt that something would be done to stop those who were striving to repeal the malt-tax. Now, he advised them not to put their trust in any one to oppose the present Government who had received for themselves or families either place or honours from the members of that Government. They had experience of the way in which the votes in both Houses of Parliament had been given, and it behooved them to be careful in not entering too sanguine hopes of any opposition being made by the farmers' friends which would be injurious or fatal to the Government of Sir Robert Peel."

Probably the grossest case of political humbug ever attempted to be palmed on any body of men, is that attempted by such men as the Duke of Richmond—whose brother is a Lord of the Treasury.—Mr. William Miles, and men of that sort, when they pretend to oppose the Peel Government. Even the farmers don't now believe them to be in earnest.

Then, as to the alleged identity of interest between the landlord and tenant, Captain Pechell observed:—

"No man was more aware than he was of the importance of the connexion between landlord and tenant; but he did not concur with those who said that their interests were identical. *It was very much the fashion to say that they were embarked in the same boat.* It was very agreeable, no doubt, especially on a fine sunny day, to be embarked in the same boat as the tenant; BUT IT MIGHT SO HAPPEN THAT, WHILE THE TENANT MIGHT BE LABOURING AT THE OAR, THE LANDLORD MIGHT BE REPOSING VERY QUIETLY AT THE HELM. (Hear, hear.) Again, it was said, that, 'they must work or swim together;' but when the farmer had to meet his landlord, and he pointed out the improvements he had made, it was found that the interest of the landlord and tenant were very much opposed to each other. If he were asked his opinion as to the best mode of relieving the agricultural interest at the present moment, he would say that, whatever might be the price, let it be what it would—*let there be no fluctuations as they had now, the operation of which was only to make the fortunes of the speculators and dealers in corn, to the injury of the low-growers, who were compelled to bring their produce to market at an adverse time.* Nothing, in his opinion, could settle this question but such an alteration in the law as would let them alone; and he thought that, when prices had arrived at a degree of permanency, then there might be such an adjustment of rent as would bear a proper proportion to the price of corn."

This presupposes a total repeal of the Corn Laws. Nothing else can ever settle the question. We commend the speech of a landlord to his tenants, on the rent-day, to the serious attention of our agricultural readers.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Free-Trade Lodger."—"I have purchased a lot of freehold land, which cost me £42, and it has cost me £8 more to put a wall round it, which makes it £50; there is no dwelling. I wish you would inform me, through the LEAGUE, whether this will give me a county qualification."

[A plot of land of the yearly value of 40s. will confer a county qualification. It is unimportant what is paid for the land so that it be of sufficient annual value.]

"Two Free-Traders of Chatham, Kent."—"Myself and my brother having bought a piece of freehold ground on which we intend building a house, we wish to qualify ourselves for a county vote. We are in possession, and have a receipt to prove payment of the money on the 18th of this month. If the house is occupied by the 31st of July, can we qualify ourselves then for a county vote?"—Yes.

"Working Man, Warrington."—"We think his attorney correct; but, for the purpose of voting only, the deed does not appear necessary, although the title hereafter will always be imperfect for sale."

"C.P."—"I rent the first floor of a warehouse in the City, for £30 per annum, the landlord paying all rates and taxes. Can I claim to be inserted on the Parliamentary register?"

[If the landlord does not occupy the house as owner or tenant, you may claim to be rated for the rooms you occupy. If the staircase and street-door be common to all, and having paid the rates, &c., you will be entitled to be on the list of voters under the words of the statute, "other building."]

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

We have received communications from subscribers in almost all parts of the country, questioning the propriety of devoting so large a proportion as two pages of the LEAGUE newspaper to advertisements. We beg to inform our correspondents that the letters on this subject have been referred to the Council, and are now under consideration.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, January 25, 1845.

In another part of our paper will be found a very full report of the proceedings of the Council of the League at Manchester. In the morning the Council met for the despatch of business; there were present from all quarters of England the largest employers of labour in the kingdom, who have become members of the Council by paying subscriptions of £50 and upwards. It is unnecessary to dwell on their social importance as employers and encouragers of national industry; but it is obvious that such men would not have quitted their

absorbing occupations to join in any movement which did not involve the gravest considerations of national prosperity. They not only have a large stake in the country, but they have besides a firm conviction that the profit and even the safety of their invested capital is contingent on good government. A landholder may run the risk of tumult and revolution, for his estates will survive the shock; but the manufacturer must be ruined by any serious interruption of public tranquillity, for his capital is virtually annihilated when it ceases to be worked. The names of these gentlemen sufficiently refute the absurd calumny which the Earl of Egmont uttered at the Brighton meeting of the Sussex Protection Society, on Thursday, when he declared, that "revolution and anarchy were at the bottom of the designs of the League." The members of our Council are more deeply interested in the prevention of anarchy than Lord Egmont, though none of their ancestors obtained peerages as a reward for political profligacy.

The financial report read by the Secretary will afford great satisfaction to all the friends of Free Trade. Though the multiplied operations of the past year necessarily involved a very heavy expenditure, there is still a large available balance in hand; and at the close of the meeting in the evening, Mr. John Brooks took an opportunity of declaring that when the present fund was exhausted there was more money where it came from, and offered personally to guarantee whatever may be necessary whenever required. The transactions of the past year were minutely detailed to the General Council, and after they had been maturely considered, votes of thanks were unanimously voted to the Manchester Council, and they were requested to undertake the superintendence of the movement during the ensuing year.

The Free-Trade Hall in the evening was full to overflowing. Numerous as have been the eloquent addresses delivered in that hall since first this national agitation commenced, that of Mr. E. Baines, jun., on Wednesday night, must be ranked among the very best for clearness of arrangement, force of argument, and brilliancy of diction. It must be gratifying to those who have taken a lead in this great cause, to find that they are training up worthy successors to continue the work which they have begun; and that, as in the classic races of ancient Greece, honourable aspirants are ready to receive from their hands the torch of truth when their time comes for quitting the course.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—Admiral Dupetit Thouars has declined to receive the sword of "honour" subscribed for by the French republicans, to mark their approval of his doings at Tahiti. The amount subscribed to purchase the sword was nearly 20,000 francs, and the number of contributors 175,000. It is supposed that the admiral's motive in refusing to accept of the intended sword was the fear of offending the Government.

IMPRISONMENT.—The Cours Royale of Paris have resolved that the maximum of time during which prisoners should be subjected to solitary confinement must not exceed ten years. At the end of ten years the convict will be allowed to communicate with his fellow-prisoners.

The discussion on the address in the Chamber of Peers was brought to a close on Saturday. The number of members who took part in the ballot was 153. Absolute majority, 77; for the address, 114; against it, 39; ministerial majority, 75.

MOROCCO.—News from Morocco has been received by way of Gibraltar, giving the most deplorable account of the internal state of the empire. The Kabyles were pillaging the towns, while the Emperor is described as having lost authority since the battle of Ialy. These accounts are perhaps exaggerated.

AMSTERDAM Jan. 18.—The following paragraph respecting the false report of the death of the Emperor of Russia, is taken from the *Journal de la Haye*:—"We learn from a good source that all the accounts which have been recently published respecting the state of health of the Emperor of Russia are mere fabrications. That monarch has not even been indisposed."

BRUSSELS, Jan. 21.—In the Chamber of Representatives yesterday, a petition was presented on the part of several merchants of this city, for a uniform postage. M. Verhaegen observed that the uniform rate of postage already prevailed in principle, for, by the recent postal convention with England, a letter addressed to Arlon and one addressed to Antwerp (two distant places) paid the same amount. The petition was referred to a committee. The Minister of the Interior has appointed a commission to inquire what are the best means of preventing fires, or of checking their progress. M. Dethuin, a notary, of Mons, has just acted with a degree of disinterestedness which deserves to be made known. Madame Herendal bequeathed to him her whole fortune, amounting to 50,000fr., to the prejudice of her brother. M. Dethuin has declined this legacy in favour of the lady's brother.

SWITZERLAND.—Letters from Zurich (the present governing canton of Switzerland) of the 17th, state that an extraordinary sitting of the Vorort or Diet would be held in a few days. The report that the Radicals of that canton intended to invade, a second time, the Lucerne territory was unfounded. Considerable agitation still prevails in Switzerland. The Catholic and Protestant parties have formed a coalition at Breslau in order to obtain the liberty of the press. This important question, it is expected, will form a prominent topic of debate in the approaching provincial Diet, which will be opened on the 9th of next month.

PETE FOR THE HOLY GARMENTS.—COLOGNE, Jan. 8.—Bishop Arnold has issued an ordinance to his clergy, announcing that he is resolved to institute a special holiday in honour of the Holy garments (?) of our Saviour, and the other valuable relics, namely, the nails and the spear; that this fête shall be celebrated on the Wednesday following the third Sunday after Easter.

A FATAL DUEL.—A duel took place at Mentz, on the 3rd inst., between M. Ruperberg, aged twenty-one, a clerk in a commercial house at Mannheim, but a native of Mentz, and M. de Lavalette, a Prussian Dragoon officer, of a noble family, aged twenty-four, which terminated fatally for the latter. The quarrel arose from M. Lavalette laughing at M. Ruperberg slipping as he was acquiring a young lady from the play, and it was decided with pistols.

EDUCATION IN LOMBARDY.—Education among the poorer classes appears, from a recent statistical account, to be making great progress in Lombardy. More than 350,000 children of both sexes are now receiving instruction there in the primary schools.

DR. WOLFF.—St. PETERSBURGH, Jan. 9.—We have received positive information that Dr. Wolff, who has arrived at Tcherni, from Bokhara, will return home by way of Russia and St. Petersburg. We hope to see him here very shortly.

TAHITI.—The following letter from Tahiti, received this week by a gentleman in Yorkshire from his friend in that island, contains the latest intelligence from that quarter of the world:—"Tahiti, August 21, 1844. The British frigate *Thalia* brought the Consul-General here about a week ago, and he will remain for some time to investigate a few of the complaints of the British against the French. About the same time that the *Thalia* arrived, the French proposed peace to the natives till the arrival of news from Europe, which was readily agreed to by the Tahitians. To-day the French have captured a Tahitian boat, coming from Moorea to this island. Letters have been sent by the chiefs, stating that, unless the boat and men are given up, they will consider the treaty at an end. Indeed, I think they mean to act as they say, because every Tahitian, man, woman, and child, is absent from the beach to-night, which is a strong symptom of war. In the engagements the French have had with the natives, they have lost, in killed in battle, or since dead of their wounds, about 200 men; the Tahitians nearly as many; but I firmly believe the French have had the worst of it. The war is a horrid one—no quarter on either side. Every man found wounded is coolly bayoneted. A number of the misfortunates sail from here in a few days for Valparaiso, on their way to England.—*Leeds Mercury.*

WEST INDIES.—The *Medway*, Royal Mail steamship, arrived at Southampton, on Sunday, from the West Indies, having left St. Thomas's on the 31st ult. The news she brought is of little importance. The fever is represented to have been very bad amongst the civilians at Jamaica, and was still raging when the *Medway* left. The military, generally speaking, had escaped, and the whole of the troops were healthy. The weather had been extremely hot, and one of the passengers, who had resided nearly 20 years on the island, states, he never remembered it so oppressive in the month of December.

A rather warm discussion had taken place in the Jamaica Assembly on a memorial to the Crown, on the subject of the sugar and coffee duties, the clause that gave rise to it setting forth that the colony is on the verge of ruin, and therefore required protection. The argument



lay between the members who supported the clause as a fair general description of the state of the colony, and those who contended that the chief part of their sufferings were attributable to a succession of unfavourable seasons, and that, with the improvements now rapidly introducing in the mode of culture in the process of manufacturing sugar they would, under ordinary circumstances, be able to maintain their ground against the production of the slave-holding states. The latter class of advocates were, however, left in a small minority, and the clause alluded to was retained.

## DOMESTIC.

Last Sunday, Exeter was the scene of considerable commotion, arising out of the Puseyite movement amongst some of the clergy in that city. The Rev. Mr. Courtney, curate of St. Sidwell's, appeared in the pulpit in a surplice both morning and evening; and in consequence, on leaving the church, was assailed with hisses and groans by an excited crowd of several hundred persons. He was protected by his friends and the police to his residence. A memorial to the Mayor is in course of signature to request him to put himself in communication with the Bishop with a view to induce him to interpose his authority to prevent a recurrence of the scenes of last Sunday.

A new comet, discovered by M. d'Arrest, it is calculated, will be seen in England on the 17th of February next, with the naked eye, or, at least, with a common telescope.

Charles Lamb, a prisoner in the House of Correction, Coldbath-fields, on Tuesday underwent an examination before Mr. Mills, an Uxbridge magistrate, in the board-room of the prison, on a charge of having murdered John Brill, a youth of sixteen, who was murdered in a wood at Ruislip, in February, 1837. The principal evidence against the prisoner was that of another prisoner named Sibley, who stated that Lamb had confessed to him that he had murdered Brill at the place and time referred to. The evidence of several other persons went to prove the fact of Brill having been found murdered; and that of one witness to show that the prisoner had been seen to enter the wood on the day specified, and was afterwards met on the common of Ruislip, out of breath, when he complained of feeling unwell. He was committed to take his trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court.

The Earl of St. Germans expired on Saturday night, at Port Elliot, Cornwall, from an attack of paralysis, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. The deceased earl was the father of Lord Eliot, the Secretary for Ireland, who will now take his place in the House of Lords. His elevation will cause a vacancy for the eastern division of Cornwall, which he has represented since last general election.

Mr. Baron Gurney, in consequence of ill health, has resigned his office of one of the Barons of the Exchequer. It is said he will be succeeded by Mr. Platt, Q.C.

A meeting of the London and Central Committee of Agriculturists favourable to a repeal of the malt-tax was held on Monday at the Farmers' Club-house, York Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, when forms of petitions to both Houses for the abolition of the tax were agreed upon.

On Tuesday evening a destructive fire broke out in the warehouse of Messrs. Smith and Ingle, paper-manufacturers, Piccadilly, Manchester. It spread with such rapidity that it soon ravaged through every floor of the warehouse, and left scarcely the shell standing.

The City of London Postage Committee have forwarded to Rowland Hill, Esq., through Sir George Larpent, chairman, a check for £10,000, part of the amount raised as a testimonial to that gentleman for his successful efforts in carrying the measure of Post-office reform.

Tuesday an inquest was held at the Coseley Tavern, at Coseley, on the body of Benjamin Smith, a miner, whose death, with that of two other men, was caused by an enormous fall of earth in a mine in which they were working—Verdict, "Accidental death."

A club has been formed in Dublin, called the '82 Club, composed of gentlemen repealers, whose object will be to promote Irish legislative independence. Mr. O'Connell is the president. One of the rules is as follows:—"That the club uniform be a green body-coat, with velvet collar, white skirt linings, and gilt buttons, inscribed '1782' in a wreath of shamrock, white tabinet vest, green pantaloons uniform with coat in winter, and white duck in summer, patent leather boots, white kid gloves, and black satin cravat, subject to changes by the committee—all of Irish manufacture."

The Nation states that Sunday, Feb. 9, has been fixed upon "for the effectuation of the O'Connell tribute in all the parishes of the kingdom whose contributions for 1844 have not yet been made up."

The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation Hall, on Monday. There was a numerous attendance. Mr. O'Connell was present; and in the course of his speech, admitted the receipt and canonicity of the Pope's rescript, but denied that it contained any prohibition to agitate for repeal. He suggested that the Bishops should be petitioned to have nothing to do with the Bequ exs Act. Mr. O'Connell also suggested that two delegates should be sent to Rome on the part of the laity, and he named Lord French and John O'Connell, Esq., his son, to represent with his Holiness against countenancing any ecclesiastical interference with the Catholic clergy who had embarked or were about embarking in the struggle—the political struggle for the freedom, and liberty, and justice of the Irish people. The rent for the week amounted to £395.

On Saturday morning a man of advanced age, named Samuel Smith, was murdered at Harristown, near Moynagall, Tipperary. His head was shockingly fractured, and death must have been instantaneous. He was murdered, it is thought, in consequence of being engaged in trying to remove some defaulting tenants from their holdings.

The sum of £1300 has been subscribed for the relief of the widows and children of the men who were killed by the explosion of the Gipsy Queen at Blackwall, in November last.

THE BAZAAR.—We have, as yet, heard nothing of the formation of a committee in Hull to provide articles for the great Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in Covent Garden, in May next. What are the ladies of Hull doing? Are they, who are so justly noted for the deep interest which they take in missions of mercy, indifferent to the wretchedness of the millions of poor creatures who are perishing for want of bread? Many of them are known as noble-spirited angels in the crowded haunts of misery and guilt.

Shall we call upon them to testify to what depths of degradation human beings are sunk by the sharp pressure of hunger? The cause in which we would engage them is a most Christian and a most noble one. It is to co-operate with those who would secure honest bread—the purchase of free labour—to every son and daughter of toil. Their contributions to the Bazaar need be neither very rare nor very costly. Fancy or useful articles of any description, curiosities, albums, and autographs, will be all accepted by the committee. We hope our fair friends will lose no time in doing something worthy of them. The work is one of Christian charity. "Blessed," says the psalmist, "is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive: he shall be blessed upon the earth. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing." And, in the same beautiful spirit of genuine benevolence, the son of Sirach, in Ecclesiasticus, says, "Help the poor for the commandments' sake. Loose thy money for thy brother, and let it not rust under a stone to be lost. Lay up thy treasure according to the commandment of the Most High, and it shall bring thee more profit than gold."—*Hull Advertiser.*

WOODEN RAILWAY.—The Irish Railway Gazette announces, amongst a host of other railway projects about to be undertaken in Ireland, that "the projectors of the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway have determined to lay down a single line at first, using the wooden rail; and the most sanguine hopes of success are entertained."

TREAT TO WORKMEN.—On Monday se'night, being the first market, the workpeople in the employ of Mr. Edw. Howard, Bottom-street Mills, Rochdale, assembled together in a large room connected with the mill, called the Bank, which was beautifully decorated with evergreens, intermixed with choice fruits, flags, and mottoes—"Let the interests of our Queen and her kingdom never be thought distinct." "Commerce universally extended." Here a dinner, consisting of substantial joints and plum pudding, was given by Mr. Howard, to between 300 and 400 of his workpeople. Mr. Howard presided, and was supported by several of his personal friends, some of whom addressed the company in brief but appropriate speeches. Several of the hands connected with the mills spoke in high terms of their employer.

## THE FUNDS.

	Jan. 14	Jan. 20	Jan. 21	Jan. 22	Jan. 23	Jan. 24
Bank Stock	214	212	212	212	213	—
5 per Ct. Red. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
5 per Ct. Con. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
5 per Ct. Red. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Long. An. Ex. 1840	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cons. for Acct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Exc. Bills, pm.	60	60	60	60	60	60
Ind. Bds. and 10000	77	77	77	77	77	77
India Stock	—	248	248	248	247	—
Malayan Bonds	100	100	100	100	100	100
Malayan Bonds	—	10	10	10	10	10
Buenos Ayres	393	—	—	—	—	—
Chilian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colomb. ex. Venes.	116	116	116	116	116	116
Danish	—	80	80	80	80	80
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	94	94	94	94	94	94
Dutch 3 1/2 per Ct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Mexican	313	313	313	313	313	313
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. 4 1/2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	272	272	272	272	272	272
Do. 3 per Ct.	34	34	34	34	34	34

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Jan. 20.—The supplies of English Wheat last week were large; this morning there was a fair supply in improved condition from Kent, and small from Essex. The demand was not brisk, but the stands were cleared before the close of the market at similar prices to this day week. Barley was in good supply; a few sales of English were made at a decline of 1s., but though the abatement would have been willingly acceded to by the factors, the business done was to a very limited extent. There was a little demand for Foreign at former rates. There was a good supply of Irish Oats during the past week, and a few vessels arrived in time for this morning's market. On Wednesday and Friday last the impression was general that prices would not go lower, and there was more disposition to stock the mills as evinced by the London dealers; the same opinion appeared to be entertained by the country buyers to-day, and there was a tolerably free sale at fully last week's rates. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

## BRITISH.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 45 to 51	
— Ditto — New — 42 — 48 — 44 — 54	
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old — 42 — 44 — 41 — 50	
— Scotch — — — 42 — 46 — 44 — 48	
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed — — — 23 — 24	
— Ditto — ditto — Potatoes — — — 23 — 26	
— Scotch Feed — — — 22 — 24 Potatoes — — — 23 — 27	
— Linerick — — — — — — — 22 — 23	
— Ditto — — — — — — — Flus 24 — 25	
— Cork — — — — — — — 21 — 22	
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black Old and New 21 — 22	
— Sligo — New — — — — — 21 6 — 22 6	
— Galway — do. — — — — — 20 — 21	
Barley, New — — — — — 30 — 30	
Beans, Mazagan Old 35 — 37 — — — New — — — 32 — 34	
— Harrow — do. 40 — 43 — — — do. — — — 34 — 38	
— Small — do. — — — — — 42 — 46	
Peas, White, New — — — — — 34 — 38	
— Grey — 31 to 33 — — — — — 32 — 33	
Flour, Town-made — — — per sack of 280 lbs. — 36 — 38	
— Norfolk and Suffolk — — — — — 34 — 36	

## FOREIGN.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed — — — 48 to 56	
— Rostock — — — — — 47 — 51	
— Stettin — — — — — 44 — 52	
— Hamburg — — — — — 42 — 48	
— Odessa — — — — — 42 — 48	
— Riga — — — — — 42 — 48	
— Russian — soft — — — — — 42 — 46	
— Ditto — hard — — — — — 40 — 44	
— Spanish — Red — — — — — 43 — 49	
— Ditto — White — — — — — 40 — 44	
Barley, Gumburg — — — — — 36 — 40	
— Distilling — — — — — 30 — 32	
Oats, Archangel — — — — — 22 — 24	
— Swedish — — — — — 22 — 24	
— Danish — — — — — 22 — 24	
— Stettin — — — — — 22 — 24	
— Dutch Brew — — — — — 24 — 26	
— — — — — 24 — 26	
— — — — — 24 — 26	
Beans, Egyptian — — — — — 22 — 24	
Peas, White — — — — — 22 — 24	
— Ditto — — — — — 22 — 24	
Flour, Canada — — — per barrel of 196 lbs. — 36 — 38	
— United States — — — — — 36 — 38	
— Danzig — — — — — 36 — 38	

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Jan. 13 to Jan. 18, 1845, both days inclusive.					
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	9233	6097	1575	2164	143
Scotch	25	527	2771	—	—
Irish	—	275	20724	—	—
Foreign	210	—	270	—	—
Flour, 10084 sacks, 200 bars.					

FRIDAY, Jan. 24.—There has been a moderate supply of all Grain since Monday, with the exception of Barley, of which the arrivals are large. The Wheat trade is in exactly the same state as on that day. There is great difficulty in effecting sales of Barley, and Monday's rates are barely supported. Oats are held more firmly; in some instances an improvement of 6d. per quarter was obtained. There is no alteration in the value of Beans and Peas. There was no alteration in the duties yesterday. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 10th of January to the 21st of January, both inclusive.			
	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	5680	—	—
Barley	9390	—	—
Oats	2370	10160	—
Flour, 5610 sacks.			

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
7th Dec.	45	1.34	5.21	11.32	0.36	9.36
21st "	45	3.34	2.21	10.32	0.35	11.35
28th "	45	6.34	3.20	10.31	9.35	7.35
4th Jan.	45	8.34	2.21	10.33	9.36	3.36
11th "	45	10.34	5.21	7.31	4.35	9.36
18th "	45	7.34	7.21	8.31	4.35	7.35
Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 6d.; Barley, 31s. 4d.; Oats, 21s. 7d.; Rye, 32s. 0d.; Beans, 36s. 0d.; Peas 35s. 9d.						
Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 4s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 0d.; Beans, 6s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.						

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Jan. 21, 1844.					
	Price.	Price.	Price.	Price.	Price.
Wheat..	6833	49s. 4d.	Rye ..	12	31s. 9d.
Barley..	5472	35s. 6d.	Beans..	2101	31s. 0d.
Oats ..	28639	21s. 10d.	Peas ..	1122	36s. 11d.

## Stock of Corn in Bond, Dec. 5, 1844.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London.	128582	6089	24503	20	1042	1283	57778
Unit. King.	384278	21363	74753	5	8970	7011	266528

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 17.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

S. HAMMOND, jun., Umpire, Essex, market gardener.

## BANKRUPTS.

- W. ALDRED, George-street, New Kent-road, builder. [Dean, Bouvrie-street, Fleet-street.]  
 A. N. ARMANI, Scott's-yard, Bush-lane, City, merchant. [Crofts, Scott's-place, Bush-lane.]  
 T. BROWNING, Old Bailey, City, lunkeeper. [Lambe, Duck-lane.]  
 A. DONALD, St. Albans's, Hertfordshire, lodging housekeeper. [Buchanan and Granger, Basinghall-street, London.]  
 J. G. TODMAN, Gray's-inn-lane, licensed victualler. [Dimes, Bread-street, Cheshire.]  
 H. R. STUTCHBURY, Theobald's-road, Bedford-row, bookseller. [Webber, Caroline street, Bedford-square.]  
 T. R. WITHERS, Eling, Southampton, brewer. [Sowton, Great James-street, Bedford-row; Coxwell and Harefield, Southampton.]  
 G. DICKINSON, Portman-square, farrier. [Buchanan and Granger, Basinghall-street.]  
 W. ROBERTSON, City-road, coffee shopkeeper. [Buchanan and Granger, Basinghall-street.]

## DIVIDENDS.

- Feb. 7. E. Adams, Blenheim-street, livery stable keeper.—Feb. 7. C. Daly, Red Lion-square, bookseller.—Feb. 7. C. Newman, Little Coggeshall, Essex, miller.—Feb. 7. J. Richards, Oxford street, livery stable keeper.—Feb. 7. C. S. Masterman, Croydon, Surrey, grocer.—Feb. 14. S. Billingsley, jun., Harwich, Essex, merchant.—Feb. 12. R. J. Caldecott, Manchester, silk mercer.—Feb. 10. S. Price, Blackburn, machinemaker.

## CERTIFICATES.

- Feb. 7. J. Raper, Bridge-road, Lambeth, tailor.—Feb. 7. M. Walter, Fleet-lane, Farringdon-street, wholesale hardwareman.—Feb. 8. J. H. Utting, Newman-street, Oxford-street, upholsterer.—Feb. 14. T. B. Hall, Coggeshall, Essex, grocer.—Feb. 11. A. Warren, Parliament-street, Westminster.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 21.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

W. HURT, Harrow-road, Paddington, board and lodging house-keeper.

## BANKRUPTS.

- T. WILLIAMS, sen., Cardiff, Glamorganshire, ironfounder. [Queen-street, Cheshire.]  
 G. JACKSON, jun., Hertford, upholsterer. [Stevens and Co., Queen-street, Cheshire.]  
 H. C. STURLA, Seymour-street, Euston-square, glass and china dealer. [Strut, Buckingham-street, Strand.]  
 W. E. SCHOTTLENDER, Poplar-road, New Kent-road, merchant. [Dean, Bouvrie street, Fleet-street.]  
 J. WARD, Ely, Cambridgeshire, dealer in glass. [Croft and Co., Old Jewry.]  
 T. B. WALLER and J. WALLER, Ipswich, grocers. [Russell and Mackenzie, High-street, Southwark.]  
 H. and W. KIMBLE, Old Trinity House, Water-lane, City, wine merchants. [Justin and Barlow, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.]  
 E. J. CHAPMAN, Bradford, civil engineer. [Tebbs, Essex-street, Strand.]  
 J. BULLOUGH, Huddersfield, cabinet maker. [Lewis and Co., Ely-place; Fenton and Jones, Huddersfield.]  
 G. H. LUFTON, Leeds, flax spinner. [Cox, Sine-lane; Lea, Leeds.]  
 T. FISHER, Selby, Yorkshire, line-draper. [Rushworth, Staple-lane; Sanderson, Leeds.]  
 N. J. KEMPE, Liverpool, shipowner. [Vincent and Co., Temple; Minshall, Liverpool.]  
 J. G. SCHOTT and J. C. LAVATER, Aldermanbury Footers, London, merchants. [Atkinson and Saunders, Manchester; Makinson and Sanders, Temple.]

## DIVIDENDS.

- Feb. 14. R. Perkins and S. Woolley, Stamford, Lincolnshire, drapers.—Feb. 13. F. Shotton, Portsea, Hants, grocer.—Feb. 11. R. Thompson, Strood, Kent, draper.—Feb. 11. T. J. Martin, Cold Harbour-lane, Camberwell, wine merchant.—Feb. 19. T. and W. Reeves, Worcester, coach builders.—Feb. 20. S. Kyles and C. Rhidings, Manchester, cotton manufacturers.—Feb. 12. R. Rochester, Hartlepool, Durham, butcher.—Feb. 12. T. and R. Bithner, South Shields, Durham, rope manufacturers.—Feb. 12. R. Smith, Worcester, attorney.

## CERTIFICATES.

- Feb. 13. R. Eaton, Featherstone-street, City-road, butcher.—Feb. 14. B. H. and H. O. Owen, Pall-mall, tailors.—Feb. 12. W. Borchett, Whitechapel-road, chemist.—Feb. 11. J. T. Maas, Birmingham, hoiser.—Feb. 11. J. Johnson, North-lane, City, inn-lane, apothecary.—Feb. 11. R. Footner, Lymington, Wiltshire, cabinet maker.—Feb. 12. C. B. Kemmell, Durham, shire, tailor.—Feb. 12. R. Rochester, Hartlepool, Durham, butcher.—Feb. 14. H. Nicbolls, Greenland, Yorkshire, spinner.—Feb. 13. I. Ketchum, Liverpool, merchant.—Feb. 12. T. Crockett, sen., Kirkham, Lancashire, linen draper.

## MARRIAGE SETTLEMENTS.

- H. STEVENSON, Leith, general merchant.—W. GRANT, MU of Auchinloch, Banffshire, cattle dealer.—W. Goss, Dundee, merchant.—J. McCulloch, Kilmarnock, baker.

**AFRICAN GUANO.**—The above MANURE, from Ichaboe, on SALE.—Apply to DABBY and SIM, Importers, Liverpool, 1845.

**WANTED,** by a Wholesale Hosiery House in the City, a respectable Young Man, of good address and accustomed to the Wholesale Trade, as WAREHOUSEMAN. A thorough knowledge of his business is indispensable.—Address, post-paid, to A. Z., at 43, Wood-street, Cheapside.

**THE ANTI-CORN DESIDERATUM, AND COMFORT TO THE FEET.**  
**HALL and CO., WELLINGTON-STREET.**  
STRAND, near Waterloo-bridge, London.—The PANNUS CO. RUM, or LEATHER-CLOTH BOOTS and SHOES, are easier, softer, and more durable than any other kind: they never draw the feet, but afford most comfort to the wearer. Their Spring Boots support the ankles and prevent the trouble of lacing or buttoning; and their India Rubber Goloshes protect the feet from damp and cold.

**SCHOOLBRED and CO., 34, Jermyn-st., St. James's.**  
beg respectfully to call the attention of gentlemen to the fact that they have now, for many years, supplied the best and most fashionable articles of Dress at prices considerably lower than those usual at the West End. They have therefore taken this means of introducing their name to the notice of those gentlemen who wish for a durable and well-made article combined with the strictest economy.

**DO you want a good and smart-fitting COAT, VEST, or TROUSERS?** If you do, go to the cheapest Tailoring and Out-fitting Establishment in the United Kingdom, 40, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY, two doors from London-bridge, where you will find one of the largest, cheapest, and best assortments of Clothing in the world, at prices that will positively astonish the beholder, and, upon comparison, will be found fully to realize the proprietor's assertion. Observe the address, M. SAMUEL, two doors from London bridge.

**J. SMITH, TAILOR, &c., Successor to his late**  
Father, No. 17, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, begs to solicit the continuance of the patronage so long extended to his predecessor. J. S. does not profess to tempt Gentlemen by a parade of Low Prices, as experience has fully satisfied him that extreme cheapness is incompatible with superior materials and good workmanship. He trusts that those who honour him with their custom will find, in the care and skill with which clothes are made under his superintendence, a guarantee that a fair equivalent is given for his Prices, which are as moderate as any respectable establishment can possibly charge.

**OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the**  
COLONIES.—Parties leaving England will find it greatly to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'s, 165, Fenchurch-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Game Merino Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the Voyage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles.  
Bedding, Military Accoutrements, Cabin and Camp Furniture of every description.—Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

**CABINET and LIBRARY FURNITURE, UPHOLSTERY, &c. &c.**  
**W. MILLS** respectfully solicits the attention of the Gentry and the Public in general, to his well-seasoned stock of FURNITURE, manufactured on the Premises, and cheaper than any other articles which are daily exhibited for sale in the metropolis.  
No. 10, Regent-street, French Polishing, &c. &c., executed in a superior manner, on OXFORD-STREET, opposite the Bear and Castle Inn, near Tottenham-court-road.

**VAL DE PENAS, of excellent quality, £18 the**  
Quarter Cask; or in Bottle, 36s. per Dozen. MARSALE WINES, first imported, 21s. and 27s. per Dozen; or in Wood, £13 and £11 the Quarter Pipe. Fine old crusted PORTS, and Pale and Brown SHERRIES, 4s. 6s., 4s., 3s. per Dozen. HOCKS, CLARETS, and CHAMPAGNES, 4s., 3s., 2s., and 1s.

**CRAWFORD and CO., 129, Regent-street.**

**FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS, as well**  
as GENERAL IRONMONGERY.—The largest assortment of Stoves and Fenders in the world is now on sale at RIPPON and HURTON'S extensive warehouses, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street (just removed to Wells-street). Bright Steel Fenders, to 1 foot, from 50s. each; ditto with ornamental cast-iron, from 60s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with cast-iron, 10s. 6d.; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, and lined with standards, 3 feet, 9s.; 4 feet, 11s.; wrought iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; bright register stoves, with ornamental cast-iron, from 20s. 6d.; black dining-room register stoves, with ornamental cast-iron, from 20s. 6d.; black dining-room register stoves, 2 feet, 20s.; 1 foot, 10s.; bedroom register stoves, 2 feet, 16s.; 3 feet, 21s. The new economical Thermic stoves, with fender and radiating hearth plate, from 4s. 6d.; fire irons for chimneys, 1s. 9d. per set; handsome ditto, with cast-iron, 6s. 6d.; newest pattern, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire irons, with ornate and richly-cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in furnishing ironmongery 30 per cent. under any other house, with the extent and variety of the stock is without any equal. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogue, with engravings, sent (per post, free). Established (in Wellington) 1823.

**EVERY MAN HAS NOW AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME HIS**  
OWN LANDLORD OR A SMALL FREEHOLDER.

**EQUITABLE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION, and**  
SAVING FUND.

Established September, 1841. Enrolled pursuant to Act of Parliament, 1 and 2 Wm. IV., chap. 32.

**SHARES £110.**

**MONTHLY PAYMENTS 10s. per Share. ENTRANCE FEE 5s. per**  
Share.

The Association presents much greater advantages than any other similar society. The LAW CHARGES are very much reduced. This, a most important consideration to the borrowing member, is fully secured to him by a special agreement made with the professional gentleman who holds the appointment of Solicitor to the Association; he will transact all the legal business required by the Member to complete the mortgage to the Association for FOUR GUINEAS, exclusive of Stamps, when such are required.

Notices have been given that the FOURTH MONTHLY MEETING for

dividing Profits and issuing Shares will be held on WEDNESDAY

EVENING NEXT, January 2nd, at seven o'clock precisely, in DOR-

CHESTER HALL, 1, Dorchester place, New North-road, Hoxton, when

persons who are anxious to purchase a small freehold or leasehold property,

or to pay off mortgages by easy instalments, or who wish to obtain a secure

and profitable investment for their savings, are particularly invited to

attend and to enrol themselves members.

At the above meeting a second SALE of SHARES, to the extent of

£100,000, will take place, and persons joining the Association on that evening

will be entitled to bid, and if the security offered be approved, the

shares will be made without delay.

The RULES, price 6d., can be obtained at the residence of the Manager,

1, North-building, Hoxton; and in the room on the meeting night.

By Order of the Committee, HENRY THOMAS, Manager.

The operations of this Association are not confined to the metropo-

litan district, but take up their share on property in any part of the country.

**CEDEMATOUS LEGS.**—Persons who from a long

residence abroad, sprains, contusions, &c., are suffering from

the use of the Patent Elastic Stocking, which bandage, together with

the use of the Elastic Knee Cap, Belt, &c., have for many years received

the patronage of the most eminent surgeons. The Bandage can be sent

per post, by which means also the directions for measurement will be for-

warded on receipt of a line addressed to the Patentee.

Schoolbred and Co., 34, Jermyn-street, St. James's.

**TWENTY YEARS' LOSS OF HAIR, and WON-**  
DERFUL RESTORATION.

Church-street, Whitby, Oct. 10, 1841.

My dear Sir, The last supply of OLIPHANT'S BALM OF COLUM-

bin, which was sold immediately on receipt, and I have many more

now on hand, which I hope you will send with-

out delay. Orders have been poured in more than ever since the

restoration of the Balm have been so decisively demonstrated in the

case of several credible and respectable inhabitants of the town. One in-

dividual, a young man who had little or no hair for twenty years, in the case

of a young man who had little or no hair for twenty years, in the case

**TO MERCHANTS AND EXPORTERS OF SEALING-WAX.**

**G. HYDE and CO., SEALING-WAX MAKERS,**  
61, FLEET-STREET, beg to intimate they continue to manu-  
facture their much approved Wax for home consumption and export. It  
will be found particularly brilliant in colour and adhesive in quality, and  
may be had in quantities of not less than 25 lbs. Attention is also solicited  
to the superior quality of their Envelopes and Account-books; these  
articles being manufactured on the premises, enable G. H. and Co. to sell  
at such prices as will defy competition.  
Hyde's London Manifold Letter Writer, for producing several letters  
with a copy at one operation, reduced in price to 10s., is supplied to the  
Colonial and Stationery Offices, and acknowledged to be the best Copying-  
machine yet invented.  
Wholesale, and for Exportation, 61, Fleet-street, London.

**CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE**  
ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Instituted 1834. A third Quinquennial  
Division of Profits was made in January, 1842, and the Bonus thus divided  
amounted on an average to £23 per cent. on the Premiums paid. Every de-  
scription of Assurance may be effected with this Society, and Policies are  
granted on the Lives of Persons of all ages.

Table of Premiums for Assuring £100 on a Healthy Life.

Age.	For One Year only.	For 7 Years at an Annual Payment of	For 14 Years at an Annual Payment of
25	£ 1 1 0	£ 8 8 0	£ 16 16 0
30	1 2 1	1 4 2	1 8 8
35	1 5 2	1 7 2	1 11 8
40	1 8 9	1 10 4	1 14 8
45	1 12 2	1 14 8	1 18 0
50	1 16 11	2 3 10	2 13 11
55	2 8 8	3 0 4	3 13 3
60	3 10 6	4 2 3	5 1 3
65	4 14 6	5 18 3	6 19 11

The Rates for Life Policies are also lower than those of most other Offices.  
The sum accumulated for the security and benefit of the Assured already  
exceeds £300,000; and the Income is now £101,500 per annum.  
In addition to Assurances on Healthy Lives, this Society continues to  
grant Policies on the Lives of Persons afflicted with asthma, rupture, and  
other diseases. The plan of granting Assurances on unhealthy Lives origi-  
nated with this Office in the early part of 1824.  
Further information may be obtained of  
Geo. H. PINCKARD, Actuary,  
No. 78, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

**THE DISSENTERS' and GENERAL LIFE and**  
FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.  
Established 1837.  
Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 3rd Vic., cap. 20.  
65, King William-street, London-bridge, London;  
21, St. David-street, Edinburgh; 6, King-street, Queen-square, Bristol;  
and St. Andrew's Hall Place, Norwich.

Capital, £1,000,000.  
Trustees and Directors.  
George Bousfield, Esq., Thomas Piper, Esq.,  
Thomas Challinor, Esq., Ald. Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.,  
Peter Ellis, Esq., Edward Smith, Esq.,  
Joseph Fletcher, Esq., Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.,  
Richard Hoiler, Esq., John Wilks, Esq.,  
Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P. Edward Wilson, Esq.

Secretary—Dr. THOMAS PRICE.  
The experience of five years, and the growing prosperity of the Company,  
justify a renewed appeal to public attention and support, especially to  
ministers of all denominations among Dissenters, and to their friends in  
general. At the annual meeting in May, 1843, an increased Dividend to  
Proprietors was announced on the capital advanced by them for public pro-  
tection against contingencies, and to Life Assurers, under Table No. 11, a  
bonus of 13 per cent. on the gross premiums paid was declared, with a fur-  
ther bonus of 10 per cent. to Ministerial Assurers, making to such of them  
as were assured on the terms of Table No. 11, a total bonus 23 per cent.

The following are among the distinctive features of the Company:—

1. One-tenth of the entire profits is appropriated, by the Deed of Settlement,  
to reducing the premiums payable for insuring the lives of Dissenting  
and Methodist ministers, or in other ways similarly beneficial to their  
families.

2. Certificates of age and character, and of the amount of loss in case of  
fire, not required from clergymen and churchwardens.

3. A Table of Premiums for Policies, payable at the age of 60, or of An-  
nuities, to commence at that period, suitable to the case of superannuated  
ministers, and of other persons.

4. The lowest rates of premium consistent with security, and the payment  
of policies guaranteed by a capital of One Million.

5. Two Tables of Premiums, the one giving an interest in the profits of  
the Company.

6. Parties assured on the former Table entitled to participate im-  
mediately in the profits of the Company.

7. Every facility given, on moderate terms, to persons going beyond the  
prescribed limits of their policy.

8. Premiums may be paid either annually, half-yearly, or quarterly, in a  
number of payments, or in one sum.

9. Loans advanced on policies of the value of £50.

10. All claims payable three months after satisfactory proof of death; or  
earlier, on deduction of discount.

11. Loans also are granted on equitable terms to life assurers on life  
interests, and on real or satisfactory personal securities.

12. No entrance fee required.

A liberal allowance to solicitors, auctioneers, surveyors, and others.

**NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,**  
48, GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON, for Mutual Assurance  
on Lives, &c.

Enrolled under the Acts of Parliament relating to Friendly Societies.

Directors.  
Chas. Pritchett Housfield, Esq., Robert Ingham, Esq.,  
John Bradbury, Esq., Joseph Jackson, Esq.,  
William Cash, Esq., Samuel Hayhurst Lucas, Esq.,  
Thomas Castle, Esq., Charles Lushington, Esq.,  
James Crofts, Esq., John St. Barbe, Esq.,  
John Pelham, Esq., Richard Shortridge, Esq.,  
Joseph Hargrave, Esq., Samuel Smith, Esq.,  
Thomas Hoagkin, M.D.

Medical Directors.  
J. T. Conquest, M.D., F.R.S., Thomas Heyan, M.D., F.R.S.

Solicitors.  
Messrs. Hardwick and Davidson.

The following statement shows the progress of the Institution from the  
commencement in Dec. 1836, to the 20th Nov. last:—

Years ending	No. of Policies Issued.	Annual Income.	Amount of Capital.
20th Nov. 1836	618	£ 8,021 12 2	£ 10,736 3 0
" 1837	435	11,000 0 0	21,692 10 6
" 1838	439	12,914 19 4	40,834 0 10
" 1839	490	28,427 4 2	64,954 10 10
" 1840	491	31,051 10 10	90,815 12 9
" 1841	357	36,357 1 4	114,943 3 4
" 1842	364	39,519 9 7	129,406 1 7
" 1843	703	41,519 17 0	167,079 11 2
" 1844	722	55,027 9 2	202,168 1 9
Total number	4610		

The gratifying result of the valuation of the liabilities and assets of the  
Institution on the 20th of November, 1843, is exemplified in the following  
instances; exhibiting the profit assigned to Policies which had been in ex-  
istence from one to seven years:—

Years.	Years.	Sum Assured.	Amount of Bonus.	Original Premium.	Reduction in Premium in lieu of Bonus.	Equal to a Reduction per Cent. on the Original Premium of
7	59	1000	163 11 0	63 0 0	37 17 2	44
8	33	2000	177 10 0	94 1 0	20 11 0	29
9	32	3000	297 19 0	97 11 0	34 8 10	35
10	31	4000	37 3 0	12 12 0	4 3 0	35
11	31	1000	91 3 0	47 9 0	13 6 0	28
12	42	800	29 19 0	17 13 0	1 13 3	10
13	46	800	37 8 0	31 14 0	4 14 0	14
14	61	2000	10 15 0	23 15 0	2 11 7	10
15	42	2000	10 15 0	23 15 0	2 11 7	10

The next Division of Profits will be made in November, 1847.

Members whose Premiums became due on the 1st instant, are reminded

that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date.

The Report of the Directors to the Ninth Annual Meeting of Members,

held on the 16th instant, may be had on application at the office.

Jan. 14, 1844.

JOSEPH MANLY, Secretary.

**DRESS COATS to measure, 60s.**  
No. 49, STRAND.  
Opposite the Adelphi Theatre.  
EDMISTON and SONS.

**LUXURY IN SHAVING.**  
**JOHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL**  
SHAVING CREAM (Patronised by Prince Albert). This inesti-  
mable Cream possesses all the good qualities of the Finest Naples Soap,  
without the disagreeable smell inseparable from that article in a genuine  
state. It is of a white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather,  
which will not dry on the face, and suits in use the delightful flavour of  
the almond.

In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c.  
Perfumers to Her Majesty, 12, Three King-coart, Lombard-street, London.  
Manufacturers of Combs and Brushes of the best quality, and on the most  
approved principles.

**ROWLAND'S UNIQUE PREPARATIONS.**  
Under the Patronage of the several Sovereigns and Courts of Europe,  
and universally preferred.

**ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL,** for the Growth,  
Preservation, and for Beautifying the HUMAN HAIR. Price  
3s. 6d., 7s.; Family Bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that  
size 21s. per bottle.  
**ROWLAND'S KALYDON,** for Improving and Beautifying the SKIN and  
COMPLEXION. Price 4s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.  
**ROWLAND'S ODONTO,** or PEARL DENTIFRICH, for the TEETH  
and GUMS. Price 2s. 6d. per box, duty included.

**CAUTION.**  
Spurious Compounds are frequently offered for sale, under the same  
names (some under the implied sanction of Royalty), the labels, bills, and  
advertisements of the original articles are copied, and either a fictitious  
name, or the word "Genuine," is used in the place of "Rowland's." It is  
therefore imperative on purchasers to see that the word "ROWLAND'S" is  
on the wrapper of each article. For the protection of the Public from fraud  
and imposition, the Honourable Commissioners of Stamps have directed the  
Proprietor's signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus:—  
A. ROWLAND AND SONS, 20, HATTON GARDEN,  
Which is affixed on the Kalydon and Odonto.  
Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.  
\* All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS!

4, LEADENHALL-STREET, LONDON.  
**THE METROPOLITAN EMPORIUM OF ELEGANCIES.**  
**AMONG THE SIGHTS OF LONDON,** none

are more interesting and extraordinary than its shops; and for a  
combination of taste and elegance, there is not one so conspicuous as  
MECH'S, 4, LEADENHALL STREET, near the India House. There  
may be seen the most recherche productions of English manufacture, dis-  
played in the most attractive form. At night, the brilliancy of the illu-  
mination gives an additional effect of great splendour. Those who are  
about to visit London will certainly wish one of its most remarkable  
public features if they do not call at Mech's. There may be suited the  
economical and the luxurious. Industry and amusement may there be  
alike furnished with their implements, made in the most finished and  
suitable manner. The merchant, the traveller, the housekeeper, in short,  
every class will find at Mech's many things adapted to their wants. The  
Stock comprises the following articles, manufactured by Mech's, for the  
wholesale, retail, and export trade:—Ladies' and Gentlemen's dressing-  
cases, in leather, wood, and paper maché; writing-desks; work-boxes;  
ladies' cabinets and jewel-cases assorted; tea-caddies, the most elegant in  
the world; ladies' paper maché work boxes; netting boxes; card-boxes;  
tea trays; bottle-cases; ladies' companions; pole-screens; hand-screens;  
card-racks; note and cake baskets; bagatelle tables, justly renowned;  
leather writing cases, containing a complete dressing apparatus; pearl and  
sandy card-cases; ivory hair-brushes; splendid cases of seven-day razors;  
ivory-handles and other highly-finished articles; Wharfedale penknives,  
sporting knives, and fancy scissors; splendid cases of agate, pearl, and  
ivory desert knives and table knives; a rich variety of plates, bronze, gilt,  
and paper maché and table ink-stands; everything for the toilet and  
work table; the new electrotype plated forks and spoons, which never  
show the wear; and an admirable assortment of table cutlery. Elegant  
chessmen and backgammon boards, &c. &c. Catalogues gratis. Mech's is  
the inventor of the well known magic strip and paste, the cushioned ba-  
gatelle table, the Mechian dressing case, and the castellated tooth-brush.  
His specimens of paper maché manufacture are unrivalled in this country  
for beauty of design and execution.

N.B. Letters from the country, accompanied by a post-office order or  
a reference for payment in London, will meet prompt attention, and the  
goods will be carefully packed.

4, Leadenhall-street, Jan. 16, 1845.

**TRY MECH'S MAGIC STRIP.**

Which is sold by most Perfumers throughout the United Kingdom at  
Mech's own prices.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

Which warehouse in the land can claim  
The honour of the highest name?  
And which has won the greatest fame?

The mart of MORER.

Which is the house that serves with dress,  
Whose value all the world confess,  
In elegance and usefulness?

Why, that of MORER.

Whose garments hang upon the back  
Too tight in fit, or else too slack,  
While oft the cloth and stitches crack?

Not those of MORER.

Whose choice habiliments are sought  
At prices little more than ought,  
Although they serve you as they ought?

The garb of MORER.

Where do admiring thousands go,  
Their valued favours to bestow?  
To any other warehouse? No—

They go to MORER.

To whom should every one repair,  
For articles whose look and wear  
Would constant admiration share?

To none but MORER.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**

The Public are specially informed that, during the re-erection of E.

MORER and SON'S premises in Aldgate, the entrance to their Establish-  
ment is only at 154, Mile-end.

A new work, entitled "The Commercial Phenomenon," with full direc-  
tions for self-measurement, on application, will be forwarded post free.

**READY MADE.**

Heavy Tailcoats .. .. . from 1 10 0

Ditto Chesterfields .. .. . " 0 10 0

Ditto Corduroys .. .. . " 0 12 6

Ditto Frocks, Athols, Peltoes, and every description of Winter

Coats, handsomely trimmed .. .. . 1 10 0

Boys' Winter Coats, in every style .. .. . from 0 6 0

Warm Winter Trowsers, lined .. .. . 0 4 0

Ditto Hosiery .. .. . " 0 10 0

Dress Coats, edged, &c. .. .. . 1 0 0





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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 71.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1845.

[3d]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London, or Manchester.

## PROSPECTS OF THE COMING SESSION.

Taxation and finance will engross a more than ordinary share of attention in the approaching session. To preserve a large revenue, and at the same time to relax the inordinate pressure by which industry is weighed down, employment restricted, and the operations of labour and capital ungenerously cramped and limited, is the great problem about to be proposed to the Legislature; and on its right solution the prosperity of the country is staked. It is a proposition evident to the comprehension of a child, or even of a county member, that the payment of taxes which do not go to increase the revenue must restrict the ability to pay those taxes which contribute to revenue. Every shilling abstracted from consumers by monopolists diminishes the ability of those consumers to contribute to the exigencies of the state. There is no man more thoroughly convinced of the truth of this axiom than Sir Robert Peel himself; but he has given indications of his continued resolution to evade and mystify this simple truth. His plan will be to remove the principle from fact to the convenient region of abstractions; and he has unwittingly revealed this intended game by selecting, as mover of the address, Mr. Charteris, who is a protectionist "in the abstract," and as seconder, Mr. Thomas Baring, the rejected of London, who is a Free-Trader "in the abstract." The Peel policy, therefore, promises to be a nondescript cross between abstract protection and abstract Free Trade—a monstrous birth which will not a little perplex some future writer on the natural history of politics.

Though a landlord majority is likely to show itself obstinate and unscrupulous on all landlord questions, there are symptoms of alarm exhibited at the monopolist gatherings, not unlike those evinced by the captains of "the free companies" in the middle ages, when the restoration of legitimate authority threatened the extinction of black-mail. The vaunts and boasts of the protectionists have disappeared: Sir Charles Knightley declares that the old system has lost all strength in the House of Commons; Mr. Colville denounces the Premier in good set terms, and declares that protection societies exist only for

the purpose of keeping the Minister in order. The Marquis of Londonderry fairly tells his tenantry that reliance upon protection is leaning upon a broken reed; and amid the cheers of the farmers assembled at Selby, the Hon. Edward Petre flings to the winds the sophistries of the monopolists, and gives to his hearers the plain common sense inculcated by the League. He says:—

"I will never admit that either the agricultural or commercial interest is separate and distinct; they are connected one with another, and the happiness and prosperity of one confer happiness on the other. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I say to the agriculturist—persevere. Let him persevere in his industry and improvement; and, above all, let him avail himself of scientific knowledge; and these means will be to him the surest protection that he can enjoy. Let him not depend, however useful it may be, on the protection of legislative enactment. However available it may be, let all other means of protection be of secondary consideration, and let these I have pointed out be his guide in all his undertakings."

Though these indications do not prove that the ship of monopoly is about to strike her flag, they show that the crew is disheartened, the officers perplexed, and no pilot able to guide the helm. At almost all these meetings the dissatisfaction of the farmers has been exhibited in various but significant forms: they have learned to distrust the monopoly which they will ere long detest; and they have spoken so many truths disagreeable to lordly ears, that several believe it a perilous experiment to have a meeting with their tenantry. Still the corn monopolists will cling to their privilege of taxing the poor man's loaf, and insist on their right to swell their rent-rolls by driving a lucrative trade in artificial famine.

Foremost among the victims of monopoly must be ranked the agricultural labourers. There has been a promise that their condition shall be brought under the consideration of Parliament, and there are pretty distinct signs of a determination that this promise shall not be evaded. When a noble monopolist proposed the health of the labourers in Sussex, he was met with the indignant rebuke that such a toast should be drunk in the beverage to which class-legislation had reduced the labouring population. This edifying scene may suggest im-

portant reflections: discontent must have acquired great strength out of doors before any untitled individual would have dared to beard the Lennox in his den; he must have been conscious of large sympathies without the walls, ere he so sharply rebuked the Richmond within. There are others who exhibit a nervous dread of the exposure of the condition of the agricultural labourers: we request attention to the letters of our correspondent from the south-west, which elucidate some of the modern exemplifications of the policy of the ancient tyrants in stifling complaint. We shall quote one passage here:—

"I was sitting in one of the inns here two days ago, when a man in the clothing of a farm-labourer came and inquired for me. I had seen him before, and he told me that he had come to look for me, and to beg of me that what he had told when I saw him in his house at home might not be put in the papers. The things that had been said of the parish next to his, and of the poverty of the families I visited in it, had been a 'terrible misfortune.' The master had been at his men at a 'terrible rate,' and his lordship had been, or had sent, the man did not know which, to master; but, whichever it were, master swore that every one of them would be turned away and put on the roads or in the workhouse, and Lord Shaftesbury would turn them out of their houses, for telling such tales as they had told to persons that put what they said in the newspapers." He begged, for the love of Heaven, that his name might not be mentioned. And then he told me of the unfortunate consequences that would ensue if it should be known that he had made any complaints."

When we remember the extent to which commissions of inquiry have been promoted by Lord Ashley, and the eagerness he has displayed to collect every grievance, and every circumstance that could be distorted into a grievance, in operative life, we feel some little surprise at the edict against information published to the agricultural labourers on his paternal estates. But let us look a little farther; our correspondent adds:—

"It may be remembered that in Pentridge parish—all of which belongs to the Ashley family, who have their title from where I now write, as already observed—I saw the family of the Framptons; the father working on the farm for 7s. a week; the mother and eldest daughter, only a child, out in the fields picking stones for the roads on a cold wet day—frost, wind, and rain striving for the mastery; the other children, four in number, at home without food; huddled on a hearth without a fire, save what might be put on top of a pipe to light it—literally not more. It may be recollected that I spoke of their house—Lord Shaftesbury's house, the walls of which were not amiss, but the roof of which, for want of thatch, was like a rotten sponge, under one corner of which was a

piece of canvas, waterproof, to keep out the wet; and under which was the lair or bed of the family.

"These people, the Framptons, because of what I said, have been—what shall I call it?—they have been 'taken into consideration.' There has not been any straw sent to thatch the roof; not any more waterproof canvas given to keep the rain out of the bedroom; not any firing; not any clothing; not any advance of wages; nor yet gratuitous bread. But that noble family, so remarkable for humanity to women, have caused it to be intimated, since I wrote what I wrote, published what I published, that it was wrong for such a woman as Mrs. Frampton, mother of a large family of young children, to be allowed to go out to pick stones for the roads on a wet wintry day, and they, herself and child, should be restrained from so doing.

"They, who had no bread in the house while they did go out to gather stones, are to be restrained from getting the pence they earned thereby, because it is shocking to the feelings that women and children should be so employed."

This is a fair sample of the humanity that has sought to establish itself in legislation. The philanthropist says, "Do not work where you can be seen, but go and starve unseen with your children. Hide that famine which proclaims the misery of taxed bread; perish in your hovel, that lordly sensibilities may not be wounded by the aspect of the wretchedness which lordly legislation has produced; remove from the public road the pining mother, the shivering children; let their presence not excite the disgust of the fastidious, or the inquiries of the compassionate; let not the results of the Corn Law be read in the cadaverous aspect, the swollen cheek, and the hollow eye; such damning testimony against monopoly is of dangerous consequence; hide it in the hovel preparatory to hiding it in the grave."

There is one little objection to this course of policy: the facts cannot be hidden; the monopolists themselves challenged the inquiry when they declared that the Corn Laws were maintained for the sake of the agricultural labourer, and that challenge cannot be retracted. By their effects on the condition of the labourer the Corn Laws must stand or fall; and the benevolent Lord Ashley is bound to support the most searching inquiry into their state and condition, or to abandon for ever all claims to the character of philanthropy.

The Morning Chronicle has announced that a further reform of the tariff is contemplated. It states:—

"An important document has just been printed. Only fifty copies of it have been issued from the press, and these are said to be intended only for the members of the Privy Council. The document is of great length, and forms more than 200 folio pages. The object of it is to show the operation of Sir Robert Peel's tariff. It contains statements, in columns, of the Customs receipts upon each article imported for each of the four years preceding the new tariff. It contains also a similar statement of the receipts since that tariff came into operation. The advocates of Free Trade will rejoice to learn that the gross receipts for a year under the new tariff exceed those of any other of the four years accounted for by one hundred thousand pounds."

In confirmation of this we may add that in all the political circles, at all associated with the Government, the Report of the Import-Duties Committee, which so lately was studiously maligned and fiercely reprobated, is now recognised as a document of irresistible authority. Even in the Morning Herald a table was published to show that every recommendation of that committee which had been carried into effect had produced the results anticipated and predicted. But we should be deceiving our readers if we led them to believe that even these hopeful signs lead us to expect a consistent and scientific reform of the tariff from our present rulers; there will be some peddling here, and some nibbling there, reminding one of what was said of Pope Gregory's reform of the calendar:—"His Holiness has found out an evil which did nobody any harm, and suggested a remedy which does nobody any good."

Tait justly remarks that the course of policy which the Ministers will pursue on the sugar question is almost as much a matter "of curiosity as of practical concern." The Premier must by this time be thoroughly ashamed of the cant of moral botany, and must regret his having stooped to adopt a cry so patently hypocritical as that of slave-grown sugar in a country whose staple branch of industry is dependent upon slave-grown produce. There is no doubt that in this, and in many other instances, the factions pretences of 1841 will seriously interfere with the practical exigencies of 1845. Lord Sandon's wooden bible is not likely to afford him any useful assistance: the hypocrisy outside is no longer able to conceal the stupidity within. An act of Parliament designed to favour free-labour sugar, whose first operation is to let in a cargo of slave-labour sugar, is so utterly ridiculous as to render the statute-book little better than an appendix to "Parson's Collection of Blunders." But there is, in

addition, the question of the Brazilian trade,—peculiarly interesting to the wooden-headed supporters of the wooden Bible,—which will compel some change; and, as yet, the chances are equal whether the change will be an act of statesmanship or of cunning: whether the Minister will enact the part of a political economist or of "the artful dodger." When we remember the strange scenes produced by the debates and divisions on the sugar duties in the course of the last session, we may fairly anticipate some curious concussions and dislocations of party when they come again under consideration. As on the former occasion, the Free-Traders will adhere unwaveringly to their principles, and sacrifice nothing either to the caprices or the purposes of political party.

A letter from Lord John Russell, which has appeared in the *Morning Chronicle*, may lead to a hope that his lordship is not disinclined to abandon his pet project of moderate protection, and to adopt the intelligible and simple principle of Free Trade. The letter is addressed to the sawyers of Oldham, who addressed his lordship to support a tax on machinery; and we insert it at full length:—

"Unsted Wood, Godalming, Sept. 24, 1844.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, signed by your secretary, of the 17th inst. I wish I could bring my opinions to some accordance with your own, but I fear that it is impossible. While you seek to put fresh restrictions on the skill and ingenuity of mechanical inventions, it will not be in my power to assist your endeavours for the benefit of the sawyers. If I were to do so, I could not stop with your trade. Nail-makers are in a similar situation, owing to the new machinery for the manufacture of nails; other artisans and agricultural labourers will pray for the like interference, to prevent the use of new machines which interfere with manual labour.

"Now, my belief is, that those inventions tend to the improvement of our condition as a people, and enable us to support the great weight of taxation to which we are subjected. Ever since I have known this country, machinery has been in progress towards perfection, performing more and more the task of human hands, and, at the same time, a great number of people have found profitable employment.

"I know, and I deplore, that while this progress is going on, many a workman loses the wages which skill and experience have enabled him to gain. But instead of the perilous course of laying duties on machinery, which would soon enable foreign nations to outstrip us in the score of competition, I am of opinion that we ought to give greater freedom to trade, and, if possible, so extend the demand for labour that our population, greatly increased as it is, may obtain a good price for their day's work.

"I do not mean to pronounce any opinion on the late tariff, so far as regards timber. If the sawyers of this country are subject to unfair competition, they have a cause for redress so far as colonial timber is concerned.

"I remain your most obedient servant,

"J. RUSSELL.

"Mr. Samuel Easthope, White Lion, Oldham."

There is but one word in this letter which we could desire to see altered. Instead of "greater freedom to trade," we would that he had said "perfect freedom to trade." There should be no such thing as graduated justice or graduated wisdom. In the application of a right principle there is no room for any question of greater or less. The English nation has suffered as much from timidity in rectitude as from boldness in prepossession injustice. We trust that the dream of a fixed duty no longer haunts his lordship's imagination: the project would scarcely command a hearing in Parliament, and would assuredly be scouted by the constituencies.

The ensuing session is not likely to be one of such deep and exciting interest as many that have preceded it; but we see no reason for despairing of its being a practically useful session. It will probably contribute to convince the nation more thoroughly of the utter vanity and folly—to say nothing of the mischief—of mere party names and associations. Enlightened public opinion may be brought to bear on the course of legislation, if not so efficiently as to keep its march continually in the straight path of right, at least with sufficient force to prevent any gross deviation into decided wrong. The gains to Free Trade may not be very great, but monopoly must make no new acquisition. Financial questions afford excellent opportunities for the enunciation of sound principles, and much will be gained by publishing a simple gazette account of the number of monopolist sophisms killed and wounded during the recess. We trust, indeed, that this session will go far to show that, while it is honourable to be a Conservative when good is to be conserved, it is equally honourable to be a Destructive when evil is to be destroyed.

#### WHAT HAVE THE LEAGUE TO DO WITH THE GAME LAWS?

"You have no more right to dictate to the owner of the great estate as to the amount of game he shall keep, than you have to command the cottager in the number of his chickens."—MR. GRANLEY BERKELEY.

"Were the Corn Law out of the question, we should not be disposed to contest this assertion of landlords' rights. Whoever else may be in the habit of running out against the right of the landlord to do what he will with what is really and truly his own,

the Leaguers at least are not chargeable with Jacobinical assaults on the property law of the country. Undoubtedly, the landed proprietor has, as landed proprietor, a clear right to keep any quantity of wild animals on his premises that he thinks proper—hares and pheasants, deer and dogs, cats and mice, rats and rabbits. If a man positively will turn his house and grounds into a menagerie of vermin, we know of no principle of law or public policy on which he can be meddled with, so long as he keeps his vermin from plundering and annoying his neighbours. The thing may be foolish enough; but it is one of that very large class of follies which, in this country, law wisely tolerates in its tenderness for the liberty of the subject. It is an affair for the moralist rather than the legislator. *Punch* must deal with it—not Parliament. Once for all, we freely admit—supposing the Corn Law out of the question—the right of the landlord, as a landlord, "to preserve" any quantity of game he pleases, on his own grounds and at his own cost; under the protection of the law of trespass, and subject to the restrictions and responsibilities of the law of nuisance.

But the Corn Law is in the question: and this makes a prodigious difference. The Corn Law turns this abstract landlords' right into an enormous practical wrong. By the Corn Law the landlords of England have stripped themselves of the right of doing what they will with their own. They have changed the tenure and title of their estates. They have made their property trust-property. They have taken on themselves, for a consideration, the character of trustees of the arable land of the realm, for the purpose of keeping us independent of foreigners; they have pocketed the consideration; and we have a right to criticise and control their execution of the trust, and to see that they do not slip out of it. They have made themselves public functionaries; and we have a right to hold them responsible for the discharge of their functions. Their "property"—as they still call it, by force of habit—is public property; of which they are not proprietors, but hereditary and salaried trustees. They are official personages—patented and licensed national purveyors; and they must bear official responsibility for all they do and leave undone. They have contracted to find the whole British people in food, without troubling foreigners—to find a growing population in growing supplies of food, off a limited soil: and what they do with the soil is our affair, not theirs. To take the people's food to feed hares and rabbits—to turn good corn land into a wilderness of a pheasant-preserve—is not a venial misuse of private property, but an infamous breach of public trust. The assumption of a right to preserve game *ad libitum* is, in the mouth

of a monopolist, at once iniquitous and impudent beyond measure or expression. By the Corn Law the landlords claim the privilege of feeding us, for their profit; by the Game Law they claim the privilege of starving us for their amusement. By the Corn Law they assert a right to grow all the corn that (except in actual famine) shall ever be eaten in Great Britain; by the game law they assert a right not to grow corn, but to breed hares and pheasants instead. They first say we shall not get our corn from off other soils than that of England, and then they carefully and elaborately waste on their sports (and such sports!) this corn and this soil of England: "for the landlord," says Mr. Granley Berkeley, "purchases at the best price whole stacks of barley, beans, and buckwheat, besides potatoes and Swede turnips, with which to stock his woods and feed his game," and "the pheasant is often the best customer the farmer has." When a corn-lawing landlord stands up for the right of game-preserving, he simply tells us that he and his order have a right to keep Great Britain, if they think proper, at perpetual famine point, to help them to pass the time.

It is worth noting, how aptly these two tyrannies fit on to one another—how exactly the profit of the first is dovetailed in with the pleasure of the second. A landlord class, protected by a monopoly, have a direct pecuniary interest in game-preserving. It improves their market. A "large head of game" all over England is worth almost as much to them as a bad harvest. The less corn they can agree among themselves to grow, the more money they will get for what they do grow; it being well understood that the price of bread always rises more rapidly than the supply declines. The same interest which the old Dutch colonists found, or fancied, in burning half the produce of their spice islands to improve the value of the other half, the English landlords actually have in turning corn-fields into pheasant-preserves and rabbit-warrens. Their sport "makes good for trade." Their seeming extravagance is, in a business view, real economy. Their hares and pheasants are a part of their protection. The rabbits alone are as good as a rise of 5s. on the pivot. The "whole ricks" which they buy in to feed these creatures, add more than their worth to the price of the other ricks which they sell in Mark-lane to feed the people. As corn-growers, with a monopoly of the best and surest market in the world, it is their interest to

narrow the surface of corn-growing soil, to diminish the quantity and damage the quality of the corn actually grown, and to abstract from the net product of the year's harvest "whole ricks" for pheasant consumption. Corn Law and Game Law together—the system is as complete a machinery of starvation as the brain of man could devise. The one makes it the interest—the other makes it the pleasure—of the landlord class to produce sparingly, consume wastefully, and keep the people short.

While, however, we contend that the existence of the Corn Law gives us a clear full right to "dictate to the owner of the great estate as to the amount of game he shall keep"—i. e., to dictate to the owner of the great estate as to the amount of starvation he shall inflict on the people he has contracted to feed,—we need scarcely add, that we are not solicitous to see this right practically acted on. The true remedy for the game-preserving and *battue*-shooting nuisance is not to be sought in direct legislation. Repeal the Corn Law, and the thing will die a natural death. Without a monopoly to prop up rents and prices, landlords will not be able to afford keeping up artificial wildernesses in the heart of a densely-peopled, highly-civilized, and hungry country. We are quite disposed to believe that, with Free Trade and natural prices, it will still be in the power of the landlords of Great Britain, very generally, to keep rents at about their present rate (though we are in no sort of way concerned to prove this); but the conditions of landlord life will be altogether changed. High rents may continue possible; but high rents, with slovenly farming—high rents with a large head of game—high rents, with small and damaged crops—high rents, with tenancy-at-will and political slavery of farmers—will be flatly impossible. Under the Free-Trade régime, the only way of maintaining a high money price of land will be, to make it more productive. The interest of landlords will be, not in minimising, but in maximising the annual yield of the soil of England. The pheasant will no longer be a desirable customer for British-grown corn; and a large head of game will be to the landlord, what it is to the farmer, a plague of locusts. It is thus that we can best ensure the decline and fall of game-preserving with its connected evils. It will come as the incidental, but inevitable, result of that revolution in the whole business of farming and landowning which Free Trade will silently effect. In this, as in ten thousand other ways, will the repeal of the Corn Law "sweeten the breath" of society in England.

The case of the game laws is different from that of game-preserving. It does not for a moment follow that, because the landlord amusement of game-preserving is a private folly which, on the whole, legislation had better tolerate than forcibly suppress; therefore, legislation is to go out of its way to patronise and promote it. While the practice of game-preserving is but a stupid and mischievous exercise of the right of property, which we have no other title to meddle with than what the existence of the Corn Law gives us, and which will naturally die out when the Corn Law is repealed—the barbarous enactments by which this practice is specially favoured and upheld are, at all times and under all circumstances, a crying public wrong, calling for direct, immediate, and total suppression. If landlords will preserve game, let them. The hares preserved within the landlord's fences, like the rats and mice preserved behind the landlord's wainscots, are indisputably his. To come on his property is trespass—to take anything away is theft—and we have laws by which trespass and theft are punishable. But the hares and the rats still remain—in fact, in the common sense and feeling of mankind, and in the language of the law—*feræ naturæ*. A man may domesticate and keep them, if he can: only, if the creatures will not be kept, but break loose from their artificial and temporary appropriation, they become *feræ naturæ* again, and are the first man's who can catch them. This is the plain right of the case; and not all the acts of all the parliaments in creation can alter it, or alter men's sense of it. The irreconcilable contradiction of our game laws to the public conscience and opinion of our people was never better evidenced—though, in truth, it needs no evidence—than in the lately-published report of the Inspector of Prisons for the northern and eastern counties; in which we have the concurrent and emphatic testimony of the chaplains of county gaols, to the effect that, "It is quite in vain to persuade prisoners convicted of poaching that they offend God in breaking the laws of their country—they answer, the law is oppressive, and they have as much right to the game as others." One reverend gentleman, it seems (at Beccles, in Suffolk), has fairly given up the task, and contented himself with the humbler and more practical aim of "endeavouring to impress them with the idea that it is injurious to their temporal welfare, by setting the higher orders against them. Unfortunately, however, the poor fellows have their own notions on the subject of temporal welfare:—"They say it is better to do this than go into the union."

There will never be peace in England till we abolish the cruel and infamous oppression of feeding

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the instrument of one man's amusements on the product of another man's industry. With the game laws there is nothing to be done but totally and immediately to do away with them. Place pheasants and partridges in the same category with blackbirds and sparrows. If a man tame, feed, and keep them, they are his; if not, they are anybody's or nobody's. Give any and every man the legal, as he has the natural and moral, right to kill any and every wild noxious creature that comes in his way. The game laws never have been obeyed—never will be obeyed—by Englishmen. "Punches on the head," and "showing them the sight of their own blood," have been tried these hundreds of years, and we are still where we were. No law can be executed which is not in its nature more or less self-executory in virtue of its hold on public opinion and conscience. Showing men the sight of their own blood may make some shy, and others savage, according to temperament; but it will mend no man's notions of right and wrong.

#### AN HONEST CONSTITUENCY AND A WORTHY REPRESENTATIVE.

The working classes of Ashburton have paid a tribute of respect to their excellent member, James Matheson, Esq., in a manner as creditable to themselves as it must have been gratifying to the feelings of that gentleman. More than two thousand of the operatives entered into a penny subscription for the purpose of presenting their representative with a silver snuffbox, as a testimony of their respect both for his public and private character; and they transmitted it with an address equally remarkable for its truthful simplicity and sterling honesty. There is a moral value in the testimony of those pennies which far outweighs the evidence of subscriptions of larger amount: they are the witnesses of sincere conviction and unpurchased approbation—the tribute of real feeling to real worth. Stating their opinions with the manly independence of freemen, they urge upon their representative the importance of advocating Free Trade, as essential to the prosperity of the whole industrial community. They say, with equal force and clearness:—

"We consider ourselves honoured in having you for our representative in Parliament; and, without venturing to dictate, allow us humbly and earnestly to solicit you to sanction all measures bearing on 'Free Trade,' persuaded, as we are, that it is only by completely unfettering our commerce that the industrious classes will have sufficient employment, and a proper remuneration for their labour, whilst the prosperity of our country is promoted, and the welfare of mankind established."

Mr. Matheson's reply to his constituents is conceived in a kindred spirit: it manifestly flowed directly from the heart, and it goes directly to the heart. We have rarely seen a document which bears so evidently throughout the stamp and impress of conscious rectitude; and hence there is a moral power in every sentence superior in efficacy to any intellectual display or literary ornament. It is the effusion of genuine and generous feeling, united to the practical knowledge of one who has largely profited by experience. Eminent among our commercial men for his matured judgment, extensive knowledge of trade, untiring energy, and unswerving integrity, Mr. Matheson speaks on the subject of Free Trade with an authority to which monopolists, however reluctantly, must of necessity pay attention. In reply to this part of the address, he says:—

"First in the order of necessity and importance, is that which you have touched upon in your address, namely, Free Trade, meaning thereby the abolition of all merely protective duties; and I consider your advocacy of it as the strongest proof of your enlightenment; seeing that, although long since inculcated by philosophers and men of learning, it is only very recently and tardily that it has been able to overcome the old interest begotten prejudices that have unfortunately so long swayed the bulk of mankind. So prejudiced against Free Trade were the artisans of this country at a very recent period, that it was impossible for the Minister to propose the minutest abatement of protection on the most insignificant article without exciting such a violent clamour and resistance as it was for a time impossible to withstand. When we consider how powerful is the influence of large pecuniary interests to obscure the reason and cloud the judgments of men, we can hardly wonder that there should be some parties alarmed at what seems likely to injure their local and pecuniary sources of profit. But to all other minds not so fettered, the question of Free Trade must seem one of the easiest to understand, and one of the most advantageous to the world at large (but to England in particular) to carry out as speedily and extensively as possible. When it pleased the great Creator in His wisdom to produce for the habitation of man a globe marked by diversities of climate, and yielding an infinite variety of products, each in excess beyond the wants of the particular provinces in which they are found, He saw fit also, in His benevolence, to provide the means of barter and exchange between all the varied regions of the earth, by the noble rivers which form the channels of conveyance for the produce of the interior to the seacoast, and then the vast ocean as the highway between nations the most remote.

"If the inhabitants of each of these nations were restricted to the use of their own products only, and could not interchange them with others for articles differing from their own, it is clear that all countries would remain in a state of comparative barbarism, as each would be lamentably deficient in many things essential to their happiness, at the same time that they would be encumbered and burdened with far more than they needed of

their own peculiar products. But if Free Trade be important to the world in general, it may be called the life-blood of England especially. In no other country of the world have there yet been made the same advances in the arts and sciences as applicable to manufacturing power; in no other country are there the same inexhaustible beds of iron and coal; in none the same amount of skill and industry, or the same extent of capital and energy, to combine all these for the production of wealth. From all which there results the daily and hourly manufacture of such a vast mass of commodities as to be beyond measure superabundant for the consumption of our own population. And it is impossible these immense manufactures and the millions of our fellow-countrymen depending upon them can be maintained, far less can they advance as they ought, without a constant and progressively expanding demand for their commodities, among the other nations of the globe. For these reasons, and a hundred others which might be added, I respond most cordially to your wish that I should sanction all measures in favour of Free Trade, to which I shall always give my constant and earnest support."

We shall not weaken the effect of this admirable reasoning by a word of superfluous comment; but we cannot help reflecting on the contrast which such honourable relations between a representative and his constituency offer to those boroughs in which voters have been induced to sell their birth-right for a mess of pottage; where the elected despises the bribed elector, and the elector, degraded in his own estimation, detests the author of his shame. We heartily join in the kindly wishes for Mr. Matheson's health and long life expressed by the honest subscribers. One such example is of more value than ten rotten constituencies are a loss; it is an example which will cause shame to the buyers and sellers of consciences, while it affords hope, assurance, and encouragement to those who are resolved to exercise honestly the franchise confided to them as a sacred trust by their country.

#### THE BAZAAR.

We are happy to hear from Manchester that the few observations in our last number in reference to the General Committee of the Bazaar have had the effect of directing attention to this branch of the preparations, and that during the past week there have been considerable additions to both of them.

They are, we understand, about to be published, from which we anticipate the best effects, as showing that the prevalence of comparative prosperity throughout most of the branches of manufacturing industry, whilst it does not neutralize the force or application of Free-Trade principles, has not diminished the ardour of those who have adopted them; had their zeal now suffered abatement, it would have exposed them to the charge of acting from the lowest motives, instead of an enlightened apprehension of what the necessities of the country and the laws of sound political economy alike demand.

We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the subjoined communications, especially to the two from the northern part of the island—we refer to those from Glasgow and Paisley.

The previous communications from these places certainly led us to suppose that very considerable contributions might be expected; but we were scarcely prepared for the magnificent commencement which our friends in Glasgow seem to have made,—realizing, in pecuniary contributions alone (setting aside extensive promises of aid in other ways), in a very few days and with scarcely any effort, nearly £600.

Glasgow has certainly the honour of making the first decisive movement; but we feel certain that the large manufacturing towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire, now that they are relieved from attention to the important movement in connexion with the county register, will emulate the example of the commercial capital of Scotland.

To the letter of our Paisley correspondent we refer, for the purpose of making grateful acknowledgment of the manner in which they have complied with the suggestions of the Council in two or three points,—viz. the formation of a Ladies' Local Committee, as the initial step; the furnishing a stall entirely, and with articles of local manufacture, &c., points,—these of the utmost importance, as much of the interest and success of the Bazaar depend upon the degree of attention paid to them.

As we stated last week, the difficulty of selection from our correspondence becomes daily more difficult, from its greatly increased extent; and we are obliged to restrict ourselves to those which are likely to prove suggestive, either to committees or individuals, of the best method of directing their proceedings.

"Glasgow, Jan. 27.  
"DEAR SIR,—We are taking steps to procure contributions to the Bazaar, and have opened a large shop, in a central situation, where they will be received.

We are promised contributions from a great many persons. We are also applying for subscriptions, and I beg to enclose a list of those we have already obtained."

List of Subscriptions.	
James Lunnen	£25 0s
John Tennant	50 0
Wm. Dixon	50 0
Walter Buchanan	50 0
Samuel Higginbotham	50 0
Carry forward	£225 0

Brought forward £225 0	
James Scott	50 0
James Oswald	25 0
Alex. Graham (in contributions)	25 0
Alex. Dennistoun	50 0
Robert Dalglish	50 0
Johnston, Galbraith, and Co.	50 0
Robert Bartholomew	10 10
Lethem, Blyth, and Lethem (in contributions)	10 0
A Friend	10 0
Charles Dunlop, per H. D.	20 0
J. and W. Crum and Co., per A. C.	20 0
Alex. Couper	20 0
Wm. F. Paton (in goods or money)	20 0
	£385 10

"Paisley, Jan. 23.  
"DEAR SIR,—The Free-Trade Association of this place held their annual meeting on Monday last, when, among other business, the following resolutions were carried by acclamation:—

"1. That we again offer our warmest thanks to the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League, for their continued and indefatigable exertions in the cause of Free Trade."

"2. That we highly approve of the determination of the League to hold a Bazaar in aid of the £100,000; and appoint the office-bearers and directors of this society as a committee, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of organizing a 'Ladies' Bazaar Committee' in this neighbourhood, canvassing for contributions, and otherwise co-operating with the Council of the League in this matter."

"Please convey these resolutions to the Council. Our directors met last night, when steps were taken to carry the latter of these resolutions into effect; and as soon as the Ladies' Committee is organized I will transmit you the names. We propose furnishing a table at the Bazaar, and expect, from the nature of Paisley manufacture, that it will be an attractive one. We shall have a great variety of shawls and other produce of Paisley looms, as well as fancy articles worked by the ladies."

"Please state by return the latest day that the goods must be in London; and, in fixing the date, bear in mind that no time need be lost in sorting them for sale, as we shall send them all ticketed from this, and shall engage gentlemen in London connected with our trade to price and lay them out at once."

"Regarding ladies to superintend the sale, we have not yet fixed: we rather fear that no one can be got from this; however, we shall see."

"Meantime I shall be glad to have any suggestions which you may deem of use to our committee."

"I am, dear Sir, &c. &c.,  
"H. MACFARLANE, JUN.,  
Convener of Committee."

"George Wilson, Esq."

"Throstle Nest, near Manchester.  
"SIR,—In reply to a circular bearing your signature, received a short time ago, requesting me to contribute to the forthcoming Bazaar, to be held in May next, for the benefit of the Anti-Corn-Law League fund, I enclose a five-pound note, which I wish you to be kind enough to place to the fund for preparatory expenses. I trust you will receive many similar contributions, as the cost of decorating the theatre, erecting stalls, &c., will necessarily be heavy, and a considerable drain upon the proceeds of the Bazaar. With many thanks to the Council of the League for the great and good service which they are rendering to their fellow-countrymen,

"I remain, dear Sir, yours, &c.,  
"THOMAS GOODBY."

"George Wilson, Esq., &c. &c."

"Pontefract, Jan. 25.  
"SIR,—I feel great pleasure in having to inform you, that labouring men of Pontefract, along with myself, are determined to show some respect for the League Bazaar, which will be held in London in May next. We have commenced a subscription for the above purpose, and the money which we shall collect will be laid out in liquorice cakes,—the only thing manufactured in Pontefract. We have this day ordered a quantity of tin boxes, to hold half a pound each, and covered with coloured paper with this inscription, 'Pontefract cakes, presented by the labourers of Pontefract to the League Bazaar.' This present is to be sold at the Bazaar, and I am sure will fetch a good price. They are to be manufactured by Mr. Francis Dunhill, a Free-Trader; and are to be of the best quality that can be made. I am yours, &c.,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq., &c. &c." "WILLIAM KIDD."

"94, Tottenham-court-road, London, Jan. 28.  
"SIR,—I have got some autographs, which, if suited to the Bazaar, I shall be glad to send to any one authorized to receive them. One document, signed by George III., Lords North, Palmerston, &c.; another, by George III., William Pitt, and others; about fifty warrants for the payment of the troops, all bearing the sign manual of George III.; about twenty signed by the Duke of York; three by the Duke of Kent at Gibraltar; two by Sir Ralph Abercrombie; a passport signed by Prince Polignac; some letters from Wellington, Cleveland (the late), Portland (the late), Melbourne, Palmerston, Peel, and others of the nobility and members of Parliament; a few letters of R. B. Sheridan and J. P. Kemble; a check for the week's salary of Harriet Mellon (the late Duchess of St. Alban's), with her signature at the back; checks in favour of J. P. Kemble, Joe Grimaldi, and John Bannister,—each with their signature at the back.

"I am, Sir, &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "JOHN PROCTOR."

"6, Basing-lane, London, Jan. 25.  
"DEAR SIR,—As I find the Council of the League wish their intended contributors to the Bazaar to inform them of their intentions, I beg, as a warm advocate of their good cause, to state that, besides a small pecuniary donation of my own (in addition to my former subscription to the League Fund), I intend to send some few, but very neat, articles, which I think well suited for an occasion of the kind, as Mrs. D.'s offering to the benevolent object which we have all so much at heart. I shall forward the above where and at such time as you may think proper. Believe me to be, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "R. DRYSDALE."

## NOTES OF A TRAVELLER.—No. XVI.

"Berlin, Oct. 22, 1844.

## EXPOSITION OF MANUFACTURES AT BERLIN.

The entrance to Berlin from the Anhalt-gate, where the station of the railway is situated, has nothing striking for the traveller. He traverses the new portion of the town, composed of long streets running at right angles to each other, and after following the Fredericks-strasse for about a quarter of a mile, arrives at the central part of the city, where the most interesting edifices are collected together—the Linden-promenade. Here the best hotels and the gayest shops are to be found. The neighbourhood of the Linden is the west end of Berlin. The University, the Academy of the Fine Arts, the Arsenal, the Opera-house, and the Palace of Prince Charles lie contiguous to each other at the eastern extremity of the broad street, where the lime-tree avenue, to which it owes its name, ceases. A bridge over the Spree separates these edifices from a large open space in which rows of young trees and groups of shrubs enclose a parterre prettily laid out with flowers, in the centre of which stands a large marble basin, with a fine fountain. One side of this space is occupied by the King's Palace, a fine dark-looking building, in bold Italian taste, opposite to which stands the Museum, with its noble portico. The effect produced by the vicinity of so many fine buildings is very pleasing, and although none of them can be compared with the Louvre or the Tuilleries in extent, yet one is involuntarily reminded of Paris when standing on the Schlossplatz.

This part of the city is free from the intolerable nuisance of open channels at the sides of the streets, into which the filth is poured, to stagnate, and which persecute the walker in nearly all the streets. The effluvia emitted by these open drains is so bad that, having once had occasion to traverse the whole length of the Frederick-strasse in the morning, I found it very difficult to refrain from vomiting. The width of the streets, with the circumstance that the majority of the houses are low, and do not run higher than two stories, must always prevent the constant prevalence of malignant fever in that part of the city. The condition of these streets is the worst that I have seen, nothing in Italy or in France being comparable to it. It is difficult to conceive how such a state of things can be tolerated under the eyes and—what is more—under the noses of the Monarch and all his court. In the more wholesome atmosphere of the Linden stands the Arsenal, a majestic-looking building, whose destination is intelligibly proclaimed by a profusion of trophies and of warlike implements that decorate the roof and vary the large spaces of wall that front the street. This building has been destined by the King to receive the specimens of manufacturing industry sent to Berlin for exhibition. It is an idea that does the highest credit to the royal patron of the exhibition, to display the fruits of the long peace that Germany has enjoyed in the place devoted to preparation of instruments of war. This tribute to the bias which public opinion now decidedly follows in Europe is, perhaps, the most popular act of the King since his accession to the throne.

A summons to the manufacturers of a country to send specimens of their ability to produce, and of their skill in invention or improvement, has, or ought to have, a different tendency from an accumulation of the products of industry in one spot for sale. No doubt the collection of goods at Leipzig or at Frankfurt fair, or even the contents of the shops of Berlin, present a greater variety, and even occasionally better specimens, of manufacturing skill than were deposited in the Arsenal. The object of a display like the present is to furnish an opportunity for considering the extent of the manufacturing power which a nation commands, not as regards the relation of manufacturer to consumer alone, but in as far as the Government is concerned in the prosperity of both. The King, on such an occasion, acts with prodigal as well as with dignity when he proclaims his respect for a class of subjects that is one of the firmest supports of the power and lustre of his throne. Similar declarations of respect for the manufacturing classes have been given by the Kings of France and of Belgium, and by the Emperors of Austria. The King of Prussia has united his suffrage to the rest in the most unreserved and cordial manner.

The manufacturers have, however, no right to look upon a demonstration of this kind as a one-sided or party expression of dependence on the part of the crown on them, to the exclusion of the other classes of the community. An acknowledgment of the value of their contributions to the national wealth, so far from disparaging any other class, has no meaning unless it be accompanied by evidence that the progress of the manufacturing interests goes hand in hand with all others, and that each derives benefit from the rest. This exhibition, therefore, while it afforded matter of congratulation to Germany from the progress to which it testified, contained an invitation at the same time to investigate the question in how far the interests of all classes correspond with those of the manufacturers. There were not a few, however, who did not regard it in this light, but who imagined, like the wheat-growers in England, that the weal of the nation is inseparably linked to the private gains of a few individuals. Evidence of this was given in a general evasion of the invitation issued to affix the prices to the specimens sent for exhibition. Most of the manufacturers sent their prices; but the majority of these did not like them to be publicly affixed to the goods. Many objected to their being de-

clared upon special inquiry. The loudest objections to the publication of the manufacturing prices was, however, raised by the retailers,—a circumstance that cannot excite wonder, and which would anywhere suffice to foil the attempt to display the powers of a country with unreserved frankness. But, since an exhibition without published prices is a mere scenic decoration, it would be useless to enter into a minute examination of products whose value is either concealed, or is declared under the modifications prescribed by the considerations I have suggested. The exhibition is, however, not a wasted exertion; nor is there any want of objects to draw the attention of the inquiring visitor although he must content himself with general conclusions, and is precluded from entering into details. Wherever I mention prices in my remarks, they must be understood to express the current prices of similar articles, which my experience in these matters enables me to quote. In cases where a price has been affixed to the exhibited article, I shall especially note it.

The first impression that is produced on the stranger on entering the large saloon on the ground-floor of the building is one that he cannot divest himself of afterwards. The leading feature of the exhibition is the evident advantage that is on the side of the Germans in all articles requiring hand labour and artistic skill; and this advantage contrasts strongly with the difficulty that evidently presents itself when the scale of production swells into a manufacture. The lower saloon was half filled with carriages sent from the coachmaking establishments of Berlin and other large towns. The shapes were, generally, tasteful; and nearly all the improved constructions, with double springs, patent axles, &c., were represented. The prices of these articles of convenience and luxury are remarkably moderate when contrasted with English prices. For £60 a handsome, well-constructed calèche or britzka can be purchased, of Vienna build. A close carriage costs at Vienna from £100 to £150. The next most celebrated place for carriage-building is Offenbach, near Frankfort-on-the-Maine. There, and at Munich, the prices are somewhat higher than at Vienna; and at Berlin the difference may be estimated at nearly 50 per cent. over the Vienna prices. The abundance of wood, and the cheapness of the Styrian steel and iron, are the causes of the cheapness of the Vienna carriages. Berlin has not the command of either cheap wood or steel, and prices are, consequently, higher than either at Vienna or at Offenbach, although lower than in London. The difference is to be ascribed to the smaller remuneration expected by all handicraftsmen and designers in Germany than in England, and sufficiently illustrates the position of the producing classes in the two countries.

Adjacent to the carriages stood specimens of locomotive engines and other steam-engines. Amongst these a steam-engine with oscillating boilers and "expansion variable," from the works of Lindner and Hoppe, at Berlin, and one with fixed boilers and expansion, were well put out of hand. These, and several others from the great works of Daniels, Huysgens, and Co., on the Lower Rhine, prove sufficiently that the German mechanists can produce superior machinery if they find it worth their while. Evidence of the same kind was afforded by the printing cylinders, "perrotines," one of which, by Oppen, of Berlin, prints with five colours; and the machinery for cotton, wool, and flax spinning and weaving, of which there were numerous specimens. That it is, however, not always worth their while is testified by the not inconsiderable importation of machinery and other iron wares which takes place, as well as the difficulty with which manufactures of all kinds, chiefly from the scarcity and high prices of machinery, are established in Germany. The average of two recent periods of three years each show that the importation of rolled and hammered iron, suited to the fabrication of machinery, has of late years greatly increased, notwithstanding the increase in the domestic production of the country.

M. Diederici's new publication states the quantity of rolled and hammered iron to have increased as follows, in Prussia:—

1840 .. ..	1,165,572 cwt.
1841 .. ..	1,537,454 "
1842 .. ..	1,541,461 "

The three years' average of the quantity imported shows an increase of:—

1837 to 1839 .. ..	16,211 cwt.
1810 to 1812 .. ..	35,452 "

These figures throw strong light on the wants of the mechanics of all descriptions in Germany, and make the policy of the late addition to the import duty on this description of iron appear very questionable. What the ironworker gains by the protection is clearly at the cost of the mechanist and the manufacturer.

Iron is so weighty a lever of production in an age that depends upon machinery, that I cannot avoid extracting a remark of M. Diederici that clearly points out the state of things in Prussia. The author remarks, "The proprietors of iron foundries have been gainers; they now produce as 120 to 100 when compared with their former production (1,514,829 cwt., instead of 1,246,416 cwt.); and yet the demand for bar iron has increased so much that, were they to satisfy the general demand, they would have to extend their establishments in the ratio of at least four to five, perhaps even of three to four. Since they cannot increase their establishments on this scale, the deficiency cannot but be drawn from England, and promises to extend rapidly."

The quantity of sheet iron produced between 1840 and 1842 has declined from the average of 1837 to 1839 in the proportion of 14,644 cwt. to 11,122 cwt.; and the importation has experienced an apparently similar decrease, having in 1839 been 21,680 cwt., and in 1842 only 14,083 cwt. Previous to 1840, anchors and chain cables were, strangely enough, included under this head, but are now classed with other articles of wrought iron, the importation of which has increased from 437,074 cwt. in 1840, to 933,598 cwt. in 1842. The greater part of this increase is in rails. In general the importation has exceeded the domestic production in its growth within the last three years; but to this may perhaps be ascribed the improvement here displayed in the construction of machinery. In the increased duty, lately imposed, the Government chose between the interests of the producers and the adapters, to the manifest disadvantage of the latter.

The German iron establishments were numerous represented at the exhibition. Besides the imperial and royal foundries and mining works in Stiria, Bohemia, the Hartz, Silesia, and Saxony, numerous private works in Silesia, Hanover, Saxony, Nassau, and the Lower Rhine districts sent samples of their produce. The prices may be best estimated from M. Diederici's estimate, which is as follows:—"Raw iron and native steel, £4. 10s.; cast iron wares, £12; wrought iron, including bar iron, £15; steel, cast and in bars, £21; sheet iron, £27; iron and steel ware, £30 per ton." That with such prices there should be an outcry for more protection is less surprising than that the Government should be so weak as to grant it. Still high as these prices appear, there are sides of the iron trade that deserve the particular attention both of traders and of governments, and that have been hitherto wholly neglected in international arrangements. The art of casting iron has been brought to great perfection in Germany. The chemical skill of the founders enables them, by simple processes, to produce specimens of wonderfully delicate workmanship, not only in ornaments and figures, but especially in plates, which are cast with great accuracy of a large size. The price for cast iron quoted above stands in a remarkable contrast with that of bar iron, although the quality of both is superior to that produced in England. In one article the superiority of the German iron is so remarkable, that it becomes almost a matter of humanity to call attention to it. In stoves it is free from that disagreeable smell which has rendered the general adoption of stoves in England almost impossible. In this respect the stoves produced in Austria, in Nassau, and on the Rhine are deserving of peculiar notice; and it is sincerely to be lamented that the trading relations of the two countries do not favour an exchange which would allow the poorer classes in England the enjoyment of the advantages which Dr. Arnott's and other inventors' skill has long been unable to procure for them for want of a fit material.

Besides cast-iron stoves, the native steel, which has long been prepared in Stiria and on the Rhine, especially in the district of Siegen, is well adapted to form an object of commerce, and, if produced on a larger scale, assisted by the cheapness which would result from the admission of our ordinary iron at a low duty, would greatly contribute to enrich both countries. I shall be too happy if these remarks induce any persons interested in the iron trade to make experiments with the German cast iron, for which I venture to predict a larger market in England as soon as it has been fairly tried.

Sollingen sent its sword blades and other cutlery, for the manufacture of which, as I remarked in a former letter, its advantages lie in the native steel of Siegen. Some of these objects, and especially the needles that were exhibited, were sent with the English manufacturing marks and labels, which the dealers are in the habit of imitating. The arrival of these goods caused a discussion respecting the propriety of exhibiting them in such a state, which was decided in favour of their exhibition on the following singular grounds. The commission assumed that the articles thus marked were equal in quality to the English goods which they represented, and that the iniquitous practice of the forgers was one for which they were not responsible, but which the public had to answer for, whose absurd predilection in favour of English goods occasioned the deceit. A better argument would have been, that the fols made in England and France all bear the mark of Sollingen, and that the deceit was in so far only retaliation, although unjustifiable. Gun and pistol barrels were sent from various quarters, but the prices were mostly higher than those of Liege.

A round table, of a beautiful open arabesque pattern, in cast iron, and with ornamental claw-foot, from the foundry of Count Stolberg, was marked at 20 dollars (£3). It was 3½ feet in diameter, and weighed 50 lbs. Garden chairs to match were marked at 5 dollars (15s.) each.

Pumps of various kinds, forcing pumps, fire and garden engines, were exhibited, of good manufacture and at reasonable prices. The castings for architectural purposes were both tasteful and well executed, and showed to what extent iron can be used in building with great advantage. For the designs required for ornamental casting the German founder has an advantage, in the case with which he commands the aid of artists. Other metals were also exhibited as applied to the same use. Figures and arabesque designs in zinc, as well as capitals of pillars, rivalled with similar productions in terra cotta. Both have contributed

to the execution of architecture, and pillars of zinc, name of this metal, progress established, considerable advantages, facility of the raw material, the case, soaringly, all kinds, rails at V, and which. The new silver, is objects were combining, use of the mixture is, object of mine, this manufacture, German, in price. The low, colla and e, uey-pieces, burnt with, finish, which, of being ret, sent to the, sphere of w, stone were, but their pr, style of orn, and China s, which I fou, to the purp, rounded by, allow the vi, the stalls th, and the-e pl, great elevat, peries and, which could, The light w, there more v, ee of some, the window, rate. The, been fully re, brilliant, Munich, and

## LETTER

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This is a man, situated, due to the be, et. It conta, to the Ashley, lord of the ma, belongs, how, There is litt, he said of the, and—that is, can receive up, work, as a we, and 5s. a, I was sitting, a main in the clo, for me. I had, and come to lo, and told when, put in the p, which next, ated in it, ha, he had been a, ship had b, and, to waste, that every one, the roads or h, would turn the, Texas they hav, this was a p, at his name in, of the unifor, should be kno, Thus, it will t, hat from some, idation menti, it is true t, cannot verify it, prove and plac, new, while-u, whether woble, tions are held, will be in a com



to the embellishment of Berlin, and have assisted the execution of some of the tasteful designs of the celebrated architect, Schinkel. I was told that the capitals of the pillars and pilasters of the Opera-house (which is rebuilding) are of zinc. The small figures and ornaments that go by the name of Berlin iron work are well known. The chief seat of this manufacture is in the principality of Sayn, near the Rhine. The manufacture of tools has made considerable progress of late years in Germany, and many large establishments on the English plan may furnish a considerable supply. The abundance of the native steel is of advantage for this branch of manufacture; but the difficulty of a factory organization, and the great demand for the raw material, keep the prices high. This is still more the case with agricultural implements, which were scarcely exhibited. So great is the demand for iron of all kinds in Germany, that I remember having been shown rails at Vienna that were made of the Stirian native steel, and which might have been cut up into knife blades.

The new fabrication from nickel, called "German silver," is extensively carried on at Berlin, and numerous objects were exhibited. A method is now adopted of combining the nickel with native arsenic, by which the use of the poisonous arsenic oxyde is avoided, and the mixture is rendered harmless. Nickel has become an object of mining interest, in consequence of the growth of this manufacture, and is extracted in many parts of central Germany: it is in great demand and keeps high in price.

The lower saloon contained also specimens of *terra cotta* and earthenware, for ornamental stoves and chimney-pieces, in the place of marble. Those which were burnt without glazing had the advantage of a sharper finish, which improved the effect; and, as the cast admits of being retouched by the master's hand before the piece is sent to the furnace, they can be brought within the sphere of works of art. The various styles of wood and stone were well imitated in some of these *terra cottas*, but their price was higher than would be necessary if this style of ornament was in general demand. The Egyptian and Chinese specimens were exhibited in the upper story, which I found laid out both tastefully and very much to the purpose. A large central apartment was surrounded by a continuous gallery, of sufficient breadth to allow the visitors to circulate without crowding between the stalls that were erected against the wall on one side, and those placed between the windows on the other. The great elevation of the roof was turned to account for draperies and the display of ornamental woven designs, which could not otherwise well have been spread out. The light was generally sufficient, although here and there more would have been desirable, even at the sacrifice of some of the many transparent blinds that covered the windows, but which showed neither novelty nor much taste. The specimens of stained glass—an art that has been fully restored in Germany—were neither numerous nor brilliant. Better may every day be seen at Freiburg, Mueb, and Nuremberg.

#### LETTERS FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

(From a known Correspondent.)

##### ELEVENTH LETTER.

Shaftesbury, Dorset.

This is a small town, producing one member of Parliament, situated on a hill in the western part of the county, close to the border of Wiltshire, and not far from Somerset. It contains 3170 inhabitants; gives the title of earl to the Ashley family; and has the head of that house for lord of the manor. The greater part of the land around belongs, however, to other proprietors.

There is little to be said of this district which may not be said of the whole county,—which, indeed, has been said,—that is, wages are low and difficult to get. Married men receive upon an average, supposing them to be in full work, 7s. a week. Single men find work difficult to obtain, and 5s. a week is fully above their average earnings. I was sitting in one of the inns here two days ago, when a man in the clothing of a farm-labourer came and inquired of me. I had seen him before, and he told me that he had come to look for me, and to beg of me that what he had told when I saw him in his house at home might not be put in the papers. The things that had been said of the parish next to his, and of the poverty of the families I had met in it, had been a "terrible misfortune." The master had been at his men at a "terrible rate;" and his relationship had been, or had sent, the man did not know what to master; "but, whichever it were, master swore that every one of them would be turned away and put on the roads or in the workhouse, and Lord Shaftesbury would turn them out of their houses, for telling such lies as they had told to persons that put what they said in the newspapers." He begged, for the love of Heaven, that his name might not be mentioned. And then he told me of the unfortunate consequences that would ensue if it should be known that he had made any complaints.

Thus, it will be observed, that to write from Dorset, at least from some estates, is a difficult matter. If we write of a tenant's misdeeds, people say, "This may be true, but it is not true without a name of person and place, we cannot verify it." On the other hand, give the names of places and places, and instantly gentlemen leave the fox-hounds, and retreat from their visits of hospitality to the poor labourers. Stewards are called in. Consultations are held. Missives are sent to tenant-farmers, and a liveryed groom is seen gallop-

ing through the village, and calling at a farmer's house, and from that, at the parson's, and next at the house of the farmer, who lives out of the village. The parson sends in all haste for the road-surveyor who employs the five-shillings-a-week men on the roads. And, whether by accident or design, parson, surveyor, farmers, and steward, who is seldom seen there, all meet during the forenoon.

The women look out of windows and ask what is it all about? It must mean something. It must mean that we are all going to get something, a hundred of coals, or perhaps a blanket, or a sheet, or a shirt; or, mayhap, we are to have our houses thatched. "Would it not be glorious news if at last, in this cold weather, we was to have them old houses thatched? Who knows but the gentleman as was here two weeks ago, writing in a book about the houses with rotten thatch, and windows without glass, and doors that do not keep out the wind; and who asked about our wages and our victuals; who knows but he was sent here to see how things was, to have things made right. What a good thing it will be for we if it so be that he has told what he saw of our poor way of living—hardly enough of potatoes, and not half enough of bread. Potatoes for the breakfast of the father of a family who goes out to the fields to plough, a bit of dry bread with him, and nothing but 'tatoes when he come home again of a night. What a good thing it will be if the stranger gentleman have told his lordship, and all the rest of them as have working people starving as we be, how bad we be for clothes to keep us warm in this terrible weather."

Such is the talk of the women who look out of windows, and see the meeting of farmers, parson, surveyor, and head steward. What the different working men may have had said to them by one or other of these gentlemen during the day need not be particularized; but the men from the outfield and the barn, and the turnpike road and gravel pit, have not listened half a minute to the pleasant surmises of their wives on going home in the evening,—pleasant surmises about presents of blankets, and new thatch and new doors, all to keep out the cold—pleasant surmises about a load of fagots, or a quarter of coals, or a gallon of flour, or a piece of bacon, to make the first month of the new year a welcome one—pleasant surmises about what the "stranger gentleman" whom his lordship, and the other lords who are said to be careful inquirers into the state of the poor in "other parts," have most probably sent here,—the husbands have not listened a minute to such surmises of their wives when they interrupt and say, "Never let no stranger gentleman be seen speaking to you about we again; us be all to be turned away that be found out to have spoken a word with that stranger; us on the farm will be turned on the roads; us in his lordship's houses to be turned out. Oh! there be a terrible piece of work about telling of how badly off us be to that stranger man."

Next comes Sunday, and the church and its one service. Most of the churches have but one service in the parishes now referred to. The land and the houses belong to one or two persons only, and they admit no dissenters; consequently the churches have no rivals, and they take it easy. There is only one sermon, but it is devoted entirely on this, the Sunday following the visit of the liveryed groom to the parson, to the doctrine of the *duty of contentment*, each man with his lot as he finds it in this world. The duty to superiors is largely dwelt upon, and the great sin against God, of not being submissive to those whom He has set over us. The text is from the Book of Job, and patience is the burden of it. The sin of grumbling is depicted as one of the blackest; the iniquity of not remembering that we live in a land, compared with which every other on the face of the earth is heathenish, is dwelt upon. All the wealth and luxuries of the world would be no recompense to a people deprived of the privilege of the church.

And the people return to their houses, notwithstanding this sermon, not too well satisfied with the thatch that lets in the rain, the broken windows that let in the wind, the wet floors that let in the water, the dry bread and cheese which, as on work days, is still the dinner; not too well satisfied with the blessings which 6s. (the average of wages) afford. Some even doubt if the pulpit be the right place for preaching contentment with such a worldly lot. But they know there is a stronger power than that of the pulpit—the power of sending them to the roads if they grumble on the farm, and from the roads to the treadmill if they "refuse to work and maintain their families." So they receive the sermon from the text in Job, like any other sermon, and go to their homes and put wisps of straw or pieces of turf in the holes of the doors to keep the wind out, and sit close together to keep the little fire in the large fireplace warm, and resolve not to run the risk of losing their work on the farm and their residence in one of his lordship's houses, by complaining again of their hard lot to any stranger who may come about.

The poor man who came to me in Shaftesbury did not belong to the parish here indicated. I saw him in another near it. It was from hearing what had happened there that he sought for me, to beg I might not say anything of him or his family to endanger his seven shillings a week. Whether he had any business in the market for himself or his master, or whether for himself or for some one else he journeyed to Shaftesbury to look for me, hearing I was there, I cannot say. I have some reason to believe that he was sent on that business. There are good technicians in Dorset—good in their own way; and they, likely

enough, thought the best way was to first threaten such a man as this, knowing he had made a statement, and then suggest to him the propriety of withdrawing his statement. He could only succeed in this by expressing fear of the consequences of its publication. The parties concerned are welcome to put what interpretation on its withdrawal they choose.

I went back to the district to learn how far all this was true or not true; and to my very great sorrow I found that it was more than true.

Who the parties actually concerned in threatening, and in causing threats to be used against the labourers and their wives, who stated the amount of their earnings and their manner of living, might be I cannot say. But the labourers are either in a compact to deceive, or they have been threatened—they say they have. It may be remembered that in Pentridge parish—all of which belongs to the Ashley family, who have their title from where I now write, as already observed—I saw the family of the Framptons: the father working on the farm for 7s. a week; the mother and eldest daughter, only a child, out in the fields picking stones for the roads on a cold wet day—frost, wind, and rain striving for the mastery; the other children, four in number, at home without food, huddled on a hearth without a fire, save what might be put on top of a pipe to light it—literally not more. It may be recollected that I spoke of their house—Lord Shaftesbury's house,—the walls of which were not amiss, but the roof of which, for want of thatch, was like a rotten sponge, under one corner of which was a piece of canvas, waterproof, to keep out the wet; and under which was the lair or bed of the family.

These people, the Framptons, because of what I said, have been—what shall I call it?—they have been "taken into consideration." There has not been any straw sent to thatch the roof; not any more waterproof canvas given to keep the rain out of the bedroom; not any firing; not any clothing; not any advance of wages; nor yet gratuitous bread. But that noble family, so remarkable for humanity to women, have caused it to be intimated, since I wrote what I wrote, published what I published, that it is wrong for such a woman as Mrs. Frampton, mother of a large family of young children, to be allowed to go out to pick stones for the roads on a wet wintry day, and they, herself and child, should be restrained from so doing.

They, who had no bread in the house while they did go out to gather stones, are to be restrained from getting the pence they earned thereby, because it is shocking to the feelings that women and children should be so employed.

It is shocking. It was shocking to my feelings. But it was infinitely more shocking that, with all this additional work, there was not enough of bread for the family—*bare bread*,—and all the potatoes, as the little girl Jane said, were done. "All the 'tatoes were done before Christmas, and they had no bread in the house."

It is shocking. It must be shocking to the noble lord most concerned in the land, to see the grandeur of his own family supported out of such human suffering; and he and his family are accordingly desirous, and prompt in their desires, to hide it. "Stop the women from working." It is not, "Untax the bread, and make it less a struggle of life and death for them to work to get bread." It is not, "Restore to these people the common rights torn from them when we divided Cranborne Chase." It is not, "Give our tenants power to employ more people at more wages, by relaxing our political hold of them—our tenant-at-will hold for political purposes. It is, "Call in the women from the fields: do not let them be seen."

##### TWELFTH LETTER.

Shaftesbury, Dorset.

There is a village called Dinton, some miles from here, on the Wiltshire border of the Downs. The place has spoken of me on the Dorset side. Dinton is on the road from Salisbury. I believe it belongs chiefly to the Wyndhams. There, as elsewhere among labourers, you cannot look around you without seeing poverty; the hardest task is to look for and find anything else. My attention was drawn to Joseph Yates's family. His wife was delivered of twins a few weeks back. These twins added to the family made nine children: one of them is since dead. The poor woman is still in a painful state, a severe operation having been performed before the birth could be effected. It is a bare country for fuel about Dinton, and a poor country for wages. The Wyndham property is all mortgaged. Tenures are insecure, farming is bad, employment scarce, and Joseph Yates receives only 7s. a week, the wages of the district. Of this income 1s. a week goes for rent of house. There is only 6s. a week for this large family to live upon, all of which is expended on the articles of bread and potatoes and salt. They can never get enough of either bread or potatoes. They can get no clothing, and consequently are next to going without it.

When the poor mother was taken ill in the pains of labour, they had neither firing nor candle in the house. For the rent of 1s. a week they have only two small apartments to dwell in, which will not allow an ordinary-sized man to stand upright. And in there, almost without furniture, the nine of a family were crowded together before the twins were born, and during the painful trials of the mother, and almost without food.

It is unnecessary to say, and yet it may be said, that the foxhounds and the hunters kept here, mortgaged as

the estate is, are as well lodged and cared for as any other hounds and hunters; therefore, the indebtedness of the estate cannot be pleaded as a reason for the very small wages and the very small house of Joseph Yates and all the other labourers of Dinton.

That the ever-delusive Corn Laws, from the first to the last of them, have caused the borrowers and the lenders on landed property to do what they never would have done, had land been left to its fair worth, by its produce going fairly into the market to be sold at its real value, is true beyond any question. It is proved here. The late Mr. Wyndham, M.P. for Salisbury, whose property Dinton was, mortgaged it beyond its real worth, depending on high prices. And now his family, and also the mortgagees, find to their cost that less money borrowed and less lent would have been a comfortable condition for all of them at present, compared with the mess they are in.

There is much good land in the parish. But the land, like those who live on it, is sadly neglected, and out of order.

I hope poor Yates will not be troubled about what I have here said of his family and their want of bread. Least he be, I may state that he cannot help what is here stated, for I have never seen him. After learning the result on the Shaftesbury property of my giving the names of persons who tell what wages they get, what food they eat, and how "terrible hard it be to keep life in their bodies," I have been cautious not to compromise other poor fellows. It may be a hard matter for the eight children of Yates and his troubled wife and himself to live on 6s. a week, after paying the weekly rent of 1s. But it would be harder still to be sent on the roads at 5s. a week as a punishment for talking with, and complaining to, a stranger of the inadequacy of 6s. a week. I do not say that any Wyndham, or agent or tenant or person or road-surveyor of a Wyndham, would do so; but they might do as the agent and tenant and person and road-wardens of the Ashley, neighbours of the Wyndhams, threaten to do. It is best, therefore, not to put too much in their power.

## THIRTEENTH LETTER.

Shaftesbury.

In this letter I wish to refer for a few minutes to the game question. I stated in the two foregoing letters that I returned to that district of Dorset bordering on Wilts and Hampshire, after hearing of the income taken to punish farming men for saying they were not well enough paid and fed. On my return I also heard that much strife and trouble was stirred up about the statement I had made of game being sold in Salisbury, to the injury of the farmers' wives and others who had fowls to sell.

1st. It is "indignantly denied" that Lord Normanton has ever sold game, and put the money in his pocket. I never said he did.

2nd. It is equally denied, though not so publicly, that the Hon. Sidney Herbert ever sold game and pocketed the money. I did not say he did.

I have not heard of any denial as regards the family of Lord Nelson; but, as Trafalgar Park was one of those mentioned as furnishing Salisbury market with game, it may be denied that Lord Nelson, or any of his family, sell game and pocket the money. I never said they did.

What I did say might have been said of all the game-preservers in the south-west. But these three were mentioned merely as specimens, because they were near Salisbury; and they were mentioned because two tenant-farmers on Lord Normanton's estate mentioned them to me.

These two farmers were not friends of the opinions which I hold on Free Trade. They were both Corn-Law men, and in politics Tories. They were speaking of the great support the farmers of England had given at all times to the aristocracy, and the ungracious return made to them. They were talking, and wholly of their own accord, of the want of sympathy on the part of the landlords towards the tenants, and instanced their own landlord, the Earl of Normanton. They would not go with me for fear of being seen; but they told me where I might go and see a field of Swedish turnips belonging to a farmer, worth £6 or £7 per acre two months ago, which were now as if twenty sheep to the acre had been on them for a week, though no sheep had been on them at all, only Lord Normanton's hares. They told me of the tenant, and where I might see him, who sowed twelve acres of oats this year, and, because of game, did not get more than a third part of the seed for a crop, and yet had to pay full rent to Lord Normanton. They told me of several other cases which I mentioned, and of some which I omitted; and, in answer to a question from me, one of them said that there were many ways in which game injured them, besides its destruction of crops, or its spread of crime by creating poachers, or its increase of the county rates for prosecuting poachers, or its increase of pauperism by sending the families of men in prison to the workhouse. This tenant said that he could name "at least twenty ways in which he and his workmen, and the country in general, were injured by the game." I asked him to specify some of the ways in which he and his workmen were injured, and which did not come under the heads of evil already stated; that is, increase of crime; increase of taxes; and injury to crops.

He then went on to show me how his threshers were injured by having to thresh the same quantity of straw for a less quantity of grain, they being paid by the bushel. In summer, he said, the hares bit the straw in the middle, partly with a design to eat, but more frequently in play.

If the ear was already shot from the blade, the growth stopped and the ear whitened and appeared ripe without grain. If the hares bit the stalk before the ear was shot, a new stalk was commonly sent up, and a new ear which was green and unfilled when the others were ripe. Being cut green it produced nothing. He said that on several of his fields he could prove that a third part of his crops this year had been lost by the hares and by the pheasants, to say nothing of the seed picked up by the latter when first sown. So that, added he, I do not only lose part of my crops, and am then less able to pay for labour, but my men in the barn have to thresh at straw which does not produce them for wages more in ten hours than it should do in six and a half or seven hours.

I then asked him for some others of his twenty evils; and he proceeded to show me how the farmyard poultry did not meet a good market, because the game was there before it. He referred to a case within his own knowledge in which a farmer's wife, with a good yard of poultry, hearing that on the previous week fowls were in demand at Salisbury, sent a quantity, that she might get some ready cash. But between the previous market-day and that on which she sent her fowls there had been a great *battue* in some of Lord Normanton's preserves, and the market was filled with game, to the almost total exclusion of fowls at any price. The next week it was the same, and the next and the next; and so it had continued up to Christmas, or nearly, because all the great game-preservers were having their annual slaughters.

In course of conversation the different game-slayers whom I named were spoken of as those who had been killing very large quantities of game; and I have learned since, and from other sources, that the Hon. Sidney Herbert killed in one day, in one preserve near Wilton, 146 head of game.

It was neither affirmed nor denied in the conversation that Lord Normanton sent the game to market and pocketed the money. The topic was not introduced. Nor did I, in making a statement, less particular than I now make, mean it to be understood as a charge against either of the parties named that they kept, killed, and sold game for money. The question under notice was, that game was sold after the great *battues*, and by its plentifulness excluded poultry from the market.

And this, after careful inquiry, I repeat. It may be true to the very letter that the money does not reach the pockets of Lord Normanton or Mr. Herbert. They make a great slaughter of game; and what is not required for their own tables, and as presents for a few friends in town, is left for the gamekeepers and stewards to distribute amongst poorer neighbours. How it is distributed, and how used by those who get it, cannot be very minutely particularized. But it is just as true as Tuesday comes and brings Salisbury market; or that coaches and vans go through Ringwood to Southampton carrying parcels for London, that each great slaughter day is followed with a large supply of game for market.

I have been careful upon this subject; and a dealer, who buys more than any other single person for Salisbury, smiles at the "indignant denials" of Lord Normanton's servants, and says that, wherever the money goes, he pays for the game; and if he hears of a shooting party going out to some new preserve, he lays his plans accordingly. He knows a large quantity of the game will reach him through some channel or other.

And now a word about my informants. A gentleman in Fordingbridge (who is, I believe, a tenant of Lord Normanton) has been fixed upon by the steward of that nobleman—so some friends of mine who were present at the scene in Ringwood market have informed me—as the writer, or informant of the writer, of the letters in the LEAGUE, which letters have become locally important by their republication in some of the local papers.

That gentleman is too well known for his high personal integrity and straightforward conduct to need any defence from me. But he was not my informant. The persons who talked to me of the prodigious mischief done by Lord Normanton's game, were, with one exception, Lord Normanton's tenants, and all of them persons unfriendly to me, in so far as I am not friendly to the Corn Law. They were persons who dread the name of the League, or who did dread it until the League became their friend on the game question.

When the steward attacked the gentleman of Fordingbridge, in Ringwood, and told him, in the hearing of a dozen or more tenants of Lord Normanton, that "the letters in the League were a d—d lie," the farmers listening called out, "It is true, every word; and much more might have been said." And one of them thereon observed, "I cannot speak of the selling of the game as a thing within my own knowledge; but this I know, that every other particular is true; and if I had seen the person who wrote the letters in the LEAGUE, I would have told him of twenty other cases of hardship on Lord Normanton's estate, some of them much worse than any stated by him."

I again repeat that the very tenants of his lordship who are usually most unwilling to say a word against a steward or a steward's master, were my informants; and they have told the steward to his face, in the open market-place, that the twelfth part of the truth was not told. But I leave them to settle the matter themselves.

The Birmingham Journal states, that the subscriptions in that town, in aid of public walks and baths, now amount to £5000.

## REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, January 27.—Before the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, Mr. Justice MAULE, Mr. Justice CRESSWELL, and Mr. Justice ERLE.

CITY OF BRISTOL.

Daniel, appellant; Jackson, respondent.

In this case the appellant objected to a person named William Camplin, who claimed as occupier of a house and shop in High-street, Bristol. It appeared that he occupied the premises jointly with another person; and the objection to his qualification was, that he ought to have described himself as a joint, and not as the sole, occupier of the house and shop. The revising barrister overruled the objection, and retained his name on the list of voters. The question for the consideration of the court was whether the qualification was properly described or not.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL: It appears to me that the decision of the revising barrister is right. The objection to the vote of the claimant was, that upon the list made out by the overseers the nature of his qualification was improperly described; that which was mentioned in the list was for occupation, namely, "William Camplin—High street—house and shop in High-street." The objection was, that it ought to have been "joint occupation of house and shop." The question is whether the statute requires it in the claim made by the party, or the list made out by the overseers. I think we have no right to alter the form from that given in the act. The act requires that the claim shall be entered in the list; and such list is to be made out from the claim according to the form given in schedule B of the Registration Act. And if we look to that form, No. 8, it is a list of claimants to be published by the overseers; and if there had been no guide as to the manner the subject-matter was to be inserted, under the words "nature of qualification," there might have been some doubt; but, upon looking to the preceding statute, 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, and to the schedule I. in the appendix, there, under the words "nature of qualification," is inserted "house, warehouse, shop, counting house,"—that is the subject-matter for which the vote is claimed, and those are the words that are used in the body of the section that directs the list to be made out; therefore, if he complies with that form, he has done all he is required to do. It is objected that he ought to have stated it as "joint occupier," that would be the interest he had in the property, and not the subject-matter. The 27th section of the Reform Act gives the right of voting to persons claiming as "owners or tenants;" and therefore he has to state in respect of which he claims, not whether he claims as a joint tenant, but as owner or tenant. I therefore think that the claimant and the overseers have complied with the requisites of the act, in following the form given, namely, "nature of qualification," as it is there expressed, and that the claimant had a right to vote.

The other judges were of the same opinion.—Decision affirmed.

## BOROUGH OF BLACKBURN.

Dewhurst, appellant; Fielden, respondent.

Joseph Fielden, described on the list of voters as "Joseph Fielden, of Wilton," was objected to as not being entitled to have his name retained upon the list of voters for the borough of Blackburn, in respect of occupation, described in the list as "joiner's shop, warehouse, and land, in Thunder and Back-lane." Joseph Fielden has, together with his uncle, jointly occupied as owners, for a time sufficiently long to confer a vote (as far as regards the mere question of time of occupation), the joiner's shop in Back-lane, worth by itself under £20 a year, and the warehouse in Thunder, worth £11 a year, besides two yards in Thunder, occupied for the deposit of stones, &c.; the two yards being worth about £5 a year. These several premises are the joint property of himself and his uncle, and occupied jointly in manner before stated. The joiner's shop, yards, and warehouse are worth together above £20 a year; but the joiner's shop alone is not worth £20 a year; and the warehouse and yards alone are together not worth, independently of the joiner's shop, £20 a year. Thunder, where the warehouse and two yards are situate, is three hundred yards' distance from the joiner's shop; there are many buildings and other descriptions of property lying between the joiner's shop in Back-lane and the warehouse and yards in Thunder, which premises, so lying between the two, are the property and in the occupation of other and different persons. If the premises in Back-lane and those in Thunder can be united, so as to confer a vote on the respondent, they are of more than sufficient value for that purpose; but if they cannot be united for that purpose, then the joiner's shop is of insufficient value to confer the vote on the respondent; and the warehouse and yards in Thunder are also of insufficient value to confer a vote. The revising barrister decided that the respondent occupied a joiner's shop, warehouse, and land sufficient to entitle his name to be retained on the list within the meaning of the 27th section of 2 Wm. IV., c. 45.

Mr. COCKBURN, Q.C., appeared for the appellant; and Mr. SERGEANT KINGLAKE for the respondent.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL: I am of opinion that the revising barrister has come to a wrong decision. The 27th section of 2 Wm. IV., c. 45, gives the right of voting to occupiers; it goes on to specify that he occupies either as owner or tenant; then, when it describes the subject-matter, that which he is to occupy, it says, occupy "as owner or tenant any house, warehouse, counting-house, shop, or other building." Now, the first observation upon the very surface of it, is this, that all these words are in the singular number; and it would have been just as easy, if the Legislature had intended that when several of these distinct subject-matters might together make a sufficient qualification, to have used the plural number, as houses, warehouses, counting-houses, shops, or other buildings; but the section does not stop there, but it goes on to state, that when the subject-matter of a shop, warehouse, or other building should not amount to the sum of £10, it may be made up by the occupation of land in conjunction with it. Now, it seems to me that the ordinary construction of the very act of the Legislature *expressio unius est exclusio alterius*. And in this case we cannot see why they should mention a joint occupation of land, unless there had been an exclusion of a joint occupation of another house, another warehouse, another counting-house, another shop, or another building. The argument here comes old from the same, viz. that

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in which the list is to be made out. It is evident the description of the property—street, lane, and number of the house, and other things—points more to a single and definite subject-matter than that which is composed of several things. After all we think, on consideration of the case, that the construction is just and proper; for it may very well be that the Legislature intended that a man who occupied a house worth £10 might be in a proper condition of life to give his vote on these occasions. Whereas, if this was made up of a very large number of small and worthless tenements, he should not be allowed to add and eke them, to make up the £10. On the whole we think this claimant had no right to vote.—Decision reversed.

This appeal terminated the list of registration appeals before the court. The court has appointed Thursday, Feb. 13, to deliver judgment on the registration appeals which stand over.

#### THE BETHNAL-GREEN COMPOUND HOUSE-HOLDERS' REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the members of this association was held at the close of the last year, at the Royal Oak, Abbey-street, Bethnal-green-road. Mr. Joseph Dean in the chair.

A report of the proceedings of the committee was delivered by Mr. MANLEY, which was received with great applause, and appeared to give universal satisfaction.

Of this report the following is an abstract:—

"The parish of St. Matthew, Bethnal-green, contains a dense population of 73,000 souls, the great body of whom are toil-worn artisans, of whom 2000 are compound house-holders, or occupiers of houses for which the landlords pay the poor's-rate; whose united earnings amount, at the least, to £120,000 a year, and most of whom are entitled by the Reform Act, if they legally claim, to a vote in the election of the parliamentary representatives of the Tower Hamlets. A considerable portion of the house-holders were early alive to their rights, and made their claim in 1832; but, from some informality in their proceedings, were not put upon the register. Discouraged by want of success, the matter slumbered till 1811, when the general election once more aroused the energy of the non-electors to the formation of this society, 100 of whose members in that year claimed to be rated to the poor, and subsequently to be put upon the register of voters. In the revision court of 1842, Alfred Austin, Esq., the presiding barrister, admitted 99 of these claimants, and registered their names as voters for the borough. In 1843, notwithstanding the proved legality of their claims, all these names were left off the list of voters. Of these, about 70 reclaimed to be placed on the register; the remainder, being disheartened by their previous disappointment, neglected to claim. At the revising barrister's court of the same year, 60 were again admitted to the condition of freemen, the others having been disqualified by removals. Notwithstanding this second legalization of their claims, the names of this band of pioneers was again left off the register in 1844; but having once more reclaimed, they were admitted by the revising barrister, Mr. Moylan. The indomitable energy and perseverance of these men have at length established their right to the possession of the franchise. All opposition has been withdrawn; and future legal claimants have no reason to expect that any obstacle will be thrown in the way of their enfranchisement. The association has now upwards of 200 members whose names are inserted in the poor-rate book, and who will therefore be qualified to be placed on the register of 1845."

This report having been received and adopted, the following resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

1. That the auditors' report be approved.
2. That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the Liberal members of the vestry of this parish, who, by their votes and interest in behalf of the objects of this association, have materially contributed to the success which has attended our efforts.
3. That the cordial thanks of this meeting be given to the Central Registration Association of the Tower Hamlets for their assistance to this association.
4. That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Doxer, our solicitor, for the able manner in which he triumphantly advocated our claims in the revising barrister's court.

A vote of thanks having been unanimously passed to the retiring committee; to Mr. Gurnell, the honorary secretary; to Mr. Boulter, the treasurer; and officers having been elected for the year ensuing, the meeting dissolved, evidently much gratified at the proceedings of the evening.

#### PAISLEY FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.

We observe from the local papers that the annual general meeting of this society, was held on Monday, the 20th ult. The chair was occupied by JOHN HENDERSON, Esq. A report of the committee for the past year was read, and officers elected.

The meeting was addressed by the Chairman, Provost Murray, Bailie Coats, Councillor M'Nair, and Messrs. Ritchie, Boyd, Hutchison, Macfarlane, and Walker. We regret that want of space prevents us from giving a report of the speeches. We have only room for a short extract.

Provost MURRAY, in rising to offer a few remarks as introductory to a resolution which he meant to submit to the meeting, begged to congratulate the members of the association, and the friends of Free Trade generally, on the great progress of the cause during the past year, and on the very prominent position which the question now held on the public mind of the country, auguring, as these facts do, a speedy triumph to the principles of Free Trade. During the past year several occurrences had taken place calculated to inspire the friends of Free Trade, and to encourage them to persevere in their labours. Among these he might allude to the great contest for the Free-trade chair in America. Mixed up as that question was with some minor points, there was no doubt that the of that vast country, was that of Free Trade as opposed to protection. And the decision was very striking. An old and able statesman, of great abilities, had been rejected, in support of Free-Trade principles. Another circumstance to which he would allude was the treaty with China, the details of which had been communicated during the past year. He regarded this as one of the most important

commercial treaties ever negotiated by this country, whether viewed in reference to the vast empire, the trade of which it had opened up, or as regards the principles of the treaty itself. It was very gratifying to find that, however much the adoption of sound principles of commercial legislation were opposed by selfish and political interests at home, still, they had obtained such a prominence and influence as to lead to their entire adoption in this important treaty—the first, he believed, which this country had based entirely on Free-Trade principles. What were the leading features of that treaty? Why, one of the chief was, that human food should be admitted duty free—not only duty free, but that the vessels should be exempted from the ordinary port dues. Talk of barbarians! Why, it would be a blessing to the country if we only had such a barbarian as the prime minister of China to rule us for a short time. But the greatest source of satisfaction was the importance now attached to the question by all parties, not only in this country, but on the Continent and even in America. It was not to be wondered that, during a time of depression and suffering, the agitation should receive support; but it was predicted by our enemies, and feared even by our friends, that with returning prosperity that would be withdrawn. Both these predictions and these fears have equally failed. The question has now assumed an importance which it never before possessed, proving that the great mass of intelligence among all parties and classes of the community has come to the conclusion, that so long as the people of this country are dependent on our own soil for the means of subsistence, and consequently liable to all the vicissitudes of seasons, it is impossible to prevent the recurrence of those periodical revulsions of trade which have produced such fearful suffering and misery among the people. (Applause.)

The Chairman concluded some remarks by adverting to the efforts of the League, to its success in the registration courts, and to the strong probability that there was of Lancashire and Yorkshire being both represented exclusively by Free-Trade members after the first election. It was one of the objects of the meeting to take steps for aiding the great Free-Trade Bazaar which was to be held in London in May next. That exhibition was expected to contain specimens of the leading articles of manufacture from all the branches of our national industry. And, therefore, if there were sent forward specimens of the manufactures of Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, and other districts, he thought the manufactures of Paisley might, with great propriety, fill up one table, and he had no doubt but it would be found as interesting as any of them. (Applause.) Such an exhibition would present nearly all the advantages of the great national exhibition of France, held last summer. It would give the manufacturers in every department an opportunity of exhibiting their richest productions to such a variety of visitors and customers as would make it one of the cheapest and most effective advertisements that could be obtained, and he had no doubt but many would avail themselves of it. (Applause.)

We are happy to observe that this society is in a flourishing condition, and that it numbers among its members of committee, the whole of the local magistracy.

#### THE LEAGUE—THE WISDOM OF ITS PLANS.

(From the Christian Examiner.)

It has been said that the League has already tried a number of "specifics," and every one has failed; and yet it is as sanguine as ever, and about to try another "specific," which the cavalier predicts, with a dogmatic air, will fail like the rest. Now, if we understand the meaning of the term "specific," we venture to say, that the actions of the League belong to a very different, nay opposite category. But we do know some parties who are continually harping upon one string, completely taken up with one idea, and dogmatically asserting that they alone are possessed of a remedy, which will not only remove the unsightly ulcer of the Corn Laws, but also dissipate every ache and pain with which the body politic is afflicted. And yet it is these parties, forsooth, that have the face to charge the League with using "specifics," when they themselves so much resemble the Morikons, *et hoc genus omne*, who boast of possessing "an infallible and universal medicine." But let us return to the doings of the League, which have been so ridiculously misapprehended and misunderstood by men of acknowledged talents, honour, and probity—but who are so taken up with, or rather, we should say, lost in the contemplation of, one idea that they seem almost incapable rightly of appreciating anything which does not just fall across the path of their mental peregrinations. The doings, then, of the League are a series of reciprocal operations, one based upon the other, and projected with a direct reference to circumstances which must be grappled with, and to difficulties which must be overcome, before the objects which its supporters have in view can be attained. Nay, so far are the doings of this body removed from the charge of "specifics," that we do not hesitate to say, that when rightly appreciated, they bear the stamp of the most consummate generalship in the struggle of social and political agitation. What movement have the League planned and executed, what attack have they made, which has not been the necessary basis of ulterior measures? To say that such a movement or such an attack has failed to repeal the Corn Laws, and therefore of no use, is not only most illogical, but puerile in the extreme, and just as absurd as to blame the Duke of Wellington for his retreats and manoeuvres in the Peninsula, because they did not compel the French to evacuate that country—though, as every one knows, they were absolutely necessary to ensure ultimate success, and were, in themselves, deep strokes of policy. But the men who can say that the League has made no practical impression, and has altogether failed in its objects, are as ignorant or regardless of facts as their condemnation of its policy is childish and weak. What was it, we ask, that induced the leading members of a Government, placed in power by monopolists on the express understanding that the monopolist system should be upheld, so soon to turn round, and proclaim publicly in Parliament, "That the maxim of buying in the cheapest market, and selling in the dearest, was a sound one, and ought to be acted upon;" that the "doctrines of Free Trade were the doctrines of common sense;" and much more of a like nature? What was it, we ask, that induced that Government, in defiance of "pledges at hustings," and "promises at dinners," to modify the sliding scale in the direction of a fixed duty? What induced that Government to revise the tariff on very liberal grounds; admitting cattle, sheep, and pigs at a nominal duty, which before were all but prohibited? What induced that Govern-

ment to pass the Canada Corn Bill, which is virtually an abandonment of the sliding scale as far as the United States are concerned, and which must prove, at no long period, a most powerful lever in assisting to root up the Corn Laws from that mass of ignorance, prejudice, and self-interest, among which they seem so deeply bedded? What induced that Government to alter the sugar duties against the will of the West India interest; and introduce "a most favourable treaty clause," whose operations will probably undermine the sugar monopoly, just as the Canadian Bill most assuredly will the corn monopoly? What was it, in short, we ask, which has induced a Government so originated and constituted to steer, so far as they have advanced, in Free-Trade winds? Why, the plain answer to all these questions is—*The efforts of the League*, which, by a wholesome agitation based upon the diffusion of sound practical knowledge, have created, and are still creating, such a feeling against monopoly as to induce, we may truly say compel, a monopolist-constituted Government to steer in an opposite direction to its professed principles; and which will ultimately, and we believe at no very distant period, blow such a gale as will compel the legislative ship to enter into the safe and spacious harbour of Free Trade. Let us, then, hear no more about the failure of the operations of the League, by parties who, however talented and honest, have either no time or inclination to examine into them.

We heartily wish "a happy new year" to the League; proud of its past conduct, and hopeful of the future. And it is our fond desire that its success in 1845 may exceed that of the past year. Its programme is worthy of its past actions—bold, yet prudent—fearless, yet cautious. And we verily believe that its attack on the manufacturing counties will be successful to an extent never feared by its enemies, nor even dreamed of by its friends!

#### COBDEN ON COUNTY MEMBERS.

(From the Morning Post.)

All men admit that agriculturists are little fitted to engage in the work of political "agitation." Hence, among other reasons, there exists a necessity why agriculturists should enjoy the protection of fixed laws, favourable to agricultural industry. In proportion, too, to their want of fitness for the business of "agitation" is the strength of the necessity why agriculturists should select as their representatives in Parliament the ablest and most accomplished men whom the country can supply. Such, undoubtedly, ought to be the men to whom is assigned the duty of watching over the interests of native industry in all its varieties. What is the intellectual character of the men on whom is actually devolved the task of confronting the members of the League, and of unravelling the pernicious sophistries in which the leaders of the great Free-Trade conspiracy deal? Let Mr. Cobden testify. At the late Free-Trade meeting at Manchester, he observed:—

"Now, suppose they 'took stock' of the county members of this country. They had been told what sort of men manufacturing politicians were: now, let them consider what sort of men the counties sent up to Parliament. There were 158 county members representing England and Wales in the House of Commons. Was there one of them, since Lord Stanley had left North Lancashire, of whom they could say 'he is above mediocrity in talent?'"

(Cheers, and "They are below it.") *There were not ten of them who ever opened their mouths in Parliament with a chance of being listened to, unless to be laughed at.* What can be said of 158 men—the picked men of their order, the picked men of their counties, so far as their class goes—what must be their natural attributes, when they mustered in the House of Commons, and made such an exhibition of themselves as our county members did? (Cheers and laughter.) Why, it was quite a common thing, if a county member got up and made a speech in which he did not murder the Queen's English, for a man to touch his neighbour, and say, "That is a pretty good speech for a county member!" (Cheers, and roars of laughter.)

If this statement contains even an approximation to the truth, need we wonder at the success of the League in the House of Commons? Are not the interests of English agriculture, so far as the power of discussion goes, virtually unrepresented in the Lower House? If, among the one hundred and fifty-eight members whom the farmers and landowners of England and Wales send to Parliament, there had been found three men equal to Mr. Cobden in point of energy, industry, and talent, would the new Corn Bill, the tariff, the Canada Corn Bill, and the Bank Charter Act, have ever found a place among our statutes? No: it only one Cobden had been found among our county members, the great agricultural interest of England would not have been at this moment, as Mr. Cobden truly proclaims it to be, "down in the mud."

#### THE CANADA CORN BILL—THE TARIFF.

The subjoined table of exports from Montreal and Quebec, for the years 1843 and 1844, to the 23rd of November of each year inclusive, exhibits a remarkable comparative increase for the last-mentioned year on every article of flour, wheat, barley, oats, peas, oatmeal, butter, beef, and pork; and as the demand increases, which it no doubt will do, increased means will be employed to provide the supply, so that the province of Canada must reap much advantage from the operation of the Canada Corn Act and the new tariff on provisions:—

#### EXPORTS FROM QUEBEC AND MONTREAL FOR THE YEARS 1843 AND 1844.

	Barrels of Flour.	Bushels of Wheat.	Barrels of Peas.	Barrels of Beef.
1844 ....	415,467	282,183	11,161	6,668
1843 ....	172,813	87,712	8,208	4,545
Increase .	242,654	194,471	2,953	1,023
	Kags of Butter.	Barrels of Oatmeal.	Bushels of Peas.	Bushels of Oats.
1844 ....	7,680	6,725	130,355	63,735
1843 ....	2,829	2,277	66,084	620
Increase .	4,851	4,448	63,371	63,135

The prices at Montreal in November (the shipping season having then closed, were:—Flour, 24s. to 25s. 6d. per barrel of 196lbs., according to quality; wheat, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10½d. per 60lbs.; peas, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. per bushel; butter, 6d. to 6½d. per lb.; barley, 2s. to 2s. 3d. per bushel; oats, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. ditto; oatmeal, 10s. per 224lbs.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, January 29, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

*Grundy, Edward, Park-hills, near Bury, Lancashire	250 0 0
Wimpenny, A. B., Dukinfield, near Manchester	10 0 0
Anonymous, per Mr. M. Minnie, Warrington	10 0 0
*Hayward, R. H., 59, Deansgate, Manchester	2 2 0
Gordon, Admiral Henry, Mayor, Nelson place, Bath	2 0 0
*Laws and Mills, Messrs., Waterhead-mill, Greenacres-moor, near Manchester	2 0 0
*Dearden, Abraham, 4, York-st., Ardwick, Manchester	1 1 0
*Broadfield, John, Cateaton street, do.	1 1 0
*Cattle, H., 44, Walcot-street, Bath	1 1 0
*Thomson, J., Wray, near Lancaster	1 1 0
*Lowry, Jacob, 3, Bond-street, Manchester	1 1 0
*Cadden, R., Esq., M.P. (renewed subscription for LEAGUE paper)	1 1 0
*Bromley, E., Todmorden	1 1 0
*Naylor, James, Belknot street, Hulme, Manchester	1 1 0
*Harker, William, Spring-hill, Royston, near Oldham	1 1 0
*Frost, John, 2, Holt town, do.	1 1 0
*Nelson, David, Preatwich, near do.	1 1 0
*Simmons, J., 9, St. Ann's square, do.	1 1 0
*Pinefield, Charles, Great Moor-street, Bolton	1 1 0
*Makinson, Hugh, glazier, Deansgate, do.	1 1 0
*Harwood, Richard, Silverwell-street, do.	1 1 0
*Harwood, John, flour dealer, Lower Bridgman-st., Great Bolton	1 1 0
*Lacy, John, Bankfield, Todmorden	1 1 0
*Mullinson, John, Coneywood, do.	1 1 0
*Wolstencroft, George, Blackley, near Manchester	1 1 0
*Warhurst, T., Globe Inn, Medlock-st., Hulme, do.	1 1 0
*Borton, D., Middleton, near Rochdale	1 1 0
*Wyth, John, Lathford, near Warrington	1 1 0
*Barrow, Jacob, 9, Belvedere, Bath	1 1 0
*Searle, Dr., do.	1 1 0
*Chappell, Joseph, Walcot-buildings, do.	1 1 0
*Keshaw, Joseph, tax collector, Priarose hill, Greenacres moor, near Oldham	1 1 0
*Clegg, Abraham, do., do.	1 1 0
*A Friend	1 1 0
*Bourne, H., 67, Fountain-street, Manchester	1 1 0
*Morton, John C., Whitfield Farm, Wootton-under-Edge	1 1 0
*Roberts, John, Headlan, near Denbigh	1 1 0
*Phillips, Wm., Kingthorpe-grove, Rusholme, Manchester	1 1 0
*Williams, Charles, Percy-street, Liverpool	1 1 0
*Standing, Thomas, Piccadilly, Manchester	1 1 0
*Thomson, J., farmer, West Hilly, nr. Louthgown, N.B.	1 1 0
*Holt, George, 2, Peel street, Manchester	1 1 0
*Miles, John, Theatre and Concert Tavern, Ashton-under-Lyne	1 1 0
*Brown, E. K., Middleton, near Manchester	1 1 0
*Hughes, John, do., do.	1 1 0
*Olliver, Miss Mary, Bridge-road, near Todmorden	1 1 0
*Clegg, Edmund, Lees-road, Greenacres, near Manchester	1 1 0
*Dunwell, Charles, Magdalen-st., Doncaster	1 1 0
*Davis, Wm., Holden fold, Royston, near Manchester	1 1 0
*Taylor, G., Church-street, Egremont, nr. Liverpool	1 1 0
*Howers, Thomas, farmer, Post-office, Hollinwood, near Manchester	1 1 0
*Fiddell, John B., Todmorden	1 1 0
*Alty, Thomas Yates, Bristol-street, Radnor-street, Hulme, Manchester	1 1 0
*Hill, William, Grew lane, Hollingworth, near Mottram in Longdendale, Cheshire	1 1 0
*Smith, Jeffrey, 2, Manor-st., Ardwick, Manchester	1 1 0
*Wolstencroft, J., corn dealer, Middleton, near do.	1 1 0
*Thornley, John, draper, do., do.	1 1 0
*Harrison, James, do., do.	1 1 0
*Hilly, A., Waterhead-mill, Greenacres-moor, nr. do.	1 1 0
*Kershaw, John, Staden-mill, Littleborough, near Rochdale	1 1 0
*Schubert, B., Mount-house, Cheetham hill, Manchester	1 1 0
*Ackroyd, John, Hulme	1 1 0
*Ackroyd, John, Worsley, do.	1 1 0
*Barnard, T., bookkeeper, Dunholm, n. Bradford, York	1 1 0
*Kilvington, John, draper, Wilton, near Hull	1 1 0
*Hunt, George, Sub., Newcastle-under-Lyne	1 1 0
*Stephen, James, Grey-street, do.	1 1 0
*Hunt, John, Eldon-street, do.	1 1 0
*Wilson, William, Albion-street, do.	1 1 0
*Wardale, R., Westgate street, do.	1 1 0
*Hewison, John, Sude, do.	1 1 0
*Stiles, Thomas, 34, Bloom-street, Manchester	1 1 0
*J. H., do., do.	1 1 0
*Watson, Robert, 179, Deansgate, do.	1 1 0
*Nottall, J. and W., 74, Cannon-street, Manchester	1 1 0
*Bunce, Samuel, Bailey, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire	1 1 0
*Hendall, Alexander, 2, Piccadilly, Manchester	1 1 0
*Greaves, Charles, 88, Oxford road, do.	1 1 0
*W. H., do., do.	1 1 0
*Naylor, Wm., Smithy-dear, do.	1 1 0
*Naylor, John, 113, Piccadilly, do.	1 1 0
*Chapman, Wm., Green-street, Ardwick, do.	1 1 0
*Wolstencroft, R., 54, Booth-st., C. on M., do.	1 1 0
*Hewitt, John, Ardwick green, do.	1 1 0
*Fothergill and Wall, 39, Shudehill, do.	1 1 0
*Hewwater, John, 6, Cornfoot court, do.	1 1 0
*Whitely, Samuel, 17, Oldfield-road, Salford	1 1 0
*Higginbotham, John, 167, Chapel-street, do.	1 1 0
*Figgatt, Wm., 111, street, Oxford-street, do.	1 1 0
*Thomson, Mrs., Withwick-hill, Bath	1 1 0
*Smith, Mr., Cleveland place, do.	1 1 0
*Stephens, J. M., Beaumont-st., do.	1 1 0
*Ricketts, J., Walcot-buildings, do.	1 1 0
*Carter, M., 81, Deansgate, Manchester	1 1 0
*Lawson, Samuel, 118, do., do.	1 1 0
*Whalley, J., 27, Cooper street, do.	1 1 0
*Trowalla, Henry, Withcombe, Bath	1 1 0
*Lancdown, L., 7, Walcot-terrace, do.	1 1 0
*Blake, Mr., 3, Dover-terrace, do.	1 1 0
*Hancock, M., 1, Kensington-place, do.	1 1 0
*Burt, Walter, do.	1 1 0
*Davis, M., Broad-street, do.	1 1 0
*Palmer, James, Abbey-green, do.	1 1 0
*Fry, A. L., King's terrace, do.	1 1 0
*B. H., do., do.	1 1 0
*A Friend to us just a Cause	1 1 0
*Lilly, Jos., West Derby, near Liverpool	1 1 0
*Acton, John, Queen-street	1 1 0
*Grakell, N., Upholland, near	1 1 0
*Haley, Thomas, Hattgate	1 1 0
*Lacey, Robert, Douglas Forge	1 1 0
*Kirkman, Peter	1 1 0
*Southwell, Thomas	1 1 0
*Holme, Joseph	1 1 0
*Phonix, Charles	1 1 0
*Whithead, John	1 1 0
*Woffenden, James	1 1 0
*Whittaker, Richard	1 1 0
*Evans, William	1 1 0

Huddersfield.	*Crowther, John, D. Haigh and Brothers' .. £1 0 0
	*Hirst, William, Westgate .. 5 0 0
	*Davenport, Humphrey, Marsden, near .. 1 0 0
	*Holroyd, John .. 1 0 0
	*Haigh, Daniel .. 1 0 0
	*Haigh, Mrs. D. .. 1 0 0
	*Hawksworth, J., Hoyland Swaine, n. Barnsley 1 0 0
Glasgow.	*Thomson, Dr. Thomas, St. Vincent-street .. 1 0 0
	*Finlay, John, 15, Dixon-street .. 1 1 0
	*Laurie and Foulds, manufacturers, 89, Ingham-street .. 2 2 0
	*Bateson, R., 8, St. James-st., Greenlaw-place, Paisley-road, near .. 1 1 0
	*Bain, D. & T., Wrights, 23, S. Frederick-st. .. 1 1 0
	*Heugh, Rev. Dr., 126, Montrose-street .. 1 1 0
	*Shaw, Neil R., 177, Hope-street .. 1 1 0
	*Turner, George, stationer, 87, Ingram-street .. 1 1 0
	*Smith, William, 41, London-street .. 1 1 0
	*Young, Andrew and Sons, 73, Brunswick-st. .. 1 1 0
	*McIntyre, Donald, measurer, 29, do. .. 1 1 0
Dundee.	*Douglass, Thomas, 8, King-street .. 1 1 0
	*Kidd, John, Shore .. 1 1 0
	*Walker, James, Cowgate .. 1 1 0
	*Walker, Harry, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Ritchie, P. D., Shore .. 1 1 0
	*Pirie, Alexander, Cowgate .. 1 1 0
	*Brown, James .. 1 1 0
	*Mitchell, John, Cowgate .. 1 1 0
	*Neish, Thomas .. 1 1 0
	*Low, Alexander .. 1 1 0
	*Gilroy, R. and A., Cowgate .. 3 0 0
Liverpool.	*Harding, Vernon, 16, Byrom-street .. 1 1 0
	*Yate, John, 21, Breck-road .. 1 1 0
Derby.	*Holme, Daniel, Corn-market .. 1 1 0
	*Simpson, Adam, Bridge-street .. 1 1 0
Raffles, T. Stamford, barrister-at-law, 3, Harecourt, Temple	5 0 0
*Johnston, Mr., Agar-street, Bury, Lancashire	1 1 0
Per Quintin Dalrymple.	*McLaren, James, and Son, Roxburgh-street .. 2 2 0
	*Sinclair, J., Jun., 79, South Bridge-st. .. 1 1 0
	*McPherson, John, 2, India street .. 1 1 0
	*Sheppard, John, 68, George-street .. 1 1 0
	*Forrest, Mr., Archibald-place .. 1 1 0
	*Imlach, Mr., 47, Ann-street .. 1 1 0
	*Scott, A., 100, Lauriston-place .. 1 1 0
	*Forrester, David, 1, West Newington-pl. .. 1 1 0
	*Blyth, Thomas, 133, Pleasance .. 1 1 0
	*Bayne, Alexander, 42, Broughton-st. .. 1 1 0
	*Tuting, E. H., Jesfield Cottage, New-haven .. 1 1 0
	*Russell, Thomas, 7, Hunter-square .. 1 1 0
	*Grant, James, 16, South-bridge .. 1 1 0
	*Ritchie, Rev. John, D.D., Newington .. 1 1 0
	*Bertram, W., engineer, East Sciennes-street .. 1 1 0
	*Lees, George, Clearburn, Newington .. 1 1 0
	*Burn, George, 184, High-street .. 1 1 0
	*Mould and Tod, 29, North Bridge .. 1 1 0
	*Glas, Robert, Victoria-terrace .. 1 1 0
	*Porteous, John, Gorgie Mills .. 1 1 0
	*Nelson, Robert R., 32, Nicolson-street .. 1 1 0
	*Crichton, G., Viewforth .. 1 1 0
	*Dick, Miss Mary, Veterinary-college .. 1 1 0
	*A Friend .. 1 1 0
	*Watt, James, 3, Morton-street, Leith .. 1 1 0
	*Lorimer, George, 2, Keim-street .. 1 1 0
	*Crichton, Hew, S.S.C. .. 1 1 0
	*Blair, John .. 1 1 0
Per A. Cunningham.	*A Friend .. 1 1 0
	*Girle, George H., St. John's-street .. 1 1 0
	*Johnston, David, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Hutchinson, William, Blacket-place .. 1 1 0
	*Russell, John, 8, Scotland-street .. 1 1 0
	*Smith, George, 60, Niddry-street .. 1 1 0
Per A. Cunningham.	*Mills, Thomas, Frederick-street .. 1 1 0
	*Byrse, Robert, Spittal-street .. 1 1 0
	*Thomson, D. J., Blacket-place .. 1 1 0
	*Hunk, Alexander, Lauriston-lane .. 1 1 0
	*Callender, David, Lochend road, Leith .. 1 1 0
	*Hay, Forest, Homington Mills .. 1 1 0
	*Cunningham, H., Bonnington .. 1 1 0
	*Pile, William, Keath-bank, Tranent .. 1 1 0
	*Gillon, William, 2, Merchant-street .. 1 1 0
	*Deas, George, advocate, 42, Heriot-row .. 1 1 0
	*Rose, Hugh, Blenheim-place .. 1 1 0
Per A. Cunningham.	*Park, Allan, farmer, Gockston .. 1 1 0
	*Robertson, J. and A., grain merchants, High-street .. 1 1 0
	*Martin, William, Causeway-side .. 1 1 0
	*Pinkerton, Alexander, Newtown .. 1 1 0
	*Houston, W. L. .. 1 1 0
	*Shanks, Thos. and Co., Johnstone, by .. 1 1 0
	*Lang, Alexander, jun., George-street .. 1 1 0
	*Kirkland, John, 13, Canal-street .. 1 1 0
Dunfermline.	*Dawson, Jas. and John, brush factory .. 1 1 0
	*Brown, Rev. Joseph .. 1 1 0
	*Gray, John, and Son .. 1 1 0
	*Gray, Robert .. 1 1 0
	*Douglas, Abram .. 1 1 0
	*Mitchell, Alexander .. 1 1 0
	*Mitchell, James .. 1 1 0
	*Mitchell, Samuel .. 1 1 0
	*Porteous, William .. 1 1 0
	*Fod, J. and J. .. 1 1 0
	*Gordon, James .. 1 1 0
	*Chisholm, John .. 1 1 0
	*Somerville, Robert .. 1 1 0
	*Aiken, Alexander, Dalkeith Mills .. 1 1 0
	*Cleghorn, John, jun. .. 1 1 0
	*Gray, James, Gilmerston .. 1 1 0
	*Morton, James, Shott's Iron Works .. 1 1 0
	*Miller, David, banker .. 1 1 0
	*A Farmer .. 1 1 0
	*A Farmer .. 1 1 0
	*A Farmer .. 1 1 0
	*A Farmer .. 1 1 0
	*A Friend to Free Trade .. 1 1 0
Glasgow.	*Reid, James, Rutland-place, Govan-rd. .. 1 1 0
	*Huchan, Andrew, Harbith .. 1 1 0
	*Daxiel, John, 67, Queen-street .. 1 1 0
	*Hastell, J., pawnbroker, Johnstone, by .. 1 1 0
Dundee.	*Mathewson, William, Union-street .. 1 1 0
	*Christie, Wm., flax spinner, Paumure-street .. 1 1 0
	*Christie, Jas. Burns, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Dexter, W. E., cabinetmaker .. 1 1 0
Perth.	*Steel, John, Bridgend .. 1 1 0
	*Archer, William, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Farwick, Andrew .. 1 1 0
Dunfermline.	*Morris, James, Gardner's land .. 1 1 0
	*Ingill, James .. 1 1 0
	*McMichael, Rev. Professor .. 1 1 0
Carlisle.	*Harrison, J. P., druggist .. 1 1 0
	*Johnston, Thomas, Messrs. Dixon's .. 1 1 0
	*McAlpin, Thomas, Commerdale, near .. 1 1 0
	*Gillies, James .. 1 1 0
Sheffield.	*Gray, George, St. Philip's-road .. 1 1 0
	*Moorehouse, Jas., 137, Devonshire-st. .. 1 1 0
	*White, John, Workhouse-croft .. 1 1 0
	*Tucker, George, York-street .. 1 1 0
	*Walters, John, Caver-street .. 1 1 0
	*Cates, Thomas, Brown Villa .. 1 1 0
Leeds.	*A Friend .. £1 0 0
	*Laycock, Rev. Joshua, Harewood, near .. 1 1 0
	*Hinings, William, Lowtown, Pudsey, near .. 1 1 0
	*Walker, Samuel, maltster, Hunslet .. 1 1 0
	*Smith, E. .. 1 1 0
	*North, Benjamin .. 1 1 0
	*North, Samuel .. 1 1 0
	*Ellward, Richard, Wortley, near .. 1 1 0
Wakefield.	*Ellis, David, sen., manufacturer, Oasett, near .. 1 1 0
	*Ellis, Samuel, jun., do. .. 1 1 0
	*Jacques, J., Volunteer Inn, Kirkgate .. 1 1 0
Newcastle-on-Tyne.	*Hodgson, R. W., Quay .. 1 1 0
	*Pringle, W. S., Collingwood-street .. 1 1 0
	*White, Thomas, 38, Dean-street .. 1 1 0
	*Ormont, John, Cumberland-road .. 1 1 0
	*Burnett, Thos., 3, Summerhill-terrace .. 1 1 0
Huddersfield.	*Field, Thomas, Skelmanthorpe, near .. 1 1 0
	*Mills, William .. 1 1 0
	*Cresswell, Henry .. 1 1 0
	*Lange, J. F., Temperance Hotel .. 1 1 0
York.	*Fletcher, Caleb, Clemonthorpe, near .. 1 1 0
	*Noddings, R. H., 6, Mount parade .. 1 1 0
	*Calvert, E., Micklegate .. 1 1 0
	*Varvill, M. sen., do. .. 1 1 0
	*Crompter, William, Dringhouses, near .. 1 1 0
	*Epworth, Charles .. 1 1 0
	*Wilberforce, Henry, Walmgate .. 1 1 0
Liverpool.	*Box, John, and Co., 20, James-street .. 2 2 0
	*Huggins, William, Messrs. Thompson, Anderson, and Co.'s, £2; double the amount of last year's subscription; and will increase his subscription £1 every year until the Corn Laws are repealed .. 2 0 0
	*Slack and Howden, 87, Park-lane .. 1 1 0
Bolton.	*Dunderdale, Richard, Deansgate .. 1 1 0
	*Smith, Peter, Haulgh-hall .. 1 1 0
	*Bell, George, Soho Iron Works .. 1 1 0
	*Temperley, John P., do. .. 1 1 0
Loughborough.	*Gimson, L. .. 0 10 0
	*Thurman, Thomas .. 0 10 0
	*Thurman, E. .. 0 10 0
	*Wright, W. .. 0 10 0
	*Walters, Richard .. 0 10 0
	*Hancock, John .. 0 10 0
Nottingham.	*Eddison, Booth, High Pavement .. 1 1 0
	*Cowan, R., Beck-lane .. 1 1 0
	*Barton, Mr., Houndsgate .. 1 1 0
	*Starr, Mr., do. .. 1 1 0
	*James, C., Radford, near .. 1 1 0
	*Thornhill, John, Wasegate .. 1 1 0
	*Bradley, George, Park-street .. 1 1 0
	*Bradley, John, Park .. 1 1 0
	*Taylor, William, Derby-road .. 1 1 0
	*Ward, F., Basford, near .. 1 1 0
	*Rende, A., Frederick-street, New Brunswick .. 5 0 0
	*Park, William, Greenock, per D. Hodgkin .. 3 0 0
	*Coupland and Gilbert, 1, George-yard, Bow-lane .. 2 2 0
	*Wentner, Joseph, Lyne Regis, Dorsetshire .. 2 2 0
	*Perry, J. B., High-street, Hereford, to assist the Twins—Free Trade, and Freedom of Election .. 2 0 0
	*Renton, Rev. Henry, Seccombe Mansie, Kelso .. 2 0 0
	*Purchase, William, Landport, Portsmouth .. 2 0 0
	*Double last year's subscription in the cause of humanity and justice (7th subscription) .. 2 0 0
	*Roberts, D., R.A., 7, Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square .. 1 1 0
	*Gregory, Charles, 212, Regent-street .. 1 1 0
	*Beacon, George, 11, Mount-row, New Kent-road .. 1 1 0
	*Hux and Sons, 41, Percival-street, Clerkenwell .. 1 1 0
	*Procter, John, 91, Tottenham-court-road .. 1 1 0
	*Burnett, Richard, Piazza, Covent-garden .. 1 1 0
	*Codrington, Admiral Sir E., G.C.B., Eaton-square .. 1 1 0
	*Sutton, Richard, Portgate Wharf, Longport, Staffordshire Pottery .. 1 1 0
	*Rayner, John, burgon, Stockport .. 1 1 0
	*Rankin, Alfred, Post-office, Braintree, Essex .. 1 1 0
	*Keast, John, Star Tavern, 40, City-road .. 1 1 0
	*Nelson, Henry, Frederick-street, South Shields .. 1 1 0
	*Brooks, John, Grove lane-hill, Camberwell .. 1 1 0
	*Jeffery, Alfred, and Co., Marine Glass Manufactory, Commercial-road, Lambeth .. 1 1 0
	*Ashton, William Brown, 39, Upper Stamford-street .. 1 1 0
	*Kelson, Richard, 4, Narrow-street, Ratcliffe .. 1 1 0
	*Darley, William, Lyndhurst-road, Peckham .. 1 1 0
	*Reddin, Michael, 43, Commercial-road, Lambeth .. 1 1 0
	*Thompson, H., Northwick-house, St. John's Wood .. 1 1 0
	*Thompson, Mrs. Henry, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Thompson, Master Henry Hugh, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Thompson, Miss C. Elizabeth, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Thompson, Master Jas. Stratton, do. .. 1 1 0
	*Cockman, Mrs., 74, George street, Portman-square .. 1 1 0
	*Arnsby, Geo., 1, Thringborough, nr. Higham Ferrers .. 1 1 0
	*Reynolds, Joseph, Malmesbury .. 1 1 0
	*France, John, Dewsbury .. 1 1 0
	*Bevan, Daniel, 69, Basinghall-street .. 1 1 0
	*Hills, William, Standard-road, Faversham, Kent .. 1 1 0
	*Brady, T. Owen, 8, Lower Brunswick-ter., Islington .. 1 1 0
	*Marshall, T., Heston, Middlesex .. 1 1 0
	*Lines, A., 3, Irongate-wharf, Paddington .. 1 1 0
	*Leach, William, tobacco-pipe manufacturer, 130, Bethnal-green-road .. 1 1 0
	*Baker, Captain, 15, Nelson-crescent, Ramsgate .. 1 1 0
	*Copeman and Sons, Norwich .. 1 1 0
	*Way, W. H., Spithead, Dartmouth .. 1 1 0
	*Ridgway, M., Dewsbury .. 1 1 0
	*Fletcher, Thomas, John-street, Sunderland .. 1 1 0
	*Taylor, John, Coach and Horses, Watershead-mill, near Manchester .. 1 1 0
	*Cleghorn, E., Messrs. Paget and Kirby's, Leicester .. 1 1 0
	*Huckley, Samuel, Old-street, Ashton-under-Lyne .. 1 1 0
	*Jones, Edward, High-street, Whitchurch, Salop .. 1 1 0
	*M'Hutchison, John, farmer, Fisherton, Ayr .. 1 1 0
	*Greaves, T. W., Mchden-bridge, near Halifax .. 1 1 0
	*Brown, William, Melrose, Roxburghshire .. 1 1 0
	*Yates, Thomas, Sutton-st., Aston-road, Birmingham .. 1 1 0
	*Fowler, J., draper, Hastingden, near Manchester .. 1 1 0
	*Hoscoe, Peter, wheelwright, Oldham .. 1 1 0
	*Hyatt, Edward, Castle Donington .. 1 1 0
	*Bridges, Thomas, Wolverhampton .. 1 1 0
	*Main, W., Towse, near St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire .. 1 1 0
	*Cheape, John, Giggenti, near Irvine, Ayrshire .. 1 1 0
	*Paine, J., farmer, St. Neot's, Huntingdonshire .. 1 1 0
	*Taylor, George, Ayr .. 1 1 0



Jones, D., Sunderland	1	0	0
Bird, William John, 30, York-road, Regent's-park	1	0	0
Prince, J. B.,	1	0	0
Prince, Mrs.,	0	10	0
Prince, Master,	0	10	0
Prince, Master John,	0	10	0
Cockedge, James, Three-king-court, Lombard-st.	0	10	0
Cox, Dr., Hackney (2nd subscription)	0	10	0
Dixon, Robert S., Providence-wharf, Belvidere-road,	0	10	0
Lambeth	0	5	0
Cook, Charles, 121, York-road, do.	0	5	0
Gaywood, John, 229, Rotherhithe-street	0	5	0
Crooks, W., 16, Stamford-street	0	5	0
Alexander, J., and Son, 45, Granby-street, Waterloo-	0	5	0
road	0	5	0
Irving, George, 4, Dorset Cottages, Richmond-road,	0	5	0
Dalton	0	5	0
Skerr, Wm., H., Brudenell-place, New North-road	0	5	0
A Friend to the Cause	0	5	0
Jones, Daniel, 8, Gloucester-street, Clerkenwell	0	5	0
Beatt, George, 70, Bridge-road, Lambeth	0	5	0
Yendles, Samuel, High-street, Whitechurch, Salop.	0	5	0
Byson, Wm Henry, 8, Canal-place, Old Kent-road.	0	5	0
Byson, Mary (my little daughter)	0	1	0
Smart, George, Saw Mills, York-road, Lambeth	0	5	0
Richard, Thomas, 28, Lower Queen-st., Rotherhithe.	0	2	6
Stephenson, William, 68, York-road, Lambeth	0	2	6
Middleton, Charles, 5, Canterbury-street, do.	0	2	6
Marshall, Thomas, 44, Hatfield-street, Blackfriars-	0	2	6
road	0	2	6
Payell, John, 157, Waterloo-road	0	2	6
Powell, B., 82, do.	0	2	6
Heith, Thomas, 1, Anna-street, York-road	0	2	6
James, J., York-road	0	2	6
Gibbs, J., Anderson, 37, Brunswick-street, Stamford-	0	2	6
street	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	6
Harding, Mr., Heaton, Middlesex	0	2	6
Nias, T., do.	0	2	6
Vernon, T. H., 14, James-street, Clerkenwell-close	0	2	6
Small subscriptions	1	0	0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Webb, C., 140, Oxford-street	5	0	0
Goodaby, Mrs. Thomas, Throstle-street, Stretford.	5	0	0
road, near Manchester	5	0	0
Smith, Peter, Haugh Hall, Bolton	1	1	0
Jones, D., Sunderland	1	0	0
Ratles, E., 13, Charles-street, Soho	0	10	0

We have received the following letter from a correspondent at Whitehaven, enclosing a silver medal, on the obverse of which is a profile with the words, "Henry Brougham," and on the reverse, "To the patriotic, incorruptible, and unbought freeholders of the county of Westmorland, July 4, 1845."

"Sir,—I have sent the enclosed medal which I once had a respect for. Perhaps it may sell at the price of old silver at the Bazaar. Your obedient humble servant, "R. C."

### ERRATUM.

In LEAGUE No. 70, for Collins, Robert, Mile House, Cheetam, 21, 10a, read 10a.

We have received an account of subscriptions from Continental, which will appear next week.

### LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XVIII.

#### TO THE MARQUIS OF NORMANBY.

My Lord,—Your lordship has not joined the agitation against the Corn Laws, but you have become an agitator for sanitary legislation, on behalf of the poorer classes. Of course there is some distinction in your mind which renders you quiescent on the one question and active on the other. On the nature and soundness of that distinction I content to feeling some little curiosity. How is it to be ascertained?

In your speech at the close of last session, which has been reprinted (I presume by the association lately formed under your lordship's auspices) for cheap and gratuitous distribution, you affirm that "the whole question of sanitary regulation seems to turn upon the treatment of those two elements, air and water: both equally necessary to the healthful course of human existence; both equally necessary in their external influence on our frame; and in their external use—one the primary ingredient in all human nutriment, the other the life-spring of our lungs."

And is it possible that your lordship actually forgets that food had any connexion with the question? that its deficiency in quantity, or deterioration in quality, is foremost amongst the causes of disease and mortality? or that, by its abundance and wholesomeness, the frame is invigorated to resist many of the external evils which you are anxious to remedy? How came *diet* not to stare you in the face? Why were you not reminded of it by the reports of prison-keepers and poor-law commissioners? Why not by the rules of hospitals? or by the verdicts of coroners' juries in cases of destitution? My lord, the omission is remarkable. Not only in the passage just quoted, but throughout your speech, you maintain, on this point, the silence of the grave. You have thus avoided all mention of the Corn Laws; you have also avoided the most important part of the subordinate topic with which you were dealing, and have left your argument woefully incomplete and maimed.

Whether this omission be ascribable to the limited view of the subject taken by your own intellect; to a vain desire of blinking the connexion between sanitary legislation and Corn-Law repeal, lest aristocratic lawmakers should be startled and offended; or to an indisposition to pledge yourself, independently of your late official colleagues, to the

cause of commercial freedom, is very immaterial: I respect what I believe to be your motives, in the exertions you have actually made, too much not to endeavour to show how imperatively those exertions demand that you should go further, take broader ground, add good bread to the good air and water which you desiderate for the poor, and put your sanitary movement in its real relation, not as a substitute for, but as an adjunct or branch of, the far more comprehensive agitation conducted by the League against monopoly.

To procure by law the limitation of the landlords' power of letting noxious dens for human dwellings; and to show, theoretically or practically, how buildings may be best constructed for the comfort of their inhabitants, are objects, no doubt, of importance and interest. Their pursuit is laudable, and may it be successful. But when accomplished, how much will you have done towards promoting the public health, if the present burdens on food and restrictions on industry remain untouched? Man cannot subsist on air and water. Rotten potatoes will taint the atmosphere of the best ventilated abode. Out-of-work will soon be out-of-house and home, however excellent the drainage. Meat will not multiply of itself in the cupboards of model cottages. Nor will malaria be purified while monopoly is prolonged. Your scheme sits only on the threshold of the "condition-of-England question." It heathstones the doorstep, while want fills the interior with disease and corruption. Food is the first essential. Work and wages are its conditions. Provide them, and the poor will not long be so perverse as to prefer damp and darkness to cleanliness and comfort. They are sent into the cellarage by sinking wages. When their payments rise, they aspire to parks and pleasure-grounds. The best houses that can be provided will not put them into a condition to choose; and when once they are in a condition to choose, they will not select the worst.

The nearest road, my lord, to your own especial object, is through the repeal of the Corn Laws. The extension of commerce is the broad highway to the improved dwellings of the poor. Only with increased ability can there be the increased demand which will stimulate the speculations of builders and the ingenuity of architects. Both will come when they are wanted. Till then, those who are turned out of the narrow lane will crowd closer together in the narrower court. Expel them from the courts, and they will swarm under the unsheltering archways of the railroad. Drive them thence, and they will perish in the open fields. A select tenantry may be found for your pretty plans, but you cannot march the moneyless into their permanent possession. As soon might you expect a large shell to generate the fat fish to fill it. The fish makes its own shell; and, outgrowing that, produces another proportionate to its size. And so, though by a circuitous agency, will a thriving population realize the more commodious abodes to which its resources are adequate.

Let any medical man treat of the sanitary condition of the people, and he will be sure, unless purposely avoiding it, to introduce the topic of food, and the means of its being procured. I have now before me an instance of this fact, in a pamphlet entitled "Public Health: an Oration delivered on the Seventieth Anniversary of the London Medical Society. By Leonard Stewart, M.D. 1844." It is only a bird's-eye view of the subject; there are but nineteen pages of the oration altogether: yet this brief summary takes prominent notice of the topic which seems to be tabooed in your proceedings:—

"We have narrow streets, dark and crowded passages, with noisome cellars and comfortable attics. There are the suffocating factories and workshops, the damp grounds and yards, the smoking labyrinth of what are called the 'back settlements,' all swarming with the toil-worn, the debauched, and the brutalized, strangely huddled together. Their scanty or precarious food, defection of mind, discomfort, ill-regulated or intemperate habits, and filthy places of residence, often in the vicinity of stagnant water, and of decaying animal and vegetable substances, are altogether the prolific source of disease and infection."

As the author expands his views towards the peroration of his address, he speaks, with apparent unconsciousness, the language of Free Trade, to express the natural tendency of the principle of sanitary legislation:—

"When we glance at the actual condition of all countries, we shall find that there are strange accumulations of similar conditions; so that *distribution* seems to be pointed out as the leading duty of the age."

"We see, on every hand, multitudes existing in the position of the fabled Tantalus—surrounded by the most desirable objects, which they are debarred from using and enjoying."

"What numbers of persons, of all ages, sexes, and occupations, cramped by sedentary monotonous toil, when half asphyxiated in their close and dusty workshops, would fain escape to the breezes of the hill-side. Many hunting tribes might safely share the excess of stimulants which the desponding artisan is now tempted to use, and miserably abuse."

"We have Ireland exporting substantial food to all parts, yet half starving her own peasantry. In the wild parts of North and South America, the carcasses of deer and of cattle are left to rot, while many of our own labourers are limited to vegetable diet, or nearly so. The

mountains of Switzerland are carefully cropped and shorn of every blade of grass; the wine countries are tended like gardens; while many of the richest plains, both of the old world and the new, as on the Euphrates and Mississippi, are either abandoned or unattempted by the hand of the cultivator."

"We have, at the present day, the eyes of politicians and of speculators directed to the striking spectacle of the eastern coast of Asia (with its three hundred millions of Chinese, scantily fed, and often living in boats and on rafts for want of room on shore), as contrasted with the opposite north-west coast of America (or the Oregon territory), whose only civilized inhabitants consist of some few hundred men, the servants of two or three private companies of merchants."

"It is no far-fetched improbable theory, to propose the greater equalization of these opposite conditions."

"Nature's full blessings would be well-dispens'd  
In unsuperfluous even proportion,  
And she no whit encumbered with her store."

Could I have, my lord, a more unexceptionable witness to the fact that you stop short of your own professed object, while the Anti-Corn-Law League is the real and most efficient sanitary association? The testimony, borne unconsciously, is that of a physician, engaged in no agitation, but quietly descending on "public health," to his brethren of the profession, at an anniversary of the "Medical Society." It will not do, then, to hint at "far-fetched connexion," "independent topics," "totally distinct objects," or any such modes of extrication from the conclusion that you are, as yet, standing aloof from the one great combined movement towards the satisfactory settlement of the question of which you profess to have taken charge.

Nor can you, my lord, plead that you abstain from mooted before public meetings the points which must come before you as a member of the Legislature, and perhaps again as a member of the Cabinet. You do agitate, though only upon a small scale, and for an imperfect result. I rejoice that, so far, you are less squeamish than some of your late colleagues. They seem to think it enough that they lost office for proposing to take a step towards commercial freedom. They claim the glory of martyrs, and leave the people to work for the cause of themselves, as best they may. Dual and right hon. champions of monopoly are not so regardless of their allies out of doors. They present themselves at the smallest gatherings. They preside over very limited and select assemblages; their troops are never unofficered; the officers frequently more numerous than the troops. They lead, and organize, and agitate; whilst you abandon to its own guidance the mightiest movement of modern times. You show no sign of sympathy; you stretch no helping hand. Like the gods of Epicurus, you sit remote, and merely deign to inhale the incense—when it comes. You are more coldly isolates from the people than even the enemies of their rights and interests. Nor can more effective security be taken, that when they triumph, as triumph eventually they must, the work will be their own,—a victory of the industrial classes,—without (save in a few bright exceptional instances) either aid or encouragement from the Liberal section of the aristocracy, and its political staff which holds in reversion the appointments of ministerial office.

My Lord Marquis, this is no petition; if a remonstrance, it is more for the sake of those who neglect a duty, than for theirs who are well content, and able, to work out the just and beneficent objects to which they are devoted. We are on the eve of a time when to join the League will imply as little merit as to become the camp-followers of a victorious army. This may be so in by parties as well as persons, who have eyes in their heads. It will look rather ridiculous in history, should the summary of these times set forth Lord John Russell as the first of Free-Trade martyrs, and Sir Robert Peel as the first of Free-Trade Ministers.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

### THE "FLAG OF PROTECTION" IN SUSSEX. (From the Morning Chronicle.)

TO THE EARL OF MOUNT.

"He had been taught to revere the institutions of his country. He loved those institutions; and as long as he was able he would support those institutions and that beloved country to the best of his humble ability. He was happy, therefore, to take that opportunity of identifying himself in the most public manner possible with the Protectionists of the county. He was quite sure they would succeed against the Anti-Corn-Law League. For his own part, from that day he hoisted the flag of protection to the agriculturists and defiance to the League."—*Speech at Brighton, Jan. 23, 1845.*

My Lord,—You are a captain in the navy. At the dinner at Brighton, presided over by his Grace of Richmond, when you spoke the above words, the toast of the "Army and Navy" was given. As an officer, you rose to reply on behalf of the navy. But you did not speak to the toast. You spoke professionally, it is true; but you spoke in your character of a dealer in corn and flour. You are a naval captain; but you also have land, and you plough, sow, reap, and sell your corn. You have a flour mill, and you grind wheat and sell flour. You have flour stores, and you order every one employed on your estate, or at any works over which you have control, to deal at your stores. You have carts, and waggons, and flour sacks, and all are marked with the name and title of Earl Egmont, miller and flour-dealer.

You were called up to speak as a naval captain; but the

shop was more immediately concerned than the ship—so you spoke of the ship.

Let us see what this hoisting of "the flag of protection" means. Of course, you deny that it means protection to yourself. Who, then, can it mean protection to? You say the agriculturists. Who are they?

Is Mr. Saunders an agriculturist? He is your tenant, and occupies a large breadth of land. He pays you rent; and up to this year he used to be the leading man at the audit dinners. When your health was drunk he used to lead the *hip, hip, hurrahs*. He did not do so this year. He would not go to the dinner. His crops were devoured by your game. You receive from him a rent for his land, and you receive from another person a rent for the game. Mr. Saunders paid off some of his men because he did not find it profitable to employ them. You sent orders that he must employ them. He said, "Not as things now stand." You said, "Yes, as things now stand." He said, "Not with all that game." You said, "Yes, with all that game." He said he would rather leave the farm. You said he was at liberty to do as he chose.

Is your "flag of protection" to be hoisted over Mr. Saunders?

Your tenant, Mr. Allwyn, had his turnips ate up by your hares last year, and he kindled fires during the winter nights to scare the hares away; this year you forbade him to do so. He pays you rent for his farm, and you let the game which he has to feed to Captain Shirley, who also pays you rent for it. When Mr. Allwyn took the farm, very little game was preserved on it, and it was not rented by another party. But since it has been rented by another party, and keepers kept by that party to preserve it, the loss to Mr. Allwyn has been greatly increased. He has the option of going to law to recover damages; but it is throwing away good money after bad. He had one field valued this year, and the damage done in that one field was given by the valuers at £20. Captain Shirley offered to pay £6, and refused to pay more. Last year the estimated damage done to the whole farm by game was £70; Mr. Allwyn was only allowed £20.

Is your "flag of protection" to be hoisted for Mr. Allwyn?

Turn next to the relation of Mr. Allwyn—the miller. He also is your tenant. You set up a mill at Midhurst, on your own account, to compete with four other mills, all held by your own tenants. The workers in the copes and the brickfield men were all dealing at Mr. Allwyn's mill. You set up a store at the brickfield, and ordered the employers of all the men to send them to your store. The men said they owed Mr. Allwyn for flour; that they got one sack of flour on trust, and paid the last; and that they could not pay him what they owed if they left him now. You said they must pay him as they could; they must not deal anywhere but where the flour of your mill was sold.

Is your "flag of protection" to cover the miller?

You have another tenant, a baker. He was told he must deal at your mill. He said he could not; he had many years dealt elsewhere, and he did not like to change now. You told him if he did not deal at your mill you would set up a shop and undersell him. You have done so.

Is your "flag of protection" to extend to this tenant of yours, the baker?

Mrs. Saunders, a widow, holding one of your farms, paid away two men whom she said she could not employ, because of the ten per cent. you put on the rent this year. She was told by you she must employ the same number of hands and pay the ten per cent. also. You were told that much more than that amount had been destroyed by game; but you said that was no matter. You were told such interference with the affairs of the farm was unbearable; and you said no one need bear it unless they chose; they were at liberty to go—other tenants could easily be had.

Is this, my lord, protection to agriculture?

What was this year reaped on Mr. Saunders's farm at 6s. per acre. For a good crop the price paid is generally from 10s. to 12s. per acre. The reapers, on speaking of it, were asked what kind of wages they made at 6s. and they replied, "Better than we have sometimes done at 12s. There wasn't much to reap; the game had done so much damage, that we could go over a dozen yards before having a sheaf filled."

Is this protection to agriculture, Lord Egmont?

At the very gates of Cowdray-park, where you live, gangs of men—honest labourers, who ought to be the pride of that country you say you love so well—are working at parish work for 1s. 6d. a week. They are turned away from the farms, because the farmers cannot employ them. The farmers cannot employ them, though their land is in sad disorder; because, whenever they complain to you or your steward, Mr. Brown, they are told they may leave their farms if they be dissatisfied.

Is such relationship between landlord and tenant, and between both and the labourers, protection to agriculture? You say you will "hoist your flag of protection to agriculturists, and defiance to the League," from that day forward, the 23rd of January. I, for one, want no protection at all, but protection from such a landlord as you. Not that I blame you as avaricious. Upon the whole, I believe you to mean well; but you do not understand your new business of landlord. You do not know what is protection to agriculture, and what is not. I shall endeavour to give you a few lessons.

Meantime, I am,

A FARMER WHO GROANS UNDER THE CORN LAWS.

#### LETTERS TO MY LANDLORD.—No. II.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

##### ON FRIENDSHIP.

SIR,—I call this letter No. II., because I wrote one the other day, which, though not addressed to you individually, was to a friend of yours, the Earl of Egmont, and I know you read it. At the dinner last Thursday you cheered Lord Egmont, when he declared that he could sit no longer a silent spectator of the Free-Traders, but would from that day "hoist the flag of protection to the agriculturists, and of defiance to the Anti-Corn Law League." I saw you cheer, Sir, and, as your tenant, thought I should like to ask you to protect me.

But had I done so, I should have been considered a bad tenant, a mutterer in the camp, one that was not to be encouraged; and I should have been—Heaven knows I should—in want of protection; a protection which no

act of Parliament can afford me. You cannot endure a tenant that makes a complaint.

Of many evils inflicted on us farmers by the Corn Law, which I propose to lay before you thus publicly, because I cannot get your ear privately, and because the public discussion may do good—of the many evils we have to bear through having this load upon our backs, mis-called protection, the first and greatest is our complete dependence and subjection to those who tell us it is all for our good.

A friendly relationship between landlord and tenant is quite another thing. My relationship to you is one of fear—one of mutual distrust. I cannot trust you, and you think you cannot trust me. You have never told me so, but I know your thoughts. I have doubted the efficacy of protection, and have said that, unless practically protected from present palpable evils on my own farm, I should doubt the good intention of all other kinds of protection.

You have been told this. A straw tells which way the wind blows. You killed several hundred head of game two weeks ago. Neither you nor your friends could use it all, so you sent it round amongst your tenants. But all those were omitted who had advanced any claim for damages done by game, or made any other complaint of it. I was one of them. I cared not a rush for your hare and brace of birds. I had already fed them, and morally they were mine. But what I regretted, and still regret, is, that you should not know who are your best tenants, who are the persons most disposed to do justice to you and to your land. You only know us through the mouths of others. The subjection to which we are brought to uphold this thing called Corn-Law protection makes you turn us to political purposes, and surround yourself with spies to see that we are all obedient and properly trained to the best uses we are put to.

Had you none of these persons about you to report everything we do or say, you would either make us independent of you by a lease of our land, or not interfere with us at all. Whichever you might do, you would find us better farmers than we are.

You would then find us your friends. For I must declare before the world, that it is more proper to speak of "the farmer, the landlord's best friend," than of "the landlord, the farmer's best friend."

Do we not find the capital to cultivate the land and draw from it its profit? Do we not furnish the skill and the energy, the strength of mind and of body, to conduct the whole business of the land? Do we not run all the risks of seasons, and of varying prices? My farm, as indeed your whole estate, is valued at the rate of 60s. per quarter for wheat, and this rent I pay. You have no risk—you never trouble yourself with the land, but in so far as you try to keep up the price of wheat and cannot, and tell me that it is quite right we should pay for land as if wheat were 60s. a quarter, because if everything was as you and your friends would like to make it, that would be the very lowest price.

You and your friends are in Parliament. Why don't you keep up the price?

While you quarrel amongst yourselves, you blindfold us by your promises—by your professions of friendship. I tell you, Sir, that not only are we obliged to pay for land a fictitious value, but we are liable to the most distracting uncertainties, which prevent us doing to our land as we should do and would do.

I do not like to read long letters in a newspaper myself; I seldom do read them; so I shall not write a long letter to be unread by others. This is the only reason why I do not go into some figures and details to prove my losses to you; I only now speak in a general way of my losses; and, as I said before, the first and heaviest felt is, that you bring me down to be dependent on your personal favour. I am dependent on varying seasons and varying prices, which are had enough without being also dependent on a varying landlord—a landlord who varies with each tale-bearer on his estate. I am,

#### A FARMER GROANING UNDER THE CORN LAWS.

IMPORTS OF CATTLE IN 1844.—The total number of beasts and sheep imported into the United Kingdom, during the year ending Dec. 31, 1844, was—beasts, 4405; sheep, 2603; of these were imported direct into Hull, 1690 beasts and 775 sheep.

THE LEAGUE—EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.—The League have availed themselves of the improved intelligence of the masses, and are helping forward at once their intellectual and their political education. They have done more, we are well persuaded, by their lectures, discussions, and great meetings, to rouse more especially the most dormant and sluggish portion of the public mind,—that of the proverbially slow-thinking jog-trot farmer.—In the course of the last few years, than could have been hoped for from any other process in the course of a generation.—*Patriot*.

LAUNCH OF AN IRON STEAMER.—On Saturday, a beautiful new iron steamer was launched from the iron shipbuilding yard of Messrs. James Hodgson and Co., North Shore, the builders of the Richard Cobden. This vessel is, we understand, the first that ever was launched with her machinery, masts, and rigging all properly fitted on board. Her bow is tastefully decorated with scrolls, surmounted by a beautifully carved cornucopia. At the hour appointed for launching, every preparatory arrangement had been made, and at ten minutes past one o'clock the order "down dunnage" was given, when the Iron Prince (which name was given to her by Miss Crofield, of Warrington, in admirable style) glided into her future element, on which we hope she will long and successfully ply, amid the cheers of the assembled spectators. The Iron Prince is rigged as a three-masted schooner, to be propelled with a screw, and two engines of the united power of 45 horses; her length on the water line is 103 feet, 18 feet beam, and 9 feet 6 inches depth of hold. She is very strongly built, being double-plated and double-ripped throughout, with six strong longitudinal stringers; she also possesses the novelty of an iron deck, bulwarks, and rigging. She has hold-room for 200 tons of measurement goods, and will carry 200 tons of dead weight. The Iron Prince is, we believe, intended to ply between this port and Newport, in South Wales, to be commanded by Captain Hughes.—*Liverpool paper*.

BURGLARIES IN SUSSEX.—Burglaries have been committed in this county almost nightly during the last month, and yet not a single person has been detected. Twenty houses at least have been broken open, and the gangs are become quite a terror to the country people.—*Globe*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

SIR.—One of the most frightful symptoms of the condition of the rural and "protected" districts is to be found in the anxiety displayed by landowners and farmers to get rid of the labourers among whom they live. To drive them out of the parish on which they have a claim to support is thought a public good; and whether the poor outcasts wander towards the manufacturing districts, or ship themselves off to some foreign land, is of no consequence, so that they cease to be a burden upon the parish funds. From the experience of the last five years, however, it would appear that migration to the northern counties is not now considered so certain a remedy as emigration to New South Wales. When the manufacturing towns are suffering during seasons of high prices of food, some of the labourers are compelled to return home, and to become a burden upon their native parishes; but, when once fairly over the water, they have not the power, nor do they, we suspect, wish to return. I have before me a letter written by an aged woman, living in a parish in Oxfordshire, to her relatives employed in a cotton manufactory in this neighbourhood. From this letter it would seem that getting rid of the labourers is the policy now followed by the owners and occupiers of land in that county. The following is an extract from the letter:—

"Edmund King and his wife and family are gone across the water to Sydney; and Richard Jones and his wife and family, and William Harley and his wife and family; and Joseph Holland went to the workhouse and choosed himself a wife, and went directly; and Job Taylor, and Thomas Quarterman, and William Burnham, and William Wixen, all of them young men: there was seven-and-thirty altogether; they all started last Wednesday morning."

I am not disposed to say anything of the misfortune it may be supposed to be to these individuals to leave their native land. From all we know of their condition here, no foreign shore can afford them worse shelter or more of hardship than they have, in all probability, been accustomed to at home. I will not remark upon the fact, that Joseph Holland went to the workhouse to choose himself a wife who might be the partner of his voyage to the antipodes,—although that circumstance gives us some insight into the state of things in Oxfordshire,—my intention being rather to point out how hopeless is the contest which the landlords are waging with an increasing population. Whether the landlords will provide work for the labourers or not, the people will increase and multiply; and if work is not provided they will become poorer and more degraded; and poverty and continued suffering will engender discontent and despair; and from these will come a state of things neither agreeable nor safe for the landowners themselves. Is Oxfordshire so well cultivated that it can afford to part with its strong young men, and with fathers and families? Is land held by a sound tenure in that county, and is capital freely applied to it, so that its utmost powers of production have been arrived at? I greatly fear the case is far otherwise. The evidence of many speakers at the recent agricultural meetings goes to prove that there is no superabundance of labour, but that there is a great want of employment, arising from the wretched state of cultivation on many of the largest estates in the kingdom.

These emigrants will probably do better abroad than at home; but under other circumstances home might have been far better than abroad. Their wish was to work on the land and by honest industry to live comfortably. The owners of the soil neglect the duty which their ownership imposes. They keep the land locked up, and by insecure tenure, by parliamentary protection, and by the preservation of game, they prevent the demand for labour out of which labourers might be well supported and saved from the necessity of exile from their native country. From all that is passing around us, I have hope that this system is drawing to a close. Free Trade is before us, and not far distant; and with it will come greater value to labour, and consequently greater independence to the labourer. When it comes, labourer and landowner alike will have to bless the League,—the one that he has been saved from poverty and slavery; the other that he has been rescued from the retribution which a longer continuance of wrong-doing must inevitably have brought upon him.

I am, yours respectfully,

J. B. R.

THE GAME LAWS.—A public meeting is to be held in the County Hall, Aylesbury, on Monday next, against the Game Laws, and to adopt a petition to Parliament for their repeal. John Lee, Esq., LL.D., of Hartwell House, to take the chair. John Bright, Esq., M.P., has announced his intention of attending.

AMERICAN HOPS.—Another result of the operation of the new tariff has been seen, the last few days, in the importation of hops from the United States. The samples have been pronounced, by competent judges, as quite equal in flavour and quality to any produced in this country.—*London paper*.

BUST OF ADAM SMITH.—The Lord Provost and magistrates have confided to Mr. Patrick Park the task of executing a marble bust of the philosopher, from the medallion by Tassie, which is held to be the only likeness extant. The bust, when completed, will be placed in the Council-hall, City-buildings.—*Glasgow Argus*.

RUSSIAN RYE IN IRELAND.—About a fortnight since, the ship *Cape Marie*, Cramer, arrived at this port with a cargo of Russian rye, amounting to 860 quarters, which the captain had purchased at Constantinople. Having engaged a broker, he offered the rye for sale on his own account; but the Customs authorities here refused to permit the sale, though the captain stated his readiness to pay whatever amount of duty it was liable to. The ground of objection appears to be that the captain (a Dutchman) who had taken his vessel from Amsterdam to Constantinople, having shipped the rye in the latter port, and sailed direct for Ireland, the cargo comes under the operation of a provision in the navigation laws, which prohibits the importation, in a foreign vessel, of the produce of a foreign country other than the country to which the vessel belongs. As the case now stands, Capt. Cramer is unable to sell the rye in either England, Ireland, or Scotland, or even bond it in the United Kingdom, and, therefore, must leave this port for the purpose of disposing of it in France, or some other of the Continental countries. He intends to sail on Monday. He was not aware of any law being in existence to prevent the sale of rye in Ireland, and he will suffer a severe loss by the disappointment.—*Port paper*.



## REVIEW.

## THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN FEUDAL DESPOTISM AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN FLANDERS.

Philip Von Artaveld. A Historic Romance. By Henry Taylor, Esq. London, Moxon.

"Destiny never proves false to men until they prove false to Destiny." This great truth is no where more signally evidenced than in the history of the several struggles which have taken place in different ages and different countries between the mercantile classes and the feudal aristocracy. Great and glorious have been the several triumphs of the mercantile and middle class, but negligence has been invariably the attendant on victory, and the fruits of conquest were lost from want of the watchfulness, the vigilance, and the active energies by which they were acquired. The feudal aristocracy, however divided by parties and jealousies, has always had a cementing bond of central union in the common desire, founded on common interest, of giving exclusive political power to property in land. On this point Tories and Whigs are as unanimous as the Barons and Burgesses were in the middle ages; possession of the soil gave to landed proprietors a domination over the supply of food to the people, which could only be counterbalanced by extended trade; and hence the extension of trade has ever been resisted by the feudal lords as perilous to their monopoly of political power.

Against this compact and united body the mercantile and middle classes have always contended at a disadvantage. Trade is a more absorbing occupation than the management of land: it makes large demands on the intellectual energies, and fixes them more exclusively to one definite line of direction. A very rude shock is required to force the merchant from his counting-house, the manufacturer from his factory, and the tradesman from his shop. Besides, there is not always a perceptible community of interest between the divisions of the mercantile classes: those engaged in the home trade are not always in close amity with those engaged in the foreign trade; questions respecting the division of profits will arise between the wholesale dealer and the retailer; ironmasters are sometimes unable to discover that their interests are identified with those of cotton-spinners, and both find it difficult to believe that no question respecting shipowners can be indifferent to themselves. Even when such renegades are wanting as those whom the redoubtable Robert de Hollingsworth has baptized "the sweeps of Ashton," there must always be a difficulty in permanently holding together sections of men absorbed in engrossing occupations, having occasional causes of mutual jealousy, and very rare opportunities of discussing any subject in which they can have community of feeling and identity of interest.

The Revolution of 1688, and the Reform Bill of 1832, were mainly accomplished by the middle classes of England, headed, in both cases, by sections of the territorial aristocracy; and in both cases the chief object in the hour of victory was to reward the alliance of the middle classes with as small a share of political power as was possible. The Reform Bill was advocated and opposed as a measure which would transfer a due share of political power from the landed aristocracy to the mercantile and industrial classes; Lord Carnarvon believed so firmly in the transfer that he asked to be reduced to the ranks of a commoner; and Lord Dudley expressed alarm lest the want of education in the middle classes, evidenced by such want of self-respect as was shown by "the sweeps of Ashton" should make them the easy dupes of artful leaders. The middle classes triumphed and carried the Reform Bill, but they made the fatal blunder of regarding the change in the representation not as the means to an end, but as an end in itself. History has been written in vain if it has not taught us that mere constitutional forms, however excellent in theory, may be worked to evil in practice. In fact, more gross tyranny and more grievous oppression can be practised in the name and with the forms of freedom than is possible under avowed despotism. Whenever men mistake the means for the end, they are almost certain to allow those means to fall into the hands of their adversaries. Sir Robert Peel saw that the middle classes had made this mistake: he called the attention of the monopolists to the abandoned means, and forthwith the monopolists, recovering from their paralysis of terror, commenced to work the registers, while the industrial classes never troubled their heads about the matter. It was not until the League was formed that the mercantile classes had any form or element of cohesion as a political body: they were sometimes fixed to the tail of one party, and sometimes to that of another; but they had never before an opportunity and scope for separate and independent action. When the League of the middle classes took a survey of the ground on which to fight the battle of Free Trade—the great common interest of all who live by labour of mind or body—their first great difficulty was to ascertain the exact amount of the advantages which had been lost by the middle classes, and won by the feudal oligarchy, in the interval between 1832 and

1841; the extent of the deformation of the reformed constituencies could only be ascertained by repeated trials, and election contests were employed as the most accurate tests. Their results indicated not only the amount of loss, but its cause,—the neglect of the constituencies; and the League immediately applied itself to the reconstruction of the constituencies, aware that this would be a work of time and labour, but fully confident of ultimate success.

In comparing the Free-Trade struggle with former movements and agitations to extort popular rights from feudal monopoly, we find the League characterized by several distinctive novelties, all of which have high import, not only in themselves, but in their bearings on the future destinies of the country. It is essentially a federative union of the middle and industrial classes: it originated with them, was organized by them, continues under their management, and has been carefully preserved from becoming in any way the engine of political party. It affords no leverage for placing one set of men in office and turning out another, irrespective of principle; it demands justice, and, to ensure its support, men must dare to be just.

A second novelty is, that the League does not hold out victory as the reward of a single campaign; those who have engaged in the struggle know that it must be not only arduous but tedious: they seek to enlist none but those who have

"Learn'd to labour and to wait."

In other agitations it has been sought to produce a sudden burst of strong feeling, which, as in the case of the Reform Bill, might bear down all opposition by its intensity; but the League asks for patience and perseverance not less than courage; it seeks to besiege rather than to carry by storm, and to train its followers into rational discipline rather than rouse them into passionate ardour. This system, while it renders ultimate success certain, confers incidental advantages of the highest value. During the entire period that the struggle continues, the League is engaged in the political education and discipline of the middle classes: its publications, its lectures, and its speakers, are diffusing through the nation the sound principles of social science, and those elements of public morality which, when once apprehended, can never be forgotten.

It is impossible to view any great effort for commercial freedom without being reminded of the former struggles made by the mercantile classes to emancipate themselves from feudal bondage. The wars in Flanders, at the close of the thirteenth and the beginning of the fourteenth centuries, are particularly instructive; and we take advantage of Henry Taylor's able dramatic history of one of the principal heroes to direct attention to the subject. The rapid growth of the commercial cities of Flanders was greatly facilitated by the charters of privileges which they had purchased from their respective lords; the burghesses soon began to rival their former masters in wealth and influence, and they formed an order of their own which was as much respected in the trading communities as the landed aristocracy in the rural districts. When the feudal lords attempted to violate these charters collectively, the Flemings flew to arms, and completely overthrew the aristocracy at the battle of Courtray—one of the earliest in which infantry triumphed over feudal chivalry. The cities became so powerful that they were able to control the policy of their Sovereign; and when Louis Earl of Flanders declared war against Edward III. of England, he found that Jacob Artaveld, a brewer of wethelin, in Ghent, had sufficient influence to prevent the Flemings from engaging in war with the English, who were their best customers. Earl Louis, unable to contend against the entire mercantile community, was forced to temporize; but he found allies in the commercial cities and commercial classes more potent than the aid of his feudal vassals. We extract the following description of the circumstances from a recent historian:—

"The spirit of monopoly injured the Flemings more than all the disasters of war. Earl Louis had granted to Ghent, Ypres, and Bruges the exclusive privilege of manufacturing cloth; but the other towns and villages insisted on their right to enjoy the advantages of lucrative industry, and prepared to defend it by force of arms. Louis took advantage of the crisis to appear in the three cities as the determined supporter of the monopoly; for the moment all his cruelties and exactions were forgotten, in gratitude for his gracious permission to the burghers of the three cities to oppress their brethren in the neighbouring towns; even Artaveld was deceived, and led an army against the supporters of Free Trade. He was soon undeceived; when he returned victorious, he was arrested by the earl and thrown into prison. Louis, however, found that he had proceeded too hastily; Artaveld's numerous partisans took up arms, and demanded his liberation. The earl was forced to submit; but he was an indignant at the disappointment that he once more quitted Flanders and returned to Paris. At this crisis Pope Clement VI. sent two legates to command the Flemings to submit implicitly to their illegal lords. The citizens replied that they were loyal to Edward, whom they recognized as the legitimate King of France, and that there was no violation of duty with which they could reproach themselves. In reply, the legates published an anathema against all who refused obedience to Philip, as if the

Pope's recognition of his title had made revolt against that monarch rebellion against God.

"Monopoly is the prolific parent of confusion and abuses: the artisans of Ghent, Bruges, and Ypres, not content with excluding the other towns of Flanders from the benefit of manufactures, began to quarrel amongst themselves respecting emoluments and wages. The weavers insisted that the fullers received too large a share of profits, without perceiving that, if their complaint was well-founded, the only remedy was to throw the fulling trade open to the public competition of all Flanders. The spinners asserted that the weavers unfairly cut down the price of their yarn, but did not see that this would be impossible if the markets were perfectly open. Artaveld appears to have discovered that Free Trade was the only remedy for these disorders; and he was, therefore, anxious to transfer the Government of Flanders from Earl Louis, the supporter of monopoly, to the English Prince of Wales, who was unconnected with any of the privileged parties. All those who had a vested interest in wronging their neighbours were immediately in arms; and none were more violent against Artaveld than the operatives, whose advantage he sought by enlarging the sphere of their employment. In all countries we have found occasional outbursts of popular indignation against common honesty and common sense: men get persuaded that some tortuous means may be devised of raising the rate of profits or of wages above its market price, never pausing to consider that the regulation of the market price is no more in their power than the direction of the winds; and so they frame statutes and form combinations to extort illegitimate gains, and, like all other plunderers, hesitate at no act of violence to effect what is nothing better than ill-disguised robbery. Such a delusion seized on the artisans of Ghent, when Edward, on the invitation of Artaveld, brought the Prince of Wales to Flanders."

The weavers of Ghent, being taught to believe that Artaveld intended to deprive them of their exclusive privileges, rose in tumult, attacked Artaveld's house, and murdered him. This was a fatal blow to the popular cause: Edward returned to England completely alienated from the Flemings; most of the great towns protested against the conduct of the citizens of Ghent, and disunion was fatally introduced into the commercial confederacy. The son and successor of Earl Louis I., usually distinguished as Louis le Mâle, took advantage of the crisis to establish a complete despotism. His conduct is a specimen of what the renegade "sweeps" of Ashton have to expect from the triumphs of De Hollingsworths:—

"A congress was opened at Dunkirk, where, on the 10th of December, 1348, a treaty for the pacification of Flanders was signed under the mediation of the Duke of Lancaster, the nephew of Edward III. Earl Louis granted pardon to his Flemish subjects for all their former revolts, engaged to respect all their privileges, and confirmed the several treaties which they had made with the English. But pardons and privileges granted by princes, when not secured by constitutional guarantees, have rarely protected those who have attempted to encroach on their prerogatives. Soon after his return to Ghent, Louis took advantage of the rivalry between the trading companies to set one party against the other: the fullers and the inferior artisans took up arms against the weavers, who had been the chief of the earl's opponents, but who had sacrificed the respect due to the supporters of freedom by the devotedness which they exhibited for the maintenance of their selfish monopoly. A battle took place in the public streets: six hundred of the weavers were killed in the market-place; their comrades were pursued by the infuriated populace, and slaughtered in their own houses. Earl Louis took advantage of the confusion to seize upon the most obnoxious of the leaders of the former tumults in the principal cities: in the confusion of popular strife and clashing interests, their fate excited little attention: most of them perished on the wheel or the scaffold."

Feudal tyranny soon provoked new insurrections; years of war, bloodshed, and confusion ensued, until at length the people of Ghent organized a confederation which took the name of the White Hoods, from the cognizance worn by the leaders, and raised the standard of open revolt. The insurgents were generally unsuccessful until they placed at their head the son of their former leader, the murdered Artaveld, who is the hero of the dramatic poem before us. The character of the new leader, Philip Von Artaveld, has been thus portrayed:—

"Philip Von Artaveld was a very influential man among the mercantile aristocracy; the large fortune he had inherited from his father rendered him independent of trade, and it was only in compliance with custom that he entered his name, as did many knights and nobles, in the company of brewers. Familiar as we are with this custom in England—most of our leading men being enrolled in some or other of the London companies—it has nevertheless led astray many modern historians, and led to fanciful parallels between the brewer of Ghent and the brewer of Huntington. Artaveld had, up to this period, kept himself aloof from the different parties in the state; the unmerited fate of his father disgusted him with the populace, while he was too wise to join the landed aristocracy, whose measures, he clearly saw, would ruin the manufacturing industry of the country. He displayed equal gentleness and firmness when placed at the head of affairs; while he treated courteously every citizen who made a complaint, he rigorously punished those who were detected in treasonable correspondence."

We must reserve for another opportunity the history of this second war.

## THE MAGAZINES.

We have received at the last hour copies of the three new magazines,—Parker's, Douglas Jerrold's, and Crinkshank's,—and all three, in their respective characters, deserve a word of commendation. Parker's leading article is a recommendation of the allotment system, written with more zeal than judg-

ment, and betraying in every line a want of discrimination between what is desirable and what is practicable. The author makes an incidental attack on the electoral movement, as likely to lead to the minute subdivision of land! Need we say a word in reply? The other articles of the magazine are written in a good spirit, and display more than average ability.

Douglas Jerrold manfully pleads the part of the labouring classes, and exposes the grievous wrongs inflicted on the industrious by the idle, under the present system. The article headed "Peasants and Pheasants" is one of singular power and cogency; if we thought he had sufficient brains to comprehend it we should recommend it to the consideration of Mr. Grantley Berkeley.

George Cruikshank takes the field against mesmerism, and cuts it in capital style. We extract from his pages the following: "Lines on a Block of Ice brought from America without melting, and exhibited in a Window in the Strand":—

"Ice placed within a shop or room  
Will turn to water, we presume;  
For 'tis a solvent, all agree;  
But here in solvent ice we see.

"Yet, though we cannot solve the ice,  
We solve the riddle in a trice;  
It comes from Pennsylvania's state,  
And therefore will not liquidate."

**SNIPE NOT GAME.**—Lord Mountechel lately prosecuted two officers of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, stationed at Clogher Barracks, for shooting snipe on his grounds without leave, contrary to the 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 9, sect. 69; but it was suggested that "snipe was not game," and therefore that the penalties were not incurred. Mr. Brewster and the Solicitor-General have since given their opinion, confirming this view of the case. "Snipe," they say, "is not game."

**LUGGAGE LABELS.**—We have received from the office of the Railway Bell, a packet of very convenient luggage-labels for the use of travellers. They are covered at the back with an adhesive preparation similar to that of the postage-stamps, so as to be always ready for immediate use; and the printed directions on them are precisely those which are most requisite for passengers.

**FREE-TRADE MEETING AT HACKNEY.**—A numerously-attended and most respectably-composed district meeting was held on Friday evening, in the Assembly Room of the Merald Tavern, Hackney, for the purpose of advocating the principles of Free Trade, and aiding the National Anti-Corn-Law League in carrying out those principles. There were many ladies present. George Ofor, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, in which he was supported on the one side by the Rev. J. James Carlile, and on the other by Dr. Oxley, &c. Mr. George Thompson addressed the meeting at some length, in his usually effective manner, and at the conclusion of his speech received enthusiastic and long-continued applause. The Rev. James Carlile, before moving the first resolution, proceeded to read a letter which he had received from the Rev. and venerable Dr. John P. Smith, in which the rev. doctor, after an expression of regret at his inability to attend, proceeded to remark:—"In particular I ardently wish that all religious and faithful persons would pay serious attention to the abundant demonstration of not merely the impolicy and mischief of the Corn Laws and their alliances (and whatever is impolitic and injurious must be sinful), but that those laws which are framed to enhance the price of provisions, and to diminish the means of obtaining them, are wicked and impious in a very high degree." The rev. gentleman then moved the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the parliamentary franchise is an element of political power which every citizen should seek, by all lawful and proper means, to possess; that, on this ground, they have learned with high satisfaction that the Council of the League has directed its attention to the extension of the franchise, by the enlargement of the county constituency of this country;—a measure which in several of the northern counties has been crowned with signal success. And, believing this plan of action to be in harmony with the spirit of British law, this meeting would express their determination to co-operate with the League, by endeavouring to extend the constituency of the important county of Middlesex." Dr. Oxley seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously. A vote of thanks was then moved to Mr. George Thompson, "for his able exposition of the principles which should regulate the commerce of this and every other nation," &c.

**WEST HACKNEY.**—Wednesday a meeting was held at the British School-room, Kingsland, to hear a lecture on the extension of Free-Trade principles, from Mr. George Thompson. The Rev. C. J. Dukes took the chair, and, after an able address, introduced to the meeting Mr. George Thompson, who, after an eloquent and feeling tribute to the early exertions of the venerable Clarkson on behalf of injured Africa, addressed the meeting most effectively on the principles of Free Trade, and detailed the successful efforts of the League in the registration counts throughout the country. The lecturer, after energetically exhorting the people of Middlesex to rescue the county from its present anomalous representation in Parliament, addressed some excellent observations to the meeting on the necessity of early qualification, and set down amidst enthusiastic cheering. Mr. F. Clark moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting cordially approve the efforts made by the League to extend the franchise throughout the boroughs and counties of England, and renounce in the strongest manner, up to the present time, the cowardly efforts, and pledges itself to co-operate for the furtherance of the great object. This meeting would also express its gratification in the prospect of the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, and its hope that the ladies of this neighbourhood will cordially unite in the undertaking." Mr. S. Green, of Newington, seconded it, and it was carried unanimously. The meeting, after votes of thanks to Mr. G. Thompson and the Chairman, separated.

It is an interesting circumstance, and one confirmatory of the improvement of trade, that there are fewer unemployed seamen in the port of London than for many years past.

## AGRICULTURE.

### THE MONOPOLIST LITTLE-GO.

WE ARE ALL UNANIMOUS?

On Thursday se'night three hundred monopolists, peers, squires, tradesmen, and farmers, met at Brighton, to bow down before the altar of landlordism. The golden calf on this occasion, the particular object of adoration, was the Duke of Richmond. Indeed, looking at the report of the proceedings, one is inclined to say the meeting had its origin in the idol's avidity for incense. The Duke was the Alpha and Omega; monopoly and all the rest were incidentals. As a ministration to the vanity of a grandee, and an illustration of the power of acres to induce men to "eat dirt" before the possessor, the meeting was one of much success. But as a demonstration in favour of protection it was a complete failure. It was probably intended as a rehearsal of the farce of unanimity amongst the monopolists, which is to be performed next week in London. What was the result our readers shall presently see. It is plain that the most careful preparation had been made to prevent all appearance of discord, for the meeting "for business" had been held in the morning with closed doors, the "society's reporter" only having been admitted. And, although these precautions had prevented all except one gentleman from openly expressing dissatisfaction, there was scarcely a single speaker who did not incidentally disclose the wide-spread discontent with their monopolist leaders, which prevails amongst the farmers.

The meeting was composed in a great measure of landlords, land-agents, and tradesmen, together with such tenant-farmers as are under the immediate influence of the chief landlords of the district. The one of the monopolist grandees was to flatter the farmers by the most outrageous and absurd panegyrics; to assume that in struggling for protection the landowners were only seconding a spontaneous movement by the farmers; and to keep up a show of entire unanimity between the monopolist landlords and their oft-debated tenants. Thus the Duke of Richmond talked about everything but farmers and farming. He referred to his own soldiering, his family, the League, and the Duke of Wellington with the most excellently arranged incoherence; but of monopoly rents and natural prices, insecure tenures and heavy burdens, and all the other subjects which now fill every tenant-farmer's mind with care and anxiety, the ducal president of the "Central Protection Society" uttered not one syllable. Then there was Mr. Stafford O'Brien,

member for Northamptonshire,—one of the few county members who can string together two consecutive sentences, albeit he usually talks nonsense,—who furnished the "eloquence" of the evening. He complimented the local protectionist committee on their business-like manner of communicating with the "room in Bond-street;" and said,—"Patience under difficulty, belief and faith in the constituted authorities, belief in the efficacy of truth, generous inclination to forgive injuries and aspersions, were interwoven with the character of the English farmer." Again, in the same strain of fulsome flattery, Mr. O'Brien said:—"But, my lord duke, high as is your station, high as is your social position in this country, you cannot, for no subject could, receive a higher honour than that of being the honoured and trusted president of such a body of men as I now see before me." If the farmers are now to be deluded by such trash as that, they will deserve all the distress they at present suffer. But, in fact, none of them are imposed upon by such "talk;" they have proved its hollowness, and are daily losing faith in their would-be leaders; and none know this better than the monopolist would-be leaders.

After Mr. O'Brien followed Mr. John Ellman, once a great farmer, but now a small squire, and an especial "toady" of the Duke of Richmond. And we are glad that this person can no longer be classed as a farmer, for the brutality of the following passage has only been paralleled by an acrid monopolist in Lincolnshire. He said—"Ours is strictly a defensive society. It will be remembered that we merely united when we were attacked, when the Anti-Corn-Law League came into our county town of Lewes, and by their itinerant orators invited the farmers to attend. They did not do so, and I will tell you why. It was a matter of serious consideration whether the League should be met or not, and at last it was resolved that they should not, for the farmers, not only of Sussex, but throughout the kingdom, had been aspersed and vilified in such a manner, that there was very great excitement amongst them; and in order to prevent a breach of the peace, which I verily believe would have taken place if the young farmers of Sussex had attended, they abstained from doing so. Gentlemen, the meeting was very near the pure stream of the cause, and I am not at all sure that the League orators might not have performed an involuntary ablution in that stream, or in a horsepond, which was quite as near." This gross calumny upon the farmers of Sussex proceeds from a man lately one

of their own body, but now, by the favour and for the objects of the Lord Lieutenant, a county magistrate! But Mr. Ellman is well aware of the absolute untruth of his statement: he knows that, however egged on, there would not be found ten farmers, young or old, in the county of Sussex who would perpetrate any such act of violence; and, even if there were any persons capable of outrage towards the Free-Trade speakers, such ruffians would not dare to show themselves in an open meeting. It is only in the packed meetings of the monopolists that the free expression of opinion is put down. The statement, however, proceeding from such a quarter, shows what sort of language is chosen by those most anxious to curry favour with the landed grandees, wherewith to tickle their ears.

Nothing was so much insisted upon as unanimity; thus Mr. Ellman said—"The great point is that we should be unanimous;" the League "is at this moment endeavouring to sever the connexion between the landlords, the tenantry, and the labourers." Let our reader go to any market-table in England, let him stop and talk with the first agricultural labourer he meets with in any part of the country, and he will soon discover that it requires no effort on our parts to "sow divisions" between the industrious agricultural classes and the landowners. The squirearchy has taken care to leave us no room for such exertions, were we inclined to make them. We have had nothing more to do than to mention the existence of such divisions, and to show their connexion with the rent-protecting Corn Laws.

The Duke of Richmond said—"I hold that one of the great objects of the protection society, and one of the great benefits it proposes to accomplish, is, that by its means the landlord, the tenant, and the labourer are united in the same cause." We have no doubt that such was the "proposed" object of the protection society; but has it done so? We shall see presently. Even the poor simple Duke of Norfolk made "one remark," and that was that "it was by such unanimity as that which prevailed amongst them, that they were enabled to show the Anti-Corn-Law League that they were determined to stand, and not only assert, but defend, their rights and privileges."

So also Mr. Darby declared "that there is no jealousy between landlord and tenant, and that they are determined to co-operate together." And he asserted that it was only necessary to "show a bold front," and "be unanimous," to maintain the Corn Laws. And he thus advised the farmers to

"follow the excellent advice of Mr. Ellman, and not take for granted any facts on the authority of the Anti-Corn-Law League, or any other body that is not friendly to us, but if there is any question on which you entertain doubts with respect to the importation of foreign corn, that you will submit it to the Protection Society; for what your enemies wish is to make you desperate, to sow dissension amongst us, and, finding they cannot prevail by their own force, they hope to do so by our weakness. But I trust that the straightforward good sense of the gentry, yeomanry, and labourers of this country will be sufficient to guard against their endeavours; and I am perfectly satisfied if you trust to this society which you have yourselves formed, if you apply to it to give you any information you want, if you take your facts from your friends whom you trust, instead of from your enemies whom you ought to distrust, then I say, looking at such meetings as these, I cannot help looking forward to the future with the hope that, in looking back upon the past, we have seen the worst."

Now, all these exhortations to unanimity indicate that there is a screw loose somewhere; and Mr. Darby's warning against receiving "facts" from the League, is an amusing proof that the farmers' faith in the "Bond-street" facts has been somewhat shaken. Men do not exhort those to be unanimous who have never differed; or tell those who have only accepted information from friends not to listen to opponents. But, beyond the circumstantial evidence of discord which is to be found in the speeches of the lords and M.P.'s, we have the direct testimony of other speakers. For instance, Mr. Edward Wyatt said, "He had been frequently asked this question, and asked, too, by practical farmers, 'Why do you belong to the Protection Society? What good have they done you?'" And Mr. Wyatt, like other and greater monopolists, found that a rather difficult question to answer; therefore he left it unanswered, and set to and abused the League. And Mr. Prime, the active committee-man, said, "I was sorry to hear it whispered here and there, that some members of our body, who had formed exaggerated notions of what was to be effected by the society, have been disappointed that nothing more striking—that nothing more magnificent—should have been achieved by its operations. It is highly necessary we should warn our associates against such chimerical notions." And we can easily understand this feeling; for surely never did such a mountain in labour as the Pro-Corn-Law meetings of last year bring forth such ridiculous abortions as the acts of the Protection Societies in opposition to Free Trade.

Again, Mr. A. Denman, a farmer, stated, "on his own personal observation," that prior to the formation of the society "there were, in his own neighbourhood, some who were wavering on this great question,—nay, who were just going over to

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the League." Mr. Denman gave as a toast, "The Labourers," and in so doing, said:—

"If, however, I am not tiring you, I would beg to call your attention to the present condition of the labourers. I grieved to see that there was to-day very great distress reported to exist amongst them; and I can myself say, from my own practical knowledge and observation, THAT SUCH IS THE CASE. Yet I am disposed to think that, though we may not be able to give them employment, yet we may, to a very great extent, sympathize with them."

This is the farmers' account of the condition of the labourers; presently we shall hear the monopolist duke's.

Then occurred a scene to which we can only do justice by giving it in the very words of the reporter:—

"Mr. Wood (of Hicksted): My lord duke, as a small farmer—[Mr. Wood was seated at the lower end of the room; the reporters were near the head of the table; consequently we could not see what was going on, but sounds as of a person struggling with others reached even our distant part of the room. This was mixed with loud cries of 'Order, order!']

"Mr. Wood: I beg to be allowed to—(loud cries of 'No, no, no,' mixed with a partial 'Hear, hear, hear.') Mr. Wood continued amidst the interruptions: My lord duke, hear me! Let us drink the health of those labourers in cold water, for that is the liquor which the labourers are now obliged to drink. (Cries of 'Order, order,' and confusion.)

"The Duke of Richmond: Gentlemen (cries of 'Order, order; chair, chair'), as your chairman (the confusion still prevailing, there were loud cries of 'Chair, chair, chair,' from all parts; over and above all which, one cry of 'Chair,' in a most stentorian voice, was at length heard, and appeared to produce the desired effect of restoring order.) As your chairman (repeated his grace on silence being obtained), it is my duty to call that gentleman to order who has caused this interruption. (Applause.) I never have shrunk, nor I never will shrink, from the duty which I feel myself imperatively called upon to perform. Gentlemen, the toast that has been proposed, and most ably proposed, by that gentleman [Mr. Denman] (loud cheers), was intended to show our good-will towards the labourers of the county. Gentlemen, in the first part of this evening I was called upon, or I felt myself called upon, to express to you the good opinion which I had of that class. I feel that they are the main instruments of our prosperity, and that they are of great importance to the country at large; for how could we plough the field—how could we cultivate the soil—unless we had our honest, industrious, and independent labourers? (Cheers.) It is in this light I look upon them; and I may now be permitted to say that I have the honour of being the president of the first association which asked the meritorious labourers to dine at their board. (Loud cheers.) Are we, then, to be interrupted by a gentleman stating that water alone is what they have to drink? (PARTIAL APPLAUSE.) I affirm, without the fear of contradiction, that the farmers of Sussex have ever felt, and I trust they ever will feel, that imperative duty which we are all of us bound to perform, that 'We should do unto others that which we wish to be done to ourselves.' (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, in the district which I reside in, I am happy to say that there are no men out of employment, who have not misconducted themselves in their employment. (Cheers.) I stated at the Steyning agricultural meeting, that I felt it was the duty of the landowners to employ all the good men, and I would rather drink water myself for the rest of my life than see one man—(very great cheering which drowned the rest of the sentence). These things being so, then, I ask you now to respond to that tenant-farmer, who has so well expressed his opinions on this subject, and drink 'Prosperity to the labouring classes.'"

Drink water, indeed! Have not the labourers of Sussex dined (once) at the same table with me, the great I, and don't I feel for the labourers and think well of them; and is not that enough to sweeten everything they drink—though it may look like water—with a pleasant flavour, for the rest of their lives? Such was, in effect, the Duke's speech. Yet later in the evening the Duke, having a whole-some fear of the League before his eyes, thus qualified his round assertions, that there were no labourers out of employment, and that they were receiving "fair remuneration." He said,

"It is possible for the Anti-Corn-Law League to go down into my neighbourhood and find men who are only receiving eight shillings or nine shillings a week; but if they will inquire what their conduct has been, they will find it has been such that they have lost the confidence of their employers."

This is mere subterfuge. The confidence of a farmer in a farm-labourer, forsooth! We need not tell our readers that wages in Sussex are low, and employment precarious; and they will know how to estimate the Duke of Richmond's statements on this head at their true worth. His Grace probably employs constantly a certain number of men on his own domain, at fair wages, and then fancies, or affects to fancy, that all the "deserving" labourers are "receiving fair remuneration." We shall hereafter have occasion to refer to some particulars of the Duke's tenantry, and the management of his Sussex property, with which we have been furnished; and it will be seen that his self-vaunted liberality is a hollow and unsound thing.

We have only space to refer to one other occurrence at this meeting. All the landlords asserted and reiterated, in every variety of expression, that the protectionist movement of last year originated with the tenant-farmers; and Mr. Prime, in giving the "tenantry of the empire," said—

"Allow me, before I conclude, to call your attention to the fact that they were the men who originated these meetings—that they wear on their brows the immortal laurels of having commenced this movement; and that,

though supported, as I trust it ever will be, by the landlords, yet the tenant-farmers commenced it."

Yet, what was the truth, as pointedly stated and admitted at this very meeting?

The honorary secretary of the Sussex Protection Society is Mr. Walter Burrell, the son of a large landowner of the county, Sir Charles Burrell, a monopolist member of Parliament, and so forth. Of course such a secretary's health was toasted at such a meeting with all due reverence. But the proposer, Mr. Thomas Blaker, seems to have been one of those practical men who will give a reason,—country gentlemen, on the authority of the judges, are never safe if they give their reasons for their acts,—and he, to enhance the enthusiasm of the meeting, let out this awkward truth, that the society was got up by Mr. Burrell. He said:—

"I am aware, gentlemen, you all agree with me that he is 'the worthy son of a worthy sire'; but I cannot sit down without giving you some slight idea of the great labour he has undergone in our service. (Applause.) I remember about this time twelve months all around was darkness and dismay: then it was that our secretary came forward with scarcely six tenant-farmers to back him; and he,—by his exertions and by the suavity of his manners,—he it was that was in a great degree the cause of the great meeting at Steyning, and of the party which is gathered together to-day—a party that I should be very glad if Sir Robert Peel could see. (Cheers and laughter.) I am quite sure, my lord duke and gentlemen, that, so long as we can continue the services of our secretary, so long will our meetings be equally large and powerful; for there is not a man in existence that could have spent more of his time in support of this cause, that could have been more accessible, more courteous when called on, more kind in his manner, or more competent to the discharge of his duties, than our worthy secretary."

Here we have the whole secret. The suavity of Mr. Burrell, backed by all the influence of Sussex landlordism—of which he seems to be a mild impersonation—"with scarcely six tenant-farmers to back him," succeeded in getting up a meeting, which the landocracy thought could be passed off as a spontaneous movement by tenant-farmers.

#### TRUE FARMERS' FRIENDS.

The tone always assumed towards the tenant-farmers by the monopolist landlords is peculiarly offensive. They patronise and they lecture; they profess to teach that which the farmers all know far better than their self-sufficient instructors; and, after all, they contrive to evade and shirk any reference to the real sources of the tenants' difficulties. Far from affording to their tenants that information which, from their leisure and education, they ought to be able to give, they endeavour to foster all the prejudices to which the cultivators of the soil sometimes cling. But in all this the political squires miscalculate. They greatly under-estimate the intelligence of the mass of tenant-farmers, in supposing that all the monopolist trash passes current with them.

This is clearly shown whenever a man of sense and education boldly and frankly offers to farmers an exposition of the system by which farmers have been made the dupes, the instruments, and the victims of the landlords. An illustration of this is afforded by the speech of Mr. James Brotherton—a relative of the excellent member for Salford—at Wingerworth Farmers' Club. On the anniversary meeting of the club, a large party of tenant-farmers assembled, and, after the usual routine toasts, Mr. James Brotherton was called upon to propose "Success to Agriculture." After commencing by an able statement of the direct and immediate interest farmers have in understanding the science of their business, which he illustrated by the advantages derived from correct analyses of the soil, the amalgamation of different soils, and the right application of manures, he said—

"Farmers' clubs were established not only to discuss and promote the improvements which are more immediately connected with the practical cultivation of the soil, but also as affording to the tenant-farmers an opportunity of discussing, and so to lay the foundation for removing, the obstacles which cripple their energies, and prevent them from deriving that fair proportion of advantage from the prosecution of their trade which they have a right to expect." This is true, and we have no doubt that farmers will soon turn these clubs to some such account. A few addresses to farmers' clubs, like that of Mr. Brotherton, will help on that desirable consummation. And the way in which his speech was received will encourage other gentlemen to address tenant-farmers like men of business and common sense. It is time the "preacher" "preacher," adult-instruction tone adopted towards farmers should cease. The time is come when they must look to realities, and eschew the delusions of monopolist landowners. Let them attend to Mr. Brotherton, and mark the reception of his outspoken truths by his tenant-farmer audience:—

"I am aware that, in most of the farmers' clubs which have been established in different parts of the country, great anxiety has been evinced by certain parties to exclude the discussion of what they call (and I believe them) 'obnoxious subjects'—such as rents, leases, and game. (Loud cheers.) But somehow or other, in almost every club of whose proceedings I have seen any account, these 'obnoxious subjects' have crept in, in spite of all the shifts and manoeuvres which have been resorted to to keep them out. (Continued cheers and laughter.) And, gentlemen, I think it perfectly right that these things should be discussed. (Renewed cheers.) There are times

when farmers must speak out, not only about guano and drilling, but about land-agents, land-valuers, and game-preservers (LOUD CHEERS); and indeed it would be no compliment to a landlord to suppose that he would wish you to keep silence upon those topics which affect the privileges and just rights of your occupation, and more especially upon those grievances which it may be in his power to alleviate or remove. (VOCIFEROUS CHEERING.)"

Mr. Brotherton then quoted several passages from Professor Low's recent work "On Landed Property," to show that leases and fair rents are essential to agricultural prosperity; and he concluded with an eloquent exposition of the dependence of agriculture upon the prosperity of our commerce and manufactures.

Mr. Binns, who followed, made, in the course of his speech, the following just remark, that land-agents are often blamed for acts which really lie at the landlords' door. He said:—

"Mr. Brotherton had alluded to the land agents, against whom a heavy score was laid. Now, he thought that class of people were rather too roundly rated, and that more was fathered upon them than they were justly entitled to bear. (Laughter.) Let them look at the matter fairly. A land-agent goes to the landlord and says, 'My lord,' or 'Sir'—as the case may be—'the times are bad, and it is impossible that I can collect the full amount of rent; you must make some allowance.' 'Oh,' says the landlord, 'I can't hear of such a thing; I have been giving fêtes and balls in London (LOUD LAUGHTER AND CHEERS); I have spent £100,000, and must have money to pay my debts.' (Hear, hear.) In such a case what was the poor agent to do? How could he help himself when he received imperious commands like these? Let them not be too hard upon the agents."

Again, on the subject of tenure, he said:—

"A man takes a farm; his landlord for the time being may be a reasonable one, and the tenant has an inward conviction that he will not be displaced so long as he pays the rent; but then, probably, he has to look forward to the coming of a future heir to the estate, who may, from caprice, or a variety of motives, blight the prospects of the tenant at a breath, and drive him at a short notice from the farm. (Cries of 'Hear, hear.') The industry of years is, as it were, lost to him; he receives no compensation worth the name for the hardship he endures, and can obtain no sufficient reason for the visitation brought upon him. (RENEWED CRIES OF 'HEAR, HEAR.')

This often proceeds from the ignorance of landlords:—

"He had no hesitation in saying that nine-tenths of the landlords in this country were not aware of the state of their tenantry. This fact of itself was a very unfortunate one, and pregnant with great meaning. He (Mr. Binns) had been engaged all his life with landowners; he was, however, free from them now, and right glad he was to be so. (MUCH CHEERING AND LAUGHTER.) He wanted the saddle to be placed on the right horse."

As to the capacity of the soil for improvement, he said:—

"Mr. Brotherton had given them an instance of a celebrated chemist doubling the produce of a farm. In three years, he (Mr. Binns) had trebled the produce on a portion of his farm. (Cheers.) There was not a farmer in that room who could have done this—and why? Because he had not sufficient capital to expend in the necessary experiments, whereas he (Mr. Binns) had the capital of a large company at command. (Hear, hear.) He was told by Mr. Stephenson to adopt the best method and grow as much as possible, in order that the agriculturists of the district might see what skill and capital could accomplish. During the last three years he had produced on land which some present know to be the worst round Clay Cross, and which had let at £1 an acre, very considerable crops. When he entered upon his small farm he put in 70,000 draining tiles; he had now capital standing upon it to the amount of £6000, but he had no hesitation in saying that in three years' time he would not have one farthing of capital upon it. (Hear.)"

We know cases in which farmers have entered upon farms in the full expectation of raising treble the crops which had been raised by their predecessors; and these, too, shrewd, money-making men, who have founded their calculations of profit upon success in so doing. Mr. Holland, a farmer, also said:—

"The farmers ought to use every effort to improve their condition, considering the diminished price of corn and cattle. If landlords would come forward when tenants were in difficulties, and say, 'We will meet your case by reducing the rent' (LOUD CHEERS), their struggles would meet with some alleviation. But such was not the case. Instead of meeting them with sympathy, on a tenant's complaining, the answer, in a majority of cases, was, 'If you do not like to stay on the farm, you may leave it; we have plenty waiting for it.' (Hear, hear.) Let the farmers then, in future, depend more upon themselves. He knew there were some landlords who acted upon the principle, 'Live and let live,' BUT UNFORTUNATELY THEY WERE FEW, COMPARATIVELY. (Hear, hear.) Farmers' clubs would tend to unite farmers in one common bond of agreement in all that concerned their mutual interests. Talent and experience would be brought to their aid, together with the advantages of superior implements; and by aiding each other, by concentrating their means of information and acting upon them, they would be able to stand in their own defence much more effectually than in their merely individual capacity. (Hear, hear.) What was of importance, too, they would produce more effect upon the landlords. (CHEERS.)"

The following instance of liberality on the part of a landowner ought not to be omitted.

Mr. Brown, the agent of Sir Henry Hanuloke, said:—

"He had occasion to accompany Sir Henry Hanuloke over part of the estate, and was struck on observing that one tenant, who had entered upon barren land at 3s. an acre, had made it worth 20s. (Cheers.) The tenant asked for such security only as would repay him for the outlay; and his landlord, instead of taking advantage of the improvement made in his property, at once gave him a

lease, in order to secure the tenant against the possibility of a successor to the estate dealing unfairly by him. (Loud cheers.) He (Mr. Brown) made a valuation, and instead of the tenant paying 25s. an acre (the real value), he had a security at 3s. 6d. (Renewed cheers.) As regarded himself, he (Mr. Brown) was favourable to leases. (Hear.)

#### AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

West Binny, by Linlithgow, Jan. 20.

Sir,—I have looked week after week, but in vain, through the LEAGUE (the best agricultural newspaper in the United Kingdom), expecting some one of your intelligent correspondents or lecturers would state something about the iniquitous waste of valuable manure, from the Land's-end to John-o'-Groat's House. But no one has spoken or written about this (in my humble opinion) crying sin, if I may be allowed to call it; I conceive we may as well tumble as many quarters of wheat into the Irwell, Thames, Mersey, Clyde, Forth, or any other rivulet or river which conducts it ultimately into the sea. I have had occasion lately, in pursuing my business (selling turnips to dairymen and others) both in Edinburgh and Glasgow, to see almost every dungcart in every lane in both cities; and no one who has not seen it would believe the incalculable loss sustained from the manure and urine, more especially of the cows, to say nothing of the horses, running to waste. I am the more confirmed that my calculation is just—viz., that if every man, woman, and child preserved their offals, by covering them up with earth, plaster of Paris, or something else, to keep in the ammonia (I have tried it for some time), and if all the manure in these kingdoms were properly husbanded, notwithstanding our increase of 1000 per day, we would, by sending it along by road and rail, conduit and pail, and other conveyances, be enabled to send out corn in those vessels that are now bringing in guano from Ichaboe, &c. We would then save the carriage of other manures, after having fed every mouth of man and beast in the land to the full; and I hold that every man who works for his bread by the sweat of his brow has as good a right to be fed and clad as any other nobleman in the land. I would suggest to you to send, with my best respects (that of a Linlithgowshire farmer), to every chief magistrate in every town in her Majesty's dominions (and the small villages and villas will hear of it), this advice about dung, after having put it into a condensed form in your paper. I would further only beg to add that, until the hand that writes this is turned as cold as the earth from which it was taken, I shall never cease to write and to speak against the accursed and most unjust laws which starve our less-favoured and worse-used brethren. I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Yours, most respectfully,

J. THOMSON, Tenant-farmer.

Since writing the prefixed, I have observed in the LEAGUE the hard case of Mr. John Hardcastle; and beg to say that, if he requires it, to obtain a better farm and a better landlord, I shall cheerfully add my mite to any subscription that may be set a-going for that purpose.

"An Essex Farmer," writing to the *Times* on the fact that rents and tithes are doubled and trebled since 1790, while the prices of corn and meat are now about the same as they were fifty years ago, says—

"Prices for corn and meat fell lower and lower, unless influenced by scarcity; and no ingenuity of the worthy Northampton baronet or of the protection societies will ever get them up, if Englishmen are true to their own interests and to their country. Rents and tithes must be assailed. The farmer does not require high prices for his produce. Land is always cultivated better with low—if requires less capital in money, and more in labour."

That farmers should desire to render prices artificially high is, indeed, most strange. Low prices and abundant produce are what the farmer should seek.

#### THE GAME LAWS.

On Thursday a numerous meeting of the farmers and inhabitant rate-payers of the parish of Ruiship, Middlesex, was held in the vestry room of Ruiship church, "to consider the cruelty, injustice, and ruinous consequences of the game laws, with a view to petition Parliament for the repeal or modification of the same." Mr. N. Sones, a landed proprietor, was in the chair. Resolutions, and a petition in accordance with the objects of the meeting, were agreed to.

"SPECIAL BURDENS."—In Great Britain the proportion of taxation borne by land is one-thirty-fourth; in France two-thirds; in Prussia and Austria one-half; and yet the landed interest talks of its special burdens.—*Complete Suffrage Almanac.*

CORN AND TIMBER DUTIES.—The *Economist* argues that the corn and timber of all countries having treaties with us containing "the most favoured nations" clause, are admissible at the colonial duties only, which are levied on American corn and timber and the river St. John, by the 23rd clause of the Ashburton treaty.

THE VOICE OF TIME.—The voice of Time cries to man, Advance! Time is for his advancement and improvement; for his greater worth, his greater happiness, his better life; his progress onward to that goal within his knowledge and his view, and set there in the period when time and he began. Ages of darkness, wickedness, and violence, have come and gone: millions uncountable have suffered, lived, and died: to point the way before him. Who seeks to turn him back, or stay him on his course, arrests a mighty engine which will strike the meddler dead; and be the horror and the wilder, ever, for its momentary check!—*The Times.*

INCENDIARISM.—We regret to observe several instances of this crime. On the night of Saturday last the premises of Mr. Harrison, of Tipworth, near Bury, were discovered to be on fire, and two barns, two stables, a cow-house with three cows and a calf, and a granary with a large quantity of corn, were destroyed. On Sunday night a barn stack, belonging to Mr. Gupp, of Walsingham-le-Willows, was destroyed by fire. Several other fires have lately occurred in this parish, but in no instance have the perpetrators been discovered.—*Cambridge Advertiser.*

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Admirer of the League."—"Having recently purchased a freehold piece of land within the borough, which I intend to occupy myself, but it is not connected with the property which gives me a borough vote. The land has no building erected on it, but is of a sufficient value to give a county vote. Am I entitled to claim?"

[Freehold land, without building thereon, of the value of 40s. per annum, in own occupation, will enfranchise for the county, but not for the borough.]

We announced last week, that the communications made by our correspondents with reference to the space devoted to Advertisements were under the consideration of the Council. We now beg to announce that the Council has resolved to confine the Advertisements to the last page.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 1, 1845.

The Ministerial changes announced in the *Times* of Thursday morning have taken the public by surprise. Of these the most important is the resignation of the Presidency of the Board of Trade, by Mr. Gladstone,—certainly one of the most active and intelligent members of the Government. According to the *Times*, the right honourable gentleman retires because the concessions which the Ministers are prepared to make to the Irish people involve a greater sacrifice of the exclusive privileges of the Church of England in Ireland than is consistent with Mr. Gladstone's well-known opinions on ecclesiastical supremacy. Rumour adds that there was also a wide difference of opinion between the Premier and the President of the Board of Trade on the subject of the sugar-duties; and that the extensive connexion of Mr. Gladstone's family with railroads led other members of the Cabinet to doubt the propriety of his continuing to hold office in a department to which the official supervision of railway speculations has been intrusted. Lord Dalhousie will be the new President of the Board of Trade; and his place as Vice-President will be filled by Mr. Cardwell, the member for Clitheroe.

Sir Thomas Fremantle will be the new Secretary for Ireland; and he will be succeeded in the post of Secretary at War by Mr. Sidney Herbert, who will also be admitted to a seat in the Cabinet. The Earl of Lincoln, whose administration of the Woods and Forests has given general satisfaction, and who is believed, at least, to waver in his attachment to the corn monopoly, will be received with his present office into the Cabinet. Both secretaryships of the Admiralty are vacant: it is understood that one will be given to Mr. Corry. Some other changes are rumoured, but none of any greater interest or importance than those we have mentioned.

The publication of these changes in the *Times* is, of course, regarded as a significant cut to the *Standard-Herald*,—a connexion of which Sir Robert Peel has been long known to be heartily weary and ashamed. Indeed, some short time since, the *Standard*, for self and shadow, was forced to disavow all connexion with the Ministry, by declaring that the present Government had no official organ. We take little interest in these squabbles of journals; but, if there must be such a thing as a Ministerial paper, we are glad to find it one of a respectable character.

Since the above was written we have received information that Mr. Cardwell's elevation is doubtful, the Government not being certain that the hon. gentleman's re-election is secure.

#### THE LEAGUE BAZAAR.

What are the friends of Corn-Law abolition in Kelso purposing to do in aid of the Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre in the month of May next? We would cordially invite our townsmen, and especially the ladies, to set about the formation of such articles as they may have in their power to forward to this great national demonstration. In the view of allowing all to participate in so noble a work, we would also suggest that betwixt this and may next a *soiree* be held, and the tickets of admission fixed at such a price as will put it in the power of the great majority to contribute their mite on such a glorious occasion. We trust that a "Bazaar Committee" will be immediately formed, and the necessary arrangements set on foot. We shall be glad to receive any suggestions from our friends in different localities.—*Kelso Chronicle.*

We have pleasure in making known to the friends of Free Trade, that the commencement of a movement in support of the National Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in May next in Covent-garden Theatre, has been made in Hull by one every way worthy to take the initiative in so good and so commendable a work. In this town, where it is above all things difficult to prevail upon any to take the lead, example is everything; and by none could such an example be set with more propriety than by the chairman of the Free-Trade Council, Sir William Lowthrop. With a view to combine the useful and the ornamental in his Bazaar donation, Sir William purchased a valuable timepiece, for which he gave ten guineas, and at once placed it at the disposal of the committee in Manchester. We are of opinion that Sir William Lowthrop could adopt no better plan for aiding the Free-Trade Bazaar than a public tea-meeting at the Victoria-room; The Rev Mr. Aspinall has kindly promised to attend; and, were it necessary, we could secure the presence of a member of the Free-Trade Council at Manchester. But Mr. Aspinall is a host in himself, and with the assistance of our own merchants, shipowners, and tradesmen, and more especially if countenanced by the fair sex, there can

be no doubt that we should succeed in the establishment of an influential Bazaar committee. Such a meeting is wanted, at all events, to infuse fresh spirit into the Free-Trade; and, were only proper energy displayed, it might be held in the course of the ensuing week. Without a tea-meeting, the proceedings with respect to the Bazaar will be all of an isolated character.—*Hull Advertiser.*

As soon as the intention of the League to hold a Bazaar was made known, the spirited weavers of Barnard-Castle at once determined that their town should be represented by a specimen of hand-loom carpet-weaving. It was considered that a subscription of £15 would cover the material for a carpet of the finest description. Not satisfied with this, however, it has been ultimately determined that a Persian rug, a Scotch, a Brussels, and a Venetian carpet, shall be prepared, each with an original pattern, allusive to Free Trade. The materials will, in all, cost £30. We are glad to say that £22 are already subscribed, and no doubt the balance will be speedily forthcoming. Let every town in the county of Durham "go and do likewise." We have great pleasure in recording the spirit displaying at Barnard-Castle, and recommend this zealous and active little town to the notice of the advocates of the League, who have hitherto overlooked it.—*Tyne Mercury.*

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The Chamber of Deputies divided, on Thursday, on the following amendment to the first paragraph of the address:—"Our labours ended, a few months ago, in the midst of complications which clear-sighted and firm conduct might have prevented, or terminated in a more satisfactory manner." On the question being put to the vote, the Ministry had a majority of twenty-eight—a larger number than was expected. A very interesting discussion took place on Saturday evening, on the third paragraph of the address, which alludes to the identity of Mr. Pritchard. The following amendment was moved:—"We learn with satisfaction, that harmony, so necessary for the peace of the world, has been maintained between the two states. But we regret that, in conceding a reparation which is not due, sufficient account was not held of the rules of justice and of reciprocity, which France will always respect." On a division, the numbers appeared so nearly equal, that there was considerable doubt as to which party had the majority. The President, however, after consulting with the secretaries, declared the amendment lost. After much further discussion, another division took place, when the Ministers had a majority of eight only. The remaining paragraphs of the address were voted *seriatim*, and ultimately the whole address was carried by a majority of 183—a number which, being wholly unexpected, caused great surprise. It is anticipated that a further effort will be made to overthrow the Guizot Ministry, on the vote for the Secret Service Money Bill.

In an express of the *Herald* of yesterday, their French correspondent states that on Wednesday a meeting of Conservative deputies was held, when not less than 47 adhesions were given in to the Ministry. The King's answer to the address of the deputies is also given; and in it his French Majesty speaks warmly of the happy relations established between France and England.

SWITZERLAND.—The latest accounts from Switzerland reported that country to be in a state of increasing agitation. At Argovie they were making preparation to attack Lucerne. Attempts were also making to induce other cantons to join some confederation which they call the "Popular Helvetic Association." The Council of Zurich has resolved, by a majority of nine to four, to send federal commissioners to Lucerne to insist upon the propriety of their receiving Jesuits to oppose the formation of the free corps, while at the same time interference in their affairs by other cantons would be promised to be put down by force if necessary.

ABD-EL-KADER.—The *Moniteur Algerien* of the 20th ult. announces that Abd-el-Kader remains at Sebra, in Morocco. His camp and his deira are well supplied by the religious gifts of the true believers. The *Algerien* states that "the last courier from Africa confirms the statement made by Marshal Bugeaud in the Chamber of Deputies relative to the position of Abd-el-Kader in Morocco. From all provinces of the empire deputations from the Berberes have visited him in his retreat, bringing him offerings, saluting him as the regenerator of Islamism, and offering him the assistance of their arms to combat the Christians, and to overthrow the dynasty which oppresses them, and which has abdicated the religious sovereignty by declaring impious the martyr of the faith, who during fourteen years defended his God, his religion, and his country."

BAYONNE, Jan. 24.—EXECUTION OF ZURBANO.—Zurbano was discovered in a house in the immediate neighbourhood of Logrono, on the road to the Sierra de Camaraz, near the spot where his two sons and other partisans had been arrested. The officer who effected his capture was an old comrade known under the sobriquet of El Rayo (the Thunderbolt). The latter had been long in pursuit of him, having sworn to take him alive or dead. His brother-in-law, Cayo Muro, a major of cavalry, on half-pay, was shot dead, in endeavouring to escape by a window. Zurbano was less fortunate; being taken prisoner, he was led to Logrono, where the Governor, Brigadier Aynat, commanded him immediately to prepare for death. He was shot in the back, in the market-place of Logrono, at eleven o'clock on the morning of the 21st inst. General Prim had been pardoned by the Queen at the recommendation, it is said, of Narvaez.

CATHOLICISM IN GERMANY.—DRESDEN, Jan. 19.—The Roman Catholics of this city who have resolved to withdraw from the supremacy of Rome, will take the next decisive step. We hear in a few days there is to be a general meeting, when M. Ronge will state his views respecting the measures which are now necessary.

ALEXANDRIA.—Intelligence to Jan. 6 states that the epidemic still raged among the cattle. Upwards of 8000 oxen imported from Tarsus had lately died of it in Lower Egypt. It would appear from reports current at Alexandria, that the Russians were collecting a large military force in Armenia, and that another treaty, like that of Unkar-Skelessay, was on the tapis at Constantinople.

UNITED STATES.—News from New York on Monday of January, by the ship *Ses*, reached Liverpool on Monday evening. It states that several schemes for the annexation of Texas were under discussion in the House of Representatives, but nothing decisive had been agreed to.

The Ohio resolutions p Quincy Adams of the Union Houses of the New Hampshire against Mexico—of Santa Anna a decree of C HORRIBLE American bri United States Jan. 30, long lying to in a water, turned loss of three moreable, and stuck to the w days, during of water were them during relief. Two making signal of canvas was to serve as a down the ma boxes and p American ship rannah, bound and took off to Liverpool, wh —Liverpool C THE STATE in the *Times* need not tell y no small share present circum state here, tha have made app allow me to w need, not bein I am to do G ment, and I an partner, popu most miserable ber, not kn we have been c get on food, fo 10 per cent. I be able to get about in the s of our new gov best the plac Two SANDW tress from the ad states, co English vessels

The Hon. Fr Bury, M.P., address on the A rumour ha laral member ed by Sir A considering the caption.—*Jew* A petition ag signature in Be ed by that c ary of our'chi rime-tax and rance of hel Drueck Ward On Saturday enous gale. On Sunday a rize, on the S Pexen, wanne I succeeded i rrometer, eigh On Tuesday, beach in the ro the Court of Ex A band of po with on Saturd are. The wat have been oblig The Reverend Oxford, Doctor taw, have agre cally upon the emanation of th the "Tracts for On Tuesday a regue-shed of Mies Plating, and injuring thr The Irish Rep Convention 11 spire, but the rent for the The friends tative at the H an excellent din Newgate-street, door with a go rine, with the f Ray, by his fr rousible; attain ing, and the vi The merchant complain to th his convenience a made to which a present that it The agitation m carried on v of Catholic opp



The Ohio House of Representatives had resolved the resolutions passed in the session of 1841-2, censuring John Quincy Adams for presenting a petition for the dissolution of the Union; the vote was—yeas 41, nays 21. Both Houses of the Ohio Legislature had passed resolutions in favour of the immediate occupation of Oregon. The New Hampshire Legislature has adopted decided resolutions against the present tariff.

Mexico.—Accounts from Mexico state that the army of Santa Anna had deserted him, and that he had been, by a decree of Congress, formally banished from Mexico.

HOORIBLE SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The American brig *Gazelle*, Captain Philbrook, from Bangor, United States, bound to Port-au-Prince, was capsized in lat. 30, long. 64, on the morning of December 12, while lying in a gale of wind. She immediately filled with water, turned bottom up, but soon righted again, with the loss of three men. The decks were swept of everything movable, and the bulwarks gone. The rest of the crew stuck to the wreck, on which they remained twenty-four days, during which time their sufferings from the absence of water were intense. No less than nine vessels passed them during that period, without affording them the least relief. Two men were stationed on the rigging constantly making signals of distress. On the eleventh day a piece of canvas was affixed to the mainmast, which was intended to serve as a bucket to catch what rain water might run down the mast. The only provisions were a few beef bones and pork rinds. On the 6th of January the American ship *Tamerlane*, Captain Theobald, from Savannah, bound to Liverpool, hove in sight, bore down, and took off the famished wretches, and brought them to Liverpool, where a subscription has been opened for them. —*Liverpool Chronicle*.

THE STATE OF NEW ZEALAND.—Extract of a letter (to the *Times*), dated Wellington, Oct. 10, 1844:—"I need not tell you that receiving news from home gives me a small share of consolation, and particularly under my present circumstances, for things have come to such a state here, that we are all on the point of starvation. I have made application to several captains of vessels to allow me to work my passage home, but could not succeed, not being able to perform a seaman's duty. What I am to do God only knows, for I cannot get employment, and I am sorry to say I am not the only one. My partner, poor fellow, is living with the Mourees in the most miserable state; and, for myself, I am walking the beach, not knowing how to procure a meal's victuals: we have been compelled to sell the land we purchased to get us food, for £6, land having decreased in value about 10 per cent.; and I expect in a short time people will be able to get it for 5s. per acre. The land claims are almost in the same state as they were before the arrival of our new governor; he has not done the least thing to benefit the place; if anything, he has made it worse."

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The *New York Sun* gives news from the Sandwich Islands to the 10th of August, and states, confidently, that the French have excluded English vessels from Tahiti.

## DOMESTIC.

The Hon. Francis Charteris, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Duff, M.P., are to be the mover and seconder of the Address on the Queen's speech.

A rumour has reached us, that a private meeting of the members of the Court of Common Council, convened by Sir Ashurst, has taken place, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning for Jewish emancipation. —*Jewish Chronicle*.

A petition against the income-tax is in the course of signature in Berwick. We observe that the names are headed by that of our worthy chief magistrate, followed by many of our chief citizens. The distinction between an income-tax and a property-tax is noticed, and the gross income of being both alike put in a striking light. —*Berwick Warder*.

On Saturday night Liverpool was visited with a tremendous gale. It is feared that great destruction to the shipping on the coast has taken place. One vessel, the *Monaster*, of London, which had sailed from Liverpool for Calcutta, had gone down on Hoyle Bank. The crew were saved. The *Athlon* steamer, which had sailed from Liverpool for Belfast, having M. Thalberg, and other passengers and vocalists on board, was in imminent peril for several hours, and was forced to put back.

On Sunday a collier vessel was discovered, in a sinking state, on the Scroby Sands, opposite Caistor. The yawl *Perseus*, manned with beachmen, put off to her assistance, and succeeded in rescuing five or six of the crew, but the remainder, eight in number, perished.

On Tuesday, Mr. Platt, who has been raised to the bench in the room of Mr. Baron Gurney, took his seat in the Court of Exchequer, with the other barons.

A band of poachers, about ten in number, were met with on Saturday night, on the Stoke estate, Herefordshire. The watchers were so severely beaten that they were obliged to keep their beds ever since.

The Reverend Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity, in Oxford, Doctor Fausset, and the Reverend Divinity Lecturer, have agreed to receive signatures for a requisition calling upon the convocation to pronounce a solemn condemnation of the doctrines contained in tract No. 90, of the "Tracts for the Times." —*Standard*.

On Tuesday morning last, a locomotive engine, in the possession of the Manchester and Leeds Railway, at Wharfedale, exploded, killing three of the workmen, and injuring three others.

The Irish Repeal Association met on Monday, at the Convention Hall. Mr. O'Connell was present and spoke, but the proceedings possessed no unusual interest. The rent for the week was £257.

The friends and pupils of Dr. Ryan, the chemical lecturer at the Royal Polytechnic Institution, sat down to an excellent dinner on Thursday last, at the Queen's Arms, Newgate-street, for the purpose of presenting the learned doctor with a gold watch and appendages, of 100 guineas value, with the following inscription:—"Presented to Dr. Ryan, by his friends and pupils, as a testimonial of his valuable attainments." The chairman was J. Frost, Esq., and the vice-chairman Henry Ault, Esq.

The merchants attending "Change have forwarded a memorial to the Grenham Committee, pointing out the inconvenience and want of comfort, and the currents of wind to which they are exposed in the quadrangle, with a request that it may be covered in.

The agitation in Ireland against the Bequests Act is not carried on with great energy. An aggregate meeting of Catholics opposed to the act is in preparation.

The Earl Rosse is elected representative peer for Ireland.

Bishop Higgins calls the Pope's Rescript very harmless, and says that, it being purely hypothetical, it leaves matters precisely as they were.

At a public dinner given at Judo's Hotel, Dublin, in aid of the fund for erecting a new Roman Catholic chapel at Chapelizod, Mr. O'Connell said, speaking of Lord Eliot:—"He came over here one day, and gave a dinner party; his lady gave a ball next day; he went to the Castle, looked about him, said very little to anybody, and then went back to England! There was the full and particular history of Lord Eliot's career as Secretary in this country!" Of Lord Heytesbury Mr. O'Connell said—"I do, in my conscience, believe that he is the primest humbug that ever humbugged this unfortunate humbugged country."

A desperate affray, accompanied with loss of life, occurred last week, at Killaloe, between a party of soldiers and their friends, and a party of police and some country people. The affray originated in the former, who had been amusing themselves fishing by night, having made free with a couple of geese belonging to a farmer named Gleeson, who, in consequence, procured the assistance of two constables, named Brophy and Callaghan, and some of his neighbours. The parties having come into collision, Gleeson and the police were knocked down: Callaghan was stabbed with his own bayonet till he lay for dead. Brophy received two bayonet-wounds, from the effects of which he, too, fell; but, watching an opportunity, again raised himself from the ground, and though writhing with pain, grasping the carbine which lay by his side, he discharged it in the direction of his antagonists, one of whom, a young man named John Ellis, fell dead, the ball having passed through his neck. Others of the parties were desperately wounded; and a man named Malone is missing, and is supposed to have received a shot and fallen into the river. While this dreadful affray was going on Gleeson had escaped from the island, but soon returned with a strong police party from Ballina and Killaloe, who made prisoners of the four soldiers and William and Joseph Ellis, brothers of the deceased. The military also received bayonet wounds in the desperate conflict with the police.

A frightful accident occurred at Limerick on Monday night last. The corpse of a woman named Mary Shaugnessy, who died the same day, was being waked in the attic story of an old house in the Abbey, where the friends of the deceased had assembled in numbers, as is usual among the humbler classes of society, when suddenly the floor gave way, and came down with a tremendous crash, bringing with it the other floors of the house, and burying over thirty poor creatures in the ruins. Assistance being procured, with much difficulty the rubbish was quickly cleared away, and the dead bodies of nine human beings were taken from beneath. Two others expired while being conveyed to Barrington's Hospital. There are seventeen persons in the hospital badly wounded.

## THE FUNDS.

	SAT. Jan. 26	SUN. Jan. 27	TUES. Jan. 28	WED. Jan. 29	THURS. Jan. 30	FRI. Jan. 31
Bank Stock	214	213	214	215	215	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
4 per Ct. Red. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Long. An. Ex. 1850	12 3 16	12 3 16	12 3 16	12 3 16	12 3 16	12 3 16
Govt. for Acct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Exc. Bille, pur.	64	64	64	64	64	64
Ind. Adv. Ind. 10000	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	284	—	244	285	286	—
Belgian Bonds	—	—	100	—	—	—
Brassilian Bonds	—	—	50	90	90	—
Mexico Ayres	—	—	40	—	40	—
Chilian	—	—	—	100	—	—
Colomb. ex. Venes.	—	14	14	—	—	14
Danish	—	—	90	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	98	98	98	98	98	98
Dutch 3 per Ct.	54	54	54	54	54	54
Portug. conv.	60	60	60	60	60	60
Spanish 5 per Ct.	27	27	27	27	27	27
Do. 3 per Cent.	43	40	40	40	40	40

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, Jan. 27.—The supply of English Wheat to this morning's market was short; nevertheless the sale was exceedingly slow at last Monday's rate, except for the best samples, which were taken off readily. The demand for Foreign Wheat was not active, but former prices were well maintained. The supply of English Barley was very large. The finest qualities were 1s. and secondary 2s. per qr. cheaper. Though the holders of Foreign Barley were unwilling to accept lower rates, the sale was of course affected by the decline in the value of English, and the quantity sold was in consequence very limited. No alteration in Beans. Peas were 1s. lower. The supply of Oats was moderate, but the lay days of many of the Irish vessels having expired, the trade was scarcely so good as on Friday, but the advance of 6d. from this day week was maintained. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

## BRITISH.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 45 to 54	
— Ditto — New — 42 — 48 — 44 — 54	
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old — 42 — 48 — 44 — 50	
— Scotch — 42 — 46 — 44 — 50	
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed — 23 — 24	
— Ditto — Polands — 23 — 26	
— Scotch Feed — 23 — 24 Potato 35 — 37	
— Limerick — 22 — 23	
— Ditto — Flue 21 — 23	
— Cork — 21 — 22	
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black Old and New 21 — 22	
— Bligo — New — 21 6 — 22 6	
— Galway — do. — 20 — 21 6	
Barley, New — 28 — 35	
Beans, Maragan Old 35 — 37 — New — 37 — 44	
— Harrow — do. 40 — 43 — do. — 34 — 40	
— Small — do. — 42 — 46	
Peas, White, New — 31 to 32 — Maple — 35 — 38	
Flour, Town-made — per sack of 48 lb. — 36 — 43	
— Norfolk and Suffolk — 34 — 38	

## FOREIGN.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed — 48 to 50	
— Rostock — 47 — 51	
— Stettin — 44 — 51	
— Hamburg — 43 — 48	
— Olesna — 43 — 48	
— Ditto — Polish — 47 — 50	
— Russian — soft — 43 — 48	
— Ditto — hard — 40 — 44	
— Spanish — Red — 45 — 49	
— Ditto — White — 40 — 44	

Barley, Grinding	36 — 39	—	—
— Distilling	30 — 32	—	—
Oats, Archangel	28 — 33	16	— 17
— Swedish	22 — 23	—	—
— Danish	22 — 24	—	—
— Stralsund	23 — 24	—	—
— Dutch Brew	24 — 25	18	— 19
— Polands	—	—	19 — 20
Beans, Egyptian	32 — 34	25	— 27
Peas, White	33 — 36	—	—
— Ditto Boilers	36 — 38	—	—
Flour, Canada	per barrel of 195 lbs	26 — 28	—
— United States	—	26 — 28	18 — 20
— Danzig	—	26 — 28	18 — 20

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Jan. 20 to Jan. 25, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	10668	11215	1793	2000	1356
Scotch	—	682	3946	6	—
Irish	—	—	12566	—	—
Foreign	—	730	—	628	—

Flour, 7980 sacks, — bars.

FRIDAY, Jan. 31.—The supplies of Wheat since Monday here have been moderate. Of Barley a fair quantity has arrived. The arrivals of Irish Oats are short; a few cargoes of Scotch are fresh up this morning, with a very small quantity from our own coast. The Wheat trade remains in precisely the same state as on Monday. Barley is not lower, though the trade continues exceedingly heavy. Oats are held for an advance of 6d., and as the buyers are unwilling to comply, the business doing is very limited. Beans and Peas remain as on Monday. The only alteration in the duties yesterday was an advance of 1s. on Beans. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 26th of January to the 28th of January, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	290	—	20
Barley	5510	—	660
Oats	4940	3040	—

Flour, 3180 sacks.

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
21st Dec.	45 3. 34	2 21 10. 32	0. 35 11. 35	4		
28th "	45 6. 34	8. 20 10. 31	9. 35 7. 35	5		
4th Jan.	45 8. 34	2 21 10. 33	9. 36 8. 36	1		
11th "	45 10. 34	5 21 7. 31	4. 35 9. 36	0		
18th "	45 7. 34	7. 21 8. 31	4. 35 7. 35	8		
25th "	45 7. 34	2 21 3. 32 11. 35	4. 36 1			

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 7d.; Barley, 31s. 4d.; Oats, 21s. 6d.; Rye, 32s. 2d.; Beans, 35s. 9d.; Peas, 35s. 9d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 4s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

## LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Jan. 28, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	133112	—	23154	—	2050	1817	52148
Unit. King.	362160	2404	74483	—	13449	7304	262691

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 24.

## BANKRUPTS.

W. DETTMER, Upper Marylebone-street, piano-forte manufacturer. [Hodson and Gibbs, King's-road, Gray's-inn.  
H. ISAACS, Yarmouth, Norfolk, woollen draper. [Sale and Worthington, Manchester; Reed and Shaw, Friday-street.  
G. HAWKINS, Colchester, clothier. [Messrs. Linklater, Lead-cloth-street.  
L. WATLING, Gilchrist-street, Hanover-square, butcher. [Pain and Hatherly, Basinghall-street.  
S. SWEETON, West Smithfield, cattle salesman. [Weller, King's-road, Bedford-row.  
J. EVANS, Burton-on-the-Hill, Gloucestershire, joiner. [Tilley, Moreton-in-Marsh.

## DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 14 J. Overington, Arundel, plumber—Feb. 14. J. Burgess, Cratfield, Suffolk, farmer—Feb. 14. T. Sherwood, Tile-hurst, brickmaker—Feb. 15. C. Tapp, Wigmore-street, Marylebone, confectioner—Feb. 14. J. T. Maund, Birmingham, lace-maker—Feb. 10. J. L. Heathorn, Abchurch-lane, City, shipowner—Feb. 14. W. Broome and W. Hardy Oxford street, drapers—Feb. 18. W. Morrison, Globe-street, Wapping, cooper—Feb. 18. J. W. Robey, Upper John-street, Fitzroy-square, builder—Feb. 29. J. and S. Owen, Sheffield, merchants—Feb. 6. M. Seary, Swindon, Flintshire, maltster—Feb. 14. F. Davies, Great Crosby, Lancashire, blacksmith.

## CERTIFICATES.

Feb. 15. J. Brett, Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, currier—Feb. 15. R. Tucker, Dean-street, Westminster, farmer—Feb. 18. C. H. Hambleton, Northampton-street, Bethnal-green, licensed victualler—Feb. 19. A. Tulley, Hackney, grocer—Feb. 17. J. Wrigglesworth, Leeds, cheese factor—Feb. 18. E. Foster, Sheffield, grocer—Feb. 27. J. Banks, Birmingham, seedman—Feb. 15. J. Trevitt, Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire, butcher—Feb. 15. G. Harrold, Birmingham, merchant—Feb. 13. R. Rochester, Hartlepool, Durham, butcher—Feb. 14. T. Caldicott, Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer—Feb. 14. D. J. Mackenzie, Chambers-street, Minster, provision merchant—Feb. 14. G. Bate, Forton, Staffordshire, horse dealer—Feb. 14. W. Scovell, jun., Cullworth, Hampshire, brickmaker.

## SCOTCH REQUISITIONS.

W. KING, Glasgow, merchant—J. PATERSON, Glasgow, cloth singer—M. and A. G. LINDSAY, Glasgow, thread manufacturer—W. MUNRO, Dornoch, draper.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 28.

## BANKRUPTS.

A. HURRELL, Park-place, St. John's Wood, wine merchant. [Chilcote, George-street, Manton-house  
C. MOORE, St. John-street, Clerkenwell, carver. [Chapman, Ely-place, Holborn.  
W. SMITH and R. SMITH, Bow-lane, City, warehousemen. [Parker and Co., Bedford-row.  
C. BURRAGE, Newgate-market, carcass butcher. [Phillips, Gray's-inn square.  
W. FAIRCLOUGH, Liverpool, victualler. [Wilkin, Farniva's-lane, Warrle, Liverpool.  
C. M. WILKINSON, Uiverston, Lancashire, wine merchant. [Mawe, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars; Yarker, Uiverston, Lancashire.  
J. K. HANLEY, Staffordshire, fishmonger. [Jackson, Gray's-inn; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

## DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 27. G. B. Smith, Kensington, builder.  
CERTEFICATES.  
Feb. 18. R. Colman and E. R. Hall, Colchester, ironfounders—Feb. 19. T. G. Martin, Cold Harbour-lane, Camberwell, wine merchant—Feb. 19. J. Stephenson, Bradford, Yorkshire, machine maker—Feb. 19. W. B. Drury, Chester, ironmonger—Feb. 19. A. W. Pollock, Liverpool, commission merchant—Feb. 20. E. N. Wilson, Bathy Carr, Yorkshire, common brewer—Feb. 19. E. Hemmings, Astwood-bank, Worcestershire, brewer—Feb. 19. J. O. Webb, Rosemoor-buildings, Islington, mineral water manufacturer—Feb. 18. M. Jones, Birmingham, victualler.

## SCOTCH REQUISITIONS.

L. SILVER, Glasgow, merchant—D. BOWE, Leith, tea merchant—E. WALKER, Dornoch, blacksmith, manufacturer.





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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 72.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE OPENING OF THE SESSION—LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

The first night of the session was of a character—with one striking and satisfactory exception—to justify, in great measure, the remarkable indifference with which the public had awaited the commencement of what is called "the business of the country." The Speech and the debate on the Address were well matched in insipidity. Congratulations on a commercial and manufacturing prosperity whose permanence is, for any thing that appears to the contrary, to be left to the chances of the weather; complimentary allusions to sundry royal visits, as evidences and guarantees of international amities which commercial restriction and prohibition practically disown; a suggestion of the desirableness of redressing one Irish grievance, and a promise of a blue book on another; a hope that parliamentary wisdom will devise the means of "promoting the health and comfort of the poorer classes of my subjects," so far as health and comfort are to be had without promoting food, work, and wages; and some financial generalities, the value of which will be better understood when the promised "financial statement" makes its appearance;—such is the substance of a Speech which has not one word of corn, of sugar, of Brazil and China trade, of game laws, of national education—which is silent on every one of the questions just now nearest to the heart of the people of Great Britain. And the debate was, on the whole, worthy of the Speech. Much excellent "prosperity"—eloquence on the Ministerial side, with nothing said as to how we are to keep our prosperity now we have got it; abundance of able reasoning on Tahiti, Mr. Consul or quasi-Consul Pritchard, Spain, right of search, and charitable bequests, diversified by what a House of Commons always loves to listen to—an "explanation" from an ex-minister; a plentiful hash of the stale commonplaces of party rhetoric, spiced with an average allowance of party feeling: but a dismal lack of wise and earnest discussion on the question of questions which British statesmanship has now to solve—how to give permanence, security, and steady progress

siveness to the improved activity in which some of our greatest national interests are at present rejoicing.

With one remarkable exception, however, which we note with satisfaction and hope. The general inanity of a debate—which was mainly spent, on the one side, in complimenting Sir Robert Peel for the results of last summer's sunshine; and on the other, in criticising last autumn's French diplomacy—was relieved by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in a speech which leads us to hope that he is about to take up that position with regard to the first question of the day which befits the statesman who gained London and lost office as a Free-Trade Minister. We have always regretted his lordship's apparent determination to sacrifice himself in a desperate fidelity to the fixed-duty crotchet—a thing which never had much life in it, and is now dead and buried beyond all possibility of resuscitation. There was a time, years ago, before the Free-Trade principle was understood by the country, when a "moderate fixed duty" would have been pretty generally acquiesced in, as a convenient and useful compromise; and we can respect the motives which then prompted its advocacy. But the question has long since grown beyond a compromise. Any convenience which such an arrangement might once be supposed to have possessed, is now merged in its palpable impracticability. Nobody wants it; nobody asks for it; nobody would accept it. Agitation has brought round "convenience" to be on the side of principle; and the most inconvenient course which a public man could take, for himself or his country, would be to erect the well-meant make-shift of a day into a permanent maxim of policy, and throw himself away on the advocacy of a thing that has neither principle nor feasibility to recommend it. There is now, we trust, an end, once for all, to this most inglorious martyrdom. Lord John Russell has, we rejoice to observe, taken the opportunity of the first night of the session to make, before Parliament and the country, a round, clear confession of Free-Trade faith, in words as large and full as we could desire:—"I AM CONVINCED THAT PROTECTION IS NOT THE SUPPORT, BUT THE BANE OF AGRICULTURE." Can we be mistaken in supposing that this significant declaration means ALL that it says? The time and circumstances of its utterance justify the belief that it does. Lord John Russell is a prudent and careful, as well as an upright, man; knows the force of words; is not given to loose and sweeping statements; is habitually slow to commit himself; and spoke on this occasion after six months' premeditation. The words were instantly caught up by the monopolist leader, Mr. Miles, as a declaration of alliance with the League; and Mr. Miles was left to enjoy his opinion, undisturbed by any disclaimer or explanation of his lordship. They were accepted by Mr. Villiers, as denoting the relinquishment of the ground that had divided his lordship from the Free-Traders; and Mr. Villiers's interpretation was allowed to pass without correction. By the plain, natural meaning of his words, and by his tacit acceptance of that meaning as affixed to them both by friend and foe, Lord John Russell has begun this session by taking his true position as a Free-Trade statesman. We cannot but understand, from his speech of Tuesday night, that he has now kept the promise made last year, to give up "security-grinding." It is inconceivable that he should ever again propose to benefit agriculture by administering a moderate or low fixed allowance of that which he is convinced is its "bane."

We receive this avowal of Free-Trade convictions with the more satisfaction, because of the clear, statesmanlike views with which they are accompanied, as to the practical and pressing urgency of the question. Lord John Russell's Free-Trade principles are not "in the abstract." He sees as plainly, and says as strongly, as any Leaguer, that now is THE TIME—now, with low prices and prosperous trade and manufactures—to redeem the industry of the country, by one wise and honest act, from the awful uncertainties and perils that overwhelm its future. Nothing can be better than his rebuke of the folly that sees matter for boasting, in a prosperity which we hold but from year to year—almost from month to month—by tenancy-at-will of the barometer.\*

Lord John Russell may consider himself as most happy in being in the situation of a powerful and honoured parliamentary leader at such a period, to hold the Government to their duty—to

\* The Free-Trade portion of the noble lord's speech will be found in the Mirror of Parliament.

mark, control, and chastise their deviations from the straight and honest path—and, backed by that power of popular intelligence and will which Adam Smith and the League have got ready to the hands of the first man that can use it, to take the place which ministerial cowardice and dishonesty vacate. Heartily shall we rejoice to see him show himself worthy of the great nation which is still not unwilling to give him the honour of leading it to industrial and commercial freedom. It were a proud work to do; one to task the highest faculties of beneficent action, and to satisfy the largest ambition for honourable name and fame in history. Never had any public man a nobler position within his grasp—one of higher honour, finer opportunities, or more assured, substantial power—than that which may be Lord John Russell's, should he, by a sincere, unreserved, and thorough adhesion to the Free-Trade cause, choose to make himself the representative of those principles and ideas which are evidently destined to be the ruling powers of the "new generation." There the post is, ready waiting for him; or for another, if he deem himself unworthy of it. It is a change worth his making: from being the last leader of a beaten, broken, and defunct party, to be the first executive Minister of a victorious principle. As Whig Opposition leader, Lord John Russell represents nothing but a respectable, decayed historical tradition; as Free-Trade Minister, he would be a "great fact"—the organ of a great idea—the representative of the highest interests of civilization for his own and the coming age.

## AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION SOCIETY.

On Monday last there was a gathering of the dukes and lords, and squires and auctioneers, and land-jobbers and land-agents, that compose this association, at the Freemasons' Tavern. They met not, as the Duke of Richmond once vaunted, to make or unmake a Ministry; on the contrary, mutual condolence was the prevailing characteristic of the loggubrious assemblage: in the words of Lord Beaumont, they met to ask, "Where is the 56s. per quarter that was promised us?" and Echo answered, Where? Others might rejoice over increased revenue, improved trade, extended commerce, greater demand for labour, consequent rise in the rate of wages, and consequent addition to comforts in the families of the industrious; but the selfish spirit of monopoly cares for none of these things: with Lord Beaumont it turns to the Premier, and demands the promised 56s. per quarter. He will listen to no explanation; he is deaf to every consideration that the non-fulfilment of the promise is the cause of the revived prosperity of the country; but, with the obstinacy of Skylock, exclaims:—

"I'll have my bond; I will not hear thee speak.  
I'll have my bond, and therefore speak no more.  
I'll not be made a soft and dull-eyed fool,  
To shake the head, and relent, and sigh, and yield  
To Christian intercessors."

The Premier's breach of promise was put into every form of complaint and menace; but it never crossed his lordship's mind that certainty of price is unattainable under a sliding scale, and that the fluctuations in the price of wheat which have produced such misery and loss to the farmers are the necessary results of an artificial system which attempts to fix prices, without reference to the world's markets. Having given abundant proof that protection did not secure the promised 56s. per quarter, he very consistently proposed "The Protection Societies;" and Mr. Baker, of Essex, responded to the toast.

Regis ad exemplar, that is to say, "treading in the steps of the noble lord," Mr. Baker fiercely assailed Sir Robert Peel's concession to the principles of "Free Trade," and defied the Premier to maintain the present system of taxation unless he contrived to raise the price of corn to the promised 56s. per quarter at the least. As everybody knows that the revenue has increased in consequence of the low price of agricultural produce, which enables consumers to spend on exciseable articles the sum which the monopolists previously extracted from them in the enhanced price of food, it is not easy to comprehend the amount of boldness necessary for the enunciation of such a proposition, or the amount of stolidity necessary for its reception. The same gentleman, with a similar disregard not merely of facts but of matters of notoriety, claimed the continuance of protection for the sake of the agricultural labourer; while there is not a man in the country who does not now know that



the so-called protection had reduced the agricultural labourer to a state of distress so utterly deplorable that fastidious landlords have commanded it to be hidden from public view.

Mr. Newdigate consoled the company with the assurance that the League was declining in strength; an assertion which was controverted by Mr. Mills, of Elstone. This gentleman called upon his hearers to do something which would prove that their body had some energy and vitality, and as a test he advised them to propose the repeal of the Canada Corn Bill. Earl Malmesbury found it necessary to check this tendency to independent action: he informed his hearers that their policy was to do nothing, and to permit nobody else to do anything. As more protection was out of the question, he thought that they should be satisfied with keeping hold of what they had got; and he indistinctly intimated that whatever changes might be made would, in the present temper of the country, necessarily be in the direction of Free Trade.

The toast of the "Tenant-farmers" was proposed by Mr. Sotherton, and responded to by Mr. Jonas. The speeches were chiefly remarkable for their omissions: very little was said about security of tenure, and nothing of the devastations of game. The toast of "The labourers" was intrusted to Mr. Stafford O'Brien; and he, with the strange inconsistency which seems to have led almost every speaker to run counter to the sentiment he was nominated to advocate, set himself to prove the disadvantage of expending capital on the improvement of land. He asserted that a low price of produce was not beneficial to the agricultural labourer; but he forgot to show, what was really the point at issue, that the labourer was better off in the time of high prices than he is now. We say that protection is the cause of his distress, Mr. S. O'Brien attributes it to low prices; but if he were right the distress should have commenced at the period when prices began to fall, and should have reached its maximum when they were at the lowest. But in truth the distress of the agricultural labourer has not varied perceptibly with the fluctuations in the price of corn, save that in his capacity of consumer, he, in common with all the other industrial classes, has the misery of low wages aggravated by the misery of dear provisions in seasons of artificial scarcity.

The speech of the Duke of Richmond was more than usually vague; but the Duke of Buckingham made what may be termed an official announcement, that the Premier was bound to maintain the present amount of protection. It appears from the report that the proceedings generally were flat and dull; they were not even relieved by those bitter attacks on the League and the characters of its leaders, which gave life to the speeches of the monopolist chivalry some twelve months ago. On the contrary, the Duke of Richmond referred to the League in the deprecatory tone used by the poor Indian to Robinson Crusoe's gun, when he begged that it would not go off and kill poor Man Friday. Except the Duke of Buckingham, no one assumed a tone of confidence; and even his trust was manifestly based on his having paid for a further extension of protection by placing his borough of Buckingham at the disposal of the Minister. Lord Malmesbury's declaration, that the repeal of the Canada Corn Bill was hopeless, chilled every spark of enthusiasm in the breasts of those who were not mere politicians. They felt that there was a practical blunder in collecting agriculturists together to tell them that they were miserable, and that therefore they should resist a change. Such a lame and impotent conclusion renders the proceedings too ridiculous to require further comment.

#### HOW SLAVERY MAY BE ABOLISHED—THE SUGAR MONOPOLY AND THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

We have already shown that the results of the course pursued to abolish the slave trade during nearly forty years, have been, according to the testimony of Sir Fowell Buxton, greatly to aggravate the evil it was intended to cure—that at the present time a more awful waste of human life is every year going on than was expended during the destructive wars of Napoleon. Of 400,000 negroes annually torn from their homes to supply the demand for slaves, only 120,000 are available to the planter: the remaining 280,000 perish! The efforts to put down the slave trade by treaties with foreign powers have equally failed; and the scheme of admitting free-labour sugar and excluding slave-grown sugar will, as we have also shown, prove no less abortive in accomplishing the desired object.

How apt are we to forget that "nothing happens by chance," and that, by disregarding the operations of truthful Nature, we fall into errors and follies involving the highest interests of the human race. It is remarked by an eloquent writer, "The phenomena of trade and labour are as much under law, Divine law, as the phenomena of the seasons." We earnestly entreat our anti-slavery friends to reflect how far the failure of their well-meant efforts may be attributed to the violation of the laws of Nature and Providence.

When God had created man He said,—"Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of ALL the earth, and every tree in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat." Monopoly is directly opposed to this first gracious gift of God to man—it limits our supplies of food and other productions to a part of the earth only. To uphold monopoly, therefore, under whatever pretence, is to oppose the will of God. Again: we see that it hath not pleased Providence to give to every nation diversities of soil, climate, and productions, but to spread these blessings over countries separated from each other by great distances. But He has given us the sea, "the great highway of nations," by means of which we have easy access to the ends of the earth. Are not His wise and benevolent designs apparent in this dispensation? Are there any other means by which different nations can be so effectually brought into communion with each other as by the mutual interchange of their respective productions? Can peace and brotherly love be so well promoted as by conferring mutual benefits on each other by such exchange? And is not, then, every law prohibiting mutual traffic, under whatever pretext enacted, an impediment to the fulfilment of the beneficent designs of Providence? Slavery, then, cannot be put down by upholding monopoly, or by prohibiting free intercourse, and the free exchange of our productions for the productions of ALL other countries, because this is a violation of the law of Nature, and opposed to the designs of Providence.

It is also vain to suppose that slavery can be put down by mere declarations of its unchristian and iniquitous character. The slave-dealer, wrapt up in his enormous gains, is deaf to appeals to his feelings and conscience; and slaveowners, so long as they believe that the abolition of slavery would bring them to ruin, treat, like Henry Clay, of Kentucky (the late candidate for the Presidency of the United States), as a "visionary dogma," and "speculative abstraction," the simple yet sacred proposition that man cannot hold a property in his fellow-men. We see no way of approach to this class but through their self-interest. Convince the slaveowner that by free labour a greater quantity of sugar can be produced at the same or at less cost than by slave labour, and when he is made to feel that slavery is unprofitable he will not be long in discovering that it is inhuman. A striking instance of the correctness of our views is shown in the news, received by a recent arrival from the United States, of the intention of the state of Missouri to revise her constitution, and to abolish slavery on the ground of its being unprofitable. A correspondent of the New York Herald states that—

"The people of Missouri have become perfectly satisfied that slave labour is an absolute disadvantage to them, and that they can procure their work done much cheaper by free labour, which entails no obligations, as in case of slavery, to support and look after the labourer any longer than he is actually engaged in toil. Thus, you see, it is not from philanthropy, but absolutely as a matter of interest, that slavery is to be abolished."

We know of no symptom so favourable to the cause of the abolition of slavery as this commencement of correct views of the superior value of free over slave labour in Missouri; but unfortunately the opinion generally entertained by slaveowners is, that slave labour is cheaper than free labour; and we know of no parties who have unconsciously done more to foster this erroneous notion than the Anti-Slavery Society. Slaveowners are in the constant habit of referring to the abolition of slavery in the British colonies as a complete failure, so far as proving the superiority of free over slave labour; and they triumphantly refer to the diminished production of sugar and coffee in those colonies where the experiment of free labour has been tried; they refer to the prosperity of slave-sugar colonies, notwithstanding they sell their sugar at half the price of free-labour sugar; and they say the free-labour planters have been impoverished by emancipation, and are only kept from absolute ruin by protective duties, which enable them to sell their sugar and coffee in England at double their real value in the markets of the world; and, as a natural consequence, with these views slaveowners cling to slavery more tenaciously than ever. The proceedings of the Anti-Slavery Society, in opposing the competition of free with slave labour, tend to strengthen the arguments and to confirm the prejudices of slaveowners. The amiable and pious Joseph John Gurney visited the West Indies in 1840, and thence addressed a series of letters to Henry Clay, of Kentucky, a slaveowner, to endeavour to persuade him to abandon slavery; and we quote his language, because it has been adopted, word for word, by the Anti-Slavery Society:—

"There is," says he, "a specific point which at the present time peculiarly demands the union of planters, merchants, labourers, and philanthropists—I mean the proposed equalization of the sugar duties. The duty now levied in England on sugars not produced in our own colonies amounts to a prohibition; and thus the whole market of our country is open exclusively to the sugar-growers of these colonies. Once equalize that prohibitory duty with the lower duty charged on the sugar produced in

these islands, and immediately there will be a vast influx into Great Britain and Ireland of the sugars of Cuba, Brazil, Louisiana, &c. The inevitable consequence will be, that the sugars of Jamaica will lose their market, or will fall to a price which cannot remunerate the planter. The next link in the chain of disasters will be a large one. The planter will withdraw from the production of sugar, and will undergo great difficulty in his attempts to apply his grounds and apparatus to any other purpose. In the meantime the labourer will lose his employment and his wages; the merchant and shopkeeper will find their resources of profit suddenly cut off; and lastly, the abolitionist will discover to his dismay that a fresh impetus of vast force is given to slavery and the slave trade, by the opening of a new market of incalculable value to the producers of slave-grown sugar."

Such is the catalogue of evils which Mr. Gurney anticipates would flow from exposing free labour to the competition of slave labour; and it is not to be wondered that slaveowners laugh at the simplicity of the good man who expects by language like this to persuade them to involve themselves in the like ruin with free sugar-growers, by imitating the example of our colonies and abolishing slavery, the more especially as slave sugar-growers have no protection to rely upon like the West India planters.

Now, we maintain that the experiment of slave emancipation is not a failure: on the contrary, it is not only the noblest moral triumph which history records, but its success has exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its best friends. It cannot be denied, however, that since emancipation the production of sugar and coffee has greatly diminished, the planters have been impoverished, the profits of the slaveowners of Cuba and Brazil have increased, and with it the increase of the slave trade. But at whose door does the blame lie? Why, at that of the planters themselves, and they are entitled to no sympathy. Their losses are the recoil upon themselves of their own unjust and infamous conduct to the negroes. The deeds of the wooden-bible monopolists are engraven on our memories, never to be effaced; and it is important to our subject that they should be reviewed. In 1831 the colonial legislatures were reminded by Lord Goderich of the resolution of the House of Commons, passed in 1823, in substance declaring "that slavery was repugnant to the principles of the British constitution and of the Christian religion, and that it ought to be gradually abolished throughout the British dominions." The hints to prepare for abolition were treated by the slaveowners with general contempt, and to threats of transferring their allegiance to America, they added imprisonment and persecution, even unto death, of the missionaries, and the destruction of their houses and places of worship.\* These proceedings only hastened the crisis so much

fostered by the slaveowners. In 1833 slavery was declared by the British Parliament to be for ever abolished in the British dominions; an apprenticeship for six years was substituted, with a compensation of £20,000,000 as an indemnity to the planters. This boon was hailed by the slaves, and by their friends both in England and in the colonies, with the greatest public demonstrations of joy. But how was it met by the slaveowners? They had no objection to pocket the £20,000,000, but they determined to make the brief period of apprenticeship, if possible, more oppressive than slavery itself. They continued the flogging of females, and the Legislature, though urged by the Governor, refused to pass laws to prevent it, or in any way to express their disapprobation of conduct so repugnant to humanity. "During the short period of two years, in Jamaica alone, 60,000 apprentices received in the aggregate 250,000 lashes, and 50,000 other punishments by the tread-wheel, the chain-gang, and other means of legalized torture."† These cruelties induced a degree of discontent and exasperation among the negroes never manifested under slavery, and which, but for the influence exerted by the Governor and the missionaries, would, in all probability, have resulted in a sanguinary rebellion. Such was the spirit in which emancipation was met by the planters. Is it any wonder, with such treatment, that the negroes—freemen, or men in the progress to freedom—should have laboured less cheerfully? Would any but planters have expected that the production of sugar and coffee under such cruelties would be increased?

At length arrived the day of perfect freedom; and who can read without emotion the simple and affecting details of the celebration of that glorious day in the West Indies? The kind-hearted negro, in the fulness of his gratitude for freedom, forgot and forgave the cruelties of the past. "On some of the properties" (says Phillippo, speaking of Jamaica), "where commemorative festivals were held, the people, with a few individual exceptions, went to work on the following day, while many of them presented their first week of free labour as an offering of good will to their masters." What might not have been made of these grateful and forgiving beings at this epoch, by judicious treatment? But

\* Fourteen Baptist chapels, and six Wesleyan chapels, with private houses and other property, to the value of £79,350, were destroyed by the slaveowners in Jamaica. — *See Phillippo.*

† "Jamaica in its Past and Present State," by James M. Phillippo, 1843; page 174.

the tiger natures which slavery induces were not to be changed in a day. The planters could no longer compel the negroes to work by the whip, but when they offered their services they endeavoured to compel them to work at such wages as they chose to dictate; and, in cases of refusal, their "cottages" (says Mr. Gurney) "were unroofed, and even demolished. Cocoa-nut and bread-fruit trees have been cut down; provision grounds have been despoiled by the hand of violence, or trodden underfoot of oxen; and thus the labourers have been driven to seek for themselves a new home, either by moving away to other properties, or by purchasing little freeholds on the neighbouring mountains." Besides these instances of violence, another plan, practised through the length and breadth of the islands, was to double, triple, and even to multiply fourfold the rents, or to charge rent, *per capita*, against husband, wife, and each of the children, as a penal exaction to compel labour on their own terms—the screw for this purpose being completed, in many cases, by distraint of goods and imprisonment of person. Is it surprising that tyranny like this on the part of the planters led to discontent and heartburnings and desertion of estates? Can we wonder, after the facts we have stated, at the falling-off in the produce of sugar, as shown in the following official statement of the sugar exported from Jamaica?—

In 1831 to 1833, average of 3 yrs. of slavery .... 3,811,163 cwt.  
1835 to 1837, ditto, 3 yrs. of apprenticeship 3,477,592  
1839 to 1841, ditto, 3 yrs. of freedom ..... 2,896,784 "

Are the planters entitled to sympathy on account of the distressed condition in which their own tyranny has placed them? Ought the people of England to be compelled to support this tyranny by paying the authors of it four or five millions per annum more for their sugar and coffee than it is worth? We ask the Anti-Slavery Society, is it by an alliance with men like these that they can hope to advance the cause of the abolition of slavery? No: there is no hope, and no means of accomplishing the abolition of slavery and the slave trade, but by increasing the production of free-labour sugar and coffee at cheaper rates than slave produce, and so rendering slavery unprofitable; and then we shall see, as in the case of Missouri, that men will no longer keep their fellow-men in cruel bondage, when there is nothing to be gained by it. Our limits prevent us from pursuing the subject; but we purpose hereafter to show that there are no obstacles, except the existing monopoly, to the production of sugar and coffee in abundance by free labour cheaper than by slave labour; and that when philanthropists shall cease to advocate the violation of the laws of Nature and Providence, and shall abandon the indefensible course of doing evil that good may come, they may hope to be favoured with that Divine blessing on their labours which their want of success during forty years may lead them to doubt has hitherto attended them.

#### THE BAZAAR.

The various local committees to collect contributions to the Bazaar are now in active operation, and we have the pleasure to announce that the enthusiasm with which the ladies have taken up the project in various parts of the country surpasses all our anticipations. Offers of assistance are daily received from unexpected quarters; while the old friends of the cause are determined to show that time, instead of abating their zeal, has strengthened their resolution to provide employment for the labouring classes and adequate remuneration for that employment. The ladies of Great Britain have ever taken a leading part in every labour of Christian charity; in the present instance they see that the Corn Laws are a double curse to the industrious poor: they restrict the amount of employment, lower the rate of wages, and raise the price of food; they render bread dear, they make flesh and blood cheap. Against such double injustice it is no wonder that the sympathies of the tender sex should revolt; and it must be gratifying to those engaged in seeking the abolition of monopoly that they have with them, to cheer their toil, the hearts and hands of their fair countrywomen. We subjoin some selections from the correspondence:—

"Wrexham, Jan. 28.  
"Sir,—I received the circular requesting my name might be on the committee for the Bazaar only on Saturday last, the very day of our return home, after an absence of between five and six months, and give this as my reason why it has not been more promptly responded to. With regard to its contents, I can only say I should be proud to have my name so associated with a cause to which I feel it my duty and my pleasure strenuously to advocate. The only reason why I ever for a moment demurred on the subject was because I like our motto to be 'Deeds, not words'; and, being likely soon to leave home again, it was impossible I could do what would, I thought, entitle me to the proud pre-eminence of being on your committee for the Bazaar. Your last circular has enlightened me on this point; and if it be a mark of attachment, or a guarantee for any exertion within my power, I would at once say, take it and welcome.  
"I must add that, during our various ramblings, we have seen with much interest the gradual spread of those principles which are, we firmly believe, ere long to secure the permanent commercial prosperity of our country."

"Even in a remote watering place in Wales the matter is most warmly taken up; and I am not without hope that it will furnish a stall for the Bazaar."

"I do think that even in Shropshire—that stronghold of Toryism—the giant monopoly is beginning to totter; and I read this not only in the increased warmth of friends, but in the bitter spirit of its opponents, who are ever more violent when a cause to which they are opposed is progressing than when either standing still or retrograding. Begging you will excuse these few lines, which are written in much haste,

"I have the honour to be, yours most truly,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "SARAH HILDITCH."

"25, New Bond-street, London, Jan. 28.  
"SIR,—In reply to your circular respecting the Ladies' Committee for the Bazaar, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, I can only say that, if the name of so obscure an individual can be useful, mine is at your service; and, did I feel capable, I should consider no duty onerous which could tend to the welfare of the many."

"I am not qualified to judge of the subject of Free Trade in all its bearings, but it has always appeared to me that, however it may affect the interests of a few individuals, it must eventually benefit mankind."

"As that great highway, the ocean, renders the products of all nations accessible to all, no Government which studies the good of the people should tax any commodity necessary to the existence or conducive to the health or morality of the humbler classes."

"Trusting that you will pardon my having thus trespassing on your valuable time,

"I am, Sir, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "MARY THOMSON."

"Stockport, Jan. 30.  
"SIR,—I beg to apologize for not answering your former communication. In reply to the latter, I regret to say that my state of health is such as to preclude any active effort for the accomplishment of the important object proposed; but my interest in the success of the League is undiminished, and you are at liberty to add my name to your list, as a pledge of continued adherence to the cause, which I regard not in a political view, but as connected with the claims of humanity, and greatly affecting the interests of the poor. I do not hear of any combined efforts of the ladies of Stockport to furnish articles for the Bazaar; but, for myself, I will do what I can."

"I am, Sir, yours, &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "L. WADDINGTON."

"Coventry, Jan. 30.  
"SIR,—In reply to your letter, dated 21st of January, I beg to say that, if you consider my name worth adding to your committee, I am very willing to have it stand there, if you will consider it an expression of my interest in, and best wishes for, the success of the righteous cause you are seeking to promote. I ought to apologize for not replying to your previous communication on the subject of the Bazaar; but knowing that want of health, and many other circumstances, would prevent my co-operating with any active exertion on behalf of it (should such be set on foot in Coventry), I did feel some hesitation in giving my name alone, because I am convinced it can be of no use but to swell the list of your committee. With the gratitude and esteem which all who wish well to their country must feel for the devoted and untiring labours of yourself and your colleagues,

"Believe me to remain, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "MARY HENNEL."

"Horwich House, Jan. 29.  
"If Mrs. T. Gisborne's name is considered of any value by the Committee of the Anti-Corn-Law League, she will be glad to give it in testimony of her sincere good wishes."

"Oxford-place, Manchester, Jan. 28.  
"SIR,—In reply to your circular of the 21st, I beg to assure you that I feel a deep interest in the success of the National Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, and have only been deterred from consenting to have my name placed on the Ladies' Committee by an apprehension that, in doing so, I should incur an amount of obligation and responsibility in reference to the Bazaar which my habits and various duties would prevent me from being able adequately to sustain. If, however, my name can be of any use in the promotion of so good and noble an object, you have my permission to place it on the committee; and if I can prepare some little article in the way of a contribution in time, I shall be happy to do so."

"I am, Sir, &c. &c.,  
"G. Wilson, Esq." "H. MAYSON."

"Salford, Manchester, Jan. 28.  
"SIR,—In compliance with the wish of the Council of the League, expressed in a circular which I have just received, I have not the least objection to my name appearing on the Ladies' Committee. I shall at all times feel a great interest in the progress of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and feel myself bound to make considerable personal sacrifices to promote its success."

"I am, Sir, yours, &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "H. DRAUGH."

One of our correspondents, writing from Darlington, offers for the Bazaar 150 pieces of spar from the lead-mines of the Wearside district. Such contributions are very acceptable; and we hope the example of our Darlington friend will be followed by many who may have the power to send contributions of a similar character."

TRADE WITH CHINA.—Fourteen vessels are advertised to sail from Liverpool for China, against seven at this date last year. This shows that the Chinese treaty works well. There is also a slight increase in the ships laid on for Calcutta."

"A CORN SPECULATOR."—Mr. Ellman, who claims a portion of the merit of inventing the "sliding scale," was told by the *Morning Post*, the other day, that it was a misnomer to call him a farmer, the fact being that he is a "corn speculator." It is all very well for Mr. Ellman, says the *Post*, to tell the poor farmers to "hold," and lie in wait for "better prices," when they are compelled by their poverty to sell, while jobbers like Mr. Ellman can hold for two years, and ultimately get 60s. for what they might otherwise have sold for 40s. The *Post* is right; there are gambling farmers as well as gambling merchants; and always will be so long as we have a "sliding scale."

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

First Week, ending Saturday, Feb. 8.

On Tuesday, Feb. 4, 1845, the firing of cannon, ringing of bells, and acclamations of the crowds that lined the streets in the order of the procession, announced to all within hearing that her Majesty had gone down in person to open the legislative session. The House of Lords was crowded. The ladies, to whom a spectacle is always pleasing, mustered in great numbers to witness the state and ceremony of the royal presence and the delivery of the royal speech; and the splendid array of beauty, dress, and fashion, with peers in their robes and officials in uniforms, rendered the scene of this day as animated and attractive as any of those which have preceded it. The swell of the trumpets proclaimed the coming of the Queen; the audience rose; the *cortège* entered in the usual form. Her Majesty, after seating herself on the throne, prayed their lordships to be seated; the House of Commons was summoned; and on the appearance of the Speaker at the bar, attended by members, the Lord Chancellor, kneeling, presented the copy of the speech, which her Majesty, in musical accents, and a sweet, distinct tone, read as follows:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I rejoice that I am enabled, on again meeting you in Parliament, to congratulate you on the improved condition of the country."

"Increased activity pervades almost every branch of manufacture. Trade and commerce have been extended at home and abroad, and among all classes of my people there is generally prevalent a spirit of loyalty and cheerful obedience to the law."

"I continue to receive from all Foreign Powers and States assurances of their friendly disposition."

"I have had much satisfaction in receiving at my court the Sovereigns who, in the course of the last year, visited this country."

"The journey of the Emperor of Russia, undertaken at a great sacrifice of private convenience, was a proof of the friendship of his Imperial Majesty most acceptable to my feelings."

"The opportunity of personal intercourse thus afforded to me may, I hope, be the means of still further improving those amicable relations which have long existed between Great Britain and Russia."

"The visit of the King of the French was rendered especially welcome to me, inasmuch as it had been preceded by discussions which might have impaired the good understanding happily established between the two countries."

"I regard the maintenance of this good understanding as essential to the best interests of both, and I rejoice to witness that the sentiments so cordially expressed by all classes of my subjects on the occasion of his Majesty's visit were entirely in unison with my own."

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"The estimates for the ensuing year have been prepared, and will forthwith be laid before you."

"The progress of steam navigation, and the demands for protection to the extended commerce of the country, will occasion an increase in the estimates connected with the naval service."

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I have observed with sincere satisfaction that the improvement which is manifest in other parts of the country has extended to Ireland."

"The political agitation and excitement which I have had heretofore occasion to lament, appear to have gradually abated, and, as a natural result, private capital has been more freely applied to useful public enterprises, undertaken through the friendly co-operation of individuals interested in the welfare of Ireland."

"I have carried into effect, in the spirit in which it was conceived, the Act for the more effectual application of charitable donations and bequests."

"I recommend to your favourable consideration the policy of improving and extending the opportunities for academical education in Ireland."

"The report of the commission appointed to inquire into the law and practice in respect to the occupation of land is nearly prepared, and shall be communicated to you immediately after its presentation."

"The state of the law in regard to the privileges of the Bank of Ireland, and to other banking establishments in that country and in Scotland, will no doubt occupy your attention."

"The health of the inhabitants of large towns and populous districts in this part of the United Kingdom has been the subject of recent inquiry before a commission, the report of which shall be immediately laid before you."

"It will be highly gratifying to me if the information and suggestions contained in that report shall enable you to devise the means of promoting the health and comfort of the poorer classes of my subjects."

"I congratulate you on the success of the measures which, three years since, were adopted by Parliament for the purpose of supplying the deficiency in the public revenue, and arresting the accumulation of debt in a time of peace."

"The act which was passed at that time for imposing a tax upon income will shortly expire."

"It will be for you in your wisdom to determine whether it may not be expedient to continue its operation for a further period, and thus to obtain the means of adequately providing for the public service, and at the same time of making a reduction in other taxation."

"Whatever may be the result of your deliberations in this respect, I feel assured that it will be your determination to maintain an amount of revenue amply sufficient to meet the necessary expenditure of the country, and firmly to uphold that public credit which is indispensable to the national welfare."

"The prospect of continued peace, and the general state of domestic prosperity and tranquillity, afford a favourable opportunity for the consideration of the important matters to which I have directed your attention; and I commit them to your deliberation with the earnest prayer that you may be enabled, under the superintending care and pro-



tection of Divine Providence, to strengthen the feelings of mutual confidence and good-will between different classes of my subjects, and to improve the condition of my people."

This having been spoken, the Queen retired with the same state as before; and the House adjourned for a brief interval.

Our business being with FREE TRADE, as it is affected by the proceedings, or touched on by the discussions, of the Legislature, we will confine ourselves exclusively to that subject. Other matters may be, and are, of importance; but FREE TRADE is to us at once the foundation and the corner stone of all permanent prosperity, and of all positive improvement. In our reports, therefore, of what takes place in Parliament, our business is to look with a single eye to that one great object, without which all others are to us comparatively as naught.

In the House of Lords the debate on the address presented nothing very particularly attracting our attention. There was this exception. The "farmers' friends" are nervous, anxious, and uneasy; and, notwithstanding the assurances of the Duke of Buckingham, given at the protection meeting at Freemasons'-hall, that no farther progress is to be made with Free Trade, they are afraid of the great commercial measures which are announced, and solicitous to overawe the Government. Thus the Duke of Richmond complained that agriculture was depressed, the tenantry distressed (is the Duke of Richmond "distressed" himself?), and blurted out the ludicrous complaint that, "as soon as any set of men got into office, they forgot that there was such a thing as agriculture!" This raised loud laughter, as well it might. The Earl of Hardwicke, that other "farmers' friend," who fills a subordinate station in the royal household, responded a little to the Duke of Richmond; but with a pathos closely allied to bathos, said that, whether the fears of the agriculturists were just or not, he would give no opinion, but if the agricultural interest were "LEFT ALONE" (the very thing the Anti-Corn-Law League is struggling for!)—if it were "left alone,"—but let us quote the very significant and amusing passage:—

"His belief was, that if left alone (hear, hear), if permitted to rise by their own industry and their own exertions (hear, hear), if they were to be left free from legislative enactments ('hear, hear, hear,' principally from the Opposition), and untouched by a press which pandered to the appetites of a particular class in this country—whose desire was to raise agitation throughout the country for purposes best known to themselves,—if left alone on these points, there was no question but that the agricultural interest itself would triumph over the difficulties which now beset it."

Turning to the House of Commons, we find that FREE TRADE received more attention there. The mover of the address, Mr. Francis Charteris, is a young man, representative East Gloucestershire, is grandson of the Earl of Wemyss, and boasts a descent from "Macduff, Thane of Fife." He has never spoken before, but on this occasion acquitted himself very creditably, descending on commercial prosperity, peace and war, the progress of civilization, the material triumphs of science, and so forth. He also raised much laughter by naively stating that, "as a Scotchman," he hoped Ministers would interfere as little as possible with the banking system of Scotland.

The seconder of the address, Mr. Thomas Baring, took a more ambitious flight, and was therefore repeatedly in danger of having his waxen wings melted, and of dropping, plump, into the frigid sea of a "breakdown." He evidently considers himself to have entered the House of Commons as a "Commercial Phenomenon" (to use the style of Moses and Son), and therefore that it is incumbent on him to instruct "honourable members" in the philosophy of manufactures, and the mysteries of trade. One part of his speech, in which he expressed a hope that the Emperor of Russia would be taught, by his visit to this country, to adopt a more liberal system of Import Duties on our productions, was adroitly taken up by Lord John Russell, who added to it the expression of his hope that the Emperor would induce his "good sister" of England to admit Russian corn and timber into England on more equitable terms! Mr. Thomas Baring enlarged on our commercial prosperity; declared that the cotton, woolen, linen, silk, and flax manufactures were all in a state of unexampled affluence; that the spinners were realizing large profits, though the exporters were not so liberally remunerated (a significant admission!), and accounted for the falling off in our exports of twist and yarn by affirming that our spinning power was inadequate to the supply of both the home and the foreign demand. Then, after affirming that all our prosperity was sound, not fictitious, he fell into philosophy, lamented the tendency of our manufacturing system to "OVER-PRODUCE" (oh, that "over-production"!), which we should control by caution (a rich man advising a poor man to be "cautious" in the exercise of his industry!), and pointing out the high prices of our funds, praising our national honesty in paying our debts, and counselling "discretion" in the reduction of taxation, he sat down.

Lord John Russell followed, reviewing with much animation, and at great length, the whole foreign and domestic policy of the Government. With all this we have nothing to do; but the concluding portion of his speech, in which he replied to Mr. Thomas Baring, is so excellent, both in spirit and expression, that we quote it at length.

"There remains one topic, to which it is gratifying to me to allude. I mean the prosperous state of the manu-

facturing and commercial interests. The hon. gentleman who seconded the address to-night—and no one is more conversant with the subject—in treating this part of the subject, gave us several instances of this prosperity, and he told us that even the iron trade, which last year did not partake of the prosperity which was enjoyed by other branches of commerce, is this year in a comparatively flourishing state. (Hear.) But while that is perfectly true, and while we have every reason to be thankful to Divine Providence for the bounteous harvest with which the land has been blessed, there is yet another reflection occurs to me, and which I do not mention to damp our feelings of exultation, or to diminish the force of those facts which the hon. member has recounted, but only for our warning as legislators. In 1836, on the 4th of February, the very day of that year on which we are now met in this, an hon. friend of mine, the member for Sheffield, seconded the address. In so doing he went through the various interests of the country, cotton, wool, silk, iron, and he found that the increase had been very large, that our exports had greatly increased on a comparison with the five years antecedent. The hon. member drew a picture of the flourishing condition of the country in 1835. Then we had had a favourable harvest. But 1838, 1839, and 1840 brought us into a very different condition (hear, hear), when we had bad harvests, when it did not please Providence to continue to us the same state of blessing we had heretofore enjoyed, when we suffered most severely from the depression of our manufactures and commerce in that season of high prices. (Hear.) No man can expect the course of things to continue unaltered, or that we shall have in this country every year a recurrence of those bounteous harvests with which we have of late been blessed. If, then, we cannot expect that—the reflection occurs, Can men do anything to remedy the evils which deficient harvests bring along with them? (Cheers.) I think we can (cheers): not, indeed, by attempting to interfere with the course of Providence, but by looking at another dispensation of Providence which enables man to exchange the products of his own country with other and distant regions. (Loud cheering from the Opposition side.) Let us, then, as I hope we shall, consider in the course of the present year whether we have not the power to ward off the storm which at some future period of deficient harvests may fall upon us, by giving to those productions of other nations which we can best use and employ a more favourable inlet into this country than they have at present. (Cheers.) By so doing, you would be only acting in consonance with the principles of the present Government, and of the great majority of this House. (Hear, hear.) They do not hold with that great society which met yesterday (laughter and cheering), that protection to British industry is the true way to ensure a permanent flourishing condition for the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) On the contrary, with respect to many articles of great value, they have declared that principles opposed to those of protection, and which, if not entirely Free Trade, are known by the name of Free-Trade principles, are those by which the intercourse of nations should be regulated. If they continue in these opinions—if they differ from those great authorities which maintain that protection is for the benefit of the people—let us have the advantage of the practical working out of those opinions. I KNOW THAT THOSE WHO PROPOSE THIS ARE CALLED THE ENEMIES OF AGRICULTURE; BUT I AM CONVINCED THAT PROTECTION IS NOT THE SUPPORT BUT THE BANE OF AGRICULTURE. (Loud cheers.)"

The question is, whether you shall do, in a season of prosperity, calmly, deliberately, with all the dignity of legislators, considering what is best for those we represent, that which you may have to do hereafter hastily, under the compulsion of popular uproar, and with the fear that you may be unable to deny that which you appear to grant. I must say I think that, both with regard to the question of Ireland and with regard to this question of Free Trade, you ought to take advantage of the present time. You say Ireland is more tranquil; you say that trade is prosperous. Shall we lose the opportunity when everybody—I think almost everybody—will admit that, if you were forced by foreign war and internal commotion, you would give to Ireland almost every thing she asks, and when everybody will admit that, if forced by two or three bad harvests, or strong popular excitement, you would have no hesitation in changing your Corn Laws. If that is the case, do not wait for those events. Take your time now; take advantage of the great prosperity that is before you. Consider yourselves as most happy in being in the situation of Government at such a period, and show yourselves worthy of the great nation which you are called upon to defend."

The remainder of the discussion was occupied with explanations, by Mr. Gladstone, of the reasons (particular Church and State scruples) which have led to his retirement—Ireland; Maynooth; Education; the Right of Search; and the suppression of Slavery. There was one exception. The cause of Free Trade was specially advocated by Mr. VILLIERS, who spoke as follows:—

"Mr. VILLIERS said that, seeing the unwillingness of the House to prolong discussion, he would occupy them very shortly. He could not help observing upon the singular calm and good humour that prevailed in the House. He could only refer to the circumstance of the prosperity or the great improvement which there was in the state of the country. (Hear, hear.) The honourable gentleman who seconded the address had admitted this fact very fully. He went into some detail to prove it, and seemed anxious further to devise the causes which have produced this change. (Hear, hear.) Now, considering the state in which this country had been for the last few years, considering the difference of opinion that prevailed as to the cause of the great distress which had recently existed, he thought the honourable gentleman had done wisely in raising this question, and that he could not have presented a more important consideration to the House at the commencement of the session. The country was now comparatively in a satisfactory state. Till a recent period it had been in a state to excite nothing but anxiety and alarm. To satisfy the public of the reason for this change would be of most essential service, and would go far to determine that question regarding trade which notoriously distracted the country at present. There were now two systems, diametrically opposed to each other, which had their respective advocates. The honourable gentleman who seconded the address is

a supporter of one, which he terms the protective system, and considers that it is for the interest of this country to restrict its commerce, and artificially enhance the necessities of life. (Hear.) He (Mr. Villiers) was directly of the opposite opinion; he contended that the prosperity of the people depended upon cheapness and abundance, and the fullest liberty being given to the exercise of their industry and commerce. (Hear, hear.) They knew that for five years past commerce had been depressed, the people had wanted employment, and the revenue had declined. They had met that evening, and had to congratulate the country on the opposite indications in all these respects; and the honourable gentleman wished to know what had caused this change. Was it the result of the protective system, or was it from the failure of that system, and from the fruits of what was expected from the opposite system having occurred? He hoped the country would consider and determine. He did not hesitate to assert that it was owing to everything having occurred which it was the prime object of protection to prevent (hear, hear): cheapness of produce, and abundance of food, arising chiefly from a most singularly abundant harvest, aided by certain relaxations of the protective system. (Hear, hear.) Those things had occurred: there had been plenty, and they were, thank God, gathering its fruits. The means of the community had been increased, and consumption was extended. (Hear, hear.) This was the promise of Free Trade; this had occurred in spite of the gentlemen opposite; and the country had to thank Providence rather than the Ministry for it. The country at this moment was prospering, and the discontented and disappointed were those who supported and were led to depend upon protection. (Hear, hear.) They have legislated, and have failed; they have been thwarted in their object by Providence; and the poor, the people, trade, and the revenue have all profited by the result. (Hear, hear.) So far as the right honourable gentleman has relaxed the protective system, he has reason to be satisfied—he has contributed to the prosperity of the country, and he has nothing to regret as regards revenue, or any other circumstance. (Hear, hear.) The right honourable gentleman cannot point to any duty that he has reduced, with the view to diminish protection, that does not offer him reason for satisfaction, as well as ground for advancing farther in the same direction. It ought to be his object, as it is that of all wise men, that this country should continue in its present state, so far as it is prosperous. Of what vast importance, then, is it to settle this question of protection, and determine whether it is not by the liberation of trade, rather than from its restriction, that the great mass of the people will be enabled to possess the great essentials as well as the comforts of life. (Hear, hear.) The system of protection is opposed to this. It has no object if it is not. The great question now before the country, and that really engages its attention, is whether it is to be continued or abolished. He was induced to call the attention of the House to the fact, from the circumstance of the member for Somersetshire having declared to-night that he would adhere to it, and cautioned the Government how they abandoned it. The importance of his opinion is, that he believed he represented the opinions of the party that had been dominant in both Houses. He hoped the right hon. gentleman would, however, see the importance of consulting the great and general interests of the country, and not suffer himself to be guided by this selfish and exploded policy. The Ministers must desire that the country should prosper while they hold the reins. They have now seen the impossibility of attaining that end by the protective system. It had been tried, and he was glad to hear the noble lord the member for London declare that he believed it to be not only unwise and unjust, but baneful to the interest which it was intended to serve. (Hear, hear.) Nothing can be more true. (Hear, hear.) His noble friend had been led to this conclusion, no doubt, from reflecting on the experience which the country had had of it. (Hear.) It was a point on which he had differed with his noble friend, and he was delighted, and he was sure many in the country would be charmed, to find that he had now abandoned it, and that he no longer clung to the notion that protection benefited even the interest that claimed it. (Hear, hear.) When protection did for a while succeed, the necessities of life were rendered dear and scarce, and the country was in the most disastrous state. If that is not the case, let it be denied or disproved; or if the gentlemen who uphold it can do so, let them tell the country what has been the benefit of the system. They have had their own way, they have made laws for it; where do they look for its benefits? Are the tenants of their land satisfied or well off? (Hear, hear.) Is the land well cultivated? Are the labourers not in a deplorable condition? (Hear, hear, hear.) He asked them now, when the country was all attention to learn what could be said for its continuance, to let them know why it should not be abolished. The right hon. gentleman was bound to settle the question one way or the other. He has the power to do it; and he (Mr. Villiers) said, that if what was termed protection, or relieving particular interests from competition, could be shown to be beneficial to the country, let it be universally applied and not disturbed (cheers); but, if the contrary, do not let the country be kept longer in suspense, or the session pass over without its error being fully acknowledged. The right hon. gentleman has now no excuse for not acting upon his conviction. (Hear, hear.) He has now full power to do what he likes. (A laugh.) In this direction he will receive the cordial support of this side of the House. He is not opposed, and he has strength enough around him to carry out his views. He has avowed himself a friend to the principles of Free Trade. He has partially applied it with perfect success. He has the power to give it a more perfect application. His sincerity will be tested by the measures which he intends shortly to submit, and on him now would rest the entire responsibility of suffering the question to remain unsettled. (Hear, hear.)"

#### THE INCIDENTAL AND NOTICEABLE DEBATE OF THURSDAY NIGHT.

On Thursday night, on the usual formal "order of the day" being read by the SPEAKER, that the Queen's Speech be taken into consideration,—

Mr. CONDEN rose, and in a quiet, incidental way, called the attention of the agriculturists and Ministerial members to a circumstance peculiarly interesting to them. The House, which had a very fair attendance of members, though it was not crowded, immediately became all eyes.

tion, and Mr. Cobden proceeded. On former occasions, he said, when the agricultural districts were in a state of distress, the circumstance was usually adverted to in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the session. On the present occasion it was not. Wheat was now at 45s.; and Lord Beaumont, at the great Protection meeting, on the previous Monday, had adverted to the assurance given that the Corn Law would give them protection up to a given point, and he had repeated a question, which had also been put on a former occasion by Mr. Miles, the member for Somersetshire, "What had become of the promise of a steady price at 56s.?" Farmers were alleged to be suffering from the want of protection; but, in fact, it was protection which was at the bottom of all their sufferings. He reminded the House of his motion last session, for a committee to inquire into the effects of protective duties on the interests of tenant-farmers and agricultural labourers—an inquiry which would bring out the facts. He advised the agricultural members to join with him and his friends in order to procure the appointment of this committee—a junction which would compel the Government to grant it, either from a conviction of its necessity, or under compulsion. They might take a week or a fortnight to consider of it; and, if they did not then accept his offer, he would feel it to be his duty to renew his motion of last session.

Mr. Miles then rose, and, after stating that the landed interest did not intend to ask the Government for a committee of inquiry into agricultural distress, denied that Sir Robert Peel had promised a price of 56s. under his Corn Law; and affirmed that, from the very nature of agriculture itself, prices must vacillate between 46s. and 56s. As to Mr. Cobden's proposed committee of inquiry, he did not object to it. Loud laughter and cheering from the Opposition benches having greeted this intimation, Mr. Miles got afraid of having been too valorous or too indiscreet, and he added something very indistinctly about neither objecting to nor desiring such an inquiry; and, above all, that if the committee were granted he should not be made a member of it.

Mr. Milner Gibson was glad to hear that Mr. Miles would consent to such a committee. "Oh, no," exclaimed Mr. Miles, while the laughter and the cheering were doubled; "he would neither vote for it nor against it." Then Mr. Milner Gibson, after some general remarks on the injurious effects of protection, very adroitly and very respectfully put it to Sir ROBERT PEELE if he had really come under any condition, or made any pledge, which could warrant the Duke of Buckingham in saying, at the meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on the previous Monday, that no farther inroads were to be made on the protection still enjoyed by the agricultural interest? Sir Robert Peel was about to reply; but up jumped

Mr. Banks, the noted member for Dorsetshire, not doubting that he knew the intentions of the Prime Minister far better than he did himself, and could explain them much more lucidly. Now, Mr. Banks has a somewhat loud-toned, and, but for a peculiar whine, a not unmelodious voice; and having that, he thinks he has all the requisites for an orator and a statesman; and a stranger would fancy that something was really coming, that came with a rotund swell, until, after listening awhile, he is amazed that so tiny, so shallow, so dribbling a stream of ideas should issue from any mortal brain through the medium of a sounding pipe. Yet Mr. Banks said a noticeable thing. He attributed the distress amongst the farmers to the fact that, though there had been an average wheat crop, other grain had been deficient; and the reductions effected by the tariff preventing them from realizing famine prices for hay, and so forth, they were unable to make up for the moderate price of wheat which abundance had caused, by high prices for other grain. This, being translated into plain English, means that protection is solely for high rents; and, to enable the farmers to pay high rents, it is necessary that Providence should not be too bountiful; but, if indiscreet enough to give an average wheat crop, it should compensate them in some other way. According to the reverential notions of Mr. Banks, Providence did not in this way last year: but Sir Robert Peel, with his Tariff, counteracted the designs of Providence, and therefore the poor farmers, with high rents and low prices, were in distress. Having thus explained the cause of the distress, Mr. Banks sat down by declaring Mr. Cobden's proposed committee of inquiry to be unnecessary.

Mr. BRIGHT followed, and in a really powerful speech, exposed the delusion and the hollowness of the pretences by which the protective system is still sustained. His contrast between protected Buckinghamshire and (so to speak) unprotected Lancashire was masterly; and his picture of the miseries of the agricultural labourer, and the straits of the tenant-farmer, all caused by protection, fell with withering effect. The countenances of those sitting opposite to the member for Durham testified that the plain statement of plain truth can cut and Master, when plain truth is unacceptable. Mr. Stafford O'Brien, who is the wit of the Protection Society, got up, of course, to complain of Mr. Bright's tone. That was not the way to "treat the gentry of England." So a fashionable dame, given to gambling, who rose from a card-table on Sunday morning, as the bells were ringing, and drove to her fashionable church, where her fashionable preacher was accustomed, in his sermons, to "dance his bear to the gambler of tances," was amazed to see a stranger

occupy the pulpit. Instead of falling asleep, she listened, for the sake of novelty, and was still more amazed to hear an eloquent and earnest discourse on fashionable vices. Coming out of the church, she indignantly protested against the violence and rudeness of the preacher, emphatically affirming that it was not the way in which the ladies ought to be treated!

Mr. Villiers and Mr. Brotherton, as well as Lord John Manners, took part in the discussion; but the interest of the night was Sir Robert Peel's very short speech. It was short, but it was significant. He rebuked those agricultural members, especially Mr. Stafford O'Brien, who had so hastily declared that they would consent to the appointment of Mr. Cobden's committee; and said that, if they had taken the offered fortnight for consideration, they would have been able to judge if a committee of inquiry were necessary. This is a significant hint that he has some measures in view more or less affecting agriculture as well as commerce, and which will be divulged when he makes his financial statement. He also denied that agricultural distress existed GENERALLY, though it might LOCALLY; but as emphatically denied that the local distress was in any way caused by the Tariff. But it was his answer to Mr. Milner Gibson which threw a gloom over the countenances of the agriculturists around him. He loudly announced that he is under NO PLEDGE to the agriculturists in any way inconsistent with the principles he had laid down in 1842. The Duke of Buckingham must, therefore, have been deceived, or else his "wish was father to the thought," when he announced to the Protection Society, that no farther inroads on protection were contemplated. And, in accordance with his denial of all pledge, Sir Robert Peel said—the sentiment is worth notice, for, though a trite truth, it was significant when uttered by the First Lord of the Treasury from the Treasury bench. Sir Robert Peel said:—

"THE RESTORATION OF PROTECTION IS IMPOSSIBLE! and, even if it were possible, he would not apply it as a remedy for distress arising from other causes, and the existence of which he deeply deplored."

Such was the appropriate conclusion!

While waiting those "great commercial changes" which Sir Robert Peel is to expound on Friday, the 14th of this month, we may rapidly glance at past progress and present prospects. Time, ever moving, brings us round again to another Legislative Session; but though the earth, in its circling orbit, returns to the place from whence it started, men and measures are carried forward on a straight line, which stretches beyond our visible horizon. It is this which fills the HUMAN HEART with HOPE, and nerves the HUMAN MIND to patient endurance in the race which is set before it, where noble enterprise and generous impulses are the spur to great achievements. Onwards we go, never to return; what is gained, is gained for ever; the great battle of FREEDOM, as all our past history testifies, though often apparently lost, is "ever won" by every conflict in which it is engaged; every material triumph is a help and an aid to a moral one; and we, who live in an age of railroads and of rapidity, find that PUBLIC OPINION from walking has taken to running, and, ere long, from running will take to flying. Society moves now as fast in a year as formerly it did in half a century.

Look to the last four years of our Parliamentary history for proof and "confirmation strong" of this. In 1840, the FREE-TRADER—knowing the power of monopoly, looking to the state of parties, and mourning over the apathy and the sluggishness of public opinion, in relation to the true interests of the community—might have retreated into his cell with a sigh, and pointed to the close of the present century as the probable period about which Free Trade might triumph, if meantime Great Britain had not been overwhelmed in the ruins of its own folly. For there was much in 1840 to damp and to discourage. The ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE was indeed at its great work of enlightening the mass of the public; but as yet the men composing it were regarded as intruders from Manchester, on a mission to forward their own mere interests; and the monopolists, with audacity yet unabashed, and fallacies and falsehoods not yet hissed into the limbo of vanity, thought themselves secure for long years to come. In spite of the prevalent distress, the bad harvests, and the high price of corn, a host of pamphleteers rushed into print, to prove that the repeal of the Corn Laws would only benefit the working man by about the one hundred and fiftieth part of a fraction on the price of the quartern loaf; and therefore it was good for the health, morals, education, comfort, and happiness of the labouring classes, that there should be a high price for corn, and little work with which to earn the small wages that were to be given away for the dear bread. Absolutely, too, there were starving working men who believed this in the year 1840, though now it looks almost incredible. Nay, in 1840 there were people who would listen to a man, who, though clothed and fed with the products of every country under heaven, would tell his starving auditors that it was necessary to have dear bread, and sometimes no bread at all, in order to be "independent of foreigners;" and the audience would go away, under the impression (like Robinson Crusoe's Friday) that if they did not starve themselves, in order to be "independent of foreigners," these foreigners might come and "eat 'em all up." It is of the year 1840 we are speaking—that is, of four years, not four centuries, ago. Yet there was hope in 1840. The financial condition of

the country, the result of our foolish fiscal system, had entangled the party in power; and the party out of power, waxing as the other waned, gathered together their compact troops, and laid siege to Downing-street. The eager thirst for place made the people be forgotten; and though Mr. Villiers in 1840 twice debated the Corn Laws, and Mr. Ewart moved for a reduction of the duty on foreign sugar, and Mr. Hutt applied to know under what restrictions foreign corn might be manufactured in bond; and in the House of Lords Earls Fitzwilliam and Radnor contended that it was expedient to reconsider the laws relating to the importation of foreign corn—every thing was either out-voted, or hustled down, or "counted out," or shuffled over. There was but one idea in Parliament. The ours were eager to be in; the ins were struggling desperately to keep their places. But during the turmoil, Mr. Hume quietly moved for a Select Committee to "inquire into the several duties levied on imports into the United Kingdom, and how far these duties are for protection to similar articles the produce or manufacture of this country, or of the British possessions abroad, or whether the duties are for the purposes of revenue alone." The committee was granted and appointed, for the two great parties struggling for the Treasury were too busy to think of the Custom-house, and too much absorbed in their strife to anticipate the consequences which would flow from the investigation. Mr. Hume, of course, took the chair, and called his witnesses, men in office and men in trade; before that committee appeared the late James Deacon Hume, Mr. Macgregor, and Mr. Porter, all bringing the aid of their official and personal experience to testify to the folly, the obstruction, and the ruin caused by our fiscal system; and they brought with them models of NEW TARIFFS, to show the vast benefit which would result from a little honest simplification. Then came out the Report on Import Duties, one of those productions which effect a mental revolution, and, appearing at a critical period, so startled the existing generation as to compel them to surrender at discretion, and march out of the fortress of their old prejudices with guns spiked, banners muffled, and arms reversed.

The Import Duties Report achieved a great work; meantime the distress continued, the Revenue still declined, the party in power felt that it must do something, and the party out of power lustily exclaimed that everything would be put right, if those on the right hand of the SPEAKER'S chair would go to the left, and let the left-handed men go to the right. Out came the Whig Budget and the fixed duty of eight shillings; and these testified that, as between 1840 and 1841, there was already a great advance. True, FREE TRADE did suffer a temporary reverse by being associated, rightly or wrongly, with the last efforts of the party from whose hands the sceptre was departing. In the GENERAL ELECTION of 1841 the ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE laboured under the disadvantage of being supposed the mere aids or auxiliaries of a party which had been in office for ten years, and had now passed into the last stage of official decay. The public had not yet learned that FREE TRADE is of no party, but the great party of the people; and the general constituency of the empire being called upon to "pronounce" while they were as yet babes in the understanding of those doctrines which schoolboys can now expound, they frequently, in heat, in passion, and in prejudice, voted for men whose principles and professions were adverse to their real interests. Vague ideas, too, floated about, as to what would be done, when one party was turned out, and the other party turned in. There were to be new poor laws, short hours, high wages for the workmen; and all the farmers, called to the hustings by the farmers' friends, were to be secured in high prices for corn, and their landlords in high rents for land. In spite, therefore, of the great progress making with Free Trade, the GENERAL ELECTION of 1841 was a SKEMING demonstration and decision against it; and once more might the Free-Trader have despaired, when the roll was called, and in the House of Commons a majority of NINETY-ONE turned out the party which proposed to give us some Free Trade, and turned in the party which was to give us none.

Yet, great and manifold were the benefits to arise out of the seemingly disastrous general election of 1841. The new Parliament assembled on the 19th of August; and in the royal speech, read by commission, it was called upon to direct its attention to "the revision of duties affecting the productions of other countries;" to "consider whether some of these duties are not so trifling in amount as to be unproductive to the revenue, while they are vexatious to commerce;" to "further examine whether the principle of protection upon which others of these duties are founded be not carried to an extent injurious alike to the income of the state and the interests of the people;" and, above all, "to consider the laws which regulate the trade in corn." "It will be for you," said the Lord Chancellor, as the mouthpiece of royalty, addressing the assembled Lords and Commons, "to determine whether those laws do not aggravate the natural fluctuations of supply—whether they do not embarrass trade, derange the currency, and by their operation diminish the comfort and increase the privations of the great body of the community."

Great words, to come even by proxy from the throne, though pressed on a new Parliament, the majority of which listened with unwilling ears. Had it been animated by that wisdom and sagacity which, with instinctive fore-



slight, can discern and prophesy coming events, it would have nobly responded to the appeal; and, without reference to sliding scale or fixed duty, decided that commerce in corn and provisions should be *free*, and that customs duties should exist for revenue alone, and even then only on principles of moderation and fairness, the new Parliament of 1841 would have stamped itself as the greatest and the noblest recorded in our annals. But the majority said they had other work to do. The enlightened people of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland had sent them, not to take measures for renovating commerce, reactivating trade, mitigating the sufferings of millions of industriously-minded but idle and starving men, but to dismiss some twenty individuals who held high offices of state, and to place some other twenty people in their places. To this great work they addressed themselves; and this great work they achieved.

Yet the debate of the week which followed the assembling of the new Parliament in the autumn of 1841 was not all wasted in the miserable rhetoric of party. Messrs. Villiers, Milner Gibson, Ward, Ewart, and Bowring recalled the heated partisans to the fact that something was due to the nation as well as to themselves; and Mr. Cobden, first returned to Parliament in the general election, was heard for the first time in that arena where he has won so many honours. But Sir Robert Peel was the man who was to indicate the rapid progress of the question of Free Trade. In that cabinet oration of about four hours, which preceded the vote that dismissed the Whigs, while talking on all topics, home and foreign, and proclaiming his future policy, he wheeled right face round about to the benches behind him crowded with county members, and declared that he "would not pledge himself to all the details of the sliding scale." A cloud passed over the countenances of those county members, some of whom had a dim idea, even then, that they were "sold." But it passed off, as no doubt it was intended, in the hurried excitement of an approaching and important division. In those words, however, of Sir Robert Peel, let fall apparently at random, yet uttered with deep premeditation, was it shadowed forth that the Corn Law of 1828 had filled up the measure of its iniquities, and was doomed to destruction.

The short session of the autumn of 1841 was brought to a speedy close, in spite of the earnest protests of the Free-Traders as to the state of the country and the condition of the working classes. The weather seconded their remonstrances. Instead of a bright shining August sun, maturing the wheat and mellowing the fruit, dark clouds chased each other across the sky, and torrents of rain drenched the ground. A dark and gloomy winter followed: dismal for commerce, disastrous for trade, and distressing for the labouring classes. Even the "Quarterly Review" was touched by the general suffering. At the close of 1841, it came out with an article full of kindly

sympathy for the poor, and protesting that they were very far from getting a satisfactory bellyful of butcher meat. So it called out for cheap *veal*; and, pointing to the seas that surround our island, declared that there were inexhaustible stores of living creatures there, all good for food, if we would only go out and catch them. Flying paragraphs also went about the newspapers, stating that the Prime Minister rose every winter morning by candle-light—some said as early as five o'clock—and, with his secretaries on each side, was busily employed in concocting a grand plan of relief. And in the month of January, 1842, Mr. Christopher, the farmers' friend, of Lincolnshire, let up a "pilot balloon" on the subject of the sliding scale; and all men became eager for the opening of a session which was to reveal the mysteries of the new administration.

The commencement of the session came at last. The Tower and the Park opened their iron mouths, and announced that the Queen of England, accompanied by her "good brother and ally" the King of Prussia, had gone down to the House of Lords; and there, on the 3rd of February, 1842, her Majesty read to the assembled Parliament her regret at the "continued distress in the manufacturing districts," and her admiration of the "exemplary patience and fortitude" with which the people had borne their "sufferings and privations." Now, they were commanded to apply a remedy—to consider measures which would "improve the national resources, and encourage the industry and promote the happiness of the people."

The first of these measures was propounded on the 9th of February. Expectation was almost wild with anxiety and excitement. The country gentlemen clustered like bees when swarming. All below was crowded, and from the side galleries above eager eyes looked down, and ears were open as eagerly to hear. The Prime Minister stood up; he talked of corn, of averages, and of the sliding scale; but when it turned out that he was about to substitute one sliding scale for another, the pent-up excitement relieved itself by smiles, shrugs, and murmuring, whispering conversation. Still, when the speech was done, there was no disposition to raise a debate. To the country gentlemen the change appeared too trivial for change, unless, indeed, it would have the effect of suppressing the dreadful and annoying Anti-Corn-Law League; and to the Free-Traders the matter appeared a mockery. Yet there was a juggle in the new scale; it had "averages" in it, that is, small fixed duties embedded in a fluctuating series; and there were to be changes in the mode of taking the averages, the effect of which could not then be estimated. So, by general assent, the House

rose as early as eight o'clock; the only voice raised in condemnation of the new scheme being that of Mr. Cobden, who, in a few energetic words, denounced it as an insult to a suffering people.

But the debates which ensued on subsequent nights did more to enlighten the public mind on the nature and merits of sliding scales than, perhaps, all that had gone before. Contrast is a great help in controversy; and in the Corn-Law controversy, two scales, side by side, were like the two pieces of wood in the hands of the aboriginal Australian, when by friction he procures a light and illuminates his darkness. Nor must it be forgotten that it was in the debates on this new Corn Law that Sir Edward Knatchbull made the memorable declaration, that the object of all Corn Laws was to enable the country gentlemen to maintain their stations in society, and bestow decent dowries on their daughters.

Next came the great New **TARIFF** speech, on the 11th of March, and the deliberate and emphatic announcement by the head of the Government that it was the essence of commerce to "buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market." From that hour Free Trade became a great fact, a living reality. Maimed, mutilated, and crushed as it was in the Legislature, it passed from the Import Duties Report into legislation, from the Anti-Corn-Law League into the Ministry, from Manchester into the Custom-house, and from the Custom house into the Exchequer. Abuse of "millocrats," which, about a year previously, was a popular and fascinating theme, became vulgar and disgraceful. No more pamphlets came out about the saving of the one hundred and fiftieth part of a fraction on the price of the quartern loaf. We heard a good deal more about our foreign, and a good deal less about our home, commerce. Foreign cattle came in; and "grinding in bond" was permitted. Glorious year was 1842 for Free Trade, passing, as it did, from the abstract to the concrete, and writing itself down on the Statute Book of Britain. Yet even then it was owing to the unexpected bounty of Heaven that Free Trade, in the confined shape in which it appeared in the New Tariff, did not come too late. Another year seemed about to be added to the list of deficient harvests, when suddenly a brilliant August sun chased away the clouds and the rain, and saved the crops. At the same moment the working classes in the manufacturing districts, worn out with privations, and desperate in feeling, broke out into the unhappy insurrection which marked the autumn of 1842—an insurrection, nevertheless, which might have been productive of fearful disaster, if the working classes had not been as intelligent and as enduring as they were.

So much had been done for Free Trade in 1842 that all men looked forward with hope to the session of 1843. Phrases dropped from Sir Robert Peel at the London Guildhall, and other public places, indicative of a disposition to follow out the course he had entered on. Fear-

ful that abundance in corn might follow the opening of the markets for foreign beef, fish, and vegetables, the monopolists roused themselves, and laid their heavy hands on the head of the Prime Minister. In the royal speech at the opening of the session, the "diminished receipts from some of the ordinary sources of revenue" were attributed to "the reduced consumption of many articles, caused by that depression of the manufacturing industry of the country which has so long prevailed." From this it might have been inferred that the Prime Minister was perfectly conscious that free trade in corn, and other articles of general consumption, should at once be added to the Tariff. But the dual influence was too strong. The coroneted corn-merchants and fishmongers had still power to frighten, if not to unmake, a Minister; and though galled and fretted by the taunts which were flung at him, Sir Robert Peel had to get up on the first night of the session, and declare that, at present, he had no intention of meddling with the Corn Law. The thing, however, rankled in his soul; he felt the humiliation of it; and in the great debate, raised by Lord Howick, on the causes of that manufacturing depression which was alluded to in the royal speech, he was betrayed into that unhappy perversion, by which he converted Mr. Cobden's ministerial "responsibility" into personal responsibility, and thus endeavoured, to the infinite damage of his own credit and character, to attach a stigma to the member for Stockport. The night, or rather morning, on which this occurred, was marked by a heavy snow storm; but the elements were calm and tranquil when contrasted with the heated and stormy atmosphere of "the House."

Still, though 1843, when considered legislatively, was a smaller year than 1842 for Free Trade, it was, nevertheless, a year of movement, if not of progress. It was in the debate on Lord Howick's motion that Sir James Graham affirmed that the doctrines of Free Trade were "recognised by every man of common sense" in the country—that Mr. Gladstone declared there was no longer any doubt about the truth of the principles of Free Trade—and that Mr. Goulburn, going still further, asserted, that of the abstract truth of those principles there never had been any doubt. At a later period in the session Lord Stanley opened a back door to the corn-growing regions of the United States, by the Canadian Corn Bill—a measure which, though a crooked one, has turned out anything but despicable. And it was in this session, too, that Mr. Gladstone repealed the prohibitions on the exportation of machinery; and that the electors of Durham returned Mr. Baines to the House of Commons.

The session 1844 is too recent and too memorable to be forgotten. Mr. Cobden's great speech on the effects of protective duties on the interests of farmers and farm-labourers; Mr. Villiers's annual debate, brought forward with unabated spirit and interest; the turmoil on the Factories Bill, with the warnings about the "House of Cards;" and the embroilment of Ministers in the question of the Sugar duties. Nor need we remind our readers how the Tory Chancellor of the Exchequer repeatedly preached Free Trade in the House; how he repealed and reduced duties; and how he promised that there was to be a great revision of our whole financial condition in the session of 1845.

The session of 1845 has come; and we wait its results.

#### THE LATE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEAGUE.

[In our report of the proceedings of the late annual meeting in the Free-Trade Hall, Manchester, we were compelled, from the lateness of the hour at which we received the report, to give only a brief summary of the excellent speech of Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., of Liverpool. There are in it, however, some important remarks on the subject of railways, well worthy the attention of such of our readers as are interested in any of these gigantic undertakings; and we beg, therefore, to submit them for their perusal.]

MR. LAWRENCE HEYWORTH, of Liverpool, next addressed the meeting. He said that last week they had a meeting of the Anti-Monopoly Society in Liverpool, and the room, one of the largest in the town, was crowded to a greater extent than on any previous occasion—a circumstance which, in times unfavourable to agitation, augured well for the cause. Following up Mr. Baines's line of argument, he would endeavour to point out the immediate causes of the results so ably illustrated by that gentleman. All would remember that in 1836 food and provision of all kinds were cheap, and the revenue prosperous, the poor-rates diminished, and everything indicated that the people, to a considerable extent, were employed, and were enjoying the comforts of life. But, after 1836, we had unfavourable harvests, yielding an insufficient supply of food for the people; not that Providence had not supplied a sufficient provision for his rational creatures, for the crops were plentiful in other countries. The cause of the evils which afflicted us in the years 1837 to 1841 did not come from the hand of Providence, but direct from the iniquitous operations and designs of men. (Hear.) These evils were produced by artificial means, by an iniquitous law, which forbade the food that God had provided from supplying the crying wants, not only of the indigent poor, but also of the honest and industrious operatives and labourers of this country. The evil consequences were not limited to the immediate distress it occasioned. We require, on an average, two million quarters of wheat, amounting to five or six millions sterling per annum. Our opponents said, that all we could expect to benefit by Free Trade would be in the importation of these two or three million quarters of wheat, and in the sending in return six millions' worth of our manufactures to pay for it. Though that was in itself no trifling matter, it was not all, or a tithe of the whole benefit, that would result from Free Trade—because, if that wheat were prevented coming in by iniquitous legislation, the price of provisions would rise so high that the poorer classes could not eat sufficient, and, at the same time, it would deprive them of the means to consume to the same extent the commodities and manufactures of the country, as they could when food was cheap. Say that this privation was to the extent of 2s. weekly per family during the time of extreme high prices. That would amount, on five million families, to £500,000 a week, or upwards of twenty-six millions of money per annum, withdrawn from the consumption of articles necessary for comfort. In this fact existed the fearful and aggravated evil of a scarcity in the necessities of life. (Applause.) When this cessation of demand on the part of the masses had taken effect, so as to stop the employment of manufacturing operatives, they ceased to earn wages, and this increased the general privation to an amount he would not attempt to calculate, but would leave the meeting to judge how much money was consequently withdrawn from being expended, not only in the consumption of our various manufactures, but also in food. Now, the withdrawal of twenty-six millions of money from the consumption of the country paralysed the country's industrial power to create wealth, and was many times more important than the direct advantage derived from sending our manufactures in exchange for foreign corn. Amongst the fallacies as to the cause of distress, one, put forth by many who were well-informed on other subjects, was, that distress was owing to a scarcity of money—to a panic in the money market. Now, he thought he could show clearly that it did not arise from these causes, but simply and solely because the great articles of necessary consumption, provisions, were scarce. That was the only origin of the evil. Suppose a man, with 1s. 6d. in his pocket, went to market to buy potatoes, and expected to get as usual 90lbs. (the measure in Liverpool) for 1s.; but found that, owing to a deficient crop, they had doubled in price, and that 1s. would buy only half a measure. When he recollected his hungry children at home, he would immediately feel a panic in his pocket, and would regret that he had spent 6d. on the way in a pair of woollen socks for one of his children. He would say to himself, "Now potatoes are more scarce, I find money more scarce too; and where it would do before, I must have 2s. now; and, though the children want shoes and stockings, I cannot buy them, as I shall want the money for potatoes." Then the shoemaker and other tradesmen who had profited by the man spending his other shilling with them, not finding his shilling, and those of thousands of other operatives, similarly affected, to come over their counters, began to say, "Bless us, what a scarcity of money! Where is all the money gone to?" But the operation of scarcity on the money market does not stop here; the poor man is by trade a stocking-weaver, and his master, not receiving his usual order from the shoakers, deprives him of employment, wages cease to be earned, and even the provision shops in consequence participate in and proclaim against the want of money. Why, the money is in the pocket of just the same as before; but, when all the provisions of

country were scarce, money became scarce too; and the panic of that one man became the universal panic. (Applause.) No money panic ever occurred in this or in any other country, that has not been occasioned by an inefficient quantity of the things calculated to remunerate enterprise, or the labourer for his labour,—either specially as in national adventures, such as the abortive, because premature, railway investment of capital in the United States; or, as it happens more usually, from an actual defalcation in the necessities of life, such as this country, painfully experienced in the years 1839 to 1842. Commodities of all kinds are the effects on which the currency obtains credit; and when these fail, a panic in the money market must of necessity ensue. The commodities, the things, of a country were the basis of the money; and, if the things were scarce, there would be a scarcity of money too. Give us plenty of commodities, and money would be plentiful; and the most ingenious legislation on the currency, be that currency gold, silver, or paper, cannot prevent this law in the nature of things from taking effect. Hence distress and stagnation of trade were not owing to the money panic, but scarcity in the provision market was the disastrous parent of all this misery. But our rulers legislated to get scarcity, though common sense would lead us to desire plenty. The only way to get plenty was to abolish all monopolies, and then scarcity at home could be remedied by plenty from without. Mr. Heyworth next dwelt on the benefits which cheap food had secured to the railway companies. The traffic of the last six months of 1844, on thirty-eight of the principal railways of Great Britain, amounted to three millions and a quarter, or exactly to £3,264,000, on 1522 miles of main and 234 of branch lines—in all, 1756 miles. This revenue was £454,000 more than the corresponding period of 1843, or nearly half a million of money increase; being 14 per cent. of increase on the traffic. This, which was only a small integral part of the wealth of the country, indicated that the whole country was in a state of prosperity; because the only available power, which is the industry of the country to create wealth, had been called into active and cheering operation by the plenty and cheap food, which left a surplus of wages in the hands of the labourers of the country, to be expended by them on the commodities that rendered themselves and their homes comfortable. He pointed to this augmented railway traffic and profit, in consequence of the abundance of cheap provisions, once more vouchsafed by Providence to relieve from wretchedness a nation guilty of restricting its food for the people by heavy impost on its importation, because it justified a statement he had made in 1842. The statement was as follows:—"He was a large railway proprietor, and if Free-Trade principles were to prevail—if the differential duties on colonial produce were removed—if corn were permitted to be imported free of duty from abroad whenever we wanted it, and the vast masses of the people were allowed to satisfy their hunger with cheap food, he felt persuaded that a double quantity of sugar would be consumed, that a double quantity of coffee would be used, and he scarcely doubted that a double quantity of wheat would be required for the sufficient sustenance of the people. These articles, when imported, would be transported from the seaports to the interior, and from town to town by railway. Payment for them would be made in manufactures, which would be transmitted by the same conveyances; and commercial travellers, employed in the sale and purchase of these, would vastly augment the number of railway passengers, and could not but greatly increase the profits of the railway companies, to an amount far beyond what he would venture to predict; but if it amounted to one-half per cent. of net profit, which was so small that it would not be doubted, it would give an additional value of ten per cent. to the capital, and that ten per cent. would give him a hundred times one hundred pounds." In conclusion he seconded the motion, which was put from the chair, and passed unanimously.

## MEETINGS.

**LYMINGTON.**—On Monday, the 27th ult., Mr. Falvey gave a lecture at the large School-room, in Ashley's-lane, upon the Corn and Provision Laws; and long before the appointed hour, seven o'clock, nearly every seat was taken. The lecturer, who was listened to with great attention, handled his subject in a masterly style.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**—The last monthly meeting of the Southampton Reform Association was held at the Sun Hotel, on Tuesday, the 28th ult., when there was a crowded attendance of members. Mr. R. Andrews was the chairman for the evening, and Mr. F. Leigh, solicitor, the vice-chairman. Several new members were admitted, amongst whom was Mr. Snowden, coach-trimmer, late of Exeter, who was made an object of persecution by the monopolists at Exeter, at the last election for that place, in consequence of his having given an independent vote in favour of General Briggs, the Free-Trade candidate. He was dismissed from his situation, and has now found employment in the establishment of Mr. Andrews. The meeting gave Mr. Snowden a vote of thanks for his independent conduct at Exeter. The usual business having been transacted, Mr. Falvey, the eloquent lecturer of the Anti-Corn-Law League, addressed the meeting. At the close of his speech, Mr. F. Cooper proposed a vote of thanks to the League for their great exertions in the cause of Free Trade, and to Mr. Falvey, for his eloquent and convincing address. Mr. Andrews seconded the vote, which was put to the meeting by the vice-chairman, and carried unanimously.

**BARNSTOCK.**—Mr. Falvey delivered a lecture on the Corn and Provision Laws, at the Town-hall, on Wednesday evening, the 29th ult. The spacious building was crowded with a most respectable audience, including many influential agriculturists, millers, and others materially interested in this important question. Various questions were put to Mr. Falvey, by Mr. Whistler, of Down Grange, and the lecture took a rather conversational turn, which appeared to increase the interest of the meeting; the discussion, with one or two trifling exceptions, being conducted with the greatest temper and courtesy, and with a manifest desire on all sides to elicit truth irrespective of its bearings on the question at issue. The lecturer's replies, to judge by the enthusiastic cheering which generally followed, appeared to make a great impression on the audience. A vote of thanks to the chief magistrate, for permitting the use of the hall on the occasion, was carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated—*Stamper Independent.*

**EMSWORTH.**—A lecture on the Corn Laws was delivered by Mr. Falvey, on Friday, the 31st ult., to the farmers of Embsworth, and the neighbourhood. Major Allen, was called to the chair. The lecture was attentively listened to, and repeatedly cheered during its delivery. At the close, votes of thanks were given to the chairman and lecturer, and three cheers for Free Trade.

**HOXTON ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.**—The second anniversary of this association was held at the North Briton, near Hoxton Church, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., when about 100 members and friends sat down to dinner. Among the toasts given was "Prosperity to the Association, and may they soon arrive at the consummation of their wishes." Mr. Fisher, in responding, gave a detailed account of the objects and proceedings of the association. The health of the Council of the League was received with three times three, and other manifestations of confidence and respect. Mr. Sidney Smith acknowledged the toast in an eloquent and effective speech.

**ANTI-CORN-LAW TEA PARTY AT BURY.**—On Friday evening, the 31st ult., an Anti-Corn-Law tea party, at which upwards of 300 persons were present, was held in the Mechanics' Institution room, Radcliffe. After tea the room was crowded; and Edmund Grundy, Esq., of Park Hills, was called to the chair. After addresses from Messrs. Wood and Rostron, of Radcliffe, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., was called upon. In the course of his speech he showed that, when provisions were cheap and plentiful, there was a better demand for goods, and operatives were enabled to obtain a higher rate of wages. The cause of a repeal of the Corn Laws and Free Trade was rapidly advancing, and a better feeling was arising between the employers and the employed.—John Brooks, Esq., of Manchester, spoke on the sugar and coffee question. Votes of thanks were given to the chairman, to Messrs. Cobden and Brooks, and also to the ladies, the Misses Wolstenholmes, Fletcher, Taylor, and Kay, who had got up the tea party. The meeting broke up a few minutes before ten o'clock.

**NOTTINGHAM ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting of the Council of this association was held on Monday evening last; Samuel Bean, Esq., in the chair; when the Secretary, Mr. Johnson, resigned his office, in consequence of his being about to remove to Stockport. L. Christie, Esq., then moved the following resolution, which was seconded by J. Bradley, Esq., and carried unanimously:—"That this meeting desires to record its high sense of the services of Mr. J. G. Johnson to this association, and to the cause of Corn-Law repeal; that it accepts his resignation as secretary with regret, and begs to offer him its best wishes for his prosperity." Mr. John Place, of Mount-street, was unanimously elected Mr. Johnson's successor.

**DERBY LIBERAL OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.**—The fourth annual meeting of this society was held in the Lecture-hall, on Tuesday se'night, Wm. Evans, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The room was tastefully decorated for the occasion, with banners, evergreens, and various mottoes, and when lighted up had a most pleasing appearance. About 350 sat down to dinner. The Chairman was supported by his Worship the Mayor of the borough (John Moss, Esq.), E. Strutt, Esq., M.P., J. Barber, Esq., W. T. Evans, Esq., S. Fox, Esq., &c. &c. In the course of the evening, Robert R. Moore, Esq., from the Anti-Corn-Law League (who chanced to be passing through the town, and received an invitation to attend the dinner),

made his appearance, and was received with clapping of hands. Mr. Madely, in the course of the evening, proposed "Free Trade—success to the exertions of the League, particularly in the course they were taking to increase the constituency of the country—and the health of Mr. Moore." Mr. Moore responded in an eloquent speech; and when he had concluded, three hearty cheers were given for the League.

**PLYMOUTH FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.**—On Friday evening, the 31st ult., Mr. G. W. Soltau delivered a lecture to the members of this association, at the Mechanics' Institute, Plymouth, to a crowded audience. The subject of the lecture was "Education as connected with Free Trade." Our space does not permit us to quote from the lecture, a full report of which appears in the *Plymouth Journal*. It embraced a copious array of facts, lucidly arranged, establishing the deplorable extent of ignorance, and the vice and crime consequent thereon, throughout the country; facts of an opposite kind, showing that in those countries where education is the rule, crime is of much rarer occurrence; an exposure of endowed schools; and the lecturer's own views of what popular education ought to aim at, viz.:—"Religious instruction for the formation of morality. The language of the country. The elements of geometry, and the general principles of drawing. Practical arithmetic. Geography and history combined, so as to give the pupil a knowledge of the divisions of the earth, and the history of the world. The history, laws, and constitution of his own country. Writing, singing, and gymnastic exercises. Such an education would develop the faculties of the soul, the reason, the senses, and the physical frame. It exercises the reason, enlightens the morals, fortifies the body, and founds the disposition to labour and independence." The lecturer also contended for the necessity of employment, and the unfettering of the springs of industry, to go hand in hand with education. The lecture was received with great applause.

## COUNTY QUALIFICATIONS.

Little was expected to be done this year in North Lancashire; but such has been the zeal displayed in the work of qualifying, that, calculating the number known to have neglected claiming, and the number of new qualifications, the next register will stand at least a thousand more in favour of Free Trade than the present. We have no minute reports from Chorley, Blackburn, Burnley, Clitheroe, Lancaster, &c.; but we can state upon the best authority that the value of freehold property which has changed hands in Preston alone for this purpose, amounts to the sum of £10,930! This is only the beginning, and, from the spirit we behold, we have not the shadow of a doubt but our division of the county will yet be honoured in the Senate by men whose principles are really identified with all its interests. We recommend the example of the Free-Traders in this district to other counties, many of which, by corresponding exertions, may be delivered from the yoke of monopoly.—*Preston Guardian.*

The effort just made to increase the number of Free-Traders on the register of the West Riding must produce important consequences. In Leeds 486 persons have en-

titled themselves to be placed on the register, of whom some, however, would in the ordinary course of things have obtained the qualification. We believe from 200 to 300 will be added at Huddersfield; perhaps an equal number at Halifax; upwards of 150 at Bradford; from 100 to 150 at Wakefield; and considerable numbers at Sheffield, Hebden Bridge, Todmorden, and many other places. Besides this, some hundreds of gentlemen at Rochdale and Manchester have qualified themselves to exercise the franchise in the West Riding of Yorkshire. On the whole, we have no doubt that, after the next registration, the number of Liberals and Free-Traders on the register will considerably preponderate over that of the Tories and Monopolists.—*Leeds Mercury.*

## REVENUE AND FREE TRADE OF HOLLAND.

(From the *Economist*.)

There are various rumours afloat as to changes in the mode of raising the revenue of Holland. Most of our readers are aware that the commercial policy of Holland has been always distinguished for its great liberality and freedom, by which means a nation numbering only between two and three millions, and having the greatest natural disadvantages to contend against, has maintained an important position among the great European nations, and accumulated capital to an extraordinary extent.

Holland has been much assisted in her free commercial policy by the fact, that the Government has relied chiefly on direct taxation as the great source of revenue, and not on import duties. The taxation of Holland bears nearly the same proportion to its population as that of this country—if anything, it is rather greater. The population is about one-tenth of the United Kingdom, and the annual revenue rather exceeds one-tenth, being about seventy millions of florins, or £5,800,000 sterling. Of this not more than five millions of florins, or little more than £400,000 net, are raised from customs duties, while all the rest is raised from direct taxes on property. One of the propositions which has been made to the finance minister by some eminent merchants, and which proposition, it is said, has been favourably received, is to abolish the customs dues altogether, and to raise the additional sum by direct taxes on property, and thus to make their foreign trade as free as a coasting trade.

Much blame has been heaped upon the Dutch Government for the way in which it has conducted its colonies in the East, much of which, however, is totally undeserved; and, at all events, its colonial legislation, as far as regards the interests of the home consumer, has been marked by a sense of justice and wisdom that we might do well to imitate.

The Government may be said to have had especial interest in the produce of Java, but yet not even an attempt has been made to introduce that baneful system of differential duties, which, we believe, have not only been injurious to the consumer in this country, but have really been detrimental to the best interests of our colonies. Holland imports sugar and coffee from all the world, and admits it to consumption on payment of the same duties, without regard to its place of growth. Sugar and coffee from Cuba and Brazil are imported exactly on the same terms as the same articles the produce of Java or Surinam; and yet, notwithstanding this free competition with the world, an unparalleled rapid increase has taken place in the production of these commodities. It is customary for people to express great regret that we gave up that island at the conclusion of the war, when it is seen how productive it has proved in the hands of the Dutch; but we very much doubt whether, with our colonial management—with our protecting care of high differential duties—that progress had been near as great as it has. Certain it is, that none of our colonies, with all the advantages which they have had during that period, with a strict monopoly of the home market for sugar, and a high protection for coffee, have made any such progress. In the three great leading articles of produce, the exports from Java, during the last sixteen years, have been—

	CORFEE.	SUGAR.	INDIGO.
	lbs.	cwt.	lbs.
1829	27,551,000	91,227	51,205
1830	38,498,980	129,333	—
1831	39,878,160	144,077	47,125
1832	41,889,755	292,705	185,032
1833	48,022,188	251,128	139,228
1834	61,801,402	443,911	276,699
1835	62,249,451	323,162	597,128
1836	66,410,393	607,338	448,577
1837	91,326,321	820,063	904,741
1838	—	No accounts.	—
1839	100,714,336	999,895	1,191,636
1840	150,605,810	1,203,980	2,124,911
1841	128,195,466	1,215,804	1,827,386
1842	131,812,592	1,053,196	1,627,437
1843	113,093,333	920,583	1,712,300

When we contrast this progress of production, exposed to free competition with Brazil, Cuba, and other slave-producing countries, with that of our own colonies, it is impossible to divest our minds of the suspicion, of the truth of which there are so many collateral evidences, that the principle of protection is always most delusive in its operation; that it lulls the energies and ingenuity of the producers, of which the West Indian papers now teem with acknowledged examples, while it effectually prevents that application of capital which can only take place where perfect confidence exists in the state of things as they are.

In other respects the Dutch tariff is based on the most liberal principles—the rates of duties, even where an accidental protection is intended, varying only from *six* to ten per cent., while a large portion of the duties are even much lower.

The Dutch have great reason to be well pleased with the enlightened principles of trade which they have adopted, and we shall be highly gratified to see them carry these principles farther into practice, by abolishing custom-house duties altogether, and resorting exclusively to a direct taxation, which they are in a condition to do without any inconvenience, seeing to how small an extent they are now dependent on that source of revenue.

Circular letters have been sent, by order of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, to the different corn inspectors in market towns, requiring them to be more particular in forcing due returns from the dealers in corn, a neglect of which subjects the offender to a penalty of £30.





## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XIX.

TO THOMAS BARING, ESQ., M.P., *not* FOR THE CITY OF LONDON.

SIR,—It is natural for those who have escaped being your constituents to scrutinize your Parliamentary conduct, and thus ascertain whether they have, or have not, reason to congratulate themselves on their rejection of your proffered services as their representative.

You invite this scrutiny by your prominent position on the first night of the session, as the seconder of the Address. You are "grateful" for the honour of being "selected" for that office. It is your pride to have, so far, the confidence of Sir Robert Peel; and you find in that some compensation for not having the confidence of the citizens of London. That you do so feel, is not less satisfactory to them than it appears to be to yourself. It shows how little you were qualified for the honour to which you aspired. He who can boast of the "selection" was not unworthy of the rejection. To be trusted by one whom nobody trusts, is a very equivocal compliment to throw in the scale against the votes of the metropolitan constituency.

"Prosperity" is the beginning, middle, and end of your speech. You paint the condition of the country in the most brilliant colours. Wool and cotton, ships and iron, beam in your eloquence like the tints of the rainbow. In your figures, the people grow fat upon "tea, coffee, and sugar." Judging by your praises, if Pitt was a heaven-born Minister, Peel is a heaven-making Minister. The land is flowing with milk and honey. Hope may rest at the bottom of Pandora's box; she is not wanted by a thriving world, in the fulness of its enjoyment.

And is this the whole of the picture which, on such an occasion, should have been presented? Does the existing manufacturing prosperity descend so deep and stretch so wide as to require no abatement of your gratulations? Around this nucleus of thrift, is there no dark atmosphere of wretchedness? What says your colleague in moving the Address? "At no former period has the condition of the great body of the people excited so deep, so real an interest, in the public mind. Never have so many plans been discussed for the improvement of their moral and physical condition." Does this sympathy only come when it is least needed, these plans when they are least wanted? Is this sanatory speculation simply a scheme for the investment of surplus capital in beneficence? Does it not rather show that the prosperity which is undenied, and which no one seeks to depreciate, is insufficient for the wants of the population? We have more trade and employment than we had; still we have not so much trade and employment as we need. The full exchequer leaves many stomachs empty. The good you describe as positive, is only comparative. In the words of Carlyle, "Man is yet unhelped." We have not got rid of "deaths by destitution." With all the increase of work, thousands cannot obtain "leave to toil." How is there to be more work, and work that will afford adequate wages, for willing hands? You did not propose to explain that to her Majesty, in your address. Do you not know? Have you no conception of the means by which trade might be enlarged? Do you perceive no openings, rich in promise, and boundless in extent? Are you aware of no restrictions, by which those openings are barred against honest exchange and industrial enterprise? O you know the talisman that would make the temple of commerce rise in the natural amplitude of its dimensions; and expand its gates for the reception of multitudes with far other greeting than what awaits them at the doors of the union workhouse. But of that extension of the present limited prosperity which the wants of multitudes require, and which Free Trade alone can give, you were dumb as death.

Equally silent were you of the gloomy shading which, from another quarter, ought to have cast itself over the brightness of your picture. You spoke of commercial, but not of agricultural, prosperity. The tenant-farmer makes no figure in your speech. The life of the labourer is not delineated. You had not a word of sympathy for the struggles of the one and the misery of the other. You entered into no discussion of the discrepancy between their condition, and that of the classes just now more prosperous. This omission is less excusable in the member for Huntingdon than it would have been in the member for London. Many of your constituents are connected with agriculture; and agriculture is, at present, not paying anybody but the landlords; who, as such, are not agriculturists. That the real cultivators of the soil are distressed, should not be overlooked because they are deluded. They say they are in the same boat with the landlords; but should they be allowed to sink for the sin of embarking in the pirate craft of Protection? Agricultural distress is an inevitable alternative in the effects of commercial restriction. Under the present system, the plough and the loom never prosper at once. Thriving and starving are like the man and woman, one in, the other out, of

the old weather house. They swing on the same pivot. Why did you blink facts which are not less palpable to the statesman because they are perverted by the protectionists? The Corn Laws are ruining the real agriculturists. The tenant knows not whether he is better with a lease or without, taking it, as he must, at a factitious rent, and in the face of fearful fluctuations. The security by which improvement should be guaranteed, is paralysed by the delusions of protection. The labourer is alike forlorn, whether dukes drank his health in water or in wine. They give his health, but he gets it not. They toast him, but he has no toast with his cold tea. Peel's prosperity touches neither the tenantry nor the peasantry; and you leave them untouched in your one-sided picture.

Another omission, in your speech, is that of all mention of the cause or causes of the present gleam of commercial prosperity. You shun analysis. The only hint at causation is when you declare it "impossible not to see that the real change of circumstances had originated in the adoption of the Income Tax!" Perhaps you restrict this to the revenue. If so, it materially abates your argument of national prosperity from financial prosperity. To speak of trade as revived by an Income Tax would rather exceed even the indulgence extended to movers and seconders of the Address. So you have the prosperity as if it came, as America is said to have been originally peopled, "by accident." You flinch from the palpable fact that comparative cheapness has induced comparative prosperity. You trace no connexion between the price of provisions and the impulse to manufactures. The effect of a cheap year is undiscernible to you; unseen amid the benignant influences of an Income Tax. They like it at Huntingdon, I suppose. Tastes differ, in different localities, both as to men and measures. But why did you say nothing of cheap food? Why did you leave the vision of prosperity in a mist, when the proof of its resulting from permanent and progressive causes would have imparted the firm characters of reality? You are not yourself convinced of its permanence. The ceaseless changes to which restriction subjects the trade of the country present themselves to your mind, though you abstain from all allusion to them. This is another instance of the pervading mental dishonesty of your speech. When you come to the subject of taxation, the truth peeps out:—

"Looking, therefore, to the safety of the country, and to the maintenance of her credit and financial stability, on which that credit depended, and believing, moreover, as he did, that whatever amount of relief might be experienced generally by having recourse to an extensive reduction in the amount of taxation, it would be as wise on the part of the nation to rely upon one year of great prosperity, as it would be for an individual to regulate his expenditure by one year's fortunate exertions in trade,—he considered, he repeated, that it would be exceedingly unwise and impolitic to make any important reduction in those taxes from which the present financial prosperity of the empire was derived."

This prosperity is, therefore, by your own showing, not a thing for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to rely upon. He must look out for the chance of a rainy day. You are content with leaving the trade of the country on a sandy basis, much too infirm to trust the Treasury thereon. In the sentimental days of Toryism, the cry was "Perish commerce, so the Constitution live." The modern doctrine is to peril trade so that the treasury be replenished; even though it be by the exactions of the Income Tax. Should a bad harvest send corn up to the prices of 1839, where will be your prosperity? The taxation will be safe, and there you leave it.

You profess to desiderate "a closer connexion" with the United States. Are not the practical means tolerably obvious? Is there any way but one in which that desire can be gratified? While you uphold the corn monopoly, what are such professions but the vainest of words? Is not an American trade waiting for us, contingent simply on our taking its produce? Do you not invite the Americans to retort upon you the very admonition inflicted by yourself upon the Emperor of Russia? Nothing can be better for the purpose than your own words:—

"He was sure the Emperor of Russia must have appreciated the feelings with which he had been received, and seen the desire that existed to bind the two countries in closer connexion; and happy should he (Mr. Baring) be if, feeling, as he must, that there was no stronger bond of peace than the mutual interest of the two countries, the Emperor of Russia should be disposed to remove or modify some of those restrictions which now interfered so much with the importation of our produce into that country—('hear, and a laugh')—a measure which he believed would not only increase the friendly feeling between the two countries, but augment the receipts of his own revenue, and of which the only injury would be to the productiveness of the contraband trade."

While America may repeat your lesson, Nicholas may have recourse to you for his reply. He is for Free Trade "in the abstract." What right have you to expect from the Czar of Russia that he shall surpass you in the practical application of principles? You confirm, by such admonitions, the Continental prejudice, that Great Britain aims at combining the advantages of Free Trade by other

nations with those of monopoly for herself. Suggestions of this sort tempt all the world to compare practice with precept; they combine huckstering details with empty abstractions; and excite the derision which attends on manifest insincerity united with palpable inconsistency.

In October, 1843, you declared the improvement of trade to be "a permanent re-establishment of our commerce, and a fresh era of prosperity to the empire." Your party received the declaration with cheers, and yet now you have no such faith in that permanence as to dispense with even that portion of the Income Tax which bears most heavily upon trade and industry. An abstract prosperity satisfies you, but not an abstract tax. In that same month you also told the citizens of London that Sir Robert Peel had restored confidence throughout the agricultural districts. Let the language continually held by the Protection Societies answer that assertion. The reply is sufficiently confirmed by your own "expressive silence."

The voice of experience speaks most distinctly. Even during the eighteen months that you have been before the public as candidate and legislator, the effect of continued cheapness in manufacturing prosperity, the need of a larger measure of that prosperity, the artificial antagonism in which agriculture is placed towards other interests by the restrictive system, and the peril overhanging every present mitigation of a distress absolutely unendurable, have been proclaimed by events and observation so as to force them upon every reflective mind. What the cause may be of your eyes being closed against the perception of these truths, I cannot say; the consequence certainly is, that you have acquired no additional claim on the confidence of those who think that the permanent prosperity, not merely of the revenue, but of the entire community, is best guaranteed by that just, wise, and consistent policy of Free Trade, on which you bestow a hollow assent and a practical hostility.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

## NOTES OF A TRAVELLER.—No. XVII.

## BERLIN EXPOSITION OF MANUFACTURES.

On the last day of the exhibition the King paid one of his many visits to the rooms. He came in a military undress uniform, attended by a single aid-de-camp; and as nearly every stall bore evidence to its having been subjected to royal inspection by tickets marked "purchased for his Majesty," he rather hurried through the crowded spaces, and seemed to select particular objects about which he desired to obtain information. In other respects his Majesty's appearance had much the effect that unceremonious visits of royalty have elsewhere. There was a good deal of running and crowding, and in the narrow passages it was with some difficulty that openings could be effected with all the efforts of the gentlemen who had the charge of keeping order. In about an hour the King retired, and each resumed his observations as well as the crowd, which on this day was particularly great, would allow him.

The woollen manufactures were even more fully represented than the linen wares, and as one of the most natural objects of domestic industry. Of the wool manufacture in Germany it may generally be remarked, that the technical difficulties are not overcome in a measure proportioned to the ease with which the raw material is procured. Saxony, which is the seat of the finest wool production, is fully rivalled by districts that depend for their main supply upon imported wool, and must draw the superfine qualities from Saxony itself. This is notoriously the case both with French and English wool factories; and yet the Germans look up to these still as models, and acknowledge their inferiority to both, by the heavy protecting duties which they impose on the wares of both these rival nations. Berlin is famous for its dyes, the fame of which has spread far and wide with the worsted which ladies use in embroidery. Fancy articles, especially in combed wool, are frequently dyed at Berlin. One house (H. Kaufmann) exhibited plush made of fine goats' hair. Beside numerous specimens of tapestry and hand embroidery, which, like all other artistic productions, is sold at a lower price in Germany than could be afforded elsewhere, but which does not properly form a branch of manufacture, attention was chiefly attracted to a new ware of great beauty, which promises to prove a valuable addition to the ornamental carpet manufacture. The inventor calls it wool mosaic, and describes the texture as resembling woollen velvet, which is woven on a peculiar machine, and which is distinguished by remarkable closeness and thickness. This velvet texture is united by means of caoutchouc with a camelot ground, which is consequently waterproof. The right side of the wool mosaic resembles a printed velveteen, and the patterns are of such delicacy, both as to contour and shading, that it is difficult to conceive they can be produced otherwise than by an improved process of printing. This, on the other hand, is rendered improbable by the number of dyes. I was shown one pattern at the factory which I visited that contained one hundred tints. The manufacturer, moreover, recommends his wares under the guarantee that they can be cleared by shearing when the surface is soiled. The beauty of this product bids fair to



drive the needle out of the embroiderer's hands, and even to draw off admirers from the far-famed Gobelins work; for effects of colour and accuracy of outline are evidently achieved in this ware that cannot be produced in the Gobelins looms. It would be unjust to deny this woollen ware its claim to be considered the most beautiful textile fabric that we possess for household use. It is sold for carpets, table covers, chair and sofa covers, and the price considering the beauty and novelty (the first was produced in 1839), is moderate. At the factory they told me they had considerable orders for England. The price of flower pieces for chair-seats, 18½ inches by 19, is but 9s. A very handsome flower piece for a rug, 5 feet 4 inches by 6 feet 2 inches, cost £7.

Amongst the numerous specimens of cloth exhibited, those from the neighbourhood of Aix-la-Chapelle were the finest, taken generally, although cloths of the best quality were sent from the other manufacturing districts, Silesia, Prussian Saxony, and the neighbourhood of Berlin. The German cloths of the middling fine qualities are less closely shorn than English cloths of the same weight, the yarn being less even of texture, and the web not being completed with the same precision and technical skill that prevails in England. This is a result of the less perfect drill which the manufacturer, who here is little more than a dealer, can enforce amongst his weavers. It is also a result of that negligence which nothing but competition will get rid of. The demand for this description of cloth is so considerable, and the dyeing is so perfect, that English cloths cannot compete with it under the protecting duty. The finest cloths resemble more the French cloths in their glossy finish, as in the tints of blue and blue black. The prices of all kinds are naturally higher than English prices, especially where the difference of quality under the same name is considered.

The display of fancy wares, merinos, thibets, mousseline de laines, &c., was not great, but showed that this description of manufacture has arrived at considerable perfection. The merinos and thibets of Saxony are known as being of superior quality. Only one lot of mousselines, thibets, and Orleans was marked as being machine-woven. The taste displayed in the patterns was mostly French; nothing original or novel was observable in these wares.

Carpets were exhibited in no great variety. Those worked in the Brussels and Kidderminster fashions were good in designs and colours, but something dearer than English wares. An attempted imitation of the Tournay and Axminster carpets, by a house recently established at Hanau, in the electorate of Hesse, is both of inferior quality and too dear to find a sale in Germany. There can be no doubt but that there would be a large consumption of Scotch and other low-priced carpets, if the heavy duty of £80 per ton were reduced.

From these circumstances, and what I have stated in my former letters, it will not appear surprising that, while the home market extends for the woollen manufacture of Prussia and Saxony, the foreign demand for these wares diminishes.

The inducement to the proprietors of large estates in Germany to keep large flocks of sheep is very great. Many such estates in Pomerania, Silesia, and the grand duchy of Posen would yield no revenue without this branch of farming. The saving in labour which they admit of on the one hand, and the manure yielded by sheep on the other, make them valuable additions to the farmers' stock. Accordingly, the largest stocks and the most improved breeds are found in the provinces where estates are largest. The district of Stralsund, in Pomerania, averages 5660 sheep on the German square mile; Breglau counts 5608; Merseburg, in Prussian Saxony, 5145; Posen, 4752. The smallest number of sheep is found in the Rhenish districts: Cologne has 991; Düsseldorf, 850; Coblenz, 1897 sheep, on the German square mile, which is equal to twenty-one English square miles. Of 16,344,018 sheep in Prussia, 4,119,950 are of fine Merino breed, upwards of one-half are half bred, and one-fourth are common country breeds. For the whole Zollverein the number of sheep is calculated to be 21,981,554, and the yield of wool to be 32 lbs. per 10 sheep. This gives a total of 48,315,419 lbs., to which, in order to estimate the whole consumption, the excess of imports over the exports of wool, 2,116,000 lbs., must be added. The sum total, 50,431,419 lbs., is about equal to the average quantity of foreign wool imported into England. The whole of this quantity is consumed within the country, at least in the year 1842 the imported foreign yarn nearly balanced the stuffs exported: the former having amounted to 22,235 cwt., the latter to 26,020 cwt. Upon this official showing, therefore, the whole foreign trade of the Zollverein is dependent upon its foreign supply of yarn; and that this is the shape in which the supply is most advantageously drawn from abroad, may be presumed. These facts must at the next congress prove a satisfactory answer to the spinners, who cry out for an augmentation of the duty of 8 dollars per cwt., about 10 per cent. Wool-spinning by hand is almost exploded in Germany; but a great many spinning-machines are worked by hand, as appears from the small number of spindles to a machine noted in the official report, which I am induced to subjoin, as it gives at one view the best insight into the state of the woollen trade in Prussia. The number of spinning-machines for wool in the different provinces was, in 1842:—

Provinces.	Carded. Machines.	Spindles.	Combed. Machines.	Spindles.
Prussia .. ..	82	2,734	111	3,452
Posen .. ..	534	23,508	287	9,622
Brandenburg ..	1,138	134,847	79	4,818
Pomerania .. ..	362	13,991	64	2,100
Silesia .. ..	464	54,128	158	9,520
Saxony .. ..	755	46,675	9	9,738
Westphalia .. ..	56	8,638	27	1,125
Rhine .. ..	170	96,408	24	15,833
	3,561	380,839	759	56,258

In the greater number of provinces the average number of spindles to a machine is below 100. The number is only considerable in the Rhenish province, in which the districts of Aix-la-Chapelle and Elberfeld are situated. The total number of looms employed in 1842 was 17,846, which shows an increase of 909 since 1837.

The proportions in the kingdom of Saxony are nearer to those of manufactures on a large scale. There are 229 machines with 448,819 spindles, which give employment to 6000 looms. A loom in Saxony, therefore, gives employment to 75 spindles, and in Prussia but to 25.

Some of the prettiest fancy articles were from the south of Germany. From the kingdom of Wirtemberg, besides cloths and flannels, satin de laine and shawl stuffs, for dresses of wool, silk, and cotton, were exhibited. The only manufactory of shawls in the Zollverein is at Elberfeld, and is recently established. Some of its products were exhibited, but offered nothing remarkable. The best shawls were sent from Vienna, where the manufacture is of old date. They are mostly worked in the French style, but are seldom so soft to the feel or so brilliant and tasteful in their colours as the products of the French looms. One handsome shawl, of fine texture, was marked as purchased by the Queen. The high duty levied on this article in the Zollverein probably prevented the sale of all that were exhibited, for the prices were moderate in comparison with the French prices.

The dependence of the agriculturist upon improvements in manufactures is well illustrated by the rise in price of low-quality wools since the combed wool stuffs have been brought into demand. The reports of the fair of Breslau in the years 1841, 1842, and 1843, show the increased demand for long wool, notwithstanding the growing supply and the importation from England:—

Year.	Fairs.	Quantity for sale.	Price. Fine.	Middling.	Ordinary.
1840	Spring ..	25,915	80-140	50-70	45-49 dol. p.cwt.
	Autumn ..	27,087	60-90	58-70	43-45 "
1841	Spring ..	51,147	80-140	50-75	45-55 "
	Autumn ..	29,391	70-120	62-70	50-58 "
1842	Spring ..	60,000	78-125	50-70	40-50 "
	Autumn ..	82,000	78-100	60-72	62-58 "

The silk manufacture is making considerable progress in the Zollverein, and the specimens exhibited were very creditable to the factories. The two principal houses in Elberfeld and Crefeld had a large assortment of articles from satins and gros de Naples to the lightest scarfs. The velvets from Crefeld were a choice selection in point of finish and colour, but dearer than the English manufacture of the same quality. The new fashionable stuff for dresses, a broad white stripe, alternating with a flowered stripe, is a very delicate production, and testifies to considerable skill in the assorting of colours on the part of the designers. Nearly all the pieces exhibited of this kind were purchased by the King, who seems bent on gladdening the hearts of some of his fair relatives.

Silk-weaving is scattered over various parts of Germany. Next to Elberfeld, Berlin and Potsdam are the most considerable stations of the trade. The distribution of the looms working in Prussia in 1840 was as follows:—

Berlin .. ..	2,306
Potsdam .. ..	606
Frankfort-on-Oder ..	100
Silesia .. ..	112
Saxony .. ..	94
Westphalia .. ..	130
Cologne .. ..	451
Düsseldorf .. ..	11,812
Troves and Aix .. ..	24
	15,713

From this list it appears that the manufacture is only important in Berlin and in the neighbourhood of Düsseldorf, where there has doubtless been a great increase in the number of looms worked within the last four years. Saxony follows Prussia in the number of silk-loom employed, which, however, do not exceed 250. For the whole Zollverein not more than 16,785 looms are returned. The quantity of silk imported into the Zollverein increases annually. In 1842 the imports exceeded the exports by 12,595 cwt. The greater part of this is Italian silk, which comes in through Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Baden. The exports of silk wares have decreased. In 1842 they exceeded but by 1075 cwt. the quantity imported. In 1841 the excess was 1673 cwt. The foreign markets for sale are chiefly towards the east of Europe, where buyers come to the Leipzig and Frankfort fairs.

One of the most interesting objects in the exhibition was the native silk, of which specimens were sent from nearly every part of Germany. Such experiments are usually the fruit of the leisure and curiosity of amateurs; but they are hints, at the same time, to the industrial community of what lies within their reach. The experi-

ments that have for some years been carried on in the north of France have proved that silkworms can be reared with artificial heat even more productively than in the southern latitudes, where ventilation is more difficult. The great mortality in Italy and in the south of France occurs amongst the worms during the prevalence of a sirocco wind, from which more temperate climates are exempt. In every part of Germany the mulberry-tree flourishes, as it is notorious that the frost does not destroy it in England. No natural obstacle, therefore, impedes the introduction of the silkworm generally into Prussia, as well as into England. Perhaps in Ireland, where there is such abundance of turf fuel, the greatest success would be experienced. The experiments made upon a large scale have hitherto not been successful in Germany, from a cause to which in these letters I have often referred; but which is as constantly overlooked in the practice as in the theory of political economy. Until cottons, linens, and woollens grow cheap, there can be no demand for silks. It happens, however, that Dr. List preaches, and the statesmen of his school practice, the doctrine that dear cottons, linens, and woollens are an advantage to a country; and while they do so, the German ladies must be content to practise the abstinence which the manufacturers of common stuffs recommend. The increase that I have noted as having taken place in the consumption of silks within some years, stands in the closest relation with the decline in price of cotton and woollen wares, in consequence of the growing domestic competition. If the Germans relaxed the fetters of trade (the English likewise), they might hedge in their fields of flax and hemp with mulberry plants, which then, perhaps, would yield the most valuable crop on the ground.

In strolling through the rooms, after examining the leading articles of manufacture, I was very desirous to obtain some information respecting specimens of pipes for water and gas which were exhibited of various materials. There were different kinds of clay pipes, respecting which I could only learn that the first experiments made with them as substitutes for wooden pipes failed from want of sufficient attention to the fitting of the joints. The cement used to remedy this defect did not hold the water; and the result was that the clay pipes were taken up, and the wooden ones relaid. The pipes in the exhibition appeared to be more carefully formed, so as to remedy this defect. Other pipes of glass had brass and iron fittings, but (notwithstanding the absence of excise duties) they were too expensive to be adopted on a large scale. In a conversation which I had with some gentlemen who had turned their attention to the state of the streets of Berlin, and were fully impressed with the necessity of adopting some means of cleansing them, I learnt that they had no apprehension of an interruption of a constant flow of water if the pipes were laid two and a half feet deep.

They say that in the severest winter the frost does not penetrate deeper. I found that they were quite unacquainted with the proceedings of the Health of Towns Commission, although the writings of some of them were known at Gwydyr-house; but they expressed the greatest anxiety to see the evidence on its appearance. I was not able to tell them whether the report had appeared or not, but it certainly will attract great attention on the Continent. In Germany especially, where the uncongenial climate, by restricting the productiveness of the soil, keeps the people in comparative poverty, and is unfortunately seconded by the political institutions and position of the German states, everybody is on the watch for novelties that have the practical worth of cheapness. A more general co-operation amongst all classes may also be expected there from the feeling of the power that association confers on those who command small means. The most striking proof of this is in the rapidity with which railroads have spread in all directions, and this rapidity would have been greater if the Governments had earlier become converts to the notion of their utility. In Prussia alone there are now thirteen railroads, in length 617 English miles, in active use. Permission has been granted for the construction of twelve other lines, 873 miles in length, and twenty-two lines are projected, extending in length 1340 miles. The cost of the lines opened is under £2500 per English mile. On the appearance of the report of the Health of Towns Commission there is little doubt but that it will speedily be acted upon in the continental towns, especially as the sanitary police already exists upon an excellent footing throughout Germany.

The characteristic feature of this whole exhibition was to show the earnestness and skill with which an industrious nation is struggling with difficulties, in great part of its own creation. With all the power to fill the dignified position of the centre of European intelligence, and the nurse of the kindly and graceful feelings which in the conflict of petty interests are too often sacrificed, the Germans allow themselves to be seduced from this path by the brawling of writers who have no claims on their confidence to seek a position of hostility against their neighbours; and for what? To have the pleasure of torturing their labouring classes with factories that have no solid foundation, but which threaten, in the measures necessary to ensure them a temporary existence, to lay a mine that, sooner or later, must explode to the general ruin. I had almost forgotten to mention an object that must have attracted the attention of all visitors to the exhibition—the beautiful coloured, lithographed printing which was displayed in various forms. A model in an

old form, with coloured initials and illuminated headings, and a landscape, the finish of which would have deceived any connoisseur, and have made him believe that it was retouched with the brush, were exhibited by the firm Reinmann and Co. The price at which this mode of multiplying coloured prints can be afforded is still too high to allow of its introduction into the lower branches of the trade. But the beautiful figures exhibited by Professor Zahn in facsimiles of those discovered painted in fresco on the walls of the houses in Pompeii offer a field that is capable of great extension. The substitution of anything approaching to a work of art for the unmeaning productions called paperhanging must be hailed as a step forward in the improvement of those domestic arrangements from which poverty and confined views have so long banished anything like elevated views. The first design by any eminent painter can by the aid of the printed colours be multiplied in facsimile so as to give the benefit of the designer's talent to a large circle of consumers. The beginning has been made in the textile department, to which the printers must join their aid; and thus our furniture may be expected to reflect in some measure the civilization of our times, as that of the ancients reflected theirs. Amongst the objects in silver that laid any claim to be considered works of art was a vase with figures in relief copied from one in the collection which the King purchased of Professor Zahn for the Museum and the Mechanical Institute at Berlin. The two collections contain casts of the choicest objects of domestic table furniture that were found at Pompeii and Herculaneum.

In the exhibition of the fine arts I saw a beautiful composition by a young artist of Munich, M. Widmann. It is the shield of Hercules from "Hesiod," and a worthy rival of the celebrated shield of Achilles by Flaxman. It would be a valuable acquisition for a goldsmith.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## To the Editor of the League.

Sir,—You profess to be a friend to the poor, to be the advocate of humanity; but I fear there is not much sentiment about you Leaguers—not much refined sensibility. You talk much of "justice," and but little of "charity." Now, "justice" is very well, very proper in its way, but it has something coarse and vulgar about it: it don't tell like sentiment, and sensibility, and "charity." If a man pays his debts, he fulfils justice; but it's thought nothing of, it's only his duty, a man gets no praise or credit for it; but if you subscribe to a "charity" (and there's no harm in its being known), why, then, your name's up at once for a kind and benevolent person. You Leaguers tell us you want to repeal an unjust law for the benefit of all classes, to make work plentiful and food cheap. This is all very well; but to repeal a law, to make plenty of work and cause food to be cheap, in all this there may be justice, but there's no charity—no sentiment, there's something too coarse, vulgar, political, and utilitarian about it.

How much better a "charitable object" sounds than a utilitarian object; why, the last phrase has positively a horrid sound! Then, again, to repeal an unjust law may involve an injury to some private interest—some dear monopoly—and thus lessen our gains, our income; may oblige us to make sacrifices, to draw in a bit in external, in "respectability," but to promote a "charitable object" requires only the surrender of a pound or two, and it may be the expense of some time and speech-making, amply repaid by plenty of praise and popularity from those from whom they are most worth having—the wealthy and influential. Whereas by advocating "justice" one gets popularity only from the poor—from the "lower classes"—whose praise don't tell for much.

Then, again, one's pride is so nicely flattered in promoting "charity"—one is conferring a favour, and putting persons under obligations to us, and exciting them to be cringing and servile, which is all very gratifying to some minds; but when you have done "justice" to a man he thinks you have only done your duty, and he does not feel much beholden to you, at least he has no temptation to "bend low" and use "a bondsman's key" towards a patron on whose gracious favour he is dependent. Believe me, Mr. Editor, "charity" is a much finer thing than "justice." I do verily believe that the "League Fund" would be far more amply and quickly supplied if its object was to obtain money to lay out in buying bread to give away to the poor, instead of enabling the poor to get work, and buy their own bread by honest industry. But to buy bibles for the poor would tell better than to buy bread for them. There's more sentiment about it. After all, the stomach is a low, vulgar thing, and so, of course, is everything relating to it. What can be more low and vulgar than talking about "bread"—such a common thing? and then "cheap bread," too, it's worse still. Who has anything to do with cheap things but low, vulgar people? Oh, let's have agitation for anything rather than for food—for bread—cheap bread, something more sentimental; let's not say a word about "justice," let's speak only of "charity," there's some sentiment in that.

Why, the move for "bathing and washing" for the poor is better than the "cheap-bread" agitation. It's a far genteeler thing to have a clean face and a clean shirt than to have a full stomach—(what a horrid sound a "full stomach" has!)—and there's some sentiment about it. They say "cleanness is next to godliness." When a person is neat and clean, he is "respectable," and not only that, but he feels respectable; and he is, therefore, likely to be quiet, orderly, and well-behaved to his "betters"—especially as there's "charity" in the matter,—as he owns his cleanliness and respectability to the "subscriptions" of the rich. But a dirty, hungry fellow (a dirty man is always a "fellow") is apt to be rough and boisterous; there's no knowing what mischief he may do. The Examiner is right! It may not matter which you advocate most, or get first—cheap bread or a clean skin; but a clean skin is evidently that which ought to be looked to first—it's a far genteeler thing and more likely to be obtained than "cheap bread." In the former is an outside thing, the latter internal; the one connected with charity and patronage, the

latter is only a matter of right and justice. A clean skin, I've said, is an outside affair, and who doesn't know that the world thinks more of the outside than the inside—more of external respectability than internal worth or happiness? A clean skin before cheap bread any day. Then there's the move for "public walks," "cricket matches," "maypoles," &c., for the poor—all better than the "cheap-bread" agitation, more genteel, more sentimental, more connected with charity, gratitude, and subservience. And these things are more easy to get than cheap bread, because there's no sacrifice required, and because they're not so necessary—ornament before utility—outside before inside, that's the world's motto. Depend upon it you're wrong, you Leaguers. Cheap bread is very well in its way, but cheap bibles, cheap amusements, cheap washing, are far better, more important, more genteel, more sentimental.

Yours,  
SIMON SIMPLE.

## PUNCH'S VERSION OF THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

## Grand Recitative and Scene. THE QUEEN.

My lords and gentlemen, again I meet ye,  
With cordiality once more I greet ye;  
Though I'd not have you work your brains to dizziness,  
Pray give your heads to the despatch of business.

## Cantabile molto affettuoso.

My dear allies, my foreign allies,  
Are acting with policy pleasant and wise;  
For some of them come  
To see me at home;  
But this observation expressly applies  
To LOUIS PHILIPPE,  
Who to Windsor's keep  
Came over, despite Anti-Anglican cries.

## Adagio.

Ah! the appearance of our country's coffers,  
Oh! A rich theme for gratulation offers;  
Our public purse we've found the way to stock it,—  
We've got at last a surplus in our pocket;  
Oh, may it never cause so much dissension  
As—oh! another surplus I could mention.

## Allegro.

All things wear a smile;  
Commerce has been mending;  
In our little Isle  
All to good seems tending.  
Wages on the rise;  
Lots of milk and honey;  
You'll not grudge supplies,—  
There's a glut of money.

## Chorus of MEMBERS.

Tooral looral, loo, &c. &c.

## THE QUEEN (deuxième couplet.)

Poor there are, they say,  
Who endure hard rubbing;  
But they've found a way  
To heal it by a scrubbing.  
Baths they mean to build  
Soon in every quarter;  
Mouths will then be filled,  
If not with bread—with water.

## Chorus.

Tooral looral, loo, &c. &c.

[At the end of the Chorus there is a grand display of red fire, which makes everything look as if it were couleur de rose, and  
THE CURTAIN FALLS.]

"THE FARMERS' FRIEND."—This is the proud title—a much prouder one than that of his nobility—of the Duke of Buckingham. He is at all times the farmers' friend. Indeed, in Buckinghamshire, he is looked upon as only second to the blessed sun itself, in his benign influence on the farmer. In the smiles of the Duke, crops ripen; and his agricultural counsel is far more fertilizing than guano. Yes, the Duke of Buckingham is the farmers' friend. But how, when the farmer dies and leaves a widow? Does the friendship extend to the survivor? Let us see. A Mr. Read, occupant of a farm at Winchendon Marsh, recently died. The farm had been in his family nearly a century. Previous to his death, Mr. Read had laid out nearly £400 in under-draining. He left a widow with a large and young family. The executors (practical farmers) offered to see that the farm was properly managed. The widow begged to be allowed to remain one more year to reduce her stock. No—no—no! "The farm," says the *Aylesbury News*, "was actually let over the poor woman's head at an advanced rent of £100 per annum." Nor is this, it appears, a single instance of the kind. However, these things do not invalidate the Duke's claim to the title of "farmers' friend." Only let the farmers of Buckinghamshire make this memorandum—the Duke's friendship does not extend to farmers' widows and children.—*Punch*.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Last week Dr. John Ryan, the professor of chemistry, delivered a lecture on Fire, for the purpose of exhibiting an apparatus recently invented by Mr. Phillips, of Bloomsbury-square, called the Fire-annihilator. Dr. Ryan commenced his lecture by stating he should endeavour to explain the nature and combustion of fire. After explaining the theories of the earlier chemists, and those of more modern times, the doctor proceeded to make a number of experiments, to prove that combustion under all circumstances, is the result and compound of chemical action. He more especially pointed out the effects of volumes of free nitrogen, or free carbonic acid, upon the flame of coal-gas in an atmosphere containing only a small per centage of these gases; he proceeded to explain that Mr. Phillips used a mixture of coke, nitre, and sulphate of lime, with a little water. To illustrate the effects of the apparatus, Dr. Ryan kindled a fire in a small iron house; when the flame was at its height he introduced a small apparatus not holding more than two ounces of the material, and in half a minute the fire was completely extinguished. We understand that Dr. Ryan intends to make this the subject of a daily lecture for some time, in order to afford the public an opportunity of witnessing the invention.

## REVIEW.

Factory Legislation.—Report of the Central Committee of the Association of Manufacturers engaged in the Cotton Trade, for the year 1844. Manchester, A. Burgess.

British Quarterly Review, No. 1. Article 4: The Factory System. London, Jackson and Walford.

It was said of old that "Truth is mighty, and must prevail;" but during the period of the struggle between truth and falsehood it is possible that an immense amount of social wrong may be perpetrated, which the ultimate triumph of truth can neither compensate nor cure. Falsehood is most ingenious in devising "a cry;" for the Shibboleth once adopted passes from mouth to mouth as a demonstrated aphorism which precludes the necessity of further inquiry, and to doubt of which is deemed conclusive proof of obliquity of intellect or hardness of heart. Investigation and examination are shouted down by vociferous clamour; and public men, whose ears only catch the loudest voices, are very apt to mistake shouts for testimony. Even the best of English patriots, the Russells and the Sydneys, were found to endorse the monstrous falsehood of "The Plot" devised by the first Lord Ashley, and to stigmatize as "stiflers of the plot" all who ventured to hint their suspicions of the consistency of the evidence of Oates and Bedloe. In the last session of Parliament we had the pain of witnessing many for whom we entertained sincere respect yielding to the delusion of "a cry," and giving the authority of their names to gross mis-statements, the refutation of which was within the reach of any one willing to take the trouble of impartial inquiry. It would not be easy to find more misrepresentation aggregated in a single sentence than Mr. Charles Buller contrived to cram into the following description of the factory operatives:—

"Large masses of unskilled, needy, impoverished labourers were collected together, subjected to terrible privations and discomforts from their very agglomeration; from the very same cause almost at the mercy of their employers; and from the same cause ready and apt to combine for mischief."

It is instructive to compare these several allegations with facts. The first assertion is that the operatives are unskilled. Now, every one acquainted with the delicate mechanism—the spindles, shafts, wheels, and rollers—employed in the processes of cotton-spinning, must know that the management and direction of these tools and machines must require considerable skill and careful training. The steam-engine sets them in motion, but it cannot direct and apply their motions, because no conceivable combination of steam with iron can think. The more perfect the machinery is, the more nice and delicate must be the management by which it is applied to the processes of manufacture. There is, consequently, a large demand for skill in the manufacturing districts; and that the demand has called forth the supply is proved by the machinery having attained a perfection which nothing but skill of a very high order could govern and direct.

The second allegation is that the factory operatives are needy. Now, how stand the facts?

"The returns obtained by the Factory Commissioners in 1833 showed that 212,800 operatives in the cotton mills of Lancashire and Cheshire (including 120,167 above sixteen years of age, 81,912 under sixteen, and 4721 whose wages were not ascertained,) were receiving on the average, within a fraction, 10s. 6d. per week. And the returns obtained by a committee of master manufacturers, including the most eminent in the cotton trade, from mills employing 112,596 operatives (including women and children) in the month of April, 1844, showed that they were then receiving, on the average, 10s. 3d. per week. There is no extensive class of labourers in this country, including women and children, where the average earnings are nearly so high. Those of handloom-weavers and stocking-weavers are not half as much, for longer hours; and those of agricultural labourers are not half as much, for harder labour."—*British Quarterly*.

The third allegation is that the operatives are impoverished. If this epithet be a mere oratorical expletive superadded to needy, its correctness has been already tested. If it means that those who have come to the factories from other occupations have thereby deteriorated their condition, it is refuted by the fact that when Stockport was reduced to the most intense distress during the late commercial crisis, the operatives braved the direct extremes of famine rather than apply for parochial relief, which might have caused them to be sent back to the agricultural parishes from which they had migrated. If it means that the social position of the operative is inferior to what it was in the past generation, the fact is shown to be the very reverse by every statistical document published on the subject. Restrictions on the exchange of the produce of labour for the necessary sustenance which labour was obtained by the great Creator to afford must, of course, tend to impoverish those who live by labour, whether those restrictions assume the form of variable oppression in a sliding scale, or fixed injustice in a fixed duty.

The fourth allegation is that "the operatives are



subjected to terrible privations and discomforts from their very agglomeration." The orator has here found it convenient to confound the crowding together of inhabitants in towns, properly called "the great town nuisance," with the factory system. It is undoubtedly true that the working classes of every kind in all our cities do suffer great privations and discomforts from being crowded together in narrow lanes, small tenements, and bad lodgings; but it is decidedly untrue that the factory hands are, in this respect, worse off than any other operatives. Indeed, if there be any difference, it is in favour of the factory operatives; and in proof of this we quote Mr. Horner's description of the factory operatives in Stockport:—

"No collection of the working classes in other occupations in this country can possibly exhibit a larger proportion of well-fed, well-clothed, healthy, and cheerful-looking people."

We shall next quote the account of the operatives in the rural factories, given by Nassau William Senior, Master in Chancery, and formerly Professor of Political Economy in the University of Oxford:—

"The factory people in the country districts are the plumpest, best-clothed, and healthiest-looking of the labouring classes that I have ever seen. The girls, especially, are far more good-looking (and good looks are fair evidence of health and spirits) than the daughters of agricultural labourers. The wages earned per family are double those of the south."

The fifth allegation is that the operatives are almost at the mercy of their masters; but the fact happens to be that the operation of the factory system is the very reverse, and places the masters more at the mercy of the men than any other form of industry in the country. The amount of invested capital, which not only makes no return when unworked, but becomes greatly deteriorated by any cessation, compels the master manufacturers frequently to run their mills at an absolute loss; they are forced to do so when the amount of loss on working does not exceed the interest of the invested capital. The men know this fact, and hence it is notorious to all who have taken the trouble of making the slightest inquiry, that no class of the employed bear themselves so independently towards their employers as the factory operatives.

The last allegation is that the operatives are ready and apt to combine for mischief. This is the direct reverse of the truth. We are well aware of the evils of strikes; but where such combinations are confined to the single object of procuring by cessation from labour—without having recourse to acts of violence—an advance of wages, we deny that they should be called combinations for "mischief." In the last great strike in the cotton districts, though thousands were out of employment, with millions of property at their mercy, no mill was burned, no machinery damaged, and no species of property wantonly injured or destroyed. Mr. Buller should have paused before pronouncing such a wanton and groundless libel on the character of the operatives; he should have paid a little more attention to the geography of mischief: he would then have found that the home of Rock and Swing is not in South Lancashire or the West Riding of Yorkshire. In the course of the speech from which we quote, Mr. Buller declared that he had adopted a new and bold principle of legislation. Unfortunately there is no novelty in legislating in utter ignorance of the subject-matter, though there was considerable boldness in making statements so wholly at variance with facts.

We have dealt at some length on the vague generalities of Mr. Charles Buller, because such indefinite charges have been too long allowed to pass without exposure. It must not be supposed that we accuse the gentleman of wilful misrepresentation: we believe that he never took the trouble of making any inquiry into the facts, but took up the version of them best suited to his purpose, believing that any inaccuracy would pass as a mere rhetorical flourish. Let us now turn to the more specific charges adduced against the factory system by Lord Ashley.

Lord Ashley, on the authority of some "experienced" but unnamed "mathematician," declared that "piecers and spinners had to travel from 15 to 37 miles per day." It was proved by the Committee of Manufacturers that the distances traversed were not more than eight miles per day.

Lord Ashley quoted Dr. Villermé to prove the tendency of the cotton manufacture "to produce coughs, pulmonary consumptions, and early deaths." Mr. H. Ashworth showed that Dr. Villermé spoke thus in reference to the process of "batting," long disused in this country, but that, in reference to all other processes, he had declared the condition of operatives working in a factory to be superior to that of operatives engaged in their own homes.

Lord Ashley stated that continued "improvements in machinery had led to the substitution of infant for adult labour, and to the increase of female as compared with male employment." The committee showed that the proportion of infant and female labour to adult and male labour was as follows:—

	In 1835.	In 1844.
Children under 13 ..	13 per cent.	3½ per cent.
Females ..	54 "	52 "
Adult males ..	26½ "	32 "

That is, the facts of the case were the very reverse of his lordship's statements. We must refer to the Report of the Manufacturers' Committee for equally decisive refutations of the other calumnies against the factory system; but it is only fair to give some explanation of the circumstances by which Lord Ashley was deluded into making such gross misrepresentations. He was misled by his witnesses. The report states—

"During the debates on the Factory Bill the attention of Parliament was drawn to the class of persons who usually furnish to members of Parliament information respecting factories, who frequent the lobbies of the House, and who appear in London under the title of 'Deputies from the Operatives.'"

"It was openly stated in the House of Commons of one of these deputies—who had published two books dedicated to Lord Ashley, exposing what he called the factory system, and who had been paraded before visitors in Lord Ashley's house as a 'Factory Cripple'—that whilst collecting the materials of one of these books he had been furnished with money by Lord Ashley; that he had received written instructions from an individual, who it was admitted acted as Lord Ashley's agent, to 'blacken the characters' of certain millowners who took a prominent part in opposing the Ten Hours' Bill—and that he had lately been discarded by Lord Ashley, who stated in the House of Commons that he had discovered him to be a man unworthy of credit."

"It was also stated of another of these 'operatives' and delegates, that he had first obtained employment in a mill in Manchester by means of a forged certificate of character, dated Belfast, and that he had since been twice in prison. And of another 'operative' and frequenter of the lobby of the House of Commons, a newspaper report was read, showing that he had recently been arrested, and had taken his trial upon a charge of stealing silver plate from a tavern."

Unfortunately these men do not stand alone in the endeavour to make the advocacy of a damaged cause serve as a salve for a damaged reputation.

The question of a Ten Hours' Bill may be decided, either by considerations of humanity or prudence; on both grounds we are prepared to show, in a very few words, that such an interference with industry as has been proposed by Lord Ashley would be equally prejudicial to the operatives and their employers. Let us first take the ground of humanity: and in the first place it must strike every thinking man as strange that those persons who tax the bread of the operatives and stint their food should stand forward to proffer them protection. Such a proceeding realizes the picture of the Spanish monk, giving a penitent his blessing while he picked his pocket. Secondly, we are bound to see how these professing philanthropists treat their own dependents before we sanction their interference with the dependents of others. Before the landlords are allowed to regulate the condition of the manufacturing operatives, we have a right, nay, more, it is our duty, to inquire into the condition of their own agricultural labourers. And here we must remark that manufacturers are eager to have the condition of their operatives examined, while on Lord Ashley's paternal estate the unfortunate labourers are menaced with expulsion from their hovels if they venture to disclose the secrets of their prison-house. We have shown that the sanitary and educational condition of the persons engaged in the cotton manufacture is superior to that of the operatives in most other branches of industry; we do not deny that it is desirable to have them as well as all other persons more healthy and better instructed, but we do deny that it is desirable to reduce their present amount of wages. There is abundant evidence that the operatives do not desire it, for they notoriously quit mills which work short time to engage in those establishments where the longest hours are worked:—

"Mr. Kenworthy, of Blackburn, the author of 'Inventions and Hours of Labour,' attempted to make an approach towards carrying out the views he had advocated, and for this purpose ran his mill eleven hours and a half a day, instead of twelve; but ere the week was over, his men intimated, that unless he at least paid them for twelve hours they would leave work; and he found himself compelled to return to the former length of day. There are employers who have for a time been compelled to run short hours from want of water; and although the short hours were only for a season, with a prospect of making up for lost time afterwards, some of the best workmen were so much dissatisfied as to leave their situations, though those situations were of a most eligible kind, and had been held by them and their families for years. So well known is the disposition of the workmen on this point, that no millowner, however strongly disposed to work shorter hours, would venture upon it without the general concurrence of the body,—feeling perfectly certain that, if he did, he would immediately lose all his best hands. A case might be mentioned of a mill in which no young persons under eighteen were employed, and where the mill ran (as it legally might) more than twelve hours a day; and in that case, so far from the workmen deserting the mill, the best workmen from all the surrounding mills flocked to it, to secure the higher wages which longer hours produced. When Mr. Horner, the Inspector, asked the opinions of the workmen at the mill of Messrs. Bright, at Rochdale, the majority declared that they should not wish for shorter hours if they were to be accompanied by reduced wages."—*British Quarterly*.

The question of humanity may very fairly be left to the men themselves; no doubt they would like to have twelve hours' wages for ten hours' work, and,

in good sooth, so should we ourselves, whose work with the head is as laborious as any work with the hand; but they have everywhere shown that they repudiate a reduction in the hours of labour which would be accompanied by a corresponding reduction of the amount of wages.

Now, let us say a few words on the prudential or commercial part of the question.

In the debates on the Factory Bill, Sir Robert Peel stated, on the authority of M. Ducpetiaux, a member of the Belgian Government Commission, that the number of hours which mills run in the principal manufacturing countries was as follows:—

United States ..	78 hours per week.
France ..	72 to 84 "
Prussia ..	72 to 90 "
Switzerland ..	78 to 84 "
Austria ..	72 to 80 "
Saxony ..	72 "
Baden ..	84 "
Bonn ..	94 "
England ..	69 "

The average in foreign states is therefore 16 per cent. above England; and could we keep our present position in foreign markets if subjected to a further disadvantage of 14½ per cent.? As the writer in the "British Quarterly" has ably shown, it is on the productive power of our machinery that the wages of the workman as well as the profits of the capitalist depend:—

"It has been shown that the modern system of manufacturing rests almost wholly on the great mechanical inventions. By machinery the fabric of our manufacturing greatness was reared, and by machinery it must stand. The labour of the workman who attends upon it derives its value from the extraordinary productiveness of the machinery; and that labour, though indispensable, has comparatively a small share in producing the results."

"Whatever diminished the productive power of the machinery, would of necessity raise the price of the goods which it produces, and thereby be a tax on the consumer."

"Whatever diminished the quantity of goods and raised their price, would necessarily reduce the quantity of employment given to all the trades which are dependent upon, or auxiliary to, the machinery."

"Whatever raised the price of English goods would doubly reduce the foreign demand—first, by the ordinary effect of high price upon consumption, and next, by the advantage given to foreign manufacturing competitors."

"Whatever reduced the foreign demand, would reduce both the profits of the capitalist and the wages of the workman."

"This train of consequences would naturally, and we think inevitably, follow the diminished productiveness of machinery. It would injure all classes; and the injury done by the encouragement of foreign competition, though it admits of no previous measurement or estimate, might be of the most serious extent."

This is what the *Times* justly calls the commercial view of the question; and it is the view in which

the matter must be regarded by every one who takes an interest in the commercial prosperity of the country. Diminished production would only raise the price of articles produced when the demand was a constant quantity, and when the producers had an exclusive power of supplying the market. Now, we have no such control over foreign markets as to prevent American and German manufacturers competing with us in the markets of the world. Our manufacturers should sell at reduced profits; but as profits constitute the fund out of which wages are paid, a reduction of profits is obviously equivalent to a reduction of wages. It is not necessary to say another word upon the subject.

#### GOD'S WORLD—MAN'S WORLD.

God's world is beautiful, when early morn  
Lifts the dark curtain night draws o'er the earth,  
When every lovely thing looks freshly born,  
And brightly smiles, rejoicing in its birth.

God's world is beautiful, when glorious noon,  
The manhood of the day, its vigour shows,  
When the bright day-king ruleth, and his boon  
Of golden blessings on the glad earth throws.

God's world is beautiful, when overhead  
Those myriad sparkling watchers of the night  
(The canopy of gems which He hath spread)  
Give, in our sleeping hours, their gentle light.

God's world is beautiful! but what does man,  
Its tenant-lord, his thankfulness to prove?  
Does harmony with God's benignant plan  
Show his admiring reverence and love?

Man's world is chaos! discontent and gloom,  
Wrongs unredressed and rights by power denied,  
Justice dethroned, starvation labour's doom,  
Genius a victim, crushed by gilded pride!

Man's world is chaos! morning wakens care,  
Noon lights a scene of struggling industry,  
And, when the stars shine forth, oh! what is there  
Save heartless mirth, heartbroken misery?

Man's world is chaos! and will so remain  
Till that blessed Trinity, in spirit one  
(Freedom, and Truth, and Love), shall "move" again,  
As once "The Spirit" did when time began.

Oh! for the dawning of that second day,  
When Freedom, Tyranny's dark reign shall end,  
When Truth, "his own heart's truth," each shall obey,  
And Love its softening influence shall lead.

And dawn it will, though long the night may seem  
Which darkens o'er the maze of Heaven's plan.  
The morning star already glows to beam:  
'Twill dawn, for God is good, and—God made man!

## AGRICULTURE.

## PROTECTIONISTS AT HOME.

When the monopolist landlords come forth to support a law so manifestly unjust and injurious as the Corn Law, upon the plea of assisting the tenant-farmers, it becomes important to inquire into their personal dealings with their own tenants. After reading the speeches at the protection meeting at Freemasons' Tavern, in which the lordly protectionists express so much anxiety for the interests, so much respect for the opinions, and such deep consideration for the difficulties of tenant-farmers, what farmer does not sigh for a holding under such landlords? How loudly they applauded a suggestion to allow per centages to be laid out on improvements rather than in mere money abatements of rent! How fiercely they hurled defiance against their own selected Ministry if they should dare to carry out "any further" the doctrines of common sense, and thereby disturb "protection to agriculture!" How unhesitatingly they asserted the farmer's right to "protection" from the Legislature! Is there any farmer so mistrustful as to suspect that these "noble" defenders omit to afford that protection which is within their own power?

Let us follow a few of these monopolists home, and our agricultural readers will judge for themselves. Amongst the most vehement speakers was the Earl of Malmesbury, who, in responding to the toast of "The landlords," complained of the "calumnies of the League, which had been showered thick and fast upon the landlords. They had been described as extortioners of their tenants, and as grinding even the labourers below them; as persons guilty of every sort of crime which the least Christian man would be ashamed to commit. If such charges were true, they were perfectly unworthy of men of education, such as the landlords; but, before the Almighty God, he protested that such charges were false." What charges, most noble monopolist? It does so happen that, in all this outbreak of injured virtue, this rate protectionist managed—accidentally, of course—to omit the only charge which we have especially made against him. The tale, as we have heard it, runs thus. The Earl of Malmesbury, a great preserver of game, always professed to make allowances to his tenants for damages done to them by his game. Such allowances, however, being fixed by the landlord's agent, were seldom satisfactory; and one tenant, determined to test the actual damage, huddled off a small portion of his wheat-field, so as entirely to exclude the game from that portion. The result of this ocular demonstration of

damage was, that his lordship had such an amount of compensation to pay as really to swallow up the rent of the farm; and he paid the damages, but turned out the tenant. We have never heard any contradiction of this incident in the life of a game-preserver attempted. Probably none could be offered. But could his lordship have stated this charge, even amongst the select and selected monopolist tenant-farmers who dined with the Dukes on Monday, without eliciting some symptoms of, to say the least, uneasiness? How heartily the Earl of Essex, who was present but did not speak, must have sympathized with the irritation of his brother game-preserver, our readers, who recollect Mr. Horncastle's letter, will readily comprehend.

Then, to pass over minor monopolists, we find the Duke of Richmond declaring himself "determined, faithful, and eager, without favour, or affection, or reserve for any party,"—his grace forgot his brother at the Treasury; but that's a bygone, and perhaps there is no other Lennox Sir R. Peel can promote,—to maintain the opinions he conscientiously entertained, that if agricultural protection be diminished one iota lower than it has already been reduced to, the tenantry and labourers, and landlords of the country would cease to exist as a class in England." What a denunciation! How fearful a prophecy! If his grace had said that, on a similar contingency, oxygen, hydrogen, and carbonic acid gas would cease to exist in England, it would have rounded his period as well, and been quite as rational. Unless, indeed, the noble President was playing with the protectionists, by asserting that those who do not now exist as "a class" would not then exist as a class. They are now two classes, the industrious agriculturists and the rent-consumers; the working bees and the drones; and such they would be then.

Then the Duke flattered himself he had become obnoxious to the few remarks we have made upon him, "because he is the farmers' friend." This is quite a mistake. We have referred to his support of monopoly as an excellent illustration of the shallow pretences on which these monopolist landowners seek their own ends, and call themselves "farmers' friends." It so happens that we have been enabled to get a glimpse of the Duke at home. Just before the accession of the Duke to his title and his Sussex estates, and whilst the property was at nurse in the hands of trustees for his father (an embarrassed man), a revaluation of the property was made, and it was the common boast of the agent and the trustees to say, "We have doubled the Duke's rental." This

was about the year 1817, when prices were nearly at the highest, and we do not hear that any reduction has since been made. In the time of Charles Duke of Richmond—the well-known Reformer—all the Sussex tenantry prospered; most of them secured a competence, and some accumulated considerable wealth. How changed has been the scene since the revaluation! Changes, departures, distresses for rent amongst the tenantry have been matters of not unfrequent occurrence. Men, whose fathers and grandfathers had occupied their farms and prospered under preceding dukes, have had their stock distrained for rent, and sold under the present. One left the country and died in exile; another died whilst the distress was in progress; another, who had occupied 2000 acres, became a farming bailiff; and in various forms ruin fell upon others who, trusting to protection prices, have been unable, when prices fell, to meet their "farmers' friends'" monopoly rents. We shall not follow this topic further at present; but the above is sufficient to show the farmers that "all is not gold which glitters."

We can only now find room for one other monopolist worthy—the Duke of Buckingham. And after reminding the reader that his grace is a strict game-preserver, and a rigid enforcer of the game laws and yearly tenancies, we shall simply give, without note or comment, the following extracts from the *Aylesbury News* of the 25th of January last:—

"The Duke is considered a pattern landlord by the great bulk of those who compose the agricultural interest; and, while such is the case, we can have no hopes of real or lasting agricultural prosperity. For, what is his grace's real conduct towards the tenantry? Now, we are not going to accuse Buckingham of screwing out the last farthing obtainable from his tenants, though he is as fond of high rents as most landlords; nor do we accuse his grace of any acts of stingy meanness in his dealings with his tenants. The charge we bring against him is that of an overweening ambition, which can only be satisfied by having about him a set of tenants reduced to the lowest state of servitude; to gratify which passion he sacrifices every consideration of agricultural expediency, and every reckoning of a common-sense or commercial character. His grace's main object seems to be, not so much to promote the cause of agriculture, nor to encourage the full development of nature's powers, nor to increase the amount of the harvest yield, nor even to add to the sum total of his rent-roll, though he has no objection to do this occasionally,—his Grace's sole desire seems to be to add to his own personal influence, and to lengthen the list of his slavish dependents and retainers."

Again:—

"While the tenantry are in constant fear lest they should sometimes vote for the wrong candidate, or be unfortunately provoked to point a gun at a hare, and so be dispossessed of their 'holdings,' it cannot be expected that they will properly cultivate the soil, or expend their capital in bringing out its full powers. But the case we have before us shows his grace to be in the habit of gratifying his ambition by going to greater lengths than these; and that, rather than lose a vote, or allow his list of retainers to be lessened, he will commit acts of injustice upon the widows and fatherless, and punish those who are incapable either of committing any offence against his own strict code of rules, or of defending themselves from his aggressions. We have heard of numerous instances of fathers being seriously inconvenienced by his grace compelling them to take their boys into partnership immediately on their attaining their majority, that the number of tenant-at-will voters may be increased."

But no women are allowed to occupy farms on the Duke's property.

"Women have no votes, cannot enter themselves among the Bucks Yeomanry, cannot swell the mob of applauders at public meetings, nor attend to do suit and service at Stowe when any distinguished visitors are there."

And the following instance is stated:—

"There is a farm belonging to the Duke of Buckingham at Winchendon Marsh, near this town, which had been in the occupation of the late tenant (Mr. J. Read) and his family for upwards of a century. Mr. Read had just previous to his death expended from £300 to £400 in under-draining, and had otherwise so expended his capital and skill as to bring the farm into first rate condition. He left a widow with a large and young family, and it was important that this bereaved family should have been allowed to remain undisturbed for a year or two at least. But no, this did not suit his grace's ambition; women and children do not answer his purpose, and so he has no consideration for them. A notice to quit was immediately served on the afflicted widow, and the farm was actually let over the poor woman's head at an advanced rent of £100 per annum. The widow begged to be allowed to remain but one more year, that she might reduce her stock and make other necessary arrangements; the executors under Read's will, who are practical farmers, offered to see that the farm was properly managed; but his grace was inexorable, and so the poor widow is obliged to get rid of her stock by public auction, and to sell off the cattle, &c., at a time and under circumstances which are sure to cause a great sacrifice of her means."

Nor is this a solitary case:—

"That this ejecting widows is part of a regular system of his grace is evident from other causes. Mrs. Read's is by no means a singular instance. It is but a few years ago that the widow of a Mr. Adkins, of Brill, was, with her numerous children, turned adrift upon the wide world by his grace, though a neighbour kindly offered to see that the farm was properly managed. The deceased Adkins, too, left his farm in good order, and had always been a most zealous partisan of his landlord; exerting himself beyond his means to further the electioneering objects of the present duke."

A farm under such a "FARMER'S FRIEND" would be dear at any price.

## THE GAME LAWS.

Public opinion on the game laws has now assumed a practical form, for in two different counties public meetings have been held to petition for a total and immediate repeal. At Ruislip, in Middlesex, resolutions to that effect were agreed to, with one dissentient—a landowner—and amidst the eager assertion, by farmers, of particular instances of the mischievous operation of these laws.

On Monday last a meeting was also held in the County Hall of Aylesbury, in Buckinghamshire, where Dr. Lee presided, and a petition for repealing the game laws was agreed to. The Chairman, in opening the business of the meeting, referred to the social evils caused by game-preserving, and the efforts which Sir Harry Verney and himself had made to induce the Buckinghamshire magistrates to memorialize the Home Secretary on the subject. He also

"adverted to a return obtained by Mr. Mainwaring of the number of gamekeepers murdered during the ten years ending 1843, from which it appeared that no fewer than 41 gamekeepers had lost their lives during that period in protecting the game of lords of manors. He was sorry to say that the first on the list was Charles Coles, the gamekeeper of a clergyman of the Church of England, one of those gentlemen who professed to be the descendants of the Apostles, though Holy Writ did not inform them that the Apostles took out game licenses or went fox-hunting. The next case was in Berkshire; and then came, he regretted to see, one in Buckinghamshire. In Cheshire there had been three such murders, in Derbyshire two, in Gloucestershire one. To the disgrace of Buckingham he was compelled to admit that another gamekeeper had been killed in that county. In Northamptonshire two had been murdered. From a return of the number of persons convicted of offences against the game laws in 1843, obtained by Mr. Bright, he found that there were 119 such persons who had been convicted either at the quarter or the petty sessions in Buckingham. Those details showed that the present meeting was called for no light purpose, but one involving the comfort, happiness, and lives of their fellow-creatures."

Out of 539 prisoners in Buckingham county gaol during last year, 169 were offenders against the game laws. The present system of game-preserving was not sportsmanlike.

"To the old style of shooting he did not object. Formerly, gentlemen considered shooting a pursuit which united exercise and sport; they would go out with their dogs, and if they killed two or three heads of game, they were satisfied. Latterly, noblemen and lords of manors had got into the practice of preserving game to the amount of thousands upon thousands, and recently they had adopted a foreign custom, to which they durst not give an English name—the *battue*. ('Hear, hear,' and a laugh.)"

Modification of the law is not sufficient:—

"His opinion was, that the game laws should be abolished, and that the law of trespass would be quite sufficient to ensure a gentleman sufficient game and sport. His neighbours would protect his land, and his tenants would get rid of a great source of disaffection. Any gentleman who would have the moral courage to call upon Parliament to repeal the game laws would prove himself to be the farmer's friend. The game-preserver was not the farmer's friend, but his enemy, and the persecutor of the labourer, loading the villages in his neighbourhood with taxation to maintain the wives and children of those he caused to be sent to gaol. The game-preserver was indeed the tyrant of his county, filling the prison with inmates sent from his own domains, and doing mischief to almost every other class of his fellow-subjects. (Cheers.)"

We believe it will be invariably found that a game-preserver is a bad neighbour and a tyrannical landlord; and the reason is obvious. Not only is a game preserve a nuisance and source of loss to all adjoining owners and occupiers of land, but it leads to perpetual ill blood between neighbouring occupiers and their servants, and the game-preserver's keepers. Then, none but inferior farmers and dependent tenants will rent under a game-preserver; for good farming is absolutely inconsistent with game-preserving.

Mr. Scrivener, a farmer, said:—

"He believed the game laws to be so bad that it was impossible to amend them, and therefore they should be got rid of altogether. (Hear, hear.) He believed them to be a crying evil. He did not wish to curtail the sports of the gentry, but to see them pay the expenses of their sports, and not lay them upon other people. (Cheers.) Had there been no game laws, he thought they might have been spared the expense of a new prison, which would cost something like £40,000. (A voice, 'Ay, and the workhouse too.') He moved the second resolution:—'That a petition to Parliament, praying for the total and immediate repeal of the game laws, be adopted and signed by this meeting, and as many of the inhabitants of Aylesbury and its neighbourhood as think proper to affix their signatures.'"

In both the above meetings the petitions to the House of Commons against the game laws was intrusted to Mr. Bright, with whose motion of inquiry into the subject our readers are acquainted. Mr. Bright himself was present, by invitation, at the Aylesbury meeting, and forcibly stated the case of the community against the game laws. He said:—

"The game laws were especially unsuited to the present condition of things in this country; and the evils of which they were the parent were beginning to engage the attention of the country to such an extent that the day was rapidly approaching when they must be either greatly modified or entirely abolished. (Cheers.) They were injurious to the farmer by promoting the rearing and the maintaining of what was called a large head of game. They were also very injurious to the labourer by causing bad farming, and putting an irresistible temptation before him to break the law. But there was a general charge he would bring against the game laws. The landowners of this country had undertaken to feed the



people. It was common for them to express their desire that this country should be independent of foreigners for the supply of food, saying that the land of this country was sufficient to supply the whole population with food. He was not going into other questions. But the landowners having undertaken to feed the 27,000,000 of people of England and Ireland, if there was reason to believe that those people were not sufficiently fed, then it was the height of injustice and immorality on the part of the landowners to keep up a very large quantity of game, a kind of vermin, to devour a large portion of food which multitudes of the starving population would be glad to obtain. (Hear.) Every eater as well as every grower of agricultural produce had reason to complain of the game laws. To the farmer, whether having a lease or not, they were an injury and a nuisance. The landowners of England were in the habit of calling themselves the farmers' friends, and of speaking in Parliament in favour of protection for the farmer; yet they supported the game laws, which formed one of the greatest barriers to their success. The farmers were low-spirited; they found it difficult to pay their rents. Some were looking to Parliament for help, and some knew not where to look, but were quite in despair. But the farmer should consider who they were that maintained this system, and whether it was not for their own pleasure or profit. Then would come the question how far the farmer's interests were identified with those of the landowner, and the consideration whether it was not worth while for the farmers to take their own business into their own hands. (Hear, hear.) But farmers were generally quiet men, and afraid to speak their minds, and act up to their convictions; but he trusted that the time would come when they would show greater independence of spirit, and not mind so much what their landlords and their agents and stewards told them. They should unite together to obtain deliverance from those evils which were forced upon them in consequence of their own neglect of their own interests. The motion of which he had given notice had reference not only to the injury done to the farmer, but the demoralizing influence of the game laws upon the labouring population. He would put it to any minister or teacher of religion whether he did not find all his efforts counteracted very much in particular districts by the propensity to poaching on the part of the labourers?"

After alluding to the portentous fact that in 1843 there had been, in England, 4500 men convicted of poaching; and the demoralizing effects of this law-made crime; Mr. Bright said:—

"All this was caused because a certain small portion of the community were resolved to gratify a barbarous appetite for a barbarous pleasure, and to make laws severer in respect to this species of property than those affecting other property, the same being carried into effect with a rigour that disgraced those who sat on the bench of justice. Game was styled property; but not all the laws in the statute-books could make it so to the mind of the labourer."

Farmers were beginning to find out the jugglery of their landlord protectors:—

"The time was coming when the farmers would find their friends. (Hear, hear.) But he would deliver the farmer from the tyranny of the watchfulness of the game-keeper. (Hear, hear.) The farmer must not on his own land set foot on a nest of game, nor pick up a half-dead hare. The farmer should look about him and search into the cause of this degradation. (HEAR, HEAR.) He trusted that this second meeting would lead to others, and that by union and perseverance the attention of the Legislature might be drawn to the subject."

And the agricultural journals abound in letters from correspondents, practical farmers, which confirm all these views. For instance, in the *Mark-lane Express* of last Monday, amongst a multitude of others to the same effect, we find the following; a writer, signing himself "A Tory," says:—

"Observing in your paper some account of the ravages caused by game, I beg leave to state what I saw during the harvest of 1814, on the estate of a tenant-farmer, who has now happily left that occupation: he did not put a scythe into 38 acres of barley, it being so completely destroyed by the game. The proprietor has since killed on the estate 3000 hares. In these days, when the population is considered to be more than the kingdom can contain, still less support, we see hares and rabbits eating that which would feed thousands all the year round. Nor is this all; 'tis not that which is wasted or eaten by these creatures, but it is what is also prevented from being grown by the curtailment of the tenant's means; and also the distress amongst the labourers by the damages sustained by the farmer."

Again, another writer thus states "the game laws in a nutshell":—

"For the last quarter of a century and more I have watched the game law in all its changes, its effects, and its oppositions, morally, politically, and in regard to individual interests; and I have never failed to find my law of ten words, or ten syllables, or thirty-three letters, made many years since, to meet every difficulty, having the aid of a simple law of trespass. The law may be engraved on a good-sized seal, and is this: 'LET ALL DANK BE TURNED ON WHOM LAND IT IS.'"

Indeed it is as impossible to take up a newspaper, circulating in rural districts, without meeting with much to the same effect, as it is to speak to a farmer on the subject of game without calling forth bitter complaints and indignant observations against that remnant of feudal barbarism—the game laws.

**DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY GAME.**—Sir Thomas Hare has given directions that the game on his estate at Stowe, near Downton, Norfolk, should be shot down as close as possible. This determination, we believe, has arisen in consequence of the numerous complaints he has received of the injury done to the crops of his tenants. A gentleman near this city, who hired an estate last year in this county for sporting, and where he had reared a large head of game, had this week an account of £500 presented to him for payment for damage done by the hares and rabbits to the tenants' crops.—*Nottingham Mercury*.

## GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN.

**THE NEXT MEETING** of the LEAGUE in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN, will be HELD ON WEDNESDAY SE'NIGHT, the 19th INSTANT.

**BOROUGH OF MARYLEBONE REGISTRATION** and FREE-TRADE DINNER.—The MARYLEBONE REFORM and REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION, with others, alive to the important movement now in progress in favour of the great principles of FREE TRADE, have deemed the present a fitting occasion publicly to attempt their promotion by all the means in their power; amongst which, attention to the Registration of Electors is admitted to be of paramount importance. It is hoped that such an occasion may be the means of extending the Reform interest, and of more closely uniting the electors in the pursuit of objects important, not only to the Borough, but to the Empire at large. A DINNER will take place in the Concert-room of the Princess's Theatre, Great Castle-street, Oxford-street, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th of March next, at which their esteemed President, JOHN BASCHAW, Esq., has consented to preside.

The following, amongst other gentlemen, have accepted invitations, and will attend:—Sir B. Hall, Bart., M.P.; Sir C. Napier, K.C.B., M.P.; J. Hume, Esq., M.P.; W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; H. Cobden, Esq., M.P.; J. Bright, Esq., M.P.; and General Sir De Lacey Evans.

By order of the Committee,  
WILLIAM ALLEN, Secretary.  
N.B. Tickets, Five Shillings each, may be had of the Secretary, at the Office of the Association, 62, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 8, 1845.

It will be seen from the report in another part of this paper, that Mr. Cobden has intimated his intention of moving for a select committee to inquire into the alleged distress of the farmers and the farm-labourers, should he not be anticipated by those gentlemen who designate themselves representatives of the agricultural interest. All our readers may not understand the nature of a select committee: it usually consists of ten or twelve gentlemen, who assemble to examine witnesses during the day, when the House is not sitting, so that their special labours do not interfere with the progress of public business. Indeed, a select committee is rarely refused to any parties who can make out a plausible case of grievance or distress. A select committee was granted to those who complained that their spaniels and lapdogs were stolen; to those who were aggrieved by smoky chimneys; to the gamblers on the turf; and to the writers of dramatic pieces. Nothing could be more reasonable than to ask on the part of the farmers and farm-labourers that their alleged distress, which has formed the staple of so many lugubrious orations at the protection societies, should be thoroughly investigated by a select committee, so as to ascertain its nature and extent, the causes in which it has originated, and the remedies proper to be applied. Mr. Stafford O'Brien, the chairman of the Publication Committee of the Protection Society, rather indiscreetly—as suggested by Sir Robert Peel—at once assented to the propriety of the measure; but the more wary members of his party cautiously held back. Mr. Cobden has done good service by applying such a decisive test to the professions of sympathy for the alleged distress of the farmers and farm-labourers so liberally made by the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham, and their nominees and associates in the Commons' House of Parliament. If these gentlemen believed what they said, they must eagerly embrace the opportunity of establishing their case before a parliamentary committee; but if they oppose inquiry, and refuse all investigation, no man can resist the inference that they have no confidence in their own statements, but feel conscious of practising a delusion on the credulity of the country, and especially on those classes for whose interests they affect to be most deeply concerned.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

### FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—The appointment of M. de Salvandy as Minister of Public Instruction, in place of M. Villennin, has been officially announced. A vacancy is thus caused in the vice-presidency of the Chamber.

The Duke de Broglie has been deputed by the French Government on a special mission to England. The object of the duke's mission has reference to the "right of search," and the slave question generally; and it is hoped that a settlement of the long-pending differences on that important subject will shortly take place to the satisfaction of both nations.

The Minister of War, finding that the majority of the acts of insubordination in the army arise from drunkenness, has sent a circular to the commanders of divisions, directing them to use all the severity the rules of discipline warrant against soldiers found in this condition.

The following will amuse our readers:—"The Havre and Rouen Railroad Company, founded by Charles Lafitte, is thus composed," says the *Courrier Francais*:—"The principal engineers are English, the overseers are English, the operatives are English, and the machinery has been fabricated in England. Everything in the concern is English, even Charles Lafitte himself, who voted for Pritchard."

The *Revue de Paris* announces that letters from M. Brast had been received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which the Governor of the Marquesas mentions

his having adopted measures calculated to effect, without any unpleasant complication, the transition from the régime of "absolute possession" to that of the "protectorate." "We have not heard," says the paper, "if M. Brast mentions having completely succeeded in the accomplishment of his moderate and pacific intentions; but we apprehend that such has not been the case, for a report prevails that fresh scenes of revolt and collision occurred at Tahiti after the receipt of the despatches announcing the immediate restoration of Queen Pomaré."

**TOULON, Jan. 30.**—The number of suicides on board the men of war in this port is becoming truly alarming. A few days since a young officer hung himself on board the steam-corvette Caméleon, and yesterday a sailor hung himself on board the *Jemmapes*.—*Herald Correspondent*.

**SPAIN.**—The commission on penal law has issued a lengthy report, in which, in referring to the slave trade, the commissioners express their condemnation of the traffic in theory, but would not wish to abolish it before having previously determined on what was necessary to substitute in order to preserve the Spanish colonies. They censure the right of visit as a humiliation, and dangerous to commerce; but as the treaty exists, it should be respected and executed with frankness.

**BELGIUM.**—The wishes of those who desired a change of Ministry have been frustrated, an address to the King praying for the dismissal of his present advisers having been negatived by 65 to 22.

**FRANKFORT, Jan. 29.**—The *Frankfurter Journal* announces the death of the Duchess of Nassau, daughter of the Emperor of Russia, in the following terms:—"It is our melancholy duty to announce an event which has plunged his Highness the Duke and the entire country into the deepest sorrow. Yesterday afternoon, the 27th, her Imperial Highness the Duchess Elizabeth, Archduchess of Russia, was delivered of a female child, stillborn, and early the next morning her Imperial Highness expired under a severe attack of spasms at the heart."

**FIRE IN SWITZERLAND.**—Upwards of 250 houses were last week burnt down in the village of Luc (Switzerland). The clergyman's residence and the Town-hall were also reduced to ashes. The church is so much injured that it is not expected to be again available for public worship. The walls are tottering in parts from the effects of the heat. The three bells were melted before the fire reached the spire of the steeple. The total damage from the fire is estimated at 100,000*fr.* Provisions and necessaries have been sent in by the surrounding villages to the sufferers.

**CONSTANTINOPLE.**—Intelligence from Constantinople of the 15th ult. states, that on the 13th the Minister for Foreign Affairs had notified to Sir Stratford Canning, that the Porte acceded fully and unconditionally to all his demands respecting the claims of British subjects, the reform of certain abuses in the administration, and the execution of the commercial treaty.

**UNITED STATES.**—The packet-ship *Stephen Whitney*, which arrived at Liverpool on Saturday, brings advice from New York to the 14th ult. The annexation of Texas was still the leading question, but such was the diversity of opinion with regard to the manner in which it should be effected, that it was generally deemed very doubtful whether it would even pass the House of Representatives.

The steam-boat *Capitol*, on her passage from Pittsburgh to St. Louis, had been entirely destroyed by fire, and three passengers (Mr. Dalrymple, his wife, and son) had, it was believed, perished in the flames. The loss of property was large.

**TEXAS.**—We have accounts to the 28th of December. On the 16th of that month, the new President, Mr. Jones, addressed another message to Congress, in which he remarks, that the republic has arrived at a crisis in its affairs fraught with deep and absorbing interest, but that the capacity of the people for self-government, and for the maintenance of their independence, has been tested and proved. The President also comes out for Free Trade.

**MEXICO.**—The news from Mexico, which comes down to the 11th of December, would lead to the belief that all classes had joined in the revolt against Santa Anna, and that a bloodless but complete revolution had been effected.

### DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty's speech, containing about 3500 letters, was telegraphed in less than two hours to Gosport: it was set in type as the signals were received; printed off and circulated amongst her Majesty's authorities at Portsmouth.

A patent has been taken out by a scientific gentleman for a new machine, called "The hydro-mechanic apparatus, which, by a combination of hydraulic and mechanical properties, on well-known scientific principles, is intended to supersede the use of fire and steam in working and propelling all kinds of machinery and engines." A scientific correspondent of a morning paper states, that he has examined the structure of this extraordinary invention, and that he has no doubt it will answer the purpose for which it is intended.

On Saturday last, a fashionably attired female, who gave her name as Miss Elizabeth Osborn, and represented herself as the daughter of Sir John Osborn, was committed, at Queen-square police-office, to take her trial on a charge of having stolen a pot of potted meat from the shop of Mr. Edward Allum, oil and Italian warehouseman, Brompton.

John Davies, Esq., hat manufacturer, who died a few days ago, has bequeathed £4500 for the support of religious objects.

On Monday two men, named Isaac Taylor and Joseph Diddick, engaged in a pugilistic encounter in a field near Exeter, for a sum of 10*fr.* Diddick was so much injured that he died shortly after. Taylor and several others who were present, have been taken into custody.

A large factory, belonging to Mr. Peter Coxon, of New Lenton, near Nottingham, was destroyed by fire on Sunday morning last. It is supposed to have been caused by an incendiary.

A fire broke out on Saturday, at Gravesend, in the office of the *Kentish Independent*, which, we regret to say, was destroyed, and two other premises adjacent seriously damaged.

The highest tide since 1816, and, with one exception in that year, unparalleled during the last 60 years, visited this town (Hull) on Sunday evening, when the top of high water was looked for by the experienced officers of the dock company at ten minutes past seven. It continued, however, to flow for thirty-five minutes longer, and then reached the extraordinary height of 29 feet 7 inches at the Humber Dock gate, and 28 feet 6 inches at the Old Dock.







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Manchester, J

The League  
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Covent Garden

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# THE LAST

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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 73.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HIXON, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE LAST OF "WHIG AND TORY."

Our readers will have observed that the old farce recently attempted to be revived on the Cornwall boards, entitled *Whig and Tory*, or *Freeborn Britons and Little Loaves*, has been withdrawn on the first rehearsal, under circumstances which render it highly improbable that any manager, either in town or country, will again venture on its production. Sir William Trelawny has resigned. The protectionist Whig, the Liberal monopolist, the "decided and unflinching advocate" as he styles himself, of "civil and religious liberty" and land-lords' bread-tax, has discovered that this description of "liberty" is sadly at a discount in the Cornwall market. The Liberals will not come forward with any zeal or heart in support of a Liberalism which would tie their hands from working, and stop their mouths from eating; and this curious piece of political satirism—the fossil relic of an earlier social formation—is quietly put back on the shelf.

And on the shelf, we presume, it will henceforth remain, along with the other curiosities of an older world. Thanks to the Cornish men, this nonsense has got its quietus at last. Civil and religious liberty, without liberty to eat! Civil and religious liberty, with life held on tenancy-at-will of the landlords! Civil and religious liberty "in the abstract!" As a joke, the thing certainly is not bad; but it would have been carrying the joke a little too far to send it in a practical shape up to the House of Commons. Seriously, we are glad to see an extinguisher put so promptly on this attempt at reviving old, exploded party nicknames, which have no sort of intelligible relation to anything now existing in our politics. *Whig* and *Tory* are words which, in this year 1845, absolutely mean nothing. Men might as well call themselves Roundheads and Cavaliers, or Guelphs and Ghibellines. It were as rational to fight the wars of the Roses over again. The Whig and Tory combatants, in truth, still survive (though some half of them have changed sides); but the old battle has been long ago fought out. We have got a new field, new weapons, and a new cause belli. Of course every-

body is for civil and religious liberty now-a-days, "decidedly" and "unflinchingly;" the question is about the liberty to earn bread and eat it.

But there is no need to slay the slain. The thing is done with, in East Cornwall, and, we suppose, in every county and borough of Great Britain. "Whig and Tory" elections now, once for all, belong to history. It is a safe prophecy, that no constituency will again swallow the absurdity of the civil and religious liberty which does not include liberty to live.

## THE UNCONTESTED ELECTIONS.

The *Standard* of Tuesday pleasantly congratulates the Cabinet and the country on the "real, substantial proofs of the strength of the Government," afforded by those splendid demonstrations of public opinion, the elections for Buckingham and Stamford. Our contemporary drolly observes—

"We have to announce to-day, two uncontested elections, returning two members of Sir Robert Peel's Government—viz., Sir Thomas Fremantle and Sir George Clerk. \* \* \* Now, these are the real substantial proofs of the strength of a Government. To believe the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Globe* on one side, the *Times* and *Morning Post* on the other, the Government has not a friend in the world. Appeal, however, to the people at the hustings, and you will see none but friends to the Government and its supporters."

Nothing here about the snowballs. It is odd what very different ways different people have of telling the same story. According to other accounts which have reached us, poor Sir George Clerk saw some people at Stamford hustings, who, however zealous in their general support of her Majesty's Government, gave but equivocal indications of friendship for its representative on that occasion, and offered to the triumphant candidate "real substantial proofs," on his hat and coat, of a "strength" not of the sort that Ministers usually desiderate. The "uncontested election" ended in something very like a pitched battle; and the unopposed and duly elected candidate had a narrow escape of the river. In particular, it was judged expedient to keep clear of a certain "narrow bridge," where it was apprehended that the boisterous zeal of friends and supporters might lead to a disagreeable catastrophe. Happily, however, by prudent management, and the aid of "a strong party of special constables," the day passed off, we are told, "without any serious results." Sir George escaped from his constituents at last, without experiencing any severe bodily injury; and is, no doubt, pleasing himself with the hope that his next interview with them may take place at a season of the year when nature is less liberal in her supply of missiles.

We notice this snowballing part of the affair, because it really throws a good deal of light on the true character of "uncontested elections" in little boroughs; at the same time that it suggests a short, plain answer to a question which many of our friends will be apt to ask—and which they have a right to ask—Why did the League let the late elections go uncontested?

A strange, mad business it seems, on the face of it, first electing a man, and then pelting him. If the people of Stamford have so very vehement an aversion to Sir George Clerk, why do they choose him? Unanimous election, followed the minute afterwards by unanimous assault and battery, is a phenomenon which one would like to understand. That useful little volume, the "Parliamentary Companion," explains the thing in a line. We there read, under the heading "STAMFORD, Lincolnshire," as follows:—"The Marquis of Exeter possesses most of the £10 houses in this borough." Which is a polite, constitutional way of saying, that the Marquis of Exeter possesses most of the £10 voters in the borough, and commands most of the £10 consciences in the borough. In plain English, the Marquis of Exeter is the constituency of Stamford. The electoral law of Stamford is made at Burghley-house, and the "electors" have nothing to do with Burghley law but to obey it. Here is the whole business in a nutshell—the unanimous election and the unanimous pelting. The pelting is the reaction of the election. The Stamford people assault their representative because they cannot reject him. The illegal violence is their substitute for the legal vote. It is the only form of the elective franchise they know. They cannot register their opinion of an obnoxious candidate on the polling-book in black and white, where his lordship and his lordship's steward would see it; and so they register it anonymously on the candidate's person, in black and blue. They snowball their man, because they cannot black-ball him. That is their vote by ballot.

To contest a Stamford election would obviously be a sheer absurdity. There is nothing to make a contest of. There can be no fighting without at least two soldiers; and no contested election without a constituency counting at least a couple of electors. The electoral body of Stamford is what lawyers call a "corporation sole." The only sort of contest that can possibly take place in a Stamford election is that which goes on in the Marquis of Exeter's private thoughts before he has made up his mind to his man. To agitate the Marquis's ten-pounders for League votes would be like agitating the Marquis's bankers for subscriptions to the League fund. The ten-pounders and the bankers could only reply, "The votes and the cash are not ours to give." The one property is as inaccessible and "private" as the other.

And the case of Stamford is that of some fifty or sixty other boroughs, of the United Kingdom, returning to Parliament from ninety to a hundred members. On the same day that Sir George Clerk was unanimously elected for Stamford, Sir Thomas Fremantle was returned, with a similar unanimity (though without the snowballs), for the borough of Buckingham—the unanimity being, not that of the 391 registered voters, but of the one and indivisible Duke of Buckingham, who, as our "Parliamentary Companion" has it, possesses "much influence in this borough." As an old voter feelingly observed on the occasion to the *Times* reporter, "His vote wasn't worth a farthing, and nobody cared how he voted, for the Duke could always guarantee a majority in favour of his nominee." The same with those other "uncontested elections" with which, during the past year, monopolists have made-believe to console themselves for their yet unforgotten metropolitan defeat. On turning over the pages of the little *vade-mecum* before referred to, we find the following significant entries:—

"RIPON, Yorkshire.—Miss Lawrence, one of the most wealthy persons in the north of England, has the patronage of Ripon."

"WOODSTOCK, Oxfordshire.—The Duke of Marlborough has influence here."

"HUNTINGDON, Bedfordshire.—The interest of the Earl of Sandwich predominates in this borough."

"LAUNCESTON, Cornwall.—The Duke of Northumberland's interest here is very considerable."

"CRANFORTH, Gloucestershire.—The Bathurst family has influence here."

That is to say, Miss Lawrence, the Duke of Marlborough, the Earl of Sandwich, the Duke of Northumberland, and the Bathurst family are the constituencies of these five boroughs. It was only last week that honourable members, with their well-thumbed "Parliamentary Companions" in their pockets, voted the interference of peers in elections to be a breach of the privileges of the House of Commons.

It is no part of the business of the League, as the League, to get up a new schedule A. We simply record these things as we find them, and as they bear practically on our own agitation. If a new schedule A should some day be the consequence, the League cannot help it. Meanwhile, we are quite contented to do our work with such tools as we have, convinced as ever—convinced more than ever, with each fresh step we take—that the tools, though none of the best, are good enough to work with. We could wish for better; but we must economize time. While we stopped to mend them our work would stand still.

To prevent disappointment, we may as well tell our friends that we rather expect all future Parliamentary vacancies occasioned by Ministerial changes will be, like the recent ones, uncontested. And that for the simplest of all possible reasons:—good care will be taken that the vacancies shall arise only in those boroughs in which the material of a contest—viz., a constituency—does not exist. We happen to know that dread of the constituencies and the League has already operated very inconveniently on Ministerial arrangements. In the late recast of parts, it has been felt at every turn. Both the dispensers of official honour and emolument, and those who would like to be recipients, have found themselves sadly straitened and hampered. It is of no use for Sir Robert Peel to offer good things to men who have constituents to whom, on acceptance, they must go for re-election. They dare not face their constituents in the character of supporters of a monopolist Minister. Rather than run the risk of being thrust out of public life altogether, the placeman elect reluctantly signs refusal of the very thing on which his heart is set. Mr. Cardwell might have been, at this moment, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, were it his good fortune to supersede Miss Lawrence or the Earl of Sandwich.

But, unluckily, Mr. Cardwell represents the people of Clitheroe—and there is an end of the business. The Clitheroe people were sounded on the matter, and the report was—*contest certain, defeat probable*; so Mr. Cardwell is not Vice-President of the Board of Trade, but only Secretary to the Treasury—an inferior appointment, which presents, however, the decided advantage of not necessitating re-election. In like manner, Mr. Stuart Wortley might, it is understood, have had his share in the recent redistribution of office. But Mr. Stuart Wortley unfortunately represents the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the League have latterly been somewhat busy in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Mr. Stuart Wortley accordingly, though much obliged to Sir Robert Peel all the same, begs to be excused. We rather suspect, too, that Mr. Fitzroy Kelly finds Cambridge honours stand sadly in the way of Whitehall degrees. The question, *Whether is the League dead or alive?* is one on which we are sure any of these gentlemen would be competent to afford ample information; and if the inquirer were not perfectly satisfied, we would say—ask Mr. Beckett, of Leeds—ask Lord Francis Egerton, of South Lancashire—ask Mr. Hinde, of Newcastle—ask Mr. Masterman, of London—ask Captain Rous, of Westminster—ask Colonel Wood, of Middlesex. Is there one of these gentlemen who would dare to go to his constituents for re-election pledged to support a monopolist Ministry? The truth is, those representatives who are so lucky as to have no constituents enjoy just now, and will enjoy during the remaining term of the present Parliament and Ministry, a tolerably assured monopoly of all the official windfalls. The League have virtually vetoed the acceptance of office by monopolist members who sit for popular constituencies.

One thing we must add, after what we have shown of the rottenness of our borough system. Let no Leaguer trouble himself about the sixty boroughs without constituencies, and the ninety representatives without electors. Their opposition will not avail to put off Free Trade for an hour, when the rest of our work is well finished. It is not necessary to the carrying of our question that we should proselytise, man by man, a numerical majority of the House of Commons. We need no more concern ourselves about displacing or converting the honourable members who represent Miss Lawrence, than we need waste time and temper in reasoning with the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham. After all, it is not number, but weight of votes, that will really settle the question. It is not the rotten boroughs, nor the rotten counties, that keep it unsettled; but the assumed quiescence, or division, of the large constituencies. The monopolists perfectly well understand this. They would gladly give half-a-dozen Ripons to get a reversal of the judgment which London has passed on "Baring and Protection." They would thankfully schedule off a round score of their little parliamentary preserves, rather than face the already visible consequences of the forty-shilling-freehold movement. No man living knows better than Sir Robert Peel, that members of Parliament are not to be rated merely by what their votes count for in the division lists, and that the real Government of this country is now, once for all, in the large popular constituencies. Even in the old days before the Reform Bill, one Westminster, Middlesex, or Yorkshire vote was worth more to a Government than a dozen Gattos. The men of straw are useful to a Minister, in their way, but a Ministry resting on them would collapse in a week. Our policy is simple, bold, and sure:—Fly at high game—the highest—and the small fry will give no trouble. Make London and Middlesex, Liverpool and Lancashire, Cheshire and the West Riding, our own—and the work is done.

#### THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND MR. BIRLEY.

Many of our readers will probably remember how greatly Mr. Entwistle, the monopolist candidate for South Lancashire, was indebted for his success to the activity of Mr. Richard Birley, the influential chairman of his committee. It will also be in the recollection of every body that party politics were cast aside, and the sole question at issue during the whole of that great struggle was—Whether the principle of Free Trade or of Protection should be applied to the commercial policy of this country. The aristocracy and squirearchy of the county, led on by Mr. Birley, and supported by the monopolists in the manufacturing towns, gained a great temporary triumph; and it would not have surprised us, in these days when the presentation of testimonials generally follows as a reward for public services of all kinds, if Mr. Entwistle's chairman had, ere this, received a handsome piece of plate from the Central Agricultural Protection Society. But we were astonished to find, on reading a report of the annual meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce (an abridgement of which will be found in another page), that Mr. Birley has been seeking for honours in an opposite quarter, as candidate for the office of director

of that influential body of Free-Traders! Nay more, he has been making a Free-Trade speech; declaring himself opposed to protection, and to reciprocity, and avowing his belief that neither farmers nor labourers have profited by Corn Laws. All this he firmly believes—but only in the abstract! When asked if he would support Mr. Villiers's motion? He answers that he can't go so fast;—he is as anxious as any man to repeal the Corn Laws, but he thinks the present time is too early;—the League has been for six years asking for total and immediate repeal, but he thinks the League is in too great a hurry. The Manchester men are a practical race, and they do not seem to appreciate very highly the new-fashioned plan introduced by Sir Robert Peel, of saying one thing and doing the very opposite. They therefore decline to make Mr. Birley a director in the concrete, contenting themselves with electing him in the abstract; and in the meantime he may console himself with the reflection that whenever his Free-Trade principles cease to be abstractions, his election will become a reality.

The *Manchester Guardian* has, we see, taken up the cudgels for Mr. Birley. But, fortunately, its own excellent report of what took place at the chamber, from which we have borrowed our abridgement, furnishes the best possible antidote to its leading article, which is nothing more than one of those splenetic attacks upon the League which have before fallen harmlessly from the same pen. We recommend our readers to peruse the report of the proceedings, and then say whether a body of Free-Traders would have acted wisely in promoting to a post of honour and trust a man who, whilst professing Free-Trade opinions, would be prepared to-morrow at an election to throw all the additional weight which the office of Director of the Chamber of Commerce would give him into the scale of the monopolists.

The *Guardian* attempts to show that the introduction of the Free-Trade test into the election was a party-political movement. It is quite clear that this was not the opinion of Mr. Birley himself, who entered into an explanation of his views on commercial questions, avowing it as his opinion "that a person proposed as a director should state distinctly what his opinions are in such a case as this." Had he been asked what he thought of the Irish Church or the Ballot, his answer would doubtless have been that they were political questions with which the chamber had no right to interfere. But no one not blinded with spleen or vanity would attempt to create the impression in rational minds, that there was anything inconsistent with strict propriety and good order in requiring the candidate for a seat at the board of the chamber to declare explicitly his views on the commercial question which, above all others, affects the welfare of that community whose interests it was proposed to intrust to his keeping. An attempt is made also by the same journal to create the impression that the chamber is merely an instrument in the hands of the League. If so, the latter has outgrown its parent. The League is the vigorous offspring of the Chamber of Commerce of Manchester. It was launched into existence on the 19th of November, 1838, at the celebrated meeting of the chamber which startled the whole kingdom with its proceedings. That meeting came to a solemn resolution, after two days' discussion, that the Corn Laws were incompatible with the prosperity or even the permanent existence of the manufactures of this country; and declared that they ought to be *totally and immediately repealed*. Thenceforth began the Anti-Corn-Law agitation in earnest. The following spring the League assumed a local habitation and a name in Manchester, and it took for its *shibboleth* the principle enunciated by the chamber, and its own words—the *total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws*. To the chamber belongs the glory of having originated this great movement which, small in its beginning, has now filled the world with its fame; and poor in spirit must be the man who would wish to sever the chamber from the League, to narrow its functions into the superintendence of turnpikes, or the revision of bridge-tolls, or the regulation of post-offices, and those other local matters which formed the staple of its *exploits* before men of wider views saw that the interests of Manchester were those of the whole civilized world. No, it cannot be. You can no more dissociate the cause of Free Trade from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce than you can separate the Reformation from the town of Wittenberg, or the art of printing from Mayence. And it is not a vain boast to predict that, when the peaceful principles of which we are the unworthy champions shall have become the recognised faith of the whole world, and when the rich harvest of blessings, springing from the universal practice of Free Trade, shall have been reaped, the enthusiastic traveller will at some future day make a pilgrimage to the very chamber where the battle with monopoly began, which ended only with the regeneration of the commercial world. We trust the members are alive to the honourable fame with which the chamber is identified, and of which they

are the guardians; and, judging by the course pursued on the occasion which has called for these remarks, we have no doubt they will prove themselves worthy of their proud but responsible position.

#### THE BAZAAR.

The committees that have been organized for collecting and arranging the contributions made to the great Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in the month of May next in Covent Garden, are now actively at work, and we are anxious to impress upon them, collectively and individually, the necessity for exerting themselves so as to make the most of the brief interval that remains before the opening. Unlike ordinary bazaars, that which the League is about to open will, to a great extent, assume the character of a National Exposition of the Products of British Skill and Industry. We feel great pleasure in referring our readers to the letter of our valued friend W. Biggs, Esq., of Leicester, describing the amount and nature of the contributions about to be forwarded to the Bazaar by the spirited Free-Traders of that thriving town. They intend to send specimens of all the staple manufactures of their district; and the Council has received assurances that a similar course will be pursued in all the great marts of industry throughout the three kingdoms. As an exposition the Bazaar will be more perfect and complete than was at first anticipated. It will illustrate, in the most striking manner, the infinitely varied forms in which British skill and industry develop themselves; the great progress which has been lately made in combining elegance with utility, and grace with convenience; and the vast sources of increased national wealth which would be opened to the country and the community if freedom of import allowed an expansion of export.

The obvious difficulty of arranging and cataloguing such a collection, so as to convey an adequate conception of the important and diversified interests of the varied industrial arts and pursuits associated with British commerce and manufactures, renders it very desirable that the local secretaries should exert themselves to transmit as early as possible lists of the contributions and contributors in their respective neighbourhoods. For the same reason we wish to impress on the minds of the members of the committee the importance of an early and active canvass for donations among their friends and acquaintances.

As there are many isolated manufacturers connected with our great cause scattered over the country, we suggest to them the propriety of communicating with the general Secretary at their earliest convenience. There is scarcely any manufactured article which would be inappropriate to an exposition intended to illustrate the greatness and excellence to which British manufactures have attained, and by its proceeds to obtain the means of extending that greatness and increasing that excellence. We feel assured that all who survey the specimens collected in Covent-garden Theatre will be convinced that in free and open markets the products of British labour and intelligence have no reason to shrink from competition.

We subjoin some extracts from our correspondence:—

"Lambeth, Feb. 3.

"SIR,—I have taken the earliest opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your circular respecting the Free-Trade Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre in May next. You call upon me to use my endeavours to form a local committee in the neighbourhood, but that is quite out of the power of a journeyman carpenter; and as to the contribution of articles suitable for the Bazaar, carpenters are not the right sort of men to produce anything of that kind; so that you will readily perceive there is but one course for me to pursue so as to be at all useful, although in a very humble way, and that is a pecuniary one; for though carpenters are not in the habit of making articles suitable for the Bazaar, they are ready and willing to aid you, as far as lies in their power (at least the few are with whom I am acquainted), to accomplish the noble end you have in view—that of giving employment to our unemployed fellow-countrymen. Now, although your circular came quite unexpected to me, it did not find me idle: having anticipated the necessity for renewed action in the good cause, I was engaged in soliciting subscriptions for the above purpose (on the very day, nay, for hours before, at the very same time that your circular was being posted) among my shopmates, who responded to the call thus made upon them in a manner quite unprecedented in the subscription way. But, as carpenters do not all think as I do about monopoly, I have to grapple, in my humble way, with some on the corn monopoly; and if I fail to convince them of this piece of injustice, I try what the timber monopoly will do, for upon that part of what the timber monopoly is far more sensitive. I have the question carpenters are far more sensitive, but as soon as not yet completed my subscription duties, but as soon as I have done so I will forward the amount to Fleet-street as early as possible. It will not be like the Glasgow subscription, but it will be the best I can do. I should be most happy and quite willing to do more, but it does not lie in my power. I now take the opportunity of offering my humble thanks, and those of my shopmates, to the leaders of the National Anti-Corn Law League, for their unceasing exertions in the cause of justice and humanity, and beg leave to remain,

"Yours, respectfully,

"To George Wilson, Esq." "HENRY NEWBMAN.

"(Adam House, Appleton, Devon.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have a very high and cordial opinion of the labours of the Anti-Corn Law League.



"As a Christian minister I deem its efforts the most practically humane and benevolent which the most genuine piety and the wisest patriotism can dictate for the political regeneration of our country."

"Whatever, therefore, I and Mrs. Clapp can possibly do to advance its success will afford us the highest pleasure; our only regret is, our inability to do more. If her name be at all acceptable, she will deem it an honour to be associated with ladies engaged in such nobly philanthropic exertions, and will exert herself to add some small contribution to the proposed Bazaar."

"I am, dear Sir, &c. &c.,  
"G. Wilson, Esq." "JEROME CLAPP."

A valued friend has handed to us the following report of the proceedings of a meeting of the Free-Trade Committee, held at the Public Office, Birmingham, February 7, 1845; Henry Smith, Esq., in the chair.

It was unanimously resolved,  
"That this meeting acknowledges, with the liveliest satisfaction, the zealous and indefatigable exertions of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League for the attainment of the objects of the association; and witness with much gratification the decided progress of public opinion in favour of the abolition of the Corn Laws, and the principles of Free Trade thereby produced."

"That this meeting cordially concurs in the essential importance of continuing to excite the attention of the public to this vitally momentous subject, and also in directing the energies of the association to increase, by every legal and constitutional means, the Free-Trade constituency of the united kingdom."

"That, in aid of the funds of the association, the meeting fully approves of the proposed Bazaar, and will use its best exertions to promote its success by soliciting presentations of manufactures and curiosities, and by subscriptions."

"That a sub-committee, consisting of the following gentlemen (22), with power to add to their number, be appointed for carrying out the objects of this meeting."

The following is an extract from a letter received early in the present week:—

"Greenhays, Manchester, Feb. 10.

"I place at your disposal an original letter of General Washington; it was given to me in America, by a granddaughter of General Ward (to whom it is addressed), and there can be no doubt of its authenticity."

"I have been told that there are persons in London who would give ten pounds for it! I only wish this may be so, and that you may, by this means, have that sum to add to the funds of the coming Bazaar."

"I am, &c.,  
"SELINA MARSHALL."

We refer to the following letter with much pleasure and gratitude to the writer, for the readiness with which he has adopted the suggestion of a correspondent in a previous number of this paper:—

"Manchester, Jan. 31.

"Sir,—Seeing in the last week's LEAGUE a letter signed 'J. Bartlett,' stating his intention of presenting the oratory made by Ferguson, in aid of the Bazaar, I herewith send you 'The Life and Lectures of Ferguson,' to go along with it, agreeable to the wish of your correspondent."

"Yours &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "DAVID M'KINLEY."

"Huddersfield, Feb. 10.

"DEAR SIR,—On behalf of our father we beg to acknowledge the receipt of both your communications respecting the formation of a committee at Kirkburton for the Free-Trade Bazaar."

"The Free-Traders of Kirkburton are preparing contributions of fancy vests—the staple manufacture of Huddersfield and vicinity, and they will be sent to London along with the Huddersfield contributions."

"For our own part we dislike starvation and starvation laws, and if anything we can do will at all assist in destroying monopoly, and help on the good cause of Free Trade, and promote the prosperity and happiness of our fellow-countrymen and of mankind in general, we will most cheerfully do our part."

"We are daily employed in preparing drawing specimens for the Bazaar; but we are only young, being no more than nine and seven years of age, yet we will do our best; and our father is busy in preparing his contributions, and we think, if all would do likewise, we should soon bear no more of distress and misery arising from the Corn Laws."

"We are, dear Sir, your young but very obedient servants,  
"WILLIAM BOWER,  
"BENJAMIN BOWER, Jun."

"To George Wilson, Esq."

"Highfield-house, Leicester, Feb. 10.

"DEAR SIR,—Your indefatigable friend, R. R. Moore, Esq., has called upon us here, to stir us up in the good work. The result of his visit has been most successful and satisfactory. He has obtained on all hands, from the ladies as well as from the leading manufacturers, promises of contributions and support. We shall send you—women's black worsted hose; men's worsted and lambs-wool ditto; worsted and lambs-wool shirts and drawers, caps, half hose, and socks of every quality and variety; all these articles we consider staples. Beyond these we shall superadd a number of fancy articles: as, for example, shawls, cravats, tippets, mits, gloves, &c. There will also be cotton wound on spools, in a variety of beautiful styles, as well as shoes, slippers, bonnets, and mits of patent new elastic fabric. In addition to these contributions of the manufacturers we shall press all the Free-Trade splinters (I may say all the splinters, for I scarcely know an exception) into the service of knitting. Floss embroidery, merino and shawl yarns. In fact I think, from all I see and hear at Leicester, we shall send a very respectable quota of contributions to the Bazaar. If every other town interested in this great cause should send as much in proportion to the number of its inhabitants, wealth, manufactures, &c. &c., you will have a splendid and magnificent display."

"In the hope that your Bazaar may equal your most sanguine expectations, and that the display at Covent Garden of this year may outvie that of our Gallican neighbours at the Palais Royal of last year,

"I remain, dear Sir, yours very truly,  
"WILLIAM BIGGS."

"P.S. If Nottingham and Derby send, as I have no doubt they will, their respective quotas of cotton and

silk hose and gloves, and, above all, lace in all its tasteful and infinite variety, the aggregated contributions of the midland counties will form an object of interest to the visitor, and be a source of profit to the funds of the League."

"We feel a pleasure in inserting the following extract from a letter received from the Secretary of the Rochdale Ladies' Committee, and in adding an expression of our gratitude to them for their zeal in behalf of the Bazaar."

"Rochdale Mills, Rochdale, Feb. 11.

"SIR,—The parcel came safe to hand. We had again a numerous attendance of ladies at our weekly meeting, and were much encouraged by receiving a handsome contribution from George Ashworth, Esq., of a parcel of flannels, his own manufacture, value £25 and upwards, and a promise of contributions of needlework from the ladies of his family. The committee are working and canvassing very perseveringly."

"I am, Sir, yours, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "ANNE TWEEDALE."

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Second Week, ending Saturday, Feb. 15.

Parliamentary interest, with the exception of railroad discussions, has been suspended this week. The Legislature and the country have been waiting, with no small impatience, the statement of the plans of the Government with reference to our commercial condition and financial position. These are to be stated by Sir Robert Peel this (Friday) afternoon; and we regret the imperious necessity which compels us to go to press at so early an hour, by which we are precluded from presenting to our readers in this week's LEAGUE a full account of his speech. The plans of the Government will be developed to the House, and, by means of "the ordinary channels of intelligence," to the country, as this number is passing into the hands of our readers; and, abstaining from all speculation, we shall only express a hope, in the language of a homely proverb, that the "wool" will be in proportion to the "cry;" and that, after all the preliminary excitement and expectation, the measures of 1845 will not be found as deceptive or as defective as the Corn Law or the Tariff of 1842.

Meantime, the only noticeable indication of the progress of FREE-TRADE opinions which Parliament has afforded during the past week, has been the introduction, by Sir James Graham, of his bill to amend the LAW OF SETTLEMENT, the provisions of which he detailed on Tuesday night. Superficial readers may smilingly wonder by what possible ingenuity the law of parochial settlement can be tortured into a confession of its connexion with those notions of commercial freedom which now fill the

atmosphere of public opinion in Great Britain. [Thanks to the Anti-Corn-Law League therefore.] But, if they will but pause for a moment, they will find, even though they should "run" as they "read," that the Law of Settlement and the Law of Free Trade must shake hands together, ere this great commercial country can sit quiet and be at rest, freed from the conflict of antagonistic principles, and the levies of feudal "black mail." For the existing Law of Settlement has been a potent engine in that disastrous warfare between TOWN and COUNTRY, infinitely more injurious to England, to civilization, to humanity, to universal MAN, than the wars of the Red and White Roses—the strife for the crown between York and Lancaster. When the soil of England opened her teeming horn, and unpoetical "bread-stuffs" were in abundance in the land, then smoked the tall chimneys, lights on the long winter nights blazed in the busy mills, and hunger-worn creatures, growing corn of which they scarcely partook, and tending cattle the taste of whose flesh they might imagine but scarcely could describe, flocked into the manufacturing districts, saying, "Give us places in your busy beehives, that we also may eat a morsel of bread." But when the land "contracted its discounts,"—when the steam-engine gasped convulsively for food, and the doors of the mills were opened that their occupants might "go out," not to "come in,"—then the rural immigrants, who had fled to the towns to escape the starvation of the country, and who, in the towns, still felt that the country pursued them, looked bither and thither for relief. The Corn Law stopped their work; and the Law of Settlement bade them go back to the places from whence they came. "No, no," cried the landlords, "we could not keep them when we had them; and, now that we have got rid of them, you must keep them whether you can or no." "Abolish your Corn Law," replied the manufacturers, "and the Law of Settlement need not trouble you; in lieu of your compulsory charity, we will give the paupers the benefit of our enterprise and industry." "Nay," was the respond, "we cannot afford to abolish the Corn Law, but we will do something which will enhance the blessings conferred on you by a Corn Law. We will alter the Law of Settlement, and compel you to adopt and maintain our superfluous poor."

Accordingly, in the bill as it was introduced last session, there was a provision by which paupers, who had been industriously employed in any locality for five years, should not be capable of being removed to their birth settlements; in other words, the five years would give them a settlement in any town or place. At first sight this would seem a very humane provision; and in itself it is so. But, mark its effects, in conjunction with a Corn

Law. In abundant and cheap years the towns would be flooded, and the country would be cleared; the reduction in the poor-rates might so far compensate for low prices as to enable the farmers still to pay exorbitantly high rents. In deficient and dear years the towns would be eaten up; and while they would be groaning under high poor-rates and diminished industry, the country would be rejoicing under the double advantage of low poor-rates and high prices.

Sir James Graham has seen this; and now refuses to do the bidding of the landlords. He has, as he tells us himself, been doing what Burke and Pitt did before him—studying ADAM SMITH. Settlement by birth is the leading principle of the new bill: but, in order to give the poor man the advantage of a wider sphere, Sir James Graham proposes to enlarge the limits of a birth settlement from the Parish to the Union. The Free Trade reasons with which Sir James Graham urged his proposition are very instructive, and well worth perusal. He said:—

"On the former occasion of addressing the House on this subject, he had quoted a remark of Adam Smith, expressive of a doubt whether any poor working man ever reached the age of forty without having practically, in his own person, experienced the hardship and injustice of the law of settlement (hear, hear); and expressive, further, of an opinion, that it was monstrous that in this country, labour, the only capital of the working man, should be confined within the narrow limits and fetters of parishes and townships. (Hear, hear.) What was the number of these townships and parishes? No less, in England and Wales, than 14,500 (hear, hear); which, under the present system, could only be regarded as limiting and restricting the labour of the poor man, or preventing its free circulation. (Hear, hear.) He conceived it would be an immense advantage to the poor man, attended by no coextensive disadvantage to the rate-payer—to the rich man—were Parliament at the earliest possible period to reduce the number of these restraints on the due circulation of labour, by reducing the number of these narrow circles. (Hear, hear.) He did not desire to make the poor-rate an aggregate general or national charge; he should regard any such idea as highly objectionable and dangerous; but he could imagine no objection at all to substituting unions for all purposes of settlement for parishes. (Hear, hear.) The number of unions in England and Wales was 620; and could he induce the House to consent to his views, they would at once reduce the number of the circles in question from 14,500 to 620. (Hear, hear.)"

## THE BAZAAR.

A meeting of the friends of Free Trade was held in the Music-hall, Sheffield, on Monday evening, to hear addresses from George Thompson, Esq., and Robert R. Moore, Esq., in promotion of the great Bazaar to be held by the League, in London, in May next. The inclemency of the evening, and the number of other public engagements for the same time, rendered the audience somewhat smaller than usual on these occasions. William Fisher, Esq., president of the Free-Trade Society, took the chair. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Moore severally addressed the meeting in eloquent speeches in support of Free Trade, and the Bazaar; and their remarks and appeals elicited frequent and loud marks of approbation. E. Vickers, Esq., after a warm eulogium on the speakers, moved a vote of thanks to them for their eloquent and effective addresses. The resolution having been seconded by F. Hoole, Esq., was carried unanimously. Mr. Thompson briefly returned thanks; and the usual vote of thanks having been given to the chairman, the meeting separated. (On the following evening (Tuesday) a very numerous meeting was held in the Music-hall, when Edward Vickers, Esq., one of the vice-presidents of the Free-Trade Society, occupied the chair; and the meeting was addressed with great effect by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Moore. Mr. Solly moved a vote of thanks to the deputation, which was seconded by Mr. Earnshaw, Halifax, and carried with loud applause. Mr. Moore, announced that he had spent the day in company with Wm. Fisher, Esq., in visiting a number of the principal manufacturers, whom he found quite ready, as he had found the manufacturers of other towns, to furnish the finest specimens of their skill to the Bazaar. We are glad to learn that on the following days Mr. Moore continued his visits to the manufacturers, all of whom promised their support to the Bazaar.

From Dundee various detached subscriptions have been promised. The importance of our district, as the seat of the Scottish linen manufacture, demands something more than individual exertion. A stall should be furnished exclusively with the articles of its manufacture. Several of our minor traders, which already possess some celebrity in London, might find it an advantageous mode of making their merits more widely known to the strangers from all parts of the world who will inspect the Bazaar. The pebbles of Perthshire and of the sea-coast would also be attractive. In short, an active committee to obtain subscriptions in money and goods would speedily secure an interesting and varied collection. To do it well, however, an early commencement is necessary. We recommend the subject to the attention of the Leaguers in the important district of which Dundee is the commercial centre.—Dundee Advertiser.

THE LEAGUE AND THE GAME LAWS.—The assault on the Game Laws which the League leaders are about to make in Parliament, and the effective mode in which they have been handling that topic during the last year, furnish not the least striking testimony to the unwearied energy and consummate tact with which that body conducts its fight. The movement of the League leaders on this point is, in short, another proof of the vigilance and sagacity which enable them to do a right thing at a right time—for, at this time of day, it would be all but utterly needless to waste a word in showing the appropriateness with which the assailers of the Corn Laws can assail the Game Laws, and the conjunction of circumstances which render the present moment peculiarly propitious for the assault. The Corn Laws and the Game Laws are kindred and co-operating evils, that will fall by the same hands, and must fall at the same time.—Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle.

## CONDITION OF THE WILTSHIRE PEASANTRY.

From a known Correspondent.

January 7, 1845.—I took the road which ascends a somewhat steep hill that divides Pitton from Winterslow. The view from this hill (and there are several such views about this part of the country which is a good deal wooded, and beautifully varied with hill, dale, and water,) is as fine as English scenery often furnishes. When it first opened upon me, the effect of the various colours presented by woodland, pasture, and ploughed land, joined to the very slight haze in the atmosphere natural to a day in the beginning of January, was as if I had come suddenly upon a bay with the sea immediately beneath me. Winterslow is one of those parishes where the village is so scattered that it may be almost said to be coextensive with the parish itself; a circumstance which may add much to the picturesque quality, without, as it appears in this instance, necessarily adding to the comfort, of a village.

The parish of Winterslow is situated in the south of the road leading from Salisbury to London, at the distance of about six or seven miles from Salisbury; and is divided into West Winterslow,\* Middle Winterslow, and East Winterslow, or Winterslow Common; the last division principally consisting of enclosed common land. And I may here make the remark, in reference to the question of the benefit arising to the labourers from the enclosure of commons affording them more employment, that I have generally found the labourers worst off in places where there had formerly been much common which was now cultivated; in Winterslow I was informed that there are between thirty and forty out of work, notwithstanding the enclosure of the "Lord's Waste," as the lawyers call the common; and the average wages of those employed as farm-labourers are 7s. a week. But, in fact, the employment of a large proportion of the men is poaching and truffle-hunting: the latter carried on by means of small dogs† carefully trained for the purpose, about the size of, and somewhat resembling, an Isle of Sky terrier. As to the poaching, it is carried on with such vigour and effect that the farmers here have no particular cause to complain of the mischief done them by the game. It seems the labourers find the game a slight corrective for the bad effects of a potato diet. The keeper of a gentleman, who has the shooting over a manor here, brought before his master the other day an old man, aged 70, who had been seen to take a pheasant from a trap. The old man said in his defence, "God bless ye, master! I was forced to try to get something of the sort, for I have been eating nothing but potatoes for the last fortnight: they go through me like water." The gentleman did not follow the examples of severity we frequently hear of, but good-naturedly gave him half-a-crown, and told him to go about his business. But alas! what business had he to go about. His occupation, like that of many of his fellows, is gone, unless poaching be an occupation.

The present proprietors of West Winterslow and Middle Winterslow are Lady Holland, and St. John's College, Oxford. The whole of East Winterslow belongs to Mr. Egerton; and the labourers there are much better off than in West and Middle Winterslow. Most of them live rent free, and have fuel found them by their landlord.

The price of bread in Winterslow is 13d. a gallon, the same bread which is now 11d. a gallon in Salisbury, six miles distant. A man who sold it said he could not get paid, and gave up the trade. He said he lost about £50 before he shut up shop. Another, a relative of this man, said the people had got between £200 and £300 in his debt. The fact is, the people in these parts of the kingdom cannot and do not live on their wages; and the above is only one of the ways in which their wages are eked out so as to enable them to keep body and soul together in the most miserable manner. The following is a labourer's expenditure for one week, together with the prices at which the various articles are selling in Winterslow. Every article is above the market-price in Salisbury:—

Ten 1½ oz. .. ..	0s. 0d.
Soap 1½ lb. .. ..	0 2½
Candles 1½ lb. .. ..	0 4½
Butter 1½ lb. .. ..	1 6
Bacon .. ..	0 6
Bread 4½ gallons .. ..	4 10½
	7 11½

It will be observed that the 7s. are more than exhausted here, and yet nothing is set down for potatoes or for clothes, or rent, or fuel. Even if we cut off the 2s. set down for butter and bacon, thereby reducing the weekly amount to 5s. 11½d., there would be but 1s. 0½d. out of the man's 7s. to pay for clothes, bedding, and fuel. All the harvest earnings go in rent and shoes. Even allowing that the women and children earn something—and they sometimes earn more than they are willing to tell, as I have heard them admit—it will be found extremely diffi-

\* In the Parliamentary Return to the Property-tax and Land-tax in 1844, West Winterslow only is specified. Does that include the whole parish?

† One of the species of the natural order *Fungi*, found buried in the soil of woods, sometimes at the depth of 10 or 12 inches. When gathered for eating it is about the size of a large walnut. The surface is warty, and of a black colour. Pigs are very fond of truffles, and used to be employed for hunting them. But dogs have the same power of scenting truffles, and being more easily trained, are employed to find them, and sometimes to scratch them out of the earth.

‡ One of these dogs, well trained, will sell for £5 or more.

cult to make the two ends meet without leaving a large balance against them on the book of the village shopkeeper, or making up the deficiency from other sources of gain than the wages of labour. Take another case, a family consisting of a man and his wife and six children, the oldest thirteen:—

Man's earnings per week	7s. 0d.
1 boy's ditto. .. ..	2 0
	9 0

Weekly expenditure out of this 9s:—

Coals and wood .. ..	1s. 6d.
Flour .. ..	8 0
Yeast .. ..	0 3
Butter .. ..	2 3
Milk .. ..	2 0
	14 0

This agrees with what I have generally found to be the case, viz., that the labourers, in attempting to give an account of the way in which they spend their wages, make their expenditure exceed their income. In the last-mentioned case, the rent was £3. 10s. a year; and, supposing the harvest earnings to pay that and shoes, we have still no means of accounting for this excess of weekly expenditure over income, or of supplying the family with clothes and even potatoes. They belonged to no club. Their cottage was in a very bad condition. They stated the item of potatoes as uncertain. They had had none for three or four weeks. Notwithstanding the old man's excuse for poaching quoted above, I suspect, from the above and other cases somewhat similar which have fallen under my observation there, that the consumption of po-

tatoes in Winterslow is rather below the average. Beer shops abound too. So that it would seem that poaching and truffle-hunting afford a somewhat more generous diet than ordinary agricultural labour in this part of the kingdom at present.

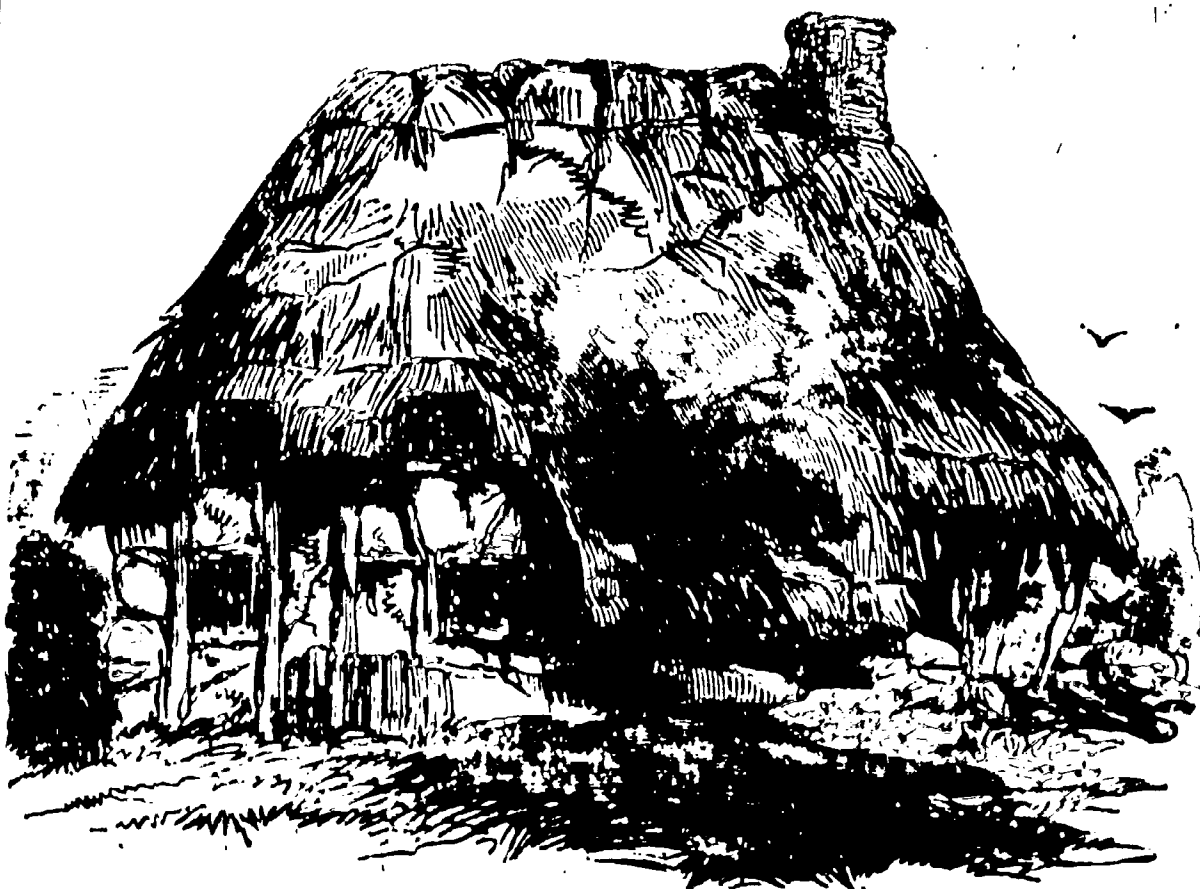
As for the cottages, I will take upon me to say, that neither Lapland nor America contains huts so well worth the study of the curious in such matters, as some which may be seen at present in the county of Wilts, and parish of Winterslow. They really defy all the powers of description, and, therefore, I have had slight sketches made of a few of them, that the memory of these architectural curiosities may not utterly perish from among men.

The first sketch represents a cottage belonging to St. John's College, the chimney of which fell down some time since, and has not been rebuilt. The thatch of the roof has been continued over the chimney, and the smoke now ascends through it as represented in the sketch. I was informed that a deaf woman was in the house when the chimney fell in, and had only left the chimney corner a moment or two before the accident happened. The efforts of the smoke, accompanied occasionally with sparks or ignited particles, to escape to upper air (often unavailing efforts), and the effect of such an operation upon the interior of the dwelling and on the persons of the inmates (the cottage is built chiefly of wood, the rectangular compartments in the drawing being boards, not stones), afford the learned proprietors the advantage of obtaining a continued series of cheap experiments in natural philosophy, chemistry, and physiology—*experimentum in corpore villi*. So that here we have an edifying exemplar of their love of science, exhibited on the most economical principles.



—The next sketch represents a cottage belonging to Lady Holland, built of mud; supported by upright and cross pieces of timber, originally forming squares, but now somewhat irregular figures. It is in a wretched condition—a mere ruin. The woman in this hovel said that

in the cold weather they paid 2s. a week out of their 7s. for firing, and they had seven or eight children. They had no garden ground, and I think she said their rent was £1 a year: but there was no garden ground attached to it.



The last sketch which I shall give is that of another cottage belonging to St. John's College, Oxford, which I think, on the whole, about the worst that I have seen, either in the parish of Winterslow or in any other part of

England, though I have certainly seen some, particularly in the parish of Cranborne, in Dorsetshire, and in the parish of East Lydford, in Somersetshire, that came very near it; but they were not quite in such a deplorable state



of dilapidation. The man who first pointed out this cottage to me, said he could drive a horse and cart through it; and really he scarcely exaggerated when he said so. Some of the worst parts are not shown in the sketch. There were holes in the windows large enough to put both hands through; and holes in some parts of the walls large enough to put the whole body through. The roof was also full of holes. The man who lived in it said the rain ran in in a hundred places—that they could not lie in their beds dry. The last woodcut is intended to represent the interior of the principal bedroom (the cottage contained four rooms in all), which it does very imperfectly, as the condition of the thatched roof of the room was a principal feature in its wretched character. This cottage, like the last one, is made of mud, supported by upright and cross pieces of timber, forming squares. In the drawing of the bedroom it will be observed that some of these squares having declined considerably from their original shape, now somewhat resemble large rough,

irregular stones. I have met with a good many instances of families (generally those, too, in the coldest and worst dwellings) who had no blankets even in the late severe weather; and of those who had, the best off had not more than two to a bed—frequently but one,—while I believe, most people found three too few in the very cold weather of last month, and that, too, in houses made to keep out the cold, with doors, windows, and chimneys of very different construction from that of the majority of cottages. This family had no blankets. The children (there were seven of them), some in rags and almost naked, cowering round the embers of a fire on the hearth within the large chimney—the only sheltered spot in the house. One poor little thing, a boy about two years old, was playing among the embers, unconscious alike of the dark fate of his race and his own. His little brother had been burnt to death only a short time before, while engaged as he now was. The father said his children were never without colds,—not surprising certainly.

prescribing the separation of parent and child would lose all its harshness, and operate wholly for good.

Before I leave this village of Winterslow, I have one word more to say to its proprietors. What have the landlords, whose rental has nearly quadrupled within the memory of living men, done for the labourers whose hands till the soil that is such a source of profit to them? They have given among them some £80 to a national school, and they have left them to live and die in such hovels as I have attempted to give a faint description of. If this was intended as a slow process of driving them away, by letting their houses gradually crumble into ruin, I cannot help thinking it would have been, upon the whole, better and more humane to drive them at once into Salisbury, as several of the neighbouring landholders have done (a process which is likewise going on vigorously about Dorchester). By this means, the labourers suffer, no doubt, and other classes suffer, by being forced to bear the landlords' burdens. But the difference between the two ways of going to work—though it may make a difference to the inhabitants of the towns or other places to which they are driven, and upon whose poor-rate they will come in time—will hardly amount to a difference to the labourer himself. If allowed to remain in a ruined tenement in the country, he endures sufferings and privations which reduce him to the condition of a savage, and render his life "poor, nasty, brutish, and short." If driven into towns, or into an overcrowded village like Castle Acre, in Norfolk, he may, indeed, often purchase necessities in a cheaper market; but then, on the other hand, he is subjected to the hardships of high rents and too great a distance to walk to his daily work, together with a comparative deprivation of that which is at present his principal nourishment—pure air—and all the evils and vices of an overcrowded population.

#### SHEFFIELD FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION.

(Abridged from the *Sheffield Independent*.)

The annual meeting of this association was held in the Cutlers' Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 5th instant, when, in consequence of the absence from home of the President, Edward Vickers, Esq. (one of the Vice-Presidents) took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the object of the meeting was to give an account of their proceedings for the past twelve months, and to take measures with a view to their operations for the ensuing year.

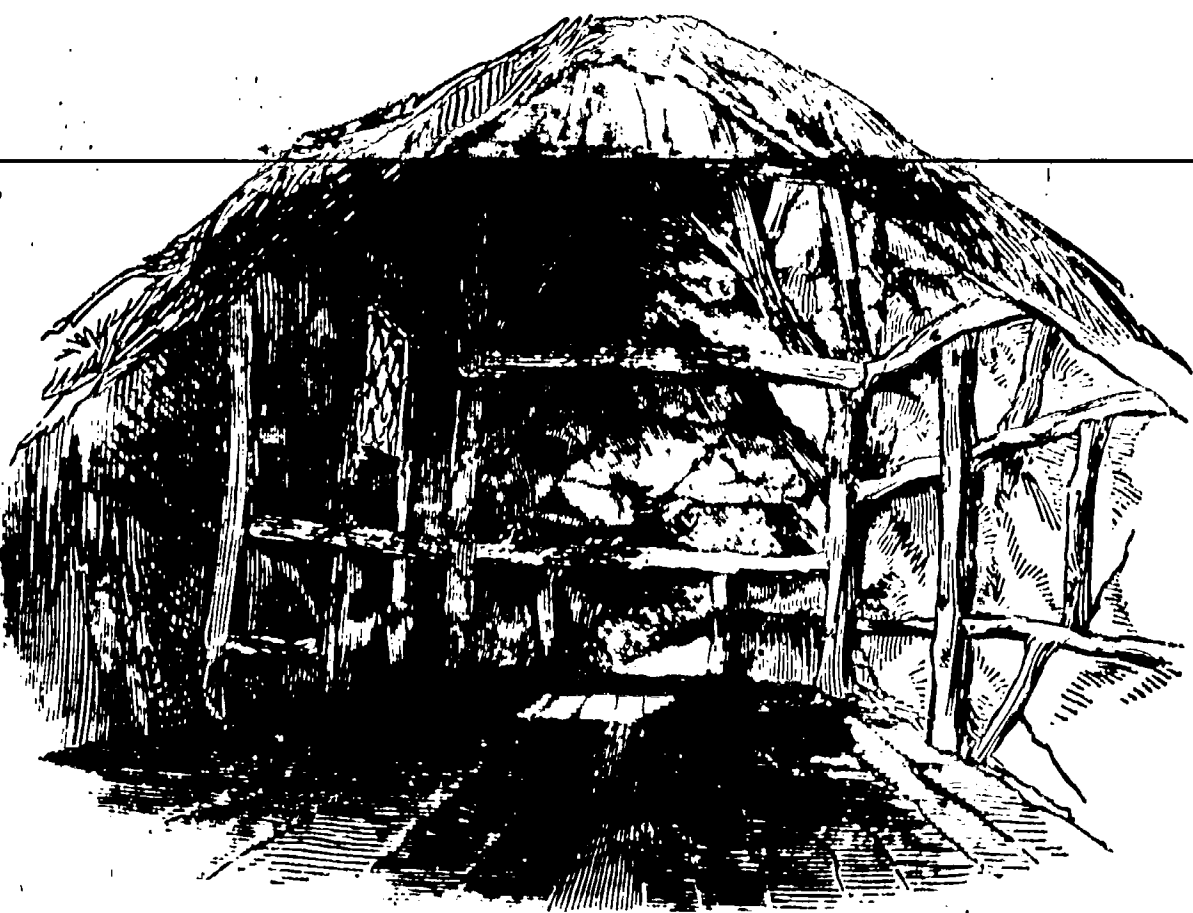
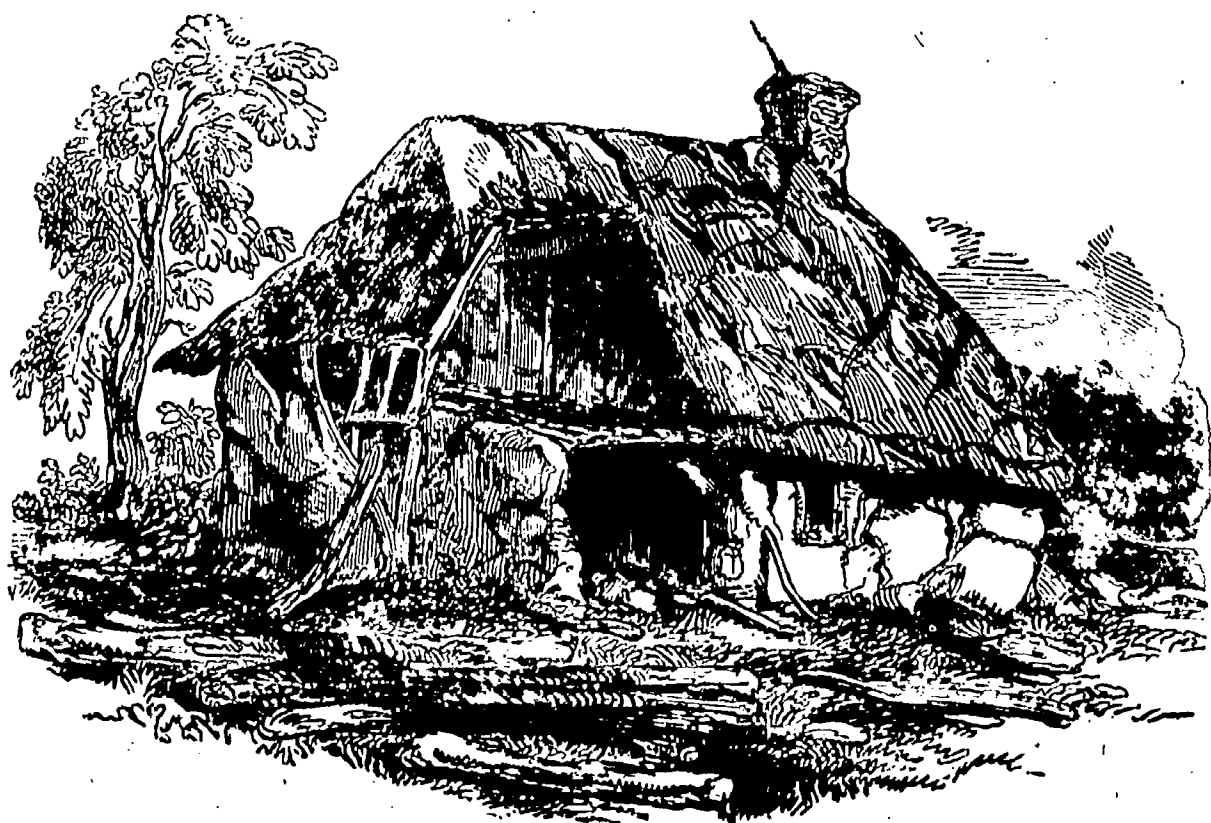
Mr. SOLLY read the report. It commenced by referring to the object of calling the general meeting, as noticed by the chairman, and to the formation of a committee in November, 1844, to promote the collection of subscriptions towards the great League fund, when, aided by the visits and addresses of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, they had raised a sum of £1334. 5s. 9d. In

November last the committee took into consideration the best mode of extending the registration of Free Trade votes for the West Riding; the plans of the League, as explained by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Moore, had been carried out as far as possible, and the addition of Free Trade electors was considerable. Numerous small companies were formed, containing from ten to twenty five individuals each, who have purchased lots of freehold property in common. The report congratulated the meeting on various public circumstances indicating the spread of sound views of political economy, both in the Government and the community; and having emphatically appealed to various classes of society to give their support to the principles of Free Trade, concluded as follows:—

"That the greater part of the educated classes in Sheffield are favourable to the adoption of Free Trade, last year's liberal subscriptions to the League have placed beyond a doubt; but are they willing to devote any time and personal trouble to hasten its attainment? Do our merchants and manufacturers, and shopkeepers and artisans, reflect that, although the state of the town is materially improved in consequence of the late abundant harvests, bad harvests will again recur in the usual course of nature, and with them bad trade, bad debts, heavy poor-rates, shops shut up, houses unlet, manufactories empty, unions, hospitals, and gaols crowded, and our skilled workmen breaking stones on the roads, or sweeping the streets, as heretofore? All these things they know must come to pass again, as surely as winter succeeds autumn, unless these law-made distresses be forestalled by the previous abolition of the Corn Laws. To every man who entertains this conviction, it becomes a part of the duty which he owes to himself, to his family, and to society, to co-operate actively with the measures of this association; and we venture to hope that the support and countenance which it will experience this year will prove the public spirit of our town to be in no degree inferior to that of others in the riding."

"Whatever victories may be gained, whatever progress made, in other parts of the kingdom, it behoves us never to relax our exertions, so long as our county representation continues to run the risk of being ever again rendered instrumental in the ruin and degradation of our industry."

Mr. HUMPHSON moved the adoption of the report. He believed the people of Sheffield were fully alive to the mischief that the restrictions on trade inflicted on them. He felt convinced that there was no manufacturing town in the kingdom where a larger proportion of the people were convinced that the Corn Law was most mischievous to their interests. Nor was there, he believed, any town where they did more injury than in Sheffield. The average consumption of Sheffield goods was larger in foreign markets than in our own. Leeds relied most upon the home market. Manchester goods were sold to the greatest extent, he believed, at home. But Sheffield relied for a market for the greater part of its goods on foreign consumption. There was another reason why Sheffield should be particularly active. In Manchester and Leeds the trade depended greatly on machinery. Sheffield depended more on manual labour, and, therefore, ran the greater risk of losing its trade by the operation of the Corn Laws. They had been told that foreign nations



He said he paid £1 a year. There is a considerable piece of ground attached, and a well, for the use of which the cottagers pay 1s. a year; but the man said a new rope and other repairs took all he got for this. He said he paid £5. 1s. 6d. till the house got so bad. But as I had not an opportunity of testing his statements by the authority of the person to whom he paid the rent, and as his character is not a good one, I do not implicitly rely on the statement as to the rent. But whatever may be the rent, or the character of the tenants, there can be no excuse for the landlord, who, under any circumstances, allows human beings to linger out their miserable lives in hovels unfit for the abode of well-conditioned pigs.

There is almost a tragic interest about the history of the inmates of this miserable cottage. Not that I would hold up the head of the family as a fair sample of the depressed condition of the agricultural labourer, for he is not strictly an agricultural labourer, living in fact by traffic-hunting partly, and perhaps partly by poaching; and even in Winterslow he bears a character pre-eminently bad; but I cannot help thinking that under a better social system,—a system in which the principle that "property has its duties as well as rights" were not only recognized but acted upon,—a system under which one class would not have the power of making all the

laws for all classes,—such a being as the beer-shop-haunting renter of this "fretted tenement" would be somewhat less bad, and his poor family somewhat less miserable. Rather less than three weeks ago I visited the same cottage, and found the children, who had recently lost their mother, under the care of their eldest sister, a girl about seventeen. I was now informed that this girl was dead and buried. She had gone to a gentleman's house, at a little distance, to beg, and standing about two hours in the cold and the wet, she caught a cold, which, from the state of the cottage, insufficient covering (there were no blankets), and the want of necessities, turned into a fever and carried her off in about ten days. According to the report I heard, she died raving mad. Poor thing! Her life had been short and miserable. Better to be in the grave than to go on living thus.

It is fearful to think of the present condition and the future fate of the poor children who remain. I hope that the reverend owners of the miserable abode in which these children have suffered so much, and who profess themselves the disciples of Him who sought to clothe the naked and feed the hungry, will make some atonement for their past neglect of their duty as landlords, by doing something for this miserable family. They would, indeed, be infinitely better in the union than there; and in their case the rule

would not reciprocate if Free Trade were adopted. He was in America when the present tariff was under discussion. Lord Ashburton was there at the same time, and when he came home he told the House of Lords that the American tariff was for revenue and not for retaliation. Lord Wharncliffe confirmed this assertion. He (Mr. Ibbotson) was surprised that noble lords should make such mistakes. He had conversed on the subject with Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State to the President, and with the officer of a much more important body, the Secretary of the Protection Society, which had recently had a meeting of 2000 delegates. He attended some of the meetings of this body, and argued with some of its members privately. They admitted to him that their tariff was for protection and retaliation. These men were the real framers of the tariff. They had laid a duty of 80 per cent. on screws. On cross-cut saws, which cost 5s. 6d., they had a duty of 4s. 6d. The same might be said of many other articles. Mr. Webster himself had declared that it was a tariff of protection, and that revenue was a secondary consideration. He had asked the Secretary of the Protection Society, why they had no larger a duty than 30 per cent. generally on Sheffield goods? He replied, that it was because 30 per cent. was enough; that they could just as easily have had 40, but it was their object not to levy higher duties than they needed, lest it should excite opposition; that they must give time for their own manufactures to become established; and that 30 per cent. would enable them in a few years entirely to exclude us. When manufactures were once established in America, it would be no easy thing to uproot them, though the danger might have been averted by taking their produce in time. He had been assured by the Secretary of the American Protection Society, that they were still ready to reciprocate, if we would only open our ports to their productions; and he contended that Sir Robert Peel's new tariff, though more liberal than the former, was not more liberal to America than their tariff was to us. He concluded by moving the resolution. (Cheers.)

Mr. JOHN WM. SMITH said, he had the more pleasure in seconding the motion, as it gave him the opportunity of testifying the respect they all owed to the Secretary, whose high intelligence and enlarged information had been brought to bear upon it.

The motion was carried unanimously.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Hargreaves, the treasurer, the statement of accounts was read by Mr. YROMANS.

A vote of thanks to the officers of the past year was moved by Mr. Ald. T. B. FURTON, seconded by Mr. JOHNSON, and carried unanimously.

Ald. BUTCHER moved that Wm. Fisher, Esq., be elected President; Edward Smith and R. Vickers, Esqrs., Vice-Presidents; Messrs. Solly, Broadbent, and Yeomans, Honorary Secretaries; and a list of gentlemen as the Committee.

Mr. BEAL, in seconding the motion, made some general remarks on the question of Free Trade. He combated several fallacies put forward by the operatives of Sheffield, one of whom, in the recent discussion with Mr. Ward, had attempted to account for the improvement among the working classes to trades' unions, whereas it had arisen from increased trade, springing from the diminished price of provisions. He also replied to a pamphlet written by a Chartist named Campbell, who had contended that machinery was an evil, and had shown from tables of prices that wages were higher now than they were twenty years ago. It was said that Free Trade would injure the home market for our goods. But the fact was, that that market was composed principally of persons who lived by manufactures and commerce. From the census of 1841, it appeared that the male population employed in agriculture was 1,213,264, which was but about the same number as ten years before, and showed no increase. But those employed in manufactures were 2,039,400, or nearly double the number employed in agriculture; and this class had increased during the ten years by half a million. In point of number, then, the manufacturing population were the best customers of the manufacturers. Besides, he asked, how much did they suppose the helots of British husbandry consumed of manufactured goods? A labourer in husbandry bought, perhaps, a pocket-knife once in seven years, or half a dozen bone-handled knives and forks once in a generation. The trade with the agricultural districts was almost wholly carried on by hawkers and pedlars, and consisted of the lowest kind of goods. It was the manufacturing population who purchased goods in the greatest quantity, and of the best quality. The best customers of the artisans of Sheffield were their brethren of the cotton, the woollen, the silk, the flax, and other trades, with the mercantile and trading classes generally. Some years ago, it had been computed in America that 500 manufacturing families consumed as many manufactured goods as 2000 agricultural families. He had no doubt the same proportions held good here, and this further confirmed him in saying to the manufacturing operatives, Your best customers in the home market are your brethren in trade and commerce. (Cheers.) Having touched on other points of the question, Mr. Beal concluded by enforcing the claims of commerce, which had created the greatness and power of England; and which was the pioneer of peace, of knowledge, and of human advancement. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was put and carried.

Mr. TAYLOR moved the next resolution, commending the approaching Bazaar of the League to the attention of all the friends of Free Trade, and urging all classes to promote it liberally.

Mr. W. ATKINSON seconded the motion. He rejoiced to learn that the subject of the Bazaar had been taken up with great spirit in all parts of the country, and that the contributions would be of a splendid and extensive character. In Glasgow, a subscription in aid of the Bazaar had been commenced, which already amounted to £600. He hoped Sheffield would not be behindhand. He was glad to learn that a committee of ladies was busily engaged, and he hoped that their efforts would be seconded by the merchants, the manufacturers, and artisans. He trusted that the Sheffield stall would exhibit such a variety of superior articles as should justify and excite the population of its manufactures. (Cheers.)

In answer to a question, Mr. SOLLY stated, that he was not aware of any regulation that if the articles of a contributory contributed articles to the Bazaar, to the value of 50s., they would be entitled to a copy of the Bazaar for a year; but he was satisfied that such an arrangement might be made, by any parties who desired

it, on communicating with Mr. Saul, the secretary, at the office in Fleet-street, London.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. JACKSON moved,—

"That it especially behoves this association to promote the qualification and registration of electors for the West Riding; and that the committee be requested to give their earnest attention to this subject."

Mr. SOLLY seconded the resolution.

Alderman G. TAYLOR moved that the committee be instructed to take measures to collect subscriptions in order to enable them to carry out the objects of the preceding resolution.

The motion was seconded by Mr. ROPER, and carried unanimously.

Mr. ROBERT LEADER, jun., moved,—

"That this association entertains entire confidence in the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League; after whose example this meeting recommends to the friends of Free Trade never to relax their efforts until all laws favouring class interests be erased from the British statute-book."

The motion was seconded by Mr. ACORN, and carried unanimously.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. ATKINSON, and seconded by Mr. JOHNSON, the meeting concluded about half-past nine.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

(From the Manchester Guardian.)

On Monday last the annual meeting of this body took place. After the transaction of various matters—

The CHAIRMAN said the next business would be to elect directors for the ensuing year. He read over a list of twenty-four directors, of whom seventeen were directors of the past year, and seven were new, viz., Messrs. John Crichton (of Staleybridge), Robert Gladstone, John Macvicar, Henry Newbery, John Peel, Sallis Schwabe, and J. A. Turner; and Mr. Boothman explained that it was a rule of the chamber that six members, who had attended the fewest times during the year, should retire, and be ineligible for one year; in addition to whom, on this occasion, Mr. Alderman Willert wished to retire, being unable to attend. There were, therefore, seven new names proposed for election.—The CHAIRMAN put each name separately, in alphabetical order. Mr. Henry Ashworth and Mr. James Atherton were elected, and the chairman's own name standing third was put, when Mr. E. Evans asked if the negative should not be put in each case. The CHAIRMAN then put the negative; but he was re-elected a director without a dissentient hand; and so was the next named, Mr. Robert Benson. On the fifth name, that of Mr. Richard Birley, being put,—

Mr. J. B. SMITH rose, and was for a few seconds inaudible. He was, however, understood to say,—Before that name be put to the meeting, I beg to submit to the chamber whether or not it can be consistently proposed. ("Speak up.") I admit that Mr. Birley, from his connexion with one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the town, from his character and from his respectability, is a very fit gentleman to be a member of the

direction of this chamber; but, as I cannot forget that this chamber has over and over again declared that Free Trade is of paramount importance to the welfare and prosperity of this manufacturing and commercial community (hear), I would ask, Sir, how are we to obtain Free Trade? I know no other means of obtaining it except by sending to Parliament members who will vote for Free Trade. (Hear.) We had a few months ago an opportunity of that kind, an election for the southern division of the county of Lancaster; and on that occasion it was gratifying to see great numbers of gentlemen preferring the interests of their country to the indulgence of party feeling, and voting for a gentleman of whose party-politics they disapproved, but who held the principles of Free Trade. (Hear.) On that occasion Mr. Birley distinguished himself by being the leader of the monopolist party; he was the active and indefatigable chairman of the monopolist candidate, and I believe, by his exertions, greatly contributed to the success of that candidate. Now, I don't blame Mr. Birley for the part he took on that occasion; he has a right freely to give expression to his feelings and opinions, and to act as he pleases on such occasions; but, when he is put forward as a candidate for the direction of this chamber, then I have a right to ask whether Mr. Birley approves of the votes of his representative, as given in Parliament upon Free-Trade questions; and I beg to ask Mr. Birley that question, whether he does approve of those votes?

Mr. BIRLEY: Finish your speech, Sir, and then I will answer you.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: If Mr. Birley approves of the votes which his representative in Parliament has given, then I hold that the chamber cannot consistently elect him one of its directors. (Hear.) But if he does not approve of those votes—for I have heard, Sir, that Mr. Birley, although he supported a monopolist candidate, holds the principles of Free Trade—if it be so, then, by being a director of this chamber, he places himself in a very anomalous situation. This chamber has been in the habit, every year, of petitioning for Free-Trade objects; those petitions are signed by the president, vice-president, and the directors. If Mr. Birley be one of the directors of this chamber, Mr. Birley, in the Chamber of Commerce, will petition for a repeal of the Corn Laws; but Mr. Birley, by his representative in the House of Commons, votes against his own petition. (Hear, hear.) (On the sugar duties Mr. Birley, in the chamber, signs a petition for the equalization of the sugar and coffee duties; but Mr. Birley, by his representative in the House of Commons, again votes against his own petition. (Hear.) And more than that, if there be two questions, if a proposition be brought forward that the amount of monopoly should be diminished, then Mr. Birley, by his representative, votes for the largest amount of monopoly, and not for the smallest. (Hear.) Now, this is no supposititious case, but what absolutely occurred in the last session of Parliament. Mr. Birley's representative in Parliament on that occasion stated, that he felt it to be his duty to vote for the largest amount of monopoly. Now, Sir, Mr. Birley has a perfect right to act in this contradictory manner if chosen; but I think, on reflection, he will see that he has placed himself in a false position by so

all events, I shall be very much mistaken if this chamber be so very inconsistent as to follow his example; and after their declaration that Free Trade is of paramount importance to the interest and welfare of this community, they should elect—they should take the first opportunity of conferring distinction upon that gentleman, who has done all he could to oppose the object which they seek. (Hear.) I beg, therefore, to move, that in place of Mr. Richard Birley—a gentleman to whom there can be no objection on any other account—and to show that I have no feeling of party in the matter, for the Free-Traders have long since repudiated party (hear, hear)—I shall propose a gentleman who is a Conservative in principle, but also a Free-Trader. I propose Mr. Thomas Barnes in lieu of Mr. Birley.

Mr. D. AINSWORTH: I beg to second the motion.

Mr. BIRLEY: I was asked a question, Sir, which I can answer very shortly, and that is, whether I approve of the vote given by Mr. Entwistle on the sugar duties in Parliament; and I would distinctly answer, that I do not approve of it. (Hear.) That was the question. I should have taken very little notice of the speech of Mr. Smith myself, if I had not felt it right that a person proposed as a director should state distinctly what his opinions are in such a case as this. But there is one remark which he had no right to make. He talks of parties preferring the interests of their country to party politics. I most distinctly state that, in any thing I have done in any election, I had just as much regard to the welfare of the country as he has, or any one in this room. (Hear, hear.) It is rather difficult to explain one's opinions fully without taking some little time, and I shall be obliged if you will listen with patience; and it is quite immaterial to me, after stating what I have to state, whether you elect me a director or not. If you do elect me, I shall endeavour to do my duty; if you do not, I shall be perfectly content to retire. In the first place, I quite concur with all those gentlemen in this room who disapprove of the principle of protection (hear, hear); and I say so without the slightest reserve in any way. (Hear, hear.) I have no reserve to make at all upon the Corn Laws, and I don't in the least consider it is necessary to wait for reciprocity treaties with other countries before you adopt the principles of Free Trade yourselves (hear, hear); on the contrary, Sir, I think that the sooner we can come with safety to a system of no protection, it will be all the better for this country. (Hear, hear.) Long as it has been the practice of this country to have protective duties, I don't consider that protective duties are at all in accordance with the national character. Englishmen, generally, love competition; they don't wish to be dependent in any way; and it is a very extraordinary thing that the protective system should have continued so long in this country. It arose at the close of the war, when probably men thought that a state of war was to be the rule, and a state of peace the exception; but since that time a great deal of experience has been gained, and we are gradually approaching to sounder principles upon trade. There are two reasons, and, I believe, only two, why protection was given to land. The one was to enable a greater quantity of the produce of the earth to be grown in this country, and so to protect us from the danger of being dependent upon foreign countries; another was to give the agricultural labourer more employment. Now, I have heard of no sound reasons for carrying that out, except those two; and I believe it will be found, that

the reasons given and the objects intended by protecting corn have totally and signally failed. (Hear, hear.) I believe if the agriculturists, whether landowners or farmers, had been left to themselves, we should have had a much greater quantity of corn grown (hear, hear); and I am led to believe it from the speeches I have read of Lord Stanley, at the Liverpool agricultural dinner, and of Sir Robert Peel, at Tamworth, in which they urge upon the landlords and farmers to improve cultivation and grow more,—not to rely upon protection, but upon their own exertions. The other point, that with regard to the advantage to the labourer, I think has also signally failed. I remember twelve years ago, when the Duke of Richmond was in Manchester, that he said he wished the Sussex peasantry were half as well off as the Manchester labourers; and I remember well the proud look of Lord Stanley when he said to him, "I thought we should astonish you, when we brought you into Lancashire." I observed them very closely; and I am satisfied that, under a fairer system of trade, our manufactures would extend, and we should be able to afford more employment to the agricultural labourers than they get in their own district; and, more than that, if the landowners and farmers—for I class them together—if the landowners of this country had paid more attention to the cultivation of their land, they would have employed more persons in draining and improving that land than at present, and, therefore, the condition of the labourer would have been advanced. There is another social point where I think a great advantage would accrue to this country if there was no protection to the landowners. The landowners, being taught to rely upon their own exertions, would probably have paid some little more attention to us who are engaged in business. They would have learned better habits of business than they now acquire; and I do think that the communication which would have been brought about between the landowners and the commercial classes would have been very beneficial to both parties. I think there would not have been that obduracy, on the part of the landowners, to put their sons into business; and they would not have been brought into business, and enabled them to get a much better living than they were able to obtain in the army, the church, and the navy, where many became exceedingly discontented and envious of our prosperity. Having shown you what are my views on Free Trade, I say that I am as anxious as anybody to see these principles carried out (hear, hear); but I cannot go the pace in carrying them out that other parties can; and that constitutes the difference of opinion on Free Trade between me and the gentlemen of the Anti-Corn-Law League. I conceived, in the course I took at the last election, that I was sending the gentlemen of intelligence and ability to Parliament, who would support the Government in their course of Free-Trade legislation. We have gone over this morning, preparatory to this general meeting, the proceedings of the chamber during the last year; and we have many of us agreed that, since the year 1842, when the present legislation came into force, they have progressed towards the

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Trade; and there is every expectation that, during this session, still further progress will be made. I do not myself approve of a sliding scale; I would much rather have a fixed duty; but, at the same time, I must say this, that I have great confidence in the head of her Majesty's Government. I consider him a Minister well capable of conducting the affairs of Government, and one who will not lose sight of Free Trade, but who will progress towards a Free Trade as quickly as he considers he can do so with safety. Those are my views, gentlemen; and I have distinctly told you that I disapprove—for that was asked of me very pointedly—of the vote which Mr. Entwistle gave on the sugar duties.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: Of all his votes?

Mr. BIRLEY: He only voted on that question.

Mr. SMITH: Yes, he voted against Mr. Villiers's motion on the Corn Laws.

Mr. BIRLEY: Oh! I quite approve of that; I should have done the same myself. ("Hear," and laughter.) I tell you plainly, that I should not approve of a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; I say this most decidedly. I think you would cause a very great confusion in the country, and that we can extremely well afford to wait. I will go further than that, and I say that those gentlemen who would most profit by a removal of protection, ought to show a little more mercy and tenderness towards those who will suffer by the change. I don't say they would suffer permanently; but I do say that the landowners would suffer temporarily very much by such a change.

After Mr. Birley's reply a lengthy discussion took place, which was conducted in a temperate and amicable manner, the principal speakers being Mr. Malcolm Ross, Mr. W. Harvey, Mr. W. R. Callender, Mr. Lewis Williams, and Mr. Gibb, against the amendment; and Mr. William Evans, Mr. Rawson, Mr. Thomas Thomasson, and Mr. J. B. Smith in support of it.

After a lengthy conversational discussion, Mr. J. B. SMITH, amidst several calls to withdraw the amendment, rose to reply, and said:—I may be excused if I wish that the chamber should not stultify itself in the eyes of the world. I believe, it is about sixteen years to-day since I first had the honour of bringing before the chamber the question of the corn monopoly. At that time not a single individual supported me; I could not get a seconder; but for several years I persevered, and the eyes of the chamber being at length opened to the enormous injury which the country had sustained by this monopoly, I confess I am very jealous now, lest it should go back again. (Hear.) And when I now hear Mr. Birley say that he is not for a total repeal of the Corn Laws—

Mr. BIRLEY: I said total and immediate.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: Well, for their total and immediate repeal, and when he talks about the injury the landowners would sustain by immediate repeal, and forgets the injuries which millions of our fellow-countrymen have been suffering from the Corn Laws (hear); when he forgets the injury and the suffering that have been experienced in this country for the last ten years from these Corn Laws; and when he puts the interests of the landlords forward, in preference to the interests of humanity, I confess I am surprised; but I am gratified that the discussion has taken place, because it has elicited from Mr. Birley sentiments with respect to Free Trade with which I was not previously acquainted. (Hear.) But, after all, it appears to me that they are merely sentiments of Free Trade in the abstract. Mr. Birley has not stated, that if another election takes place, he would not again support and send to Parliament the gentleman whom he has now sent to Parliament as his representative. (Hear.) Mr. Birley states that he does not approve of that gentleman's vote on the sugar duties. Why, that gentleman, when he first of all voted against Ministers on the sugar duties, preferring the higher monopoly, at that time made a speech accusing himself for having so voted, but still saying he would not commit himself to those in whose hands protection would not be safe (the Ministers), and having done so, he had not the courage to vote a second time, but walked out of the House. Now, if Mr. Birley is prepared to say that, in the event of another election, he regrets the course he took before, and would not support such a gentleman, I should be inclined to withdraw my motion; but if he supports and assists to send representatives to Parliament who vote against the very measure which this chamber considers of paramount importance, I say that the chamber is stultifying itself in the eyes of the world to elect Mr. Birley as a director; and, therefore, with that opinion, I cannot withdraw my amendment unless Mr. Birley gives me a satisfactory answer.

The CHAIRMAN: I think you cannot, in propriety, ask Mr. Birley such a question as that.

Mr. SMITH: Very well; then I will press my motion.

Mr. WILLIAM GIBB rose; and the CHAIRMAN said, Mr. Smith had replied; but Mr. Gibb said, his object was simply to protest against what he called a great hardship, that any vote which any man might give for a parliamentary representative should preclude him from being a director of this chamber.

Mr. J. B. SMITH said that Mr. Gibb was very irregular to speak after he had replied.

The CHAIRMAN said he wished every gentleman to have an opportunity to express his opinions, and Mr. Smith should have a second reply.

Mr. Gibb continued. He regretted exceedingly that Mr. Smith and the other gentlemen who assisted him in this matter, who had always been held in this town, and had proclaimed themselves to be, gentlemen of liberality of sentiment,—he regretted to see them coming forward, and showing what he must term the gross illiberality, which he would almost call tyranny, to say that, because a man did not think on all questions as they did, they were to put him out of a sphere of usefulness in the town to which he belonged. They had very properly been told that this chamber took up various questions of trade and commerce, and not merely that of the Corn Laws. Yet, because Mr. Birley could not come to a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, though he wanted to arrive at it as quickly as possible, but because he did not immediately agree with Mr. Smith and others, he was to be discarded from his sphere of usefulness in this chamber. He would say sincerely, that he believed Mr. Birley was as anxious to work as rapidly in that way as any gentleman present; and altogether, considering the fact that Mr. Birley was the right way, and that he had been a useful member of the board of directors—to which he (Mr. Gibb) could bear his most decided testimony—he must

confess that it seemed to him to be one of those attempts of tyranny—(No, no.)

Mr. THOMAS THOMASSON, of Bolton, wished merely to demur to the term "tyranny" being used by Mr. Gibb. (Hear.) He presumed that the chamber had been established for certain purposes, and that its objects were developed in its report; and, if that report expressed *bona fide* the opinion of the chamber, it was right that its directors, who were to carry out practically those opinions, should *bona fide* entertain similar opinions. Now, it did not appear to him to be the case in the instance of Mr. Birley. The chamber had repeatedly petitioned for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. Mr. Birley was not in favour of total and immediate repeal; therefore the term tyranny was not applicable at all. (Hear.) Mr. Birley, he presumed, in the opinion of that assembly—although eminently and highly qualified in other respects—yet upon that, by far the most important object that could come before the chamber, did not entertain the opinions of the chamber; and therefore, without any tyranny, he was not rejected, but he was not selected, as a director.

Mr. BIRLEY: Allow me to say, that I do not feel at all that there is any tyranny in the matter. The members of the chamber have a perfect right to elect me or not, as they think fit. They have given me a very fair hearing: I have had an opportunity of stating my opinions, and I am much obliged to them for their patience in hearing me. My friends may think it tyranny; but I assure you I don't. In order to shorten the discussion, perhaps you will allow me to say, that I most distinctly decline to pledge myself to any course at any future election. I am one of those who disapprove of pledges. I disapprove of pledging a candidate, and I much more disapprove of pledging an elector as to whom he should vote for.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: I have only one observation to make as regards Mr. Gibb. I think he has been answered as regards tyranny; and I do not consider any tyranny is exercised, when a gentleman is nominated, and you choose to elect some other in his place. It is altogether an improper term. But Mr. Gibb reminds me of a speech of Mr. Birley, on the occasion of presenting a piece of plate to Mr. Gibb as a reward for his exertions on the bonding question. On that occasion, Mr. Birley made a speech, in which he stated that, when he went round canvassing for a parliamentary candidate, Mr. Gibb stated to him that he should not vote against Mr. Mark Philips, although he differed with him in politics.

Mr. BIRLEY: No; that is not correct; it is not reported quite correctly. Mr. Gibb did not say that he should not vote against Mr. Philips; he said he really did not see how he could vote against him; he did not pledge himself; and I really do not know how he did vote; but I do not remember Mr. Gibb telling me that he was really pledged to vote for him.

Mr. SMITH: All I wish is, that Mr. Birley should act as Mr. Gibb has acted; and that, when the question of Free Trade occurs, he should lay aside his party politics as Mr. Gibb did, in order to attain a greater object. ("Question," and "Vote.")

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Smith, will you withdraw your motion?

Mr. SMITH: No, Sir.

Mr. LEWIS WILLIAMS: Oh! I regret that very much.

Mr. SMITH: I exceedingly regret this on personal grounds.

Mr. BIRLEY: Perhaps I may be allowed to say to Mr. Smith, personally, I do not concur with you in the opinion as to the Corn Laws being the cause of the distress of this town and neighbourhood.

Mr. SMITH: I don't see any mode by which we can obtain Free Trade if we elect members who vote against it. I will not now go into a discussion on the Corn Laws.

Mr. BIRLEY: I merely wish to state, that I desire to guard against the notion that I was not one of those who felt for the distress which the working people suffered; but I do not believe, and did not believe, that the Corn Law was the cause of that distress.

The CHAIRMAN then put the amendment for the election of Mr. Thomas Barnes, and declared it to be carried. He did not state the numbers; but we believe they were 31 for the amendment; 12 against it.

#### REGISTRATION APPEALS.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, Thursday, Feb. 13.  
BOROUGH OF LICHFIELD.

Marshall, appellant; Bown, respondent.

At the revision court, held last October, for the borough of Lichfield, William Marshall duly objected to John Bown and five other persons, as not being entitled to vote in respect of property situate within the parish of St. Michael. The revising barrister retained all the names, subject to the opinion of the court on the following case.

The borough of the city of Lichfield is a county of itself, and prior to the passing of the 2nd William IV., cap. 46, freeholders had the right to vote in the election of members for the said city.

It was proved that six persons claimed to vote in respect of the same house, situate in St. John-street, Lichfield, and that they had become joint occupiers of it under the following circumstances.

Prior to Lady-day, 1843, one William Gorton contracted in his own name with the then proprietors of the house for the purchase of it at the sum of £292. 5s., and having, after such contract, *bona fide* sold the house to John Bown and the five other persons in equal shares, a conveyance of it from the vendors to the claimants was made for the consideration of £292. 5s. The purchase money was paid to the vendors by the hand of William Gorton, but was the money of the claimant. The object of William Gorton in proposing the purchase to the claimants was to increase the number of votes for the borough; and it was also proved that the claimants would not have purchased the property unless it had been a good investment of their money. All the claimants had been in the receipt of 50s. a year up to the 31st of last July. It was objected that the conveyance of the house under the above circumstances was void and of none effect by the provisions of the 7th and 8th Wm. III., c. 25, s. 7, as being made to them in order to multiply voters and to split and divide the interest in such house, and that under the said act no more than one single vote ought to be admitted for the said house.

The question for the opinion of the court was, whether the conveyance of the house to the claimants was void and

of none effect under the statute 7th and 8th William III., c. 25, s. 7, and whether, under that statute, the claimants were entitled to have their names retained on the list.

There were five other persons objected to in another parish under the same circumstances as above, and are to abide the decision of the court in the former case.

The case was heard last Michaelmas term, and the court now delivered its judgment.

Lord Chief Justice TINDAL said:—The objection taken against the claim of John Bown, and the several other persons mentioned in the case, to the right of voting as freeholders in the election of members for the city of Lichfield was this: that the five persons therein named claimed to vote in respect of the sale of a freehold house, and that the conveyance to these persons was void, under the provision of the 7th and 8th William III., c. 25, which enacts that all conveyances, "in order to multiply voices, or to split and divide the interest, in any house or land, among several persons, to enable them to vote at elections of members to serve in Parliament, are hereby declared to be void and of none effect." The argument before us proceeds on the supposition that the facts presented by the case brought it within the enactment of the statute; and we were called upon to give a legal construction to this statute, with reference to the subsequent question whether a *bona fide* conveyance, where money was really paid by the purchasers, where there was no secret trust or reservation in favour of the seller, but where the object of the conveyance was in order to multiply voices, and to split and divide the interests, fell within the provision of the statute. Whenever that question comes before us we shall be prepared to give an opinion upon it; but as we think the facts stated in this case do not raise the question, it would be premature to do so on the present occasion, for we think that the obvious meaning of the statute is, that, in order to make a conveyance void, the party conveying must be privy to the legal object and intention of the conveyance; for, indeed, it would seem an unreasonable construction, and never to have been the intention of the Legislature, that a person who sold his property *bona fide* to more than one purchaser, with no intention himself, or any knowledge of the object and intention of the purchaser, in making the purchase to avoid the statute, at any distance of time, found this conveyance of the land turned back upon his hands, and himself liable to refund the purchase-money on account of having subsequently discovered that the purchase was made by several persons in order to multiply votes. And the necessity for this proceeding on the part of the seller appears from the subsequent statute, the 10th of Anne, which, after reciting the statute of William III., and that it was made for the more effectually preventing of such undue practices and proceedings, proceeds to make a provision for such case in which the object of the conveyance or assignment cannot but be known to the party who conveys the estate. It still further appears, from the statute 53rd Geo. III., which enacts that devises made for the same purposes shall be taken to be conveyances within the meaning of the former statute. Now, looking to the case before us, there is not only no statement of the fact, but we have no reason to infer that the former proprietors (who were the conveying parties) had any knowledge of what the object was for which the house was purchased at the time of executing the conveyance to the five persons. Gorton contracted, in his own name, with the then proprietors for the purchase of the house; such proprietors having, it appears, no knowledge whatever of the five persons to whom conveyances were afterwards made, and up to the time of the conveyance itself. Then Gorton, *bona fide*, entering into a contract, sold the house to Bown and the other five persons; so that as to the argument on the part of the appellant, that Gorton must be considered as the seller, it appears to us that the conveyance would be made void, as he had nothing to convey; therefore the case does not appear to us to fall within the statute. We are of opinion that the case taken by the revising barrister never, in fact, arose; and, without going into the merits of the case, we think that the name of the claimant and the other persons are properly retained on the list; and, therefore, affirm the revising barrister's decision.

PRICES OF CORN.—HAMBURG, Feb. 6.—Wheat, Polish, 85 to 122; Anhalt and Magdeburg, red, 78 to 90; ditto, white, 88 to 112; Marks and Brunswick, 78 to 40; Silesian, yellow, 77 to 90; ditto, white, 85 to 116; Mecklenburgh and Pomeranian, 68 to 100; Holstein, 60 to 80; Elder and Busum, 68 to 85; Lower Elbe, 65 to 78.

STOPPAGE OF THE MILLS AT HEYWOOD, BURY.—The hands at all the mills in Heywood left their work last night, the terms of arrangement offered by the masters having been rejected. The masters have posted large placards throughout the town and neighbourhood, of which the following is a copy:—"Many erroneous reports having been circulated relative to the earnings of the weavers late in the employ of Messrs. John Hilton, Kay, and Son, the committee of the Millowners' Association think it necessary, in justice to those gentlemen, to lay before the public a statement of such earnings, as copied from the wages books for the fortnight ending the 22nd of November last (being what may be called the last full fortnight previous to the turn-out). The following are the averages:—For 54 two-loom weavers, per fortnight, 19s. 1d. per week, 9s. 6½d. For 56 three-loom weavers, average per fortnight, £1. 8s. 8d.; per week, 14s. 4d. For 23 four-loom weavers, £1. 6s. 6½d.; per week, 12s. 8½d. N.B. There are no abatements from the above, except for spoiled work, and the whole deductions on that day amounted to only £1. 8s. 9d. The earnings, as stated above, were obtained at the prices per cut paid previously to the weavers turning out; and from the amount, the public will be able to judge whether such a stoppage was justifiable or not. Since the turn out, however, the Messrs. Kay, wishing to put an end to such a state of things, and also to prevent a more general stoppage of mills in the neighbourhood on their account, have made several attempts to come to terms with their weavers, but hitherto without success."—Friday evening. The turn-outs have posted copies of a placard throughout the town this afternoon, intended as a reply to the statements of the masters. It gives the amount of wages paid by Messrs. Hilton, Kay, and Son, for the fortnight ending the 17th of December, as for 59 two-loom weavers, average 9s. 1d. per week; and 41 three-loom weavers, average 12s. 8½d. per week. According to the masters, however, this was not a full fortnight, and hence the difference.—*Manchester Guardian*, Feb. 6.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, February 12, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Downs, Fernelough, and Son, Demmings, Cheadle, Cheshire .....	25 0 0
Heaton, Herbert, Hull .....	2 0 0
Warburton, Josiah, Bristol-street, Radnor-street, Hulme, Manchester .....	1 12 6
Thomas, Robert, Ripon .....	1 12 0
Hyde, Abel, Stockport .....	1 1 0
Greaves, Wm., Hampton, Oxfordshire .....	1 1 0
Wilson, Richard, 4, York-place, Cheadam-hill-road, Manchester .....	1 1 0
Hobson, A., Wharf-street, Portwood, Stockport .....	1 1 0
Milne, John, Lord-street, Rochdale .....	1 1 0
Wilkinson, Thos., 2, Thomas-street, Blackburn .....	1 1 0
Marshall, William, St. Mary's street, Manchester .....	1 1 0
Heald, Nicholas, Mosley-street, do. .....	1 1 0
Hulme, Wm., 25, Market-street, do. .....	1 1 0
Southam, John, 13, Vine-grove, Greenheys, do. .....	1 1 0
A Friend .....	1 1 0
Charlton, Henry, Birmingham .....	1 0 0
Copper, Thomas, Brook-street, Derby .....	1 0 0
Water, George, Kedleston-road, do. .....	1 0 0
Dean, Wm., Sandbach, Cheshire .....	1 0 0
Wild, James, grocer, Lees-road, Greenacres, near Manchester .....	1 0 0
Ritchie, John, Cleveland-buildings, do. .....	1 0 0
Howe, Wm., at Baint, Fletcher, Son, & Co's, Parker-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Phelton, Hugh, at do. .....	1 0 0
Brocklehurst, Charles, 2, Edge-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Shorrocks, John, 44, Great Bridge-water st., do. .....	1 0 0
Spence, John, 1, Charnock-st., C. on-M., do. .....	1 0 0
Hay, Nial, and M'Keand, 27, Oxford-road, do. .....	1 0 0
Harrison and Sharwin, 88, Hanover-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Roberts, John, 85, Market-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Phillips, Thos. Wm., 3, Hyde-rd., Ardwick, do. .....	1 0 0
Blackburn, Robt., Granby-row Saw Mills, do. .....	1 0 0
Kershaw, James, Ashton-road, Ardwick, do. .....	1 0 0
Poster and Duncan, 45, Oxford-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Jones, H. R., 135, Oxford-street, C. on-M., do. .....	1 0 0
Atken, John, Exchange arcade, do. .....	1 0 0
Lawton, James, Yorkhouse street, Rochdale .....	1 0 0
Whitworth, J., Fackit, near Whitworth, near do. .....	1 0 0
Leach, James, St. Mary's-gate, do. .....	1 0 0
Pilling, John, New Church, near do. .....	1 0 0
Reece, John, Grosvenor-street, Staleybridge .....	1 0 0
Woolley, Samuel, Feathers Inn, do. .....	1 0 0
Burton, Wm., Cross Leech, do. .....	1 0 0
Hardley, David, Dukinfield, near do. .....	1 0 0
Terry, J. B., banker, Ripon .....	1 0 0
Chadwick, Uriah, at Robt. Lees & Sons, Dukinfield, near Ashton-under-Lyne .....	1 0 0
Shaw, Thomas, Stamford-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Taylor, Alex., and others, 6, House-street, Albroath .....	1 0 0
Jardine, Alex., Union-street, Blackburn .....	1 0 0
Watson, John Alex., Old Chapel-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Holroyd, Edward, Salford, do. .....	1 0 0
Briggs, George, Jubilee, do. .....	1 0 0
Rutherford, John, John street, do. .....	1 0 0
Briggs, James, Penny street, do. .....	1 0 0
Blacklock, James, John-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Hoyte, James, Salford, do. .....	1 0 0
Shaw, Henry, do. .....	1 0 0
Knox, George, Lord-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Southart, Thomas, John-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Jackman, George, Anson-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Iving, William, Water-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Shaw, Mr. Church-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Porter, Robert, Union-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Orlme, John, surgeon, Union-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Anderson, Wm., Water street, do. .....	1 0 0
Hamber, Thomas, Church-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Armstrong, John, Union-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Marshall, Richard, Old Chapel-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Smith, John, St. John's Tavern, Union-st., do. .....	1 0 0
Veevers, Thomas, St. Alban's, do. .....	1 0 0
Wilcock, Thomas, do. .....	1 0 0
Haron, Robert, Clayton street, do. .....	1 0 0
Shaw, Thomas, Water street, do. .....	1 0 0
Parson, Thomas, Park-place, do. .....	1 0 0
Clemens, Robert, grocer, do. .....	1 0 0
Mercer, John, North-gate, do. .....	1 0 0
Anderson, Robert, Church, near Accrington .....	1 0 0
Hutfield, John, Ashton, near Warrington .....	1 0 0
Knott, Geo., Manor street, Little Bolton .....	1 0 0
Lomas, Jacob, Folds-road, do. .....	1 0 0
Little, M., Wood-street, Great Bolton .....	1 0 0
Nelson, James, Holme-street, Little Bolton .....	1 0 0
Orme, Robert, Shaw Heath, Stockport .....	1 0 0
Royle, Thomas, Duke-street, do. .....	1 0 0
Bowra, Jonathan, Edward-st., do. .....	1 0 0
W. S. M. P. S. .....	1 0 0
Walker, John, Bury, Lancashire .....	1 0 0
Hokey, W., Deeply-vale Printworks, do. .....	1 0 0
Hutfield, W., Castle-hill Mill, Gomersall, near Leeds .....	1 0 0
R. H. .....	1 0 0
Bailey, Samuel, 51, Gore street, Liverpool .....	1 0 0
Smart, Peter, 20, Slater street, do. .....	1 0 0
Hutchinson, H., 13, Summer-gardens, Kirkdale, do. .....	1 0 0
Breyer, Lawrence, F., do. .....	1 0 0
Allen, Simon, Cosely, near Histon .....	1 0 0
P. H. E., Newcastle-on-Tyne .....	1 0 0
Finlay, James, Summer hill, do. .....	1 0 0
Hall, J., Sandhill, do. .....	1 0 0
Redhead, H. J., do. .....	1 0 0
Stell, John, Notes Hull, do. .....	1 0 0
Shaw, Mr., Ripon .....	0 14 0
Men in the employment of Walker, Hardcastle, and Co., Huddersfield .....	0 10 6
Frederick, Mr., Bristol, do. .....	0 5 0
Small sums .....	1 19 8
Luke, James, Marshall street, Manchester .....	0 5 0
Shorlock, Peter, 178, Deansgate, do. .....	0 5 0
M'Donald, J., Dean-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne .....	0 5 0
Williamson, J., Ripon .....	0 2 6
Gow, Andrew, 35, Miller-street .....	1 1 0
M'Kay, Robert, 123, Cantrilrigg .....	1 0 0
Farquharson, John, and Co., Atlas Foundry .....	1 0 0
Black, David, 1, Morris-place .....	1 0 0
M'Nah and Co., 100, Hutchison-street .....	1 0 0
Anderson, J., 10, Montrose-street .....	1 0 0
Barr, William, 100, Queen-street .....	1 1 0
Hutchinson, P. H., do. .....	1 1 0
Ross, James, 18, North Albion-street .....	1 1 0
Service, Thomas, 52, Back-leuch street .....	1 1 0
Service and Workman, Ingram-street .....	1 1 0
Turner, James, Thush-grove .....	1 0 0
Ross, Alexander, at Mrs. Galloway's, 51, North Hanover-street .....	1 0 0
Whyte, William, 73, Queen street .....	1 0 0
Ross, D., Jun., 91, South Frederick-street .....	1 0 0
Wilson, Andrew, 21, Miller-street .....	1 0 0
Rankine, Robert, 93, Glasgow-street .....	1 0 0
Cunningham, Wm., bleacher, Leamington, Campsie, Stirlingshire .....	1 0 0

Glasgow—continued.

Ewing, P., of Ewing, Paul, & Co's, Ingram-st. .....	21 0 0
Duncan, A. C., 28, Cochrane-street .....	2 2 0
Taylor, John, and Son, 19, do. .....	1 1 0
Walker, James, and Co., 31, do. .....	1 1 0
Richards, Thomas, 23, Virginia-street .....	1 1 0
Geminell, James B., 20, Barony-place .....	1 1 0
Robertson, Dr. J. H., 69, West Nile-street .....	1 0 0
Lemon, John, 18, Saltmarket-street .....	1 0 0
Armstrong, James, 35, Tron-gate .....	1 0 0
Finlay and Nelson, 100, Mitchell-street .....	1 1 0
Donald, John, 64, South Wellington-street .....	1 0 0
Scott, John, and Sons, Duke-street .....	1 0 0
Couper, James, sen., 45, Garengad-hill .....	1 1 0
Murray, William, jun., do. .....	1 1 0
M'Ewen, James, Armfield-place .....	1 0 0
Patrick, William, 8, Ingram-street .....	1 0 0
Jamieson, Joseph, 82, Clyde-street, Anderston .....	1 1 0
M'Lean and Ray, 82, Virginia-street .....	1 0 0
Blyth, Thomas, 60, Argyle-street .....	1 1 0
Steele, William, 45, do. .....	1 0 0
Hendrey, Ebenezer, North Exchange-court .....	1 0 0
Harvie, Andrew, 153, Queen-street .....	1 0 0
Hamilton, James, 104, Brunswick-street .....	1 0 0
Mitchell, W. W., Catherine-street, Calton .....	1 1 0
Schwabe, H. L., 51, Buchanan-street .....	3 3 0
Anderson, George, Hyde park .....	1 1 0
Paton, Wm., 59, Buchanan-street .....	1 1 0
Stewart, S. Macdougall, 31, do. .....	1 1 0
Griffin, Chas., 40, do. .....	1 1 0
Griffin, John J., 40, do. .....	1 1 0
Clark, W. D., Dalmonach, by Dumbarton .....	1 1 0
Workmen of Fulton, Laird, and Co., 57, Argyle-street .....	1 0 0
Inglis, Thomas, 619, Gallowgate .....	1 0 0
Bell and Bain, St. Enoch-square .....	1 0 0
Hunter, W., 4, Royal Bank-place .....	1 1 0
Dick, George C., Exchange-court .....	1 1 0
M'Gregor, John, and Sons, 43, Old-wynd .....	2 0 0
Wilson, J. and P., Brunswick-place .....	1 1 0
Cameron, Wm., St. Enoch-square .....	1 1 0
Arrol, Archd., 7, Stockwell .....	1 1 0
Paton, W. P., Virginia-buildings .....	1 0 0
Fleming, Watson, and Nairn, 32, Ingram-st. .....	1 1 0
Nairn, Andrew, 3, Aspley-pl., Hutchesontown .....	1 1 0
Peterson, James, and Co., 17, Virginia-street .....	1 0 0
Morrison, J. and J., 51, Great Hamilton-st. .....	1 0 0
Blackwell, Samuel, 214, Gallowgate .....	1 0 0
Cassels, John, 68, Saltmarket .....	1 0 0
Mosman, Wm., 172, West Nile-street .....	1 1 0
Alexander, Robert, 18, Hutcheson-street .....	1 0 0
M'Keand, A. and J., 12, Tron-gate .....	1 0 0
Tannahill and Robertson, London-street .....	1 1 0
Chalmers, Thomas, 161, Tron-gate .....	1 1 0
Anderson and Co., 157, do. .....	1 1 0
Hunter, Duncan, 17, Virginia-street .....	1 0 0
S. A. .....	1 0 0
M'Tear, Rev. James, 97, Argyle-street .....	1 0 0
Robertson, Robert, & Co., 12, Hutcheson-st. .....	1 1 0
Anderson, John, 4, Adelphi-place, Hutchesontown .....	1 0 0
Darling, Wm., 111, Tron-gate .....	1 1 0
Gray, John, 155, do. .....	1 1 0
Thorburn, George, 120, Crown-street .....	1 1 0
Yuille, Wm. P., 40, Miller-street .....	1 1 0
Yuille, David, 40, do. .....	1 1 0
Yuille, William, Helensburgh .....	1 1 0
Burgin, John, 63, West-street .....	1 0 0
Chapman, J., 97, West-bar .....	1 0 0
Beaumont, P., Canal-office .....	1 0 0
Naylor, T. S., 202, Brook-hill .....	1 0 0
Smith, Josephus, 101, South-street, Sheffield-moor .....	1 0 0
Jarvis, Joshua, Sportsman's Inn, Bridge-houses .....	1 0 0
Dickinson, Joseph, West-bar .....	1 0 0
Haworth, John W., Arundel-street .....	1 0 0
Wilson, John, Bymore-street .....	1 0 0
Fisher, William, Orchard-place .....	1 0 0
Fisher, Charles, do. .....	1 0 0
Hoyland, William, Church-street .....	1 0 0
Corran, William, St. James's row .....	1 0 0
Shirt, Elias, Coalpit-lane .....	1 0 0
Sheldon, Thomas, and Son, Trafalgar-street .....	1 0 0
Thompson, William, Uppertorpe .....	1 0 0
Hutton, W. C., 27, High-street .....	1 0 0
Outram, Joseph, Black Swan, Singhill .....	1 0 0
Jervis, William, do. .....	1 0 0
Newton, John, grocer, West-bar .....	1 0 0
Wilkinson, Henry, Norfolk-street .....	1 0 0
Naylor, Vickers, and Co., Midlands .....	2 0 0
Thompson, C. M. D., Norfolk-street .....	1 0 0
Parker, John, Wicker .....	1 0 0
Cutte, T. P., and Son, Division-street .....	1 0 0
Brown, J., 19, do. .....	2 0 0
Bills, Thomas, 85, Bradford-street .....	1 1 0
Rawlings, Josh., Deritend .....	1 1 0
Jenkins, M., Digbeth .....	1 1 0
Ashford, H., do. .....	1 1 0
Hindick, T., Deritend .....	1 1 0
Ashford, W. W., Mashhouse-lane .....	1 1 0
Barker, Edward, Congreve-street .....	1 0 0
Aston, Thomas, 12, Regent-place .....	1 1 0
Griffiths and Hopkins .....	2 0 0
Mills, Nathaniel, 53, Caroline-street .....	1 0 0
Davis, T., die and seal engraver, Lionel-street .....	1 0 0
A Friend .....	1 0 0
Watson, Thomas, Fargate .....	1 0 0
Russell, John, 29, Byre-street .....	1 0 0
Hutchinson, George, 54, Milton-street .....	1 3 0
Honcaster, Daniel, Uppertorpe .....	1 0 0
Hughes, John, Russell-street .....	1 0 0
Arnold, John, Wellington-place .....	1 0 0
Parker, W. and J. G., Byre-street .....	1 0 0
Osborne, John, Solly-street .....	1 0 0
Radon, Moses, Norfolk-street .....	1 0 0
Greaves, Edward, Park .....	1 0 0
Unwin, Charles, West-bar .....	1 0 0
Sheehy, Joseph, Glosop-road .....	1 0 0
Bell, George, King-street .....	1 0 0
Working Men attending P. Ashley's News-room .....	1 0 0
Dunlop and Sons, Regent-street .....	1 0 0
Douglas, Hugh P. .....	1 1 0
M'Callock, James, M. D., Assembly-street .....	1 1 0
Scott, John, manufacturer, English-street .....	1 1 0
Duncan, Walter, druggist, High-street .....	1 1 0
M'Adam, Samuel, Kildare, by .....	1 1 0
Beveridge, David, baker, Maxwelltown, near .....	1 1 0
M'Gregor, Hugh, confectioner .....	1 1 0
Dunbar, George, cabinet maker .....	1 1 0
M'Gowan, William, writer .....	1 1 0
Bell, William, grocer, Irish-street .....	1 1 0
Affleck, Samuel, cooper, Bank-street .....	1 1 0
Turner, William, shipper .....	1 1 0
Dunwiddie, James, palster .....	1 1 0
Goodall, John, writer .....	1 1 0
Atter, Wm., 39, East Quay-lane .....	1 0 0
Houston, Robert, Westbury .....	1 0 0
Morr, Matthew .....	1 0 0
Panton, William, Ardrossan-place .....	1 0 0
Cunningham, Wm., .....	2 3 0
Cunningham, Wm., jun., .....	1 1 0
Walker, F., 54, Mile .....	1 0 0
Watson, James, Bath-road .....	1 0 0
Randle, N. J., Market-place .....	1 0 0
Asplin, F. .....	2 0 0

Ottley.	*Musgrave, William .. .. .	41
	*Barker, Robert, farmer .. .. .	1
	*Barret, Edward, Grove-hill .. .. .	1
	*Ferguson, Robert, draper .. .. .	1
Glasgow.	*Kennedy, Robert, 59, Stockwell-street .. .. .	1
	*Duncan, John, Clifton-grove-crescent, Gar-cube-road .. .. .	1
	*Smith, James, 119, Main-street, Bridgeton .. .. .	1
	*M'Killop and Nicol, 51, Argyle-street .. .. .	1
	*Oswald, Andrew, Stirling-street .. .. .	1
	*Dunlop, Hugh, 156, Tron-gate .. .. .	1
	*Harper, M'Farlane, and Glen .. .. .	2
	*Gray, John, 34, Clyde-street, Anderston .. .. .	1
	*Cameron, James, 23, West Nile-street .. .. .	1
	*Kennedy, Hugh, 52, Ingram-street .. .. .	1
South Shields.	*Macdonald, Daniel, 18, Glassford-street .. .. .	1
	Laing, Walter, manufacturer, 175, Tron-gate .. .. .	1
	*Wright, John, Ogle-terrace .. .. .	1
	*Alton, William, Albion-terrace .. .. .	1
	*Harper, William, Lawe-buildings .. .. .	1
	*Emery, James, surgeon .. .. .	1
	*Tweddell, M. .. .. .	1
	*Colquhoun, John, 37, East Holborn .. .. .	1
	*Jackson, John, Ocean-street .. .. .	1
	*Oynton, T. B., Westal .. .. .	1
Hawick, Roxburghshire.	*Coward, William, Dean-street .. .. .	1
	*Imeary, Robert, Lake Alkali Works .. .. .	1
	*Jarrow Chemical Company .. .. .	1
	*Scott, Joseph, East King-street .. .. .	1
	*Bell, Thomas, Don Alkali Works .. .. .	1
	*Alsbett, Matthew, Thuit-street .. .. .	1
	*Kennedy, J. P., East King-street .. .. .	1
	*Aytou, Jos J., King-street .. .. .	1
	*Bell, James, Cornwallis-street .. .. .	1
	*Selley, Ephraim, Minto, by .. .. .	1
Edinburgh.	*Turnbull, James, Galalaw, by .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, Walter, Orchard .. .. .	1
	*Laing, Alexander, manufacturer .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, John, do. .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, George, do. .. .. .	1
	*Armstrong, Walter, draper .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, M., and Sons, skippers .. .. .	1
	*Laing, John, manufacturer .. .. .	1
	*Watson, William, do. .. .. .	1
	*Melrose, James, and Sons .. .. .	1
Sunderland.	*Scott, John, fletcher .. .. .	1
	*Laidlaw, Douglas, grocer .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, P. G., manufacturer .. .. .	1
	*Nixon, W. .. .. .	1
	*Turnbull, John, dyer .. .. .	1
	*Fraser, R., draper .. .. .	1
	*Watson, Geo., and Sons, skippers .. .. .	1
	*Scott, Andrew, Loan .. .. .	0 13 6
	*Drybrough, Andrew, 14, Regent-terrace .. .. .	1
	*Henderson, Thomas .. .. .	0 10 0
Per Quatin Dalrymple.	"A second kick at Drummore's twaddle" .. .. .	1
	*Knight, John, 38, Leith-street .. .. .	1
	*Kerr, George, 15, St. Andrew-street .. .. .	1
	*Kerr, Thomas, St. Leonard's House, St. Leonard's .. .. .	1
	*Hay, Alexander, 28, Greenside-street .. .. .	1
	*Moyes, James, 33, Bridge-street, Leith .. .. .	1
	*Winkle, Robert, 67, Great King-street .. .. .	1
	*Wilson, John, baker, Penny-cuik .. .. .	1
	*Walker, James, 3, Morton-street, Leith .. .. .	1
	*Mackenzie, Thomas, 6, India-street .. .. .	1
Stockton-on-Tees.	*Bell, J. M., 4, Forrester-street .. .. .	1
	"A few Stocking Weavers, per Hugh M'Pherson, Old Assembly-close .. .. .	1
	*Danson, R., High-street .. .. .	1
	*Joplin, James, Frederick-street .. .. .	1
	"A sincere Free-Trader .. .. .	5
	*Atkinson, Thomas, Park-terrace .. .. .	1
	*Old, Richard, West-row .. .. .	1
	*Harris, Anthony, Middlebro', near .. .. .	1
	*Mathewson, Thomas, Park-terrace .. .. .	1
	*Wigham, Culbert .. .. .	1
Hull.	Long, Rev. Wm. .. .. .	1
	*Clepham, John B., Silver-street .. .. .	1
	*Hutchinson, John, High-street .. .. .	1
	*Heavilside, Thomas .. .. .	1
	*W. A. .. .. .	1
	*Stamp, F. .. .. .	1
	*Laugsdorf, T. .. .. .	0 10 0
	*Stanton, William, Linneus-street .. .. .	1
	*Larard, Thomas .. .. .	1
	*Lowther, Phineas, 5, Saville-street .. .. .	1
Bathley, near Dewsbury.	*Storr, Joseph, Owatwick, near .. .. .	1
	*Sheard, Michael .. .. .	1
	*Hall, George, and Son .. .. .	1
	*Colbeck, Isaac .. .. .	0 7 6
	*Phillimore, Samuel, Ebbley, near .. .. .	1
	*Shipway, Edward, Stanley-mills .. .. .	1
	Stanley-mills Association (10th remittance), per Edward Shipway .. .. .	2
	*Adams, J. S., Town-house .. .. .	1
	*Miles, R., Ebbley, near .. .. .	1
	Kirkaldy.	*Nairn, Michael .. .. .
*Hendry, William .. .. .		1
*Russell, John .. .. .		1
*Greig, Peter, Dysart .. .. .		1
*Brodie, A. O., Shore-dues-office .. .. .		1
Collett, John, Esq., M. P., 7, Upper Belgrave-street .. .. .		10 10 0
Mendham, H., Bishopgate, Englefield-green .. .. .		4
Froggett, F. W., 16, Gibson-square, Islington .. .. .		2
Collins, Caleb, draper, Brighton .. .. .		2
Pow, Robert, Dockway-square, North Shields .. .. .		2
Gaukroger, J. and T., New Bridge, near Hebbden Bridge.	Dunn, George, Doucaster .. .. .	2
	J. W. .. .. .	2
	Montgomery, R. M., Taunton .. .. .	1
	Goodwin, Joseph, 1, Travis-brow, Heaton Norris .. .. .	1
	Mason, Joseph, attorney, Monk-gate, York .. .. .	1
	Hill, Thomas, 35, Lansdowne-terrace, Lambeth .. .. .	1
	Sandford, Henry, 180, Bishopgate-street Without .. .. .	1
	Fawcett, John, Hutchinson-buildings, N. Shields .. .. .	1
	Cox, George James, 11, Kilbuck-terrace, Liverpool-road, Islington .. .. .	1
	Williams, John, 1, Verulam-buildings, Gray's Inn .. .. .	1
Marshall, James, Kothay.	J. .. .. .	1
	Campbell, Robert, timber merchant, Aberdeen .. .. .	1
	Clarke, Josh., jun., Southampton .. .. .	1
	Robinson, John, Wellington-place, Northampton .. .. .	1
	Westlake, R. J., Bridge-street, Exeter .. .. .	1
	Seville, Thomas, Throstle Nest, Blackburn .. .. .	1
	Waterhouse, W. H., Ashton-under-Lyne .. .. .	1
	Whickello, S. H., Leighton Buzzard .. .. .	1
	Albarn, S. .. .. .	1
	Harding, James, Queen-street, Stepney .. .. .	1
Long, J. Harris, 190, Tottenham Court-road.	Gouldsmith, Jesse, Trowbridge, Wilt .. .. .	1
	Hill, John, 8, Darlington place, Haxleyford-road, Vauxhall .. .. .	1
	Long, J. Harris, 190, Tottenham Court-road .. .. .	1
	Teele and Co., 18, Bealinghall-street, and 75, Aldersmanbury .. .. .	1
	East, Robert, Upper Tulse-hill, Bristol .. .. .	1
	Wixon, James, Broken Wharf .. .. .	1
	Watson, Edward, Churchgate, Leicester .. .. .	1
	Harwood, John, Long Preston, near Shapton .. .. .	1
	Drummond, Mr. North Curry, near Dunston .. .. .	1
	.. .. .	1



J. W. York	1	0	0
Wilders, Henry, Hunter's-Jodge, Burton-on-Trent	1	0	0
Clark, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lymington	1	0	0
Clark, Robert, baker, Dunoon, Argyshire	1	0	0
Morton, Christopher, East-street, Colchester	1	0	0
Slopes, Christopher, East-street, Colchester	1	0	0
Slopes, Peter, baker, Maybole, Ayrshire	1	0	0
Sircleir, Joseph, Brighouse, near Halifax	1	0	0
Blackburn, Thomas, do., do.	1	0	0
Blackburn, Thomas, do., do.	1	0	0
Rigby, John, Pilling-well, Bolton	1	0	0
Cooke, William, Heckmondwike, near Leeds	1	0	0
Wilson, Christopher, Low Moor, near Bradford,	1	0	0
Yorkshire	1	0	0
Charlton, Mr. St. Sampson's-square, York	1	0	0
Biggart, Thomas, Kilmarnock	1	0	0
Wolfenden, J. R., Silverwell-street, Bolton	1	0	0
Darby, George, Fareham	1	0	0
Swindells, Martin, Brinksway, near Stockport	1	0	0
Jenson, Samuel	1	0	0
Ford E. D., Morecombe-lodge, Lancaster	1	0	0
Parker, Rev. Gavin, Aberdeen	1	0	0
Monkhouse, J. R., Barnard Castle	1	0	0
Leaquer	1	0	0
Zeal, Thomas, Church-street, Westbury	1	0	0
Copley, James, 101, Friargate, Derby	1	0	0
Bottomley, J., Caledonian Mill, Bradford, Yorkshire	1	0	0
Firth, Thomas, do., do., do.	1	0	0
Rhodes, John, Accrington	1	0	0
Newnes, Rev. J. M., Matlock-bath, Derbyshire	1	0	0
Alexander, Edward, Malmesbury	1	0	0
Belfield, Charles, sen., Prestonpans, N. B.	1	0	0
Crapton, J., Fawcett-street, Bishop Wearmouth	1	0	0
Thompson, W., and Sons, 17, Cousin-st., do.	1	0	0
Eyton, James, Mold, North Wales	1	0	0
Clark, Wm., High-street, Doncaster	1	0	0
Handford, E., Torrington	1	0	0
Lidlaw, Thomas, 13, South-row, New-road	1	0	0
Webb, Thomas, 51, New-walk, Leicester	1	0	0
Robinson, James, 9, Heathcote-st., Gray's-inn-lane	1	0	0
Thorne, G., Stockwell	1	0	0
Matthewman, John, Barnsley	1	0	0
Meikle, David, Tarbolton, near Kilmarnock	1	0	0
Falling, Joseph, Wentworth, near Rotherham	1	0	0
Hawward, Elisha, Melksham	1	0	0
Cochrane, John, do.	1	0	0
Ayling, William, Midhurst	1	0	0
A Friend, Northampton	0	3	6
Brook, Robert, farmer and brewer, Titchford	0	2	6
Thorntwaite, Wm., 30, Gordon-street, Gordon-square	0	2	6
Gurney, Robert, 5, Weymouth-street, New Kent-rd.	0	2	6
A. B. C., unrepresented, Fareham Bank, Fareham	0	2	6
Small subscriptions	1	2	0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Burton, W. S., Oxford-street	1	1	0
Drybrough, A., 6, Basing-lane, Bread-st., Cheapside	1	1	0
Montgomery, B. M., Taunton	1	1	0
Landes, J. S., Honey-lane-market	1	1	0
Freughliani, S., Manchester	5	0	0
Atkinson, Lucy, Norfolk-street, do.	1	0	0
Atkinson, Elizabeth, do., do.	1	0	0
Atkinson, Ann, do., do.	1	0	0
Atkinson, Harriet, do., do.	1	0	0
Atkinson, Eliza, do., do.	1	0	0

### ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 72, for Black, Alexander, Shaw-place, Greenock, read Black, Archibald; for Darby, Abraham, Coalbrookdale, read Darby, Abraham; and for Macintyre, John, Midclder, read Macintyre, James J.

Hull, Feb. 11.

Sir,—I believe my subscription does not end till the 21st of this month; however, I send you a Post-office order for 20s. towards the League fund; I only wish I could make it £100. My brother farmers in Holderness are beginning to grow; they are, however, very unwilling to confess they have been made dupes of by their landlords; sooner or later, truth will come out; the process is too slow, many of us must be ruined before the consummation. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. S.—O.

On Thursday last, Mr. BRIGHT, M.P., gave notice that he should move on Thursday, the 27th inst., for a Select Committee on the GAME LAWS.

Mr. BRIGHT'S MOTION ON THE GAME LAWS.—The *New Farmers' Journal*, a supporter of the Corn Laws, comes openly out in support of Mr. Bright's forthcoming motion, and remarks: "No half measure of amendment will do. To be at once effectual and satisfactory, the question both of preserving and killing game must be dealt with in a spirit of impartial justice to all whose interests are concerned."

SWANSEA.—A meeting of gentlemen favourable to Free Trade was held on Tuesday evening last, in aid of the Free-Trade Bazaar. Mr. Jenkins, the League agent, was present, and gave explanations of its objects, &c. It was resolved that a committee of gentlemen be formed to aid the objects of the Bazaar, and that the League circulars be addressed to the ladies of Swansea and its vicinity, accompanied by a request that they would become contributors to the first of charities—that of doing justice. Mr. Joseph Rutter and Mr. Jenkins were appointed receivers of contributions.

FARNHAM.—Mr. Falvey delivered a lecture on the evils of the Corn Laws, in the Farnham Institution, on Friday evening, the 7th instant. George Cope, Esq., was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings in a clear and convincing speech in favour of Free Trade. At the close of Mr. Falvey's address, votes of thanks were carried by acclamation to the lecturer, chairman, and Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League.—Mr. Falvey lectured in the large room at the Dolphin Inn on Monday evening last. There was a very good attendance of agriculturists, many of whom had come a considerable distance to be present at the meeting. Mr. Fielder Miller was called to the chair. The lecturer was attentively listened to, and loudly cheered.—Mr. Falvey delivered a lecture in the Town-hall, Alton, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Crowley, the eminent brewer, occupied the chair, and expressed his earnest hope that the time was not far distant when Free Trade would be established. The lecture was received with marked approbation. In fact, all through Hampshire the farmers are beginning to perceive the insulting mockery and gross delusion of Corn-Law protection.

Mr. Daniel Liddell, the northern agent of the League, has recently circulated from 2000 to 3000 copies of Mr. Liversidge's *Struggle* and the *Free-Trade Almanac*, in Lancashire, Cheshire, and South Shropshire.—*Galeshead Observer.*

### LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XX.

To the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Essex; the Earl of March, M.P., Sussex, West; Lord Beaumont; Mr. George Banks, M.P., Dorsetshire; Mr. T. W. Bragston, M.P., Essex, South; Mr. Darby, M.P., Sussex, East; Mr. E. B. Denison, M.P., Yorkshire, West Riding; Mr. Du Pré, M.P., Buckinghamshire; Mr. W. Miles, M.P., Somerset East; Mr. Newdegate, M.P., Warwickshire, North; Mr. Stafford O'Brien, M.P., Northamptonshire, North; Mr. Pusey, M.P., Berkshire; Col. Rushbrooke, M.P., Suffolk, West; Sir John Trollope, Bart., M.P., Lincolnshire, South; Sir John Tyrell, Bart., M.P., Essex, North; Mr. Wodehouse, M.P., Norfolk, East; Mr. J. J. Allnatt, Berkshire; Mr. H. G. Andrews, Somerset; Mr. R. Baker, Essex; Mr. W. Bennett, Beds.; Mr. Brickwell, Bucks; Mr. Blandford, Somerset; Mr. Brown, North Wilts; Mr. Cramp, Kent; Mr. I. Clarke, Lincolnshire; Mr. J. Ellman, Sussex; Mr. Hilditch, Salop; Mr. Fisher Hobbs, Essex; Mr. Hudson, Norfolk; Mr. S. Jones, Cambridgeshire; Mr. S. Mills, South Wilts; Mr. Moseley, East Suffolk; Mr. Oakley, Herts; Mr. Pain, Bedfordshire; Mr. Rodwell, West Suffolk; Mr. G. Shackel, Berkshire; Mr. R. Smith, Rutland; Mr. Stevenson, Lincolnshire; Mr. Turner, Devon; Mr. Warsop, Huntingdon; Mr. Weall, Surrey; and Mr. Edward Wyatt, West Sussex.

### MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPUTATION:

You are said, in the report of your recent interview with Sir Robert Peel, to consist of an equal number of landowners and of tenant-farmers. To which class does your principal spokesman, Mr. Baker, belong? Why were not land-agents named as a third order in your constitution? Was Mr. Baker the nominee of the landlord or the tenant portion of your committee? The shopkeepers of London would not have thought, in any deputation of theirs, of choosing an auctioneer for their representative and leader. They would have found a spokesman of interests entirely identical with their own, and not one whose emoluments might be enhanced by their embarrassments. It is not credible that any number of tenant-farmers, fairly left to themselves, would have desired to speak by the mouth of a land-agent; they are not so utterly besotted as that. Mr. Baker is not the representative of the tenantry. He is the landlords' man; he pleads the landlords' cause; his exposition to the Premier was an apology for rent; his suggestions to the Premier tend chiefly to the enhancement of rent; and putting him forward as the farmers' counsel was one of the many delusions which you, my lords and gentlemen, have attempted to practise upon the public.

The real object of your deputation to Sir Robert Peel was to obtain a remission of taxation, that is a grant of money, in favour of the wealthy and princely landowners of this country. Disguise it as you may, that is the predominant purpose. The farmer cannot pay up the whole amount of his rent, doubled as that rent generally is from what it was fifty years ago; while his produce sells at about

the same rate. Take a tax off his shoulders, and then, perhaps, he can pay it up. One of your number (Mr. Hudson) stated that in his locality the farmers had paid their last year's rents, but that "it was from the tenants' capital, and not from the profits of the farms." That cannot last long. You want to bolster it up a little. Let the farmer off for a portion of his taxation, and then the landlord need not let him off for any portion of his rent. The remission of a tax passes clean over the tenant's head into the landlord's pocket. The public revenue loses the money, and the landlord gets his rent in full. In short, the public pays the proprietary. Stripped of sophisms, and perhaps of blunders on the part of some, that is your shameless proposition to the Premier.

What a fine rhetorical artifice in Mr. Baker to speak of rent as forming "so small an item in the actual expenditure of the tenant" that it is of no material account in considering either his distresses or their remedy. To his optics it is imperceptible. He can see the saving of fattening stock upon malt, but is quite unable to discern an augmentation of rent since 1793 that burdens the farmer more than the entire malt-tax three times told. A microscope for Mr. Baker to discover the minute millions, whose pressure he does not wish removed! Salve for his eyes that the little taxing man of the State may not eclipse that great taxing man, the landlord. He the farmers' spokesman? The silly sheep have a wolf for their representative.

One of your tenant-members, Mr. Turner, of Uppington, says that he is an extensive farmer, and has been so for twenty-five years; and that for the last three years his return has been £100 per annum less for every 100 acres of fair land he occupied than for the three preceding ones. But the three preceding years were years of scarcity and suffering never to be forgotten. The average prices per quarter were 64s. 4d., 66s. 4d., and 70s. 8d. They were also years of partially favourable harvests in Devonshire, though generally so bad. Would he have the Government, if it could, bring back such prices? What is his rent for this "fair land?" And what are his profits on each £100 of his returns? The profits must be very high, and the rent very low, to make the latter an insignificant item; and if his landlord yields "returns" as well as his farm, the case is by no means desperate. Mr. Macculloch calculates that the farmers' burdens, tithes, poor-rates, &c. &c., taken "together, may amount, at a rough average, to from one-third to three-fifths of the rent." Five-fifths are invisible to

your deputation, as a margin for reduction, while three-fifths fill your sphere of vision. You rely on the fund of one-third as the Fortunatus's purse of the farmer; and pocket the three-thirds quietly as an inconsiderable trifle.

Another of Mr. Turner's facts bears an awkward aspect for your identification of tenants and landlords. He reports that "many farmers who were not attached to their farms by the ties of a large family, or other circumstances, were quietly slipping out of their occupations to live upon the remnants of their property." Better so than spend those remnants in rent. Your protection laws have driven these men to idleness and uselessness. To them, employment is ruinous. They withdraw their capital to anticipate their landlords; and eat it out rather than pay it up for his consumption. They and their capital are thus lost to the country. With Free Trade, they might grow corn for us, and enrich themselves, by an easy migration. They could help to feed England by taking farms in France. Many a continental proprietor would be glad of them for tenants; and the population which you cannot feed would be glad of their untaxed supplies. But your protective laws protect them out of liberty and profit; as well as the people out of plenty. The landlord's chain is round them. You will not let them work elsewhere, and keep their customers. You put down the "diligence that maketh rich." You say they shall not grow corn for Englishmen unless it be upon your land. And so they grow none at all. This you call being their friends; the tenant-farmers' friends. They deem it better to "take themselves out of that," though it be at the sacrifice for life of all prospect of improving their condition.

The labourer was not forgotten in your statements to Sir Robert Peel. You went a begging to him for the labourer also. You ask relief from the common burdens imposed by the State for the sake of "the maintenance of the labouring class." And on what scale do you maintain them that should embolden you to ask public relief, which is public help, for that purpose? In Mr. Baker's parish, six men are to be employed on each 100 acres. Carry that through the whole country, parks and pleasure-grounds, waste lands, townships, and all: it will not provide employment for the natural increase of the present generation of the labouring population. Your fields will not stretch; your acres will not multiply. Let a manufacturer occupy ten of your acres, and he will employ as many hundreds of hands upon that ten as you do individuals upon each hundred acres. He will quadruple your wages to the men, and pay the very children as much as you pay their fathers. On the ground where you pay pence in wages, he will pay scores of pounds. It is a false pretence, this plea of yours. Sir Robert Peel must look elsewhere if he is seeking to remit taxation to those who provide employment for the people. No mendicant monks in the corruptest times ever begged alms to be spent in the riotous living of a dissolute convent "for the love of God," half so dishonestly as you beg a boon from the public revenue for the love of the labourer.

The little island of Jethou is a landlord's monopoly, having but one owner; and the "Guide Book of the Channel Islands" says of its inhabitants, "about six people live in Jethou! and, happy the man who does not form one of the six!" The six labourers on Mr. Baker's hundred acres remind one irresistibly of this pithy ejaculation. He proposes to work them because their wages come to less than the meagre diet of the poorhouse. Without reckoning house rent, the "independent labourer" is worse off by 75 per cent. than in the condition of pauperism. Take Mr. Baker's own calculation:—

"By the operation of the new poor law, labourers thrown out of employment and seeking relief at the parish expense, obtained it at a far greater increase of expenditure than would be the case if actually employed; and in instances when a labourer and family would incur expense to the amount of 17s. 6d. by the operation of the poor law by way of relief, he would, if actually employed, receive but 10s., and thus the tenant-farmers had found it their policy to employ them rather than suffer them to be relieved ordinarily through the medium of the parish rates."

So the farmer saves 7s. 6d. a week, in addition to the value of the labour, by working the peasant instead of pauperizing him. How the labourer manages to make 10s. do the work of 17s. 6d., and sustain those who require the larger sum under all the advantages of catering for a number instead of a family, it is difficult to imagine. Were a deputation of them to beset the Premier and tell their own story, it would be worth hearing. There would be fearful descriptions in it, and such as make one shrink and shudder to conceive. But what care do their sufferings make out for their 10s. employers, or their employers' bread-taxing landlords? Your labourer argument at most amounts to this: Give us public money, by the remission of taxation, and the peasant will have a chance of being promoted into the poorhouse.

Your desire, my lords and gentlemen, of giving information on the condition of the agricultural po-

pulation, seems limited to private interviews with the Premier. Some of you, at least, have no desire for the light that would be cast on the subject by a parliamentary committee. The power of having one in your own hands. You repudiate authentic and complete information. What you prefer is a cut-and-dry statement to earwig the Minister with. And you went to him less to plead your poverty than to show your power. You "girt him round, beseeching or besieging." The talking was left to plain Mr. This or That; but your lords and M.P.'s were there, potently persuading by their presence only. Even the absent Buckingham was thrown into the scale, using his privilege as a peer to be a petitioner by proxy. And was this well done? Look at the classes, numerous and necessitous, whose claims on justice and humanity for relief from taxation are infinitely greater than your own. The "great unwashed," for whom charity prepares its baths, would be thankful for cheapened soap. The operatives, whose beverage is tea, would feel the slightest reduction of the duty a daily boon. The half-dunged inhabitants of darkened houses would rejoice in a few beams of untaxed light. The tolling clerk, with his £3 a week, would luxuriate in the restoration of his income to its entirety. And you, my lords and gentlemen, muster your legislative strength, and forget your social dignity, to go and beg the bread out of these poor creatures' mouths, and under transparent pretences about tenantry and labourers, ask the Government to avert the reduction of your rents by remitting taxes to those who pay rents. "Tis wondrous pitiful." Sir James Graham tells us that 1,500,000 persons are receiving workhouse relief. And in this a time for landed proprietors, with their trade-limiting monopoly, to compete with the destitute for some small slice of the Treasury surplus. The very newspaper that blazons your titles, and reports the proceedings of your deputation, records also the suicide of an agricultural labourer at Finchley who had been earning 5s. 6d. a week, paying 2s. 6d. for rent, and supporting himself and his wife on the remainder. "They had nothing but bread and potatoes to live upon, excepting once a fortnight about two pounds of beef, which they made last three or four days. They would often have been without bread even, had not a neighbour been in the habit of lending them some. The little cottage they lived in was a picture of cleanliness, and they had lived in it for 35 years. He was too high-spirited to apply to the parish for relief." And it is evident from the catastrophe which brought his corpse under the notice of the coroner, that had he been a lord and a landowner, however low his rents, he would sooner have hanged himself than have joined your deputation.

#### A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

\* \* A word to George Lynce, of Norwich, next week.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

Feb. 12.

MY DEAR SIR,—At the meeting of the so-called "Agricultural Protection (protection?) Society" at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday the 3rd instant, his Grace the Duke of Richmond, as chairman, announced to the assemblage that the "present movement" commenced with the county of Essex, and called on Mr. Baker, Writtle, Essex, to speak to the toast proposed, "The Protection Societies." Mr. Baker immediately rose and confirmed the duke's statement, and avowed himself the originator of the club, and that he had persuaded the Essex farmers to join him.

The question naturally arises, what protection can the Essex farmers stand in need of? Have they not, as it were, at their thresholds the London market, with a million and half of consumers of agricultural produce? Is it not the best market not only in England but in all Europe; yes, even in the world?

Price is said to be their object; and let me ask in what market can they get prices equal to those in London, the first metropolis in the world? Does not the wheat grown in Essex generally stand, with few exceptions, at the head of the list of the *Mark-lane* prices? Is not its price always above the average, and never below it? As to foreign wheat, on a fair investigation, it will be found that charges of transport, viz., freight, insurance, shipping and transferring cargo, commission, port charges, export and import warehousing, will form an amount equal to the rent paid by the English farmer for arable land; that is to say, that the rent paid for a given quantity of arable land to produce a quantity of English wheat, will not exceed the amount of expenses incident to the importation of American, or Canadian, or Baltic wheat.

Essex is noted for its great production of calves; and where, in what market, is a price paid for veal so high as in London? The fresh Essex Epping butter, so highly estimated, cannot stand in need of protection against salted Irish or Dutch butter; and can vegetables of all sorts go to a better market?

There are canals and railways in different directions in the county, and the noble river Thames, with the sea coasting its boundaries for upwards of seventy miles, affording facilities for transporting its produce to market.

But what protection do they want? After the ample experience of the Essex farmers, they must be deficient in intellect if they have yet to learn that a rise of rent is a certain consequence of a rise of prices; the landlords' stewards and hawk-eyed valuers will see to that. In all cases does not the venter look to advantage from a rise in the market? and is not land a subject of sale either absolutely, or for longer or shorter terms? What protection have they against an advance of rent?

Every one must admire the condescension of the noble duke in placing himself at the head of the Essex farmers.

Yours, very respectfully,  
A SUBSCRIBER OF £300 TO THE LEAGUE FUND,  
IN HIS SEVENTY-NINTH YEAR.  
R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.

#### THE LEAGUE SPIES.

(From the Brighton Herald.)

There is nothing which has irritated the landed aristocracy so much as that strangers, sent by the League, as it is asserted, should have the impudence to go among the tenants and farm-labourers to spy out the poverty of the land, and, what is worse, to publish their spyings in the London papers, and expose the real state of affairs in the rural districts.

To be sure, these sort of spies proceed rather differently from the spies employed in the good old Tory days of Castlereagh and Sidmouth. They did not publish their discoveries in the newspapers; they not only kept every thing snug and quiet, but egged conspirators on; took an active and leading part in their treason; and, when a plot was ripe, their victims were pounced upon, hung and hanged, and the spy retired on an independence. Never did an aristocratic landlord give an opinion against the employment of spies on this system.

But the gentlemen employed, as it is supposed, by the League to collect facts and obtain positive, practical, and personal information of the actual state of tenants and farm-labourers, proceed in a very odd way for spies. They obtain facts, and, instead of sending them to the secret bureau of the Secretary of State, they publish them to all the world and set contradiction at defiance. Nor ought this to be complained of. Mr. Laing, Mrs. Trollope, Captain Basil Hall, Charles Dickens, and a thousand other intelligent men and women, have collected facts and information of the same kind in other countries; nay, what is worse, our own Government have employed persons for the very same object. And what is there in the constitution, institutions, manners, and customs of the people of England to forbid the collection of facts by any one, stranger or foreigner, among us? We have before us a blue book, published by the English Government, containing precisely the same questions to our officials in every foreign country as were addressed to every parochial authority in this; and all these questions have reference to the condition of the occupiers of land and the labourers.

Let us hear, therefore, no more complaints about the League sending out gentlemen to obtain information of the condition of that portion of the people which is employed on the land; or the world will come to the conclusion that it is no bad thing that the landlords are afraid and ashamed of having it exposed.

Besides, Lord Ashley displayed no such delicacy when the condition of the operatives in towns, and the employment of women and children in mines, were to be exposed. The landlords themselves, with Mr. Ferrand at their head, could be loud enough in their exclamations against the poverty and the sufferings of the poor in factories, and assumed a tone of pious indignation against the employment of women and children; yet, when facts are produced showing that men, women, and children are worse off on the land, worse fed, worse clothed, worse lodged, worse educated, and harder worked than in the factory, the snuffling Tartufoles, not daring to deny the facts, denounce those who obtain them as spies, and would not be sorry, perhaps, if they were knocked on the head for presuming to enter into a farmhouse belonging to my Lord This, or the Duke of That.

At one time the organs of the landed aristocracy had the audacity to allege that it was the spies of the League who urged the labourers to acts of incendiarism; but this was too bad to be persisted in. It was notorious that the fire took place where the spies had not been; that they occurred among the most ignorant portion of the population, where a newspaper seldom reached, and the name even of the League was unknown. But the condition of the farm-labourer does not rest altogether on the representations of the agents of the League. It comes before the public in a thousand shapes, and frequently upon the reluctant oath of tenant-farmers themselves. For instance, at the Berkshire Michaelmas sessions, William Jackson, 32, was charged with having stolen two sheep, at Kingston Lisle, the property of Robert Hemmington and Thomas Fisher Hemmington. Mr. Robert Hemmington, examined: Is a farmer residing at Warren Farm, Kingston Lisle. Recollected losing a sheep. Saw it safe the day before. He was in partnership with his brother.—Cross-examined: Farms 900 acres of land. Has employed 14 or 15 men. The rate of wages is from 8s. to 10s. per week: some labourers are paid less. He had heard of some receiving 6d. per day, exclusive of Sunday.

How can labourers with families exist as the men of England ought to exist on 8s. or 10s. a week? How support life on 6d. per day? This is a case occurring not in a remote part of the country, but near to the metropolis, and it can be taken, not as an isolated instance, but as a specimen of what is universal, and consequently a subject that demands the instant attention of the Legislature.

#### "THE HEALTH OF THE LABOURER."

(From Punch.)

The great social difficulty that has beset us in the amelioration of the condition of the labourer, is at length solved. To the Duke of Richmond, we believe, is to be attributed the happy discovery. Doubtless, when the full success of the plan is made manifest; when throughout the length and breadth of England, its wondrous agency is turning the butts of the labouring poor into abiding-places of substantial comfort—when it is calling smiles into the labourer's cheek, and putting flesh upon his bones, and giving him the erect bearing and independent look of God's primeval work.—Many, then, we doubt it not, other claimants of the discovery will rise up, contending with the noble Duke of Richmond the originality of that stroke of philanthropic genius which has worked such blessed wonders. It has been so with the inventor of printing; with the discoverer of the motive principle of steam. Be it then our rewarding task at once to claim for Richmond his inalienable right to the gratitude of England's labourers. He has discovered the infallible remedy for all their social ills. It is simply this: It is to drink their Health.

Mr. Lane tells us, that the Egyptian magicians used

their greatest wonders with merely a bowl of water. The Duke of Richmond performs his benevolent *Accus-potus* with a glass of wine!

Oh, it is soothing to the soul, wearied and desponding from a contemplation of the crushing ills that press the very manhood out of thousands, to see a nobleman—philanthropic as Prometheus—rise in a tavern hall; and with a voice melodious as ten silver trumpets, give—"The Health of the Labourer!" There is no mistaking the look, the presence of the man. He is rapt, sublimated by the greatness of his mission; by the almost divine power of his discovery.

"The Health of the Labourer!"

Magical are the syllables! What are they, in truth, but as the words of some spirit-compelling wizard—some political *Prospero*—that are no sooner dropped from the lips of the speaker than they arouse a swarm of genial-working vassals of benevolence!—and away they fly to carry on their wings a healing balm to thousands and thousands! So mighty is the necromancy of the toast, that when uttered, it is easy for imagination to behold a very cloud of *Ariels* rising from the Freemasons' Tavern. East, west, north, and south they separate upon their glad mission. Some, carrying loaves—some, meat—some, kegs of nut-brown ale—some, new raiment,—and all of them alighting at the labourer's fireless hearth, and calling cheerfulness and hope into his face, and making his gaunt wife and pallid little ones smile at the miracle of sudden plenty. What benevolent magic lies in that little sentence, "The Health of the Labourer." It is the "Open Sesame" to the heart of the country.

And even when the labourer fails to receive the substantial sweetness of these fairy gifts, it is plain he is largely benefited, though all unconsciously, by the magical toast. Therefore, let him take heart. True it is, he may wither on seven shillings a week; but then, does not a Duke drink his health? and such condescension must more than double the miserable stipend.

Consider this, O labourer! It is possible that all day you have wanted food—at night you need shelter and firing. There are sullen thoughts clouding your brain; there is, too, a slow, withering heat at your vitals; night is coming on, and you know not where to lay your head. This, it must be owned, is an uncomfortable plight; nevertheless, you may shake off the misery like an ugly dream; for know, you have been toasted in a London tavern. Yes; at the Freemasons' the Duke of Richmond has given—"The Health of the Labourer!"

You are breaking stones in a Union-yard. Let the thought of the toast touch your brain with music, and somehow try and hammer on the granite a grateful accompaniment to—"The Health of the Labourer!"

Well, labourer, you fall sick; it may be in the parish of Iwer, in Buckinghamshire; in the county of the "farmers' friend." You are carted to Isleworth, and you ask for bread for yourself and wife. You cannot move; but your wife, poor wretch! has yet some strength, and so she is ordered to trudge from Hillingdon to Uxbridge—and from Uxbridge back to Isleworth, having walked in the cutting winter air, only one and twenty miles, before melting charity gives her an order for grocery, price three shillings! It is very wearying, it is sickening to the brain, it is enough to make you call upon death to take you from that despot, fellow-man; it is very wretched for you to wait the return of your wife on her hard pilgrimage of three-and-twenty miles. But take heart! Be of good cheer! Disease and famine have hold upon you; but let this thought make them powerless—all that can be done, is done for you; for amidst hurrahs and cheering clamorous, somewhere in London, they drink "The Health of the Labourer!"

And, labourer, it may be you are just turned in howling winter time from a comfortable goal. You were sent thither for straying in search of work, that you might take your wife and offspring from the Union. You could not make out the offence; but the magistrates, hawk-eyed, saw it, and you were sent to goal. There, you slough your labourer's rags, and are warmly clothed. Your sentence is suffered, and you are discharged; the warm convict clothing taken from you, and your labourer's tatters restored. You shiver at the goal's threshold; for the icy wind makes you know the difference between the saug garments of a felon, and the threadbare raiment of a working man. Well, you trudge on; but you have palpitation at the heart; and it is sore travelling with you. At length you crawl into a wayside hovel; and with one loaf, in withering December, you fight famine for three days; your feet becoming gangrened with the blighting cold. Terrible thoughts must visit you in that lone hovel; you cannot but hold awful communications with the midnight blast, howling, to your ears, like humanity about you. Nevertheless, you are not forgotten. No; your woe is not humanly—ludicrous—humanity, and all its gushing impulses; for though you are starving, perishing; though you are a piece of numbed, mortified, human refuse—a Duke remembers you, and gives "The Health of the Labourer."

And, labourer, you crawl from your hovel, and are taken to the Union. You die. You have been killed—murdered—by want and winter's cold. You are at length at peace; and sleep the sweet sleep of death in a pauper's shell. You are carried to the pauper's ground; and whilst the priest utters the words that confound all things in one undistinguished heap of clay—the pomp and the poverty of life; its emblazonments and its miseries; while he utters—"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust," let your spirit in its upward flight be comforted for those of your earthly fellows you have left behind; for still—still will be drunk—"The Health of the Labourer!"

As some dural landlords drink the health of the labourer while living, so to make the heartfelt solemnity complete, a *Doctor Cantwell* should bury him when dead.

THE SILK TRADE.—We are glad to hear that one of two of the firms giving out silk in Leigh have lately made a small increase in the prices paid for weaving that fabric. We hope this example will be generally followed.—*Manchester Guardian*.

THE RICHMOND CORONET.—At the agricultural protection gathering, the Duke of Richmond sold the brightest jewel in his coronet was his care of the labourer. "The brightest jewel in a crown," is an old phrase; now, it comes down to the coronet. In like manner dressed, some commoner landlord may declare that his treatment of the labourer is the dearest bit of blood in his beaver.—*Punch*.



## REVIEW.

*History of the Reformation in Germany.* By Leopold Ranke. Translated by Sarah Austin. London, Longman and Co.

The history of the German Reformation, unlike that of England, involves the examination of a great social and political revolution, the beneficial results of which are placed beyond the reach of controversy. To Luther, Germany is mainly indebted for its nationality: when he smote the supremacy of the Pope he struck down, by the same blow, the despotism of the Emperor; when he gave to Germany a new creed, he necessitated a new political constitution; and when he founded an independent church, he secured the independence of the German states. The great commercial cities early perceived this connexion between political and religious freedom: they became the most earnest allies of the Reformation, and to the trading community of Germany, far more than to its feudal principle, must be attributed the triumph of Protestant principles in the Thirty Years' War. Catholics and Protestants equally benefited by the defeat of the attempts to establish imperial despotism, and render the German empire a revived empire of the west; even those who lament that the unity of religion was broken, join in exulting over the failure of the schemes proposed for giving to the power of the Emperor the same extension in political and material rule that the Pope claimed in spiritual affairs. Hence Charles V. did not abate one jot in his hostility to the Reformation when he was engaged in open hostilities with the Pope; and hence Francis I., though a virulent persecutor of the Huguenots at home, was a zealous ally of the Protestant Princes of Germany. The Princes and the free cities were engaged in the common cause of securing government and good order; they were opposed by the associations of the feudal knights, who were, in fact, nothing better than titled robbers.

"We still see the warlike knights and their mounted retainers, in helm and breastplate and with bent cross-bow before them—for as yet the horsemen had no firearms—riding up and down the well-known boundary lines, marking the halting places, and lying in ambush day and night in the woods, till the enemy whom they are watching for appears; or till the train of merchants and their wares, coming from the city they are at war with, is seen winding along the road: their victory is generally an easy one, for their attack is sudden and unexpected; and they return surrounded by prisoners and laden with booty to their narrow stronghold on hill and rock, around which they cannot ride a league without despoiling another enemy, or goot to the chase without harness on their back: squires, secret friends, and comrades in arms, incessantly come and go, craving succour, or bringing warnings, and keep up incessant alarm and turmoil. The whole night long we hear the howlings of the wolves in the neighbouring forest. While the States of the empire were consulting at Treves as to the means of ensuring the execution of the laws, Berlichingen and Selbitz seized the train of Nürnberg merchants coming from the Leipzig fair, under the convoy of Bamberg, and thus began the open war against the bishop and the city. The decrees of the Diet were of little avail. Götz von Berlichingen thought himself entitled to complain of the negotiations that were opened; for otherwise he would have overthrown the Nürnborgers and their Bürgermeister 'with his gold chain round his neck and his battle-mace in his hand.' At the same time another notorious band had collected under the command of the Friedingers in Hohenkühn (in the Hegau), originally against Kaufbeuren, to avenge the affront offered to a nobleman who had sued in vain to the fair daughter of a citizen; afterwards they became a mere gang of robbers, who made the country unsafe: so that the Swabian League at length stirred itself against them, and the Emperor himself sent out his best men, the Weiskopf (Wake up) of Austria, and the Burscheus,—at whose shouts, as the historical ballad says, 'the mountain tottered, the rocks were rent, and the walls riven, till the knights fled, their people surrendered, and the castle was rased to the ground.' But there was also many a castle in Bavaria, Swabia, and Franconia for which a similar fate was reserved. The insecurity of the roads and highways was greater than ever; even poor travelling scholars, who begged their way along, were set upon and tortured to make them give up their miserable pittance. 'Good luck to us, my dear comrades,' cried Götz to a pack of wolves which he saw fall upon a flock of sheep; 'good luck to us all and every where.' He took it for a good omen."

The Hansa towns would not allow their citizens to be plundered with impunity: they formed associations for mutual defence, and their league was found a formidable opponent to aristocratic tyranny and oppression:—

"How many a robber noble did Lübeck drag from his stronghold! Towards the end of the fifteenth century the city concluded a treaty with neighbouring mediate lords, the express object of which was to prevent the hated aristocracy from exceeding the powers they had hitherto exercised. It availed nothing to King John of Denmark that the Emperor Maximilian for a time favoured his attempts. In the year 1509 the Hansa towns, rather a part of them, attacked his islands, beat his ships at Helsingör, carried away his bells for their church, and remained absolute masters on the open sea. A Lübeck vessel, boarded by three Danish ones near Bornholm, beat off two of them, and captured the third: in the year 1511 the Lübeck fleet returned to the Trave with eighteen Dutch ships as prizes."

"Nor did the inland cities make a less spirited resistance to those aggressions from which they were not protected by the Swabian League. How admirably did Nürnberg defend herself! For every injury she sustained, she carried her vengeance home to the territory of the aggressor, and her mounted bands frequently made rich captures. Was to the nobles who fell into their hands!

No intercession either of kinsmen or of neighbouring princes availed to save them; the Council was armed with the ever-ready excuse that the citizens absolutely demanded the punishment of the offender. In vain did he look out from the bars of his prison towards the forest, watching whether his friends and allies were not coming to his rescue: Berlichingen's story sufficiently shows us with how intense a dread even those of her neighbours who delighted the most in wild and daring exploits regarded the towers of Nürnberg. Noble blood was no security either from the horrors of the question or the axe of the executioner."

The condition of the agricultural population in Germany at the time of the Reformation was truly deplorable:—

"Throughout the whole breadth of the empire, the peasantry was in an equal state of ferment. The peasants of the Swiss mountains had completely changed their relation to the empire: from the condition of subjects, they had passed to that of free and independent allies: those of the marches of Friesland, on the contrary, had succumbed to the neighbouring sovereigns; the Dittmarschers alone stood for a while, after a glorious and successful battle, like a noble ruin amidst modern edifices. The antagonistic principles which, in distant lands and from the furthest marches of the empire, gave rise to these conflicts, came into contact under a thousand different forms in the heart of the country. The subsidies for the empire and its growing necessities fell ultimately on the peasant; the demands of the sovereign, of the holders of church lands, and of the nobility were all addressed to him.\* On the other hand, in some countries the common people were made to bear arms; they formed the bands of landsknechts, which acquired and maintained a name amongst European troops: they once more felt the strength that was in them. The example of the Swiss was very seducing to the south of Germany. In the country round Schlettstadt, in Alsatia, a society of discontented citizens and peasants, the existence and proceedings of which were shrouded in the profoundest secrecy, was formed as early as the year 1493. Traversing almost impassable ways, they met at night on solitary mountains, and swore never in future to pay any tax which was not levied with their own free consent; to abolish tolls and duties, to curtail the privileges of the clergy, to put the Jews to death without ceremony, and to divide their possessions. They admitted new members with strange ceremonies, specially intended to appal traitors. Their intention was in the first place to seize on Schlettstadt, immediately after to display the banner with the device of the peasant's shoe,† to take possession of Alsatia, and to call the Swiss to their aid. But, in spite of the fearful menaces which accompanied the admission to the society, they were betrayed, dispersed, and punished with the utmost severity. Had the Swiss in 1499 understood their own advantage, and not excited the hatred of their neighbours by their cruel ravages, the people along their whole frontier would, as contemporaries affirm, have flocked to join their ranks. An incident shows the thoughts that were afloat among the people. During the negotiations preceding the peace of Basle, a peasant appeared in the clothes of the murdered Count of Fürstenberg. 'We are the peasants,' said he, 'who punish the nobles.' The discovery and dispersion of the conspiracy above mentioned by no means put an end to the Bundschuh. In the year 1502 traces of this symbol were found at Bruchsal, from whence the confederates had already gained over the nearer places, and were extending their ramifications into the more remote. They declared that, in answer to an inquiry addressed to the Swiss, they received an assurance that the Confederation would help the right, and risk life and limb in their cause. There was a tinge of religious enthusiasm in their notions. They were to say five Paternosters and Ave Marias daily. Their war-cry was to be, 'Our Lady!' They were to take Bruchsal, and then march forth and onward, ever onward, never remaining more than twenty-four hours in a place. The whole peasantry of the empire would join them, of that there was no doubt; all men must be brought into their covenant, that so the righteousness of God might be brought upon earth. But they were quickly overpowered, scattered, and their leaders punished with death."

There was throughout Europe a general suspicion of the clergy; but it was more intensely felt in Germany, where the ecclesiastical constitutions came frequently into collision with the principles of municipal government:—

"The cities felt the exemptions enjoyed by the clergy peculiarly burdensome. It was impossible to devise any thing more annoying to a well-ordered civic community, than to have within their walls a corporate body which neither acknowledged the jurisdiction of the city, nor contributed to bear its burdens, nor deemed itself generally subject to its regulations. The churches were asylums for criminals, the monasteries the resort of dissolute youth; we find examples of monks who made use of their exemption from tolls, to import goods for sale, or to open a tavern for the sale of beer. If any attempt was made to assail their privileges, they defended themselves with excommunication and interdict. We find the municipal councils incessantly occupied in putting some check to this evil. In urgent cases they arrest offenders even in sanctuary, and then take measures to be delivered from the inevitable interdict by the interposition of some powerful protector; they are well inclined to pass over the bishops, and to address themselves directly to the Pope; they try to effect reforms in their monasteries. They thought it a very questionable arrangement that the parish priest should take part in the collection of the common penny; the utmost that they would concede was that he should be present, but without taking any active share.‡ The cities always vehemently opposed the

\* Rosenblüt complains that the noble draws his maintenance from the peasant, and yet does not ensure him any peace; that he is constantly pushing his demands further, when upon the peasant answers with abuse, and the noble rides down his cattle.

† The Bundschuh; the large rude shoe bound on the foot with thongs of leather, commonly worn by the Swabian peasantry, and borne on their banner in the service war to which they were driven by intolerable oppression. The Bund, or league of the peasants, was afterwards called the Bundschuh. (See Vol. II.)—THANAL.

‡ Jäger, Schönbühler, Stillemeier; Müller's Nürnberg; Agapin, in several passages.

Emperor's intention of appointing a bishop to be judge in the Imperial Chamber.

"The general disapprobation excited by the church on such weighty points, naturally led to a discussion of its other abuses. Hemmerlin zealously contends against the incessant augmentation of ecclesiastical property, through which villages disappeared and districts became waste; against the exorbitant number of holidays, which even the Council of Basle had endeavoured to reduce; against the celibacy of the clergy, to which the rules of the Eastern Church were much to be preferred; against the reckless manner in which ordination was granted, as, for example, that two hundred priests were yearly ordained in Constance: he asks to what all this is to lead.\*

"Things had gone so far that the constitution of the clergy was offensive to public morals: a multitude of ceremonies and rules were attributed to the mere desire of making money; the situation of priests living in a state of concubinage and burdened with illegitimate children, and often, spite of all purchased absolutions, tormented in conscience and oppressed with the fear that in performing the sacrifice of the mass they committed a deadly sin, excited mingled pity and contempt: most of those who embraced the monastic profession had no other idea than that of leading a life of self-indulgence without labour. People saw that the clergy took from every class and station only what was agreeable, and avoided what was laborious or painful. From the knightly order, the prelate borrowed his brilliant company, his numerous retinue, the splendidly caparisoned horse, and the hawk upon his fist; with women, he shared the love of gorgeous chambers and trim gardens; but the weight of the mailed coat, the troubles of the household, he had the dexterity to avoid. If a man wishes to enjoy himself for once, says an old proverb, let him kill a fat fowl; if for a year, let him take a wife; but if he would live joyously all the days of his life, then let him turn priest."

"Innumerable expressions of the same sentiment were current; the pamphlets of that time are full of them.†

Amid such distractions it would have been difficult to discover any principle which could have become the basis of social order, other than that evoked by Luther. From the moment that he formed the scheme of a national church distinct from the universal church, the principle of distinct nationalities was impressed upon the rulers and princes of the several German states, and their idea of the empire became that of a federative union of independent governments, instead of a uniform imperial despotism. The great blunder made by the Roman court was the overlooking of the great question of national existence, which, though never openly mooted, was really the engrossing principle in the minds of the Reformers. It was a great disadvantage to the papacy at the crisis that the wearer of the triple crown was an Italian, and the Emperor a Spanish Monarch: Leo X. and Charles V. were equally regarded as foreign usurpers, eager to subvert the nationality and independence of the German empire. Hence Luther's bold step of publicly burning the Pope's bull, which was regarded throughout the rest of Europe as an act of daring impiety, was deemed in Germany nothing more than a bold protest against unjustifiable usurpation.

"Luther had the audacity to denounce the Pope as a suppresser of the Divine word, for which he substituted his own opinions;—nay, even as a stubborn heretic. Carlstadt also raised his voice against the fierce Florentine lion, who had never wished any good to Germany, and who now condemned the truest doctrines, contrary to laws Divine and human, without even having granted the defenders of them a hearing. The whole university rallied more and more firmly round its hero, who had in fact given it existence and importance. When the intelligence arrived that in some places the authorities had begun to execute the bull, and to burn Luther's books, the monk felt himself sufficiently strong to revenge this arbitrary act on the Pope's writings. On the 10th of December, 1520, the academic youth, summoned by a formal proclamation posted on a black board, assembled in unwonted numbers before the Elster Gate of Wittenberg; a pile of wood was collected, to which a Master of Arts of the university set fire: in the full feeling of the orthodoxy of his secession, the mighty Augustine, clad in his cowl, advanced to the fire, holding in his hand the Pope's bull and decretals: 'Because thou hast vexed the Lord's saints,' exclaimed he, 'mayst thou be consumed in eternal fire!' and threw it into the flames. Never was rebellion more resolutely proclaimed. 'Highly useful were it,' said Luther another day, 'that the Pope (that is, the papacy) with all his doctrines and abominations should be burnt.'"

Hutten's intense nationality made him one of Luther's most formidable allies; indeed, on all sides, we find that Germany was the dominant idea in the minds of all who revolted from the papacy, and that the Germans adopted the principles of the Reformation not so much from conviction of their truth, as from a strong belief that these principles were necessary to their existence as a people. It was, in fact, a conflict between Romanism and Germanism—between traditions south of the Alps and associations racy of the soil:—

"Hutten perfectly understood the advantage he possessed in writing German: 'I wrote Latin,' he says, 'formerly, which not every one understands; now I call upon my fatherland.' The whole catalogue of the sins of the Roman Curia, which he had often instigated upon, he now exhibited to the nation in the new light thrown upon it by Luther, in German verses. He indulged the hope that deliverance was at hand, nor did he conceal that it thence came to the worst, it was to the sword and spear of brave men that he trusted; by them would the vengeance of God be executed. The most remarkable projects began to be broached; some particularly re-

\* The books the institutions novorum Officiorum, and De Libertate Ecclesiastica, are especially remarkable with reference to this matter.

† Wimpfeling also mentions, "condemnum odium marum papae in christianis clero."

garding the relation of the German Church to Rome; as that no man should for the future possess an ecclesiastical dignity who could not preach to the people in the German tongue; that the prerogatives of the papal throne, excois, regresses, reservations, and, of course, annates should be abolished; that no sentence of excommunication issued by Rome should have any validity in Germany; that no brief should have any force till a German council had pronounced whether it were to be obeyed or not; the bishops of the country were always to hold in check the Papal power. Others added proposals for a radical reform in details; that the number of holidays should be diminished, the curates regularly paid, fit and decorous preachers appointed, fasts observed only on a few days in the year, and the peculiar habits of the several orders laid aside; a yearly assemblage of bishops should watch over the general affairs of the German church. The idea even arose that a Christian spirit and life would, by God's special ordinance, spread from the German nation over the whole world, as once from out Judea. Thereunto, it was said, the seeds of all good had sprung up unobserved:—a subtle sense, acute thought, masterly skill in all handicrafts, knowledge of all writings and tongues, the useful art of printing, desire for evangelical doctrine, delight in truth and honesty. To this end, too, had Germany remained obedient to the Roman Emperor."

Ranke's merits as a historian are of the highest order; and he has had the good fortune to find a most able translator in Mrs. Austin. The volumes before us contain the most complete view of the great religious and political change which has moulded and regulated the whole subsequent course of modern history. Ranke is, indeed, the only writer who has shown the important share which the middle classes had in effecting both religious and political reform; and has thus added one to the many lessons which teach that the middle classes are the firmest friends to social order, and that no social grievance can resist their efforts when they are true to themselves and have confidence in their own resources.

#### THE LABOURER'S LOVE-SONG. (From Punch.)

A plague upon thy head, thou Dove!  
I envy thee thy fate;  
Like unto thee I have a Love,  
But not, like thee, a Mate.  
A plague upon my own fond heart  
That was not made of stone,  
Without a throb, without a smart,  
To go through life alone.  
What right have I aloft to gaze  
Upon the sunny skies,  
Whence, evermore, my fancy strays  
Unto a pair of eyes?  
And wherefore should the rosy morn  
Remind me of a cheek?  
Oh! I could laugh myself to scorn,  
For that I am so weak.  
Do I mistake myself, in truth,  
For some great Lord or Squire?  
What can a hind, a lout, forsooth,  
More than a brute, desire!  
What, hath he passions, thoughts, and powers,  
More than a hog can feel?  
Pshaw!—let me crush them,—like the flowers,  
Beneath mine iron heel.  
I, that can scarce my daily bread  
With bitter labour earn,  
Have I a tear for love to shed,  
A heart with love to burn?  
What more than bacon needs a clown?—  
Would I'd enough of that!—  
Give him his beer; and let him drown  
His passion in the vat.  
When yonder Church would lure thee on  
With visions of a bride,  
Turn thee, thou fool! and think upon  
The building by its side.  
There stands the Workhouse—look with awe  
Upon that place of dread  
Where Paupers go, who break the law  
Which says—THOU SHALT NOT WED.

ENGLISH TRADE WITH CHINA.—The *Times* correspondent writing from Victoria (Hong-Kong), Oct. 22, 1844, says:—"The treaty with America has been concluded. Ringing the changes upon our treaty, they have extended theirs to twenty-eight articles. The only difference worthy of remark will be found in the 6th and 10th articles; the former rectifying an oversight in the English treaty, according to which small coasting vessels had to pay the same port dues as larger vessels coming from Europe, and also to pay at each port they might have occasion to visit. These restrictions upon the coasting trade are by Mr. Cushing's treaty removed, and such vessels are now admitted at the modified rate of 1 mace per ton, and not, as before, of 5 mace. Article 10 also has given great satisfaction, for by its provisions ships are authorized to anchor at any of the five ports, and if they should find the market in one unsuitable to their cargo, they may depart without paying port charges, provided they sail within forty-eight hours, and before they have broken bulk. Article 20 also provides for the re-export of goods to any of the five ports without repayment of duties. The 2nd article refers to a tariff which is made a part of the treaty, but it is not known here whether it embodies any modifications of the one already in existence. The treaty itself has not been made known in detail, but only by a summary. All the advantages of the treaty are equally secured to all nations."

During the past week a great quantity of tracts, &c., published by the National Anti-Corn-Law League, have been distributed in Doncaster. —*Leeds Times*.

One thousand eight hundred and four persons died of small-pox in the metropolis in the year 1844, being 1053 above the average of five years. In the first week in January it numbered only 10, but gained strength by degrees till it reached the maximum of 58 in the week ending August the 17th, and from that time it fluctuated at about 40 or 50 till the end of the year.

### AGRICULTURE.

#### FARMERS, ARE THESE YOUR "FRIENDS?"

That distress prevails amongst the great body of farmers is undeniable. Indeed all those who affect to be best informed as to their circumstances, and who most anxiously thrust themselves forward as "farmers' friends," are the loudest assertors of the prevalence and depth of such distress. On that point the landlords and land-agents, who form the active portion of the Protection Society, are unanimous. Nor is there less unanimity as to the origin of the farmers' present sufferings. The legislative changes of the Peel Administration—the tariff, the Corn Law of 1842, the Canada Corn Bill, and so forth—almost universally bear the blame of causing agricultural depression; and their repeal is boisterously demanded: so say the protectionists. On the other hand, the Minister and his adherents deny that the Government measures have caused the depression, and they assert that to retrace their footsteps is impossible. There can be no re-enactment of abandoned protections.

Then the Free-Traders declare that, directly and indirectly, the laws by which the price of grain is attempted to be artificially enhanced, form the actual source of agricultural distress; while the Whigs, by their parliamentary leader, have at length admitted the truth that "protection is the bane of agriculture."

Here, then, we have four distinct sections of the community represented in Parliament, taking issue upon the questions, whether agricultural distress does or does not proceed from acts of the Legislature; and whether it can or cannot be relieved by the Legislature. All, except the Government section, maintain, though upon different, nay, opposite grounds, that legislation has positively caused the evil.

Now, is not this just the case for an inquiry? We call upon the farmers of the country to look at this matter like men of business. It is their especial concern. They have created the parliaments by which all the legislation on the subject has been effected. The makers of all the laws complained of on all sides have professed to act in their names and for their interests. Yet the result has been the most grievous distress amongst tenant-farmers and all dependent upon them. Is there not, then, reason to suspect that the legislation, which has produced results so directly the contrary of those intended, has been either wrongly conceived or badly executed? That either the farmers have been themselves mistaken, or have been betrayed by their representatives? And would not those representatives, if they had confidence in the soundness of their own views and the integrity of their own purposes, be

most anxious for inquiry? Precedent is in its favour. In 1814 there was the complaint of agricultural distress, and committees of both Houses of Parliament prosecuted laborious and extensive inquiries into the cause. So, in 1821 and 1822, similar distress led to like committees of inquiry; the same happened in 1833 and in 1836. No one can deny that much useful information as to the state and prospects of British agriculture was obtained on each of those inquiries, and attempts—whether successful or not matters nothing to the present purpose—were made to alleviate the suffering farmers. Why are not these precedents to be followed now?

If those who profess to represent the farmers sought an inquiry, it would not, indeed could not, be resisted by the Government; and the farmer would have something more tangible to refer to on the causes of his distress than the vague declamations which pass current at protection society dinners. Yet what occurred when Mr. Cobden gave notice of his intention to move for a select committee to inquire into the causes of the present agricultural distress? Why, the protectionists, with one incautious exception, declared their intention to resist all inquiry!

Let the tenant-farmers note that fact. Their political "friends" can, at Brighton, bully a single tenant-farmer who suggests an unpleasant truth in connexion with the state of agriculture; they can bluster at Freemasons' Tavern, and pretend to look big and business-like at their "room in Bond-street;" but they dare not—we use the term *DARE* nor advisedly—test the truth of their assertions by the examination of evidence before a select committee. The political "farmers' friends" constantly complain that they have been calumniated, that they have been accused of legislating for their own objects as landowners at the expense of the interests of the tenant-farmers; and they get together, with cliques and in corners, and deny the charges. But what does a man of honour and honesty do when in his individual character he has been subjected to such imputations? Does he not seek redress by inquiry before a jury? Is he not eager to avail himself of the first opportunity of rebutting such charges by means of evidence? And if a man thus charged shall not so purge himself, if he do not seek such inquiry, does he not tacitly admit that he cannot refute the charges made against him? And that is the political position of the self-styled "farmers' friends," with

this additional circumstance, that, when an inquiry is sought to be thrust upon them, they actively and strenuously oppose it.

We will tell the farmers why their craven champions resist all inquiry into agricultural distress. They know that, though they will have a great majority of protectionists on the committee, that there must also be some three or four Free-Traders on that committee; and they are conscious that facts will be elicited even from their own witnesses which will completely establish the selfish character and object of their protective legislation. That their Corn Law will be shown to be protective of high rents, and high rents only, and that the tenant-farmer is the catspaw and victim of the political landowner. We ask the farmers to read the debate, which occurred in the House of Commons, on Mr. Cobden complaining of the omission of all reference to agricultural distress from the Queen's speech, and say whether their protectionist representatives made any reply to the distinct and definite charges of the Free-Traders against the Corn Law and their upholders?

The only person who even attempted a reply was Lord John Manners, a mild monopolist, who said:—

"Though he was not a member of the League nor of the Anti-League, nor of the Administration, which had held the scale so evenly between the contending parties, he could not resist the opportunity of endeavouring to answer one of the arguments advanced by the honourable member for Durham. That argument was, that the landowners were especially wrong in this respect: *that they had protected themselves from competition*, while they had exposed their tenants and the peasantry most fiercely and cruelly to it. In reply he would ask, if the competition under the present law were so fierce and cruel, *what would it have been if, in addition to home competition, foreign competition had been allowed?*"

This no answer. The landlords protect themselves from competition by a law which promises constant high prices, and they get rents according to such high prices. But the farmers, induced likewise to expect permanently high prices, calculate on profit from comparatively scanty crops raised by the application of small capitals in proportion to the extent of their farms; the man of least capital usually offering the highest rent. In years of scarcity they contrive to pay their rents and scramble on; but let a season of abundance occur—as was the case with wheat last harvest—and the high rent of the landlord remains, while the expected high price of the tenant has vanished. Then the labourers suffer from this system of low farming—cultivating a large area with comparatively small capital—because scanty crops can be raised with few labourers. Thus, and thus only, does agricultural labour become redundant, and wages of servants in husbandry become reduced to starvation point. Free trade in corn—with the immediate consequence, steady and moderate prices—would at once correct those evils by inducing a high system of cultivation and the employment of much additional labour in husbandry.

Again, his lordship said:—

"He wished to call attention to another point urged by the honourable member for Durham when he charged agricultural members with sitting still and seeing the prosperity and fortunes of the farmers frittered away from year to year by the course of policy pursued by Government. If it were really the opinion of the honourable member that the prosperity and fortunes of the farmers were frittered away by measures of Free Trade, how could he expect that those to whom the interests of the farmers were so dear would consent to any further changes of the law in the same direction?"

What a confusion of mind is indicated in this passage. It is the argument of the protectionists, *when out of the House*, that the measures of Government have "frittered away the fortunes of the farmers," not of the Free-Traders; and the natural question was, why men who make such assertions resist inquiry? But, in fact, the capital of the farmer is constantly "frittered away" under the operation of the Corn Law, which leads him to give monopoly rent, and yet cannot, in all seasons, secure him monopoly prices.

Mr. Hudson, of Norfolk, who formed one of the protectionist deputation to Sir Robert Peel, distinctly stated, "that although in the county of Norfolk the rents had been paid up, it was from the tenants' capital, and not from the profits of the farms." Surely this is a ground for inquiry! Mr. Hudson's political leaders resist all inquiry! The little squires, the auctioneers, land-agents, not farmers and landowners, who make up the Central Protection Society, may think this all very right; but what say the real and suffering tenant-farmers to such shirking conduct on the part of the "farmers' friends?"

#### WHAT IS RENT?

##### LANDLORDISM DISPLAYED.

The farmer's attention cannot too often or too closely be drawn to this important question. It is by short myopia of the subject of rent that the monopolists have contrived to keep so many farmers as active and passive supporters of the high-rent laws. A *Pro-Corn-Law* correspondent of the *Mark-lane Express* says the English farmer pays land tax, poor rates, tithe rent charge, county rates, and highway rates, to the amount altogether of



12s. 11d. per acre; and then he adds that this is independent of rent, amounting on an average to 28s. an acre.

This is mere confusion. When a man takes a farm he inquires what are the rates, taxes and tithes to which it is liable, and offers a rent higher or lower according as those local burdens are light or heavy. The rent can only properly be the surplus which remains after payment of all fixed burdens, the expenses of cultivation and the farmer's fair profit; when the landlord gets more than that as rent he obtains an unfair advantage over his tenant. This has been extremely well put by Mr. Holland, of Dumbleton, a large landholder in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire and a practical farmer, in a letter addressed to a provincial journal. He says:—

"Rent, therefore, may be defined as the value of that portion of the produce of a farm which is apportioned to the landlord; it ought to be the value of the produce which remains after the tenant has repaid himself the expenses of cultivation, secured his interest for the capital invested, and realized a fair profit."

And he gives this practical illustration:—

"Suppose that a tenant has a farm of 100 acres, producing, upon an average, 30 bushels of wheat per acre—that is, 3000 bushels—and that the agreement with his landlord is, that the latter shall have as rent one-sixth of his produce, viz., 500 bushels; then the sum paid to the landlord should be the market value of that one-sixth, whatever it might be, and no more. I believe that much of the depression of tenants arises from neglect of this rule. Let us suppose that, in the case we have put, wheat at the time of making the bargain was at that price at which it is the object of certain acts of Parliament to keep it—say at 7s. a bushel. In such case the value of the 3000 bushels (the whole produce of the farm) would be £1050. The landlord's one-sixth of this would amount to £175 (35s. an acre), and the tenant's residue would amount to £875. So far so good between the parties, as long as the parliamentary price and the market price correspond; but how would it be if the market price was to fall, and that the latter was 6s. a bushel instead of 7s.? The total return for the whole produce of 3000 bushels would then be but £2100, the tenant's share of which would be £750, and the landlord's ought to be £150; but being a fixed money payment, it remains as before the fall in the market, £175—that is, instead of receiving one-sixth of the value of the produce, the landlord takes £25 in addition, which ought in justice to belong to the tenant. A landlord, with a fixed money-rent so regulated, could make a return of nearly 15 per cent. to his tenant, without encroaching upon his share of the value of the produce."

But in fact, in most cases, this operates more against the tenant than it appears from Mr. Holland's illustration. The great thing farmers should bear in mind is, that rent ought to be only the surplus after they have been repaid all the costs of cultivation with a fair profit; what is really is, they know too well. But it is almost impossible that a farmer can make a profit under a yearly tenancy: he lays out only what he can recover, or what he hopes to recover, in a year, and so becomes a mere bailiff to the landowner, often not receiving for himself

even a bailiff's wages; and it is certain that landowners are very generally aware that hitherto they have been able not only to maintain the most absolute power over their tenants, but also to obtain more than this fair rent of their land in its natural condition. As an example, we find a letter from Mr. T. B. L. Baker, of Hardwick, Gloucestershire—an active monopolist, who offers to lease his land for his tenants on being paid NINE PENNY per acre for his outlay as additional rent!—in which the present exaggeration is used to deter farmers from demanding their only security—long leases. He writes:—

"If a tenant takes a farm of me on a twenty years' lease, he has, of course, a large capital to invest on permanent improvements—no advocate of leases would recommend me to take a tenant without such a capital, which would exclude most of my present tenants. Now, if my tenant lays out £1000 in permanent improvements, I have to have a security of a return, he must of course by the end of the lease have his £1000 in his pocket again. In order to get this, he must lay by his four per cent. per annum for the twenty years; he must also have five per cent. for interest on his capital during that time. This makes nine per cent., which must be made on a twenty years' lease, before the tenant can clear anything for skill, labour, or risk. All beyond is the farmer's profit, but all below is a dead loss."

This is a fallacy: it is not for outlays in permanent improvements that farmers require more capital than they usually employ under yearly holdings, but for the ordinary routine of good husbandry. Permanent improvements ought to be done by the landlord before letting a farm on lease; and we have no hesitation in saying, that present rents can only be maintained by—first, the landlord executing necessary permanent improvements, such as draining, and so on; and, secondly, by granting long leases as well.

But hear what this monopolist squire wants to screw out of his tenants—tenants admitted by himself to have too little capital to farm well—over and above their present monopoly rents:—

"Now, were my tenant to say, instead of this, 'You shall lay out the £1000 in draining, &c., on your land, and I will pay you the nine per cent. upon it; I mean, which will put out my £1000 into canal or railroad shares, which will give me five per cent., with a little risk as farming. I shall receive five per cent., and shall not have to lay by four per cent., so that it will be exactly the same to me, except that if I die there is no risk to my family, and, so far, it is the better for me.' If, I say, my tenant would come fairly forwards and make me aware that he would not be making a better bargain for himself than he would if he laid out his money on a twenty years' lease."

If a landlord is unable or unwilling to make the neces-

sary preliminary improvements which all good farmers know to be necessary, and he has therefore to let his land in bad condition, the tenant will reasonably require nine per cent. on his outlay, or even more; for such outlays form no part of the tenant's proper business. Such outlays are equivalent to the purchase of additional land, and benefit the landlord for ever just as much as if more land had been recovered from the sea. To induce the tenant to undertake such a speculation, ultimately for the landlord's gain, he must be offered a high premium. But that a landlord is to improve his own land, and charge his tenant a profit of nine per cent. upon the outlay, is so monstrous a proposition that nothing but the grasping habit of mind engendered by monopoly could have induced a sane man to broach it. If landowners can secure two and a half or three per cent. on their outlays in improvements beyond their present rents, they ought to esteem themselves the most fortunate of men; and this they can only hope for by granting long leases of their improved farms. This "farmers' friend" then says:—

"Farmers of the Vale of Gloucester, go any of you and quietly ask any one of the great advocates for leases—'How much capital must a tenant produce in proportion to the size, rent, and quality of his farm, to entitle him to take a twenty years' lease of it?' I will venture to say that, on his decision, there were not ten men in the room at the Spread Eagle competent to take leases on the farms they now occupy. Consider this, gentlemen, before you join in the clamour for leases, and look accurately that you are not cutting the ground from under your own feet."

It is probably true the farmers so coarsely taunted by this protectionist squire do not actually employ so much capital on their land as they know they should do in order to make the most of their farms; but why is it so? Either because they have taken too much land, relying upon the high prices promised—though not given—by act of Parliament; or because they dare not lay out their own money, or cannot obtain on loan any extra capital they may require, for want of secure tenures.

The want of capital said to exist amongst farmers, though true to a certain extent, is much exaggerated. It is not merely because less capital is laid out under yearly tenancies, but because it is laid out in a different way, that yearly tenancies are so injurious to farmers. With a lease a farmer sets to work in earnest at the commencement of his term, and brings his land into high condition: when it is, in fact, cultivated with less actual yearly cost than it would be if only half in condition. But then the land can only be got into this high condition by sinking in it capital which will not be got back for several years. Now, if this were done on a yearly holding, the landlord might, and in nine cases out of ten on some pretence or another would, by a six months' notice, grasp this capital himself.

Tenant-farmers do not and ought not to trust their landlords with such temptations, and therefore it is that

nine-tenths of the land of England is only half cultivated. Tenants could and would procure the requisite capital to adopt a far higher system of farming than now prevails, if once their business were put upon a safe foundation, and they could keep the landlords' hands out of their pockets by means of long and reasonable leases. In the same paper in which Squire Baker's modest and moderate proposition is made, he is in the following week thus answered by "A VALE TENANT-FARMER," who says:—

"Now, Mr. Baker insinuates 'The main arguments in favour of leases are, that landlords would find tenants with large capital to improve their land permanently.' If (says he) a tenant takes a farm of me on a twenty years' lease, he has of course a large capital to invest on permanent improvements. I have never understood this to be the principal feature of the argument on that point, neither do I think a tenant would be justified in making permanent improvements. I should say the landlord ought to make them, and charge the tenant a moderate interest upon the outlay, whether under a lease or otherwise. The advantage of leases, in my opinion, is the encouragement of good cultivation, such as subsoiling, levelling, following, manuring, fencing, cleansing water-courses, &c., operations which, if well performed on land, give the tenant an interest in it for several years, and should be secured to him by a lease, the rent varying with the price of produce. This I think would place landlord and tenant on a sound footing; for under the system of continually valuing, and making a tenant pay for his improvements as fast as he makes them, in the shape of additional rent, the farm, landlord, or tenant, can ultimately derive no benefit."

This is true with one exception, viz., that if a squire can catch a tenant-farmer so incautious as to improve without a lease, the farm and the landlord are benefited at the tenant's expense. And the "Vale Tenant-farmer," who seems to quite understand such men as Squire Baker, adds:—

"Mr. Baker suggests that tenants should pay their landlords nine per cent. for their money invested in permanent improvements; but I think it is only difficultly landlords would have to encounter in this respect would be to get some tenants to enter into this engagement. A great deal has been said about landlords and tenants sailing in the same boat—that if one sinks the other cannot swim. For my own part, I should be afraid to embark with Mr. Baker on these terms, for if I treated his land fairly (which I have no doubt he would take care of in black and white), I suspect he would very soon pitch me overboard. And why, let me ask, should Mr. Baker propose to charge three times the amount of interest to a tenant he could obtain with similar good security any other way?—I mean were his investments either landed or funded;—or, in other words, to double his capital vested with his tenant, on his own freehold, in about eleven years, at simple interest, while in any other way it would

take him thirty-three years to do so? In my opinion this is not very liberal of Mr. Baker, and improvements cannot progress under such restrictions."

And he thus deals with Mr. Baker's personal insult to the few farmers present at the meeting where he had the audacity to talk of nine per cent. for improving his own land:—

"Mr. Baker's assertion 'that there were not ten men in the room at the Spread Eagle able to cultivate the farms they now occupy, under leases,' is as evasive as it is insulting. The fact is there were more than about fifteen renting farmers present, and I will venture to say the majority of them were competent to take leases on fair terms for twenty, thirty, or forty years. Mr. Baker also asserts that 'if he let his farms on leases, he should exclude most of his present tenants for want of capital.' Now, I know not whether such is the case, but if it is, and their tenancy has been of long duration under him and his family, and they have been tolerably industrious and saving men, which I believe is the case, I think his own assertion does him no credit; nor does it prove they have been treated liberally."

Let the monopolist squire digest that home-thrust as he best may.

#### AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The following is an extract from a letter by a Dorsetshire farmer, and tenant of one of the members of that county:—

"I speak the truth, never was there a time when more dissatisfaction existed among the tenant-farmers than at present. We begin to find that the major part of the landed proprietors are, to use the term, gulling us on all sides, and profiting themselves and families at our expense. The remedies, in my opinion, are long leases on corn-rents; every farmer his own keeper; reformation in many useless extravagancies, and the money applied to relieve the poor in their own parishes from the rate-book; repeal of the malt and income tax, and an increase of the property tax; and lastly, *Free Trade in everything, from one end of the globe to the other*, as also the abolition of the game laws. It, therefore, behoves us as men to come forward and make known our wants and deprivations, and secure to ourselves that independency for which the British farmer has been so long held up. But I would further add, they must conduct themselves very differently from heretofore, for which I strongly recommend a *tenant-farmers' institution*, the object of which would be, the manner of applying for farms, fixing of rents, repairs, management, &c. &c."

The following interesting circumstance in connexion with the registration efforts in the Huddersfield district is sent by a known correspondent:—

"A young man of the name of —, in our neighbourhood, succeeded his father in a small shop, and to what freehold property the old man (who died without will) was possessed of. There are nine in the family, eight sons and one daughter; and the eldest son has lately divided the property among his brothers and sister, and the eight brothers are now on the register for the West Riding, and are all Free-Traders. Thinking that the knowledge of such a truly 'great fact' would afford you some pleasure, I have sent it to you."

#### REAL AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION.

The farmer must be his own protector. Still, capital and industry, rightly applied, will secure to the farmer fair profits, provided he can shake off his reliance upon that broken reed, legislative protection, and obtain a rational lease. The following sensible and practical letter, addressed to Mr. Cobden, M.P., sets this in a clear light:—

"Catsfield House, near Battle, Feb. 10.

"SIR,—I occupy a farm, of which 90 acres are arable, and 60 acres pasture. In July, 1843, I received a copy of Mr. Hewitt Davis's pamphlet, entitled 'The Injury and Waste of Corn from the present Practice of too thick sowing.' The reasoning appeared so conclusive, that I resolved to reduce my wheat seed on the whole breadth to be sown in the following autumn (25 acres) to two bushels per acre, having in former years sown three, and, when the season was late, three bushels and a half per acre. And here let me remark, lest any one should feel surprise at those quantities, that it is the practice of this part of the country to sow quite as much, and that I know one large farmer, ranking high as an agriculturist, who grows upon an average four hundred acres of wheat annually, and who begins in September with two bushels and a half of seed, gradually increasing until he finishes with four bushels."

"The result of my experiment has been highly satisfactory, having grown upon light and poor land nine sacks per acre on a field of fourteen acres, which, for the last twenty-four years had never, at any one time, produced more than ninety sacks, or barely six sacks and a half per acre. The year was undoubtedly favourable for wheat, and having for the first time used guano, applying 1½ cwt. per acre at seed time, and 1½ cwt. per acre as a top dressing in the following spring, I await the result of a second harvest before the reduction of seed is carried further."

"The following statement contrasts the previous wheat-sowing of the same field with that just spoken of:—

	£	s.	d.
October, 1841.			
105 cwt. of rape dust, at 168s. per ton	44	2	0
3 loads of ash to mix, 8s. 4d.	1	6	0
46½ bushels of seed, at 68s. per qr.	19	6	9
	£64	13	9

"The produce was 14 loads of sheaves, ears small, and yielded but 41 quarters, which were sold at 62s. per quarter—£253. 12s.

	£	s.	d.
October, 1843.			
21 cwt. of Peruvian guano, 13s. 6d.	14	3	6
¼ load of ash, 8s. 4d.	0	4	2
31½ bushels of seed, at 62s. per qr.	10	4	9
March, 1844.			
21 cwt. of Peruvian guano, 12s.	12	12	0
¼ load of ash, 8s. 4d.	0	4	2
	£37	8	7

"The produce was 13 loads of sheaves, ears very large, and yielded 62½ quarters, which have been lately sold at 45s. per quarter, and amounting to £284. 7s. 6d."

"Comment would be superfluous: the figures speak volumes."

"I do not encumber the account with rent, rates, taxes, and labour, because these were about the same in both cases; and the tithe is commuted into a rent-charge."

"It is indeed of paramount importance to the farmer to obtain manure cheap, and of all that I have yet met with guano is beyond comparison the most fertilizing. My present crops were put in with Ichaboe guano, purchased at £7. 10s. per ton, and I believe it to be quite as powerful as the Peruvian."

"The seed is all drilled in, and the reduction was effected by removing two of the delivery pipes, out of seven, and equally spacing the remaining five, thus increasing the distance between the rows to nine inches, and by using the largest cog-wheel belonging to the drill. The wheels used in the two years alluded to were respectively calculated to put in specific quantities of seed; but having very active horses, the intended allowance of seed was rather exceeded in both instances, the difference, however, being precisely one bushel less per acre. In October next, a further experiment shall be made with a new wheel that will drill 14 bushel per acre. The seed of oats and peas was proportionably reduced last year with equal success. It is quite common in this neighbourhood to sow broadcast six bushels of oats per acre. I now drill exactly half that quantity, and find it ample."

"For the last four years I have annually grown two acres of white carrots for milch cows during winter, giving also a few to my horses. The yield has varied from 600 to 800 bushels per acre. Cows are extremely fond of the carrot; they give more milk, better butter, and are in higher condition, with two bushels per day, and a little oat or pea straw, when turned out in May, than they were in previous years when each cow consumed a ton and a half of hay."

"I take the liberty of placing these facts in your hands, in the hope that they may be useful to the cause of Free Trade, fully convinced, as I have long been, that the farmer requires no protection beyond a lease and a corn-rent, and firmly believing there will be no permanent improvement in his prospects until his tenure is altered and the Corn Laws abrogated."

"Pray consider this communication perfectly at your disposal; and accept my apologies for trespassing on your valuable time."

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servant,

"W. WILLIAMS, Col. R. E."

#### MR. JOHN LONG AND THE GLOUCESTER-SHIRE FARMERS.

(From the *Chatterbox Examiner*.)

Some twelve months since, at a public meeting at Gloucester, Mr. John Long proposed to his brother farmers that they should cease dealing with those who favoured a repeal of the Corn Laws. We ventured to point out the absurdity of this recommendation at the time, and to caution the farmers of Gloucestershire against being led by such intemperate men as Mr. John Long to their own ruin. Some months later, at the dinner of the Gloucester Farmers' Club, this same specimen of a tenant-farmer objected to the drinking of Earl Ducie's health, the noble Earl being one of the most liberal patrons of the club; and again we ventured to advise the farmers to separate themselves from such ungrateful and intemperate equities. It seems that the farmers of the Vale of Gloucester are resolved to act upon our advice, and to save themselves from the disgrace of having Mr. John Long for a commander, as the sequel will show. For some months past the Conservative county organ has been devoting a portion of its columns, under the head of "The Protectionist," to stirring up the farmers to resist to the death the repeal of the Corn Laws; in furtherance of this object a society has been established under the title of "The Vale of Gloucester Protection Society," the honorary secretary to which is the proprietor of the *forementioned* paper, and whose annual meeting was to have been held with much pomp and ceremony on Saturday last. Hints had been thrown out some weeks back that the association was in a very sickly condition; that the hon. secretary and Mr. John Long being the Alpha and Omega of the concern, the tenant-farmers had shown an evident disinclination to have anything to do with it; in fact, it was more than surmised that the annual meeting would never take place, but that the project would drop stillborn from before the public eye. Not so, however, for we find by an article from the "own reporter" of our Monday's contemporary that the association actually met, held their morning meeting, and afternoon dinner, at both of which Mr. John Long was in the chair, at both of which the hon. secretary appeared in his official character, and "at neither of which," as our Conservative friend innocently remarks, "was there a single landlord present!" To be sure there was not; and if our contemporary had added "nor a single tenant either," he would have been pretty near the mark. Perhaps our readers would like to be enlightened as to how these protection societies are conducted, that are to upset the League and its millions, and to arrest the progress of Free Trade throughout the empire. We will tell them. At the morning meeting the attendance was miserable, and the speeches—nowhere; at the dinner, that most attractive reunion to the English yeoman, there were just thirteen present besides the waiters; and this most unlucky number was eked out in the following manner:—Two newspaper reporters; two commercial gentlemen of Gloucester; the Hon. Sec. and his brother; Mr. John Long, the president, and six farmers!!! and yet we are told that "after the cloth was removed the questions of 'protection' and the farmers' prospects were entered upon in right earnest." We should much like to have witnessed the animated discussion which followed, after the removal of the cloth had left these thirteen wise men of Gloucester to their solitude and pleasing reflections. And this is the sorry affair which is to be blazoned forth to the world as a county demonstration, to fortify the Ministry in refusing Free Trade, and to resist the machinations of the League. Dame Partington mopping out the oven with a vengeance! The ancient maxim was a far more compared with this puny attempt to bolster up protection and its "most laud and impotent conclusion."

Two words in conclusion. We hope this will prove to Mr. John Long and his half-dozen associates, that the good sense of the Gloucestershire farmers will keep them from the violent councils which have been sought to be

thrust upon them; that they will neither listen to projects of exclusive dealing—revile such men as Earl Ducie, who devote time and money to their service—nor join in fellowship with those who advise them to do so, even though it be to form protection societies. The round dozen assembled at the Spread Eagle on Saturday must be pretty well convinced by this time that the farmers will have none of their guidance; and if protection is only to be fostered by their efforts, the Corn Laws would stand much better without protection than with it.

We have received, from a known correspondent, the following account of the doughty Mr. John Long, who refused to drink Lord Ducie's health at the Gloucester agricultural meeting:—"Mr. Long is tenant under a gentleman of the name of Daniel John Niblett, who is an Anti-Free-Trade, though esteemed as a good landlord. The latter resides at Harefield, and the farm in Mr. Long's occupation is situated in the parish of Whaddon, near Gloucester. Amongst the monopolists Mr. Long is deemed a high authority. He is a valuer of rents of land; also of farming stock, both live and dead. We consider here that he is quite a toady to some of the landlords, though he affects an independence, or what may be termed John Bullism, at times. Some years ago he possessed considerable influence amongst farmers; but, by his assuming so prominent a part on all public matters, he has lost it, as he is not adapted for the office. At the dinner, Mr. Lewis, who sat next him, was the only man who declined to drink Lord Ducie's health. Mr. Long's proceedings on this occasion disgusted several at the meeting; and it is considered almost the finishing stroke to the club, already in a declining state. Mr. Niblett, his landlord, was in the chair, but was himself very desirous that Earl Ducie's health should be drunk. As a proof of the estimation in which Mr. Long is held by his brother-farmers, I may observe that, at a dinner held last Saturday by the Protection Society, when he was in the chair, only eight tenant-farmers were present."

#### GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

THE AGGREGATE MEETING of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be held on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, the 19th INST. GEORGE WILSON, Esq., will take the Chair at SEVEN O'CLOCK precisely.

The Meeting will be addressed by JAMES WILSON, Esq.; GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq.; and JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P. Tickets of admission to all parts of the House may be had as usual at 67, Fleet-street.

Seats will in future be reserved for all Farmers who may make application at the Offices of the League, up to the hour of meeting, and their attendance, whether favourable or opposed to Free Trade, is especially requested.

**BOROUGH OF MARYLEBONE REGISTRATION** and FREE-TRADE DINNER.—The MARYLEBONE REFORM and REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION, with others, alive to the important movement now in progress in favour of the great principles of FREE TRADE, have deputed the present a fitting occasion publicly to attempt their promotion by all the means in their power; amongst which, attention to the Registration of Electors is admitted to be of paramount importance. It is hoped that such an occasion may be the means of extending the Reform interest, and of more closely uniting the electors in the pursuit of objects important, not only to the Borough, but to the Empire at large.

A DINNER will take place in the Concert Room of the Princess's Theatre, Great Gable-street, Oxford-street, on Wednesday the 5th of March next, at which their esteemed President, JOHN BACON, Esq., has consented to preside.

The following, amongst other gentlemen, have accepted invitations, and will attend:—Sir B. Hall, Bart., M.P.; Sir G. Napier, Bt., M.P.; J. Hume, Esq., M.P.; W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; E. Cobden, Esq., M.P.; J. Bright, Esq., M.P.; T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P.; General Sir De Lacy Evans, and W. J. Fox, Esq.

By order of the Committee, WILLIAM ALLEN, Secretary. Feb. 5, 1845. N.B. Tickets, Five Shillings each, may be had of the Secretary, at the Office of the Association, 67, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square.

\* Several letters and other articles in type, are unavoidably postponed.

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newell's-buildings Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 15, 1845.

Just as we were going to press, Sir Robert Peel had risen to make his promised financial statement. The anxiety with which the public has looked forward to this exposition of the course of fiscal policy about to be pursued by Ministers is greatly increased by the profound secrecy which the Premier has preserved respecting his intentions. It is a signal proof of the great progress that Free-Trade opinions have made that men of all parties, save those who have a personal interest in exclusiveness, are expressing their hopes that there will be a great reduction in the duties on articles of consumption, so as to allow of greater freedom of import, which nobody now denies to be necessary to any expansion of exports. Several articles have been mentioned, the duties on which are notoriously onerous and impolitic, as likely to have their present rates of admission either wholly remitted or very considerably reduced. We need not indulge in any conjectures, however plausible, as a very few hours will bring us certainty on the subject; but we cannot avoid expressing our fears that, on the most important articles of consumption, Sir Robert Peel will be too much fettered by the monopolists who have raised him to power, to venture on proposing that extension of freedom of import which is alike demanded by common justice and sound policy.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—The Uniform Postage Bill was defeated in the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday. There were 179 votes for the reduction of the rates of postage, and 144 against it; but the President having added his vote, the numbers were rendered even, and the proposition rejected. In the Chamber of Peers, on Monday, Count Darnéville gave notice of a proposition to repress the unlimited speculation which has for some length of time been carried on in railroad shares. It is intended that henceforward no subscription shall be opened for the construction of any railroad which has not been authorized by the Chambers. The minimum of the first deposit must amount to one-fifth of the price of each share, and any violation of this regulation to be punished by the application of the 419th article of the Penal Code.

The French Government continue to display vigour in pursuit of the hordes of murderers and thieves with which Paris is notoriously overrun. On Saturday last a considerable military force, placed under the direction of three commissaries of police, surrounded two public establishments on the Boulevard du Temple—the Café de Pay-de-Dôme and the Caveau—the haunts of malefactors and receivers of stolen goods. Upwards of 200 individuals were arrested and marched to the Prefecture of Police, in bands of 20 and 30 at a time, after the commissaries had taken down their names and abodes.—*Times* correspondent.

**SPAIN.**—Letters from Madrid of the 4th and 5th inst., announce that the member of the Representative Chamber who had stolen from the house of General Narvaez certain articles of plate, was expelled the Chamber (of Deputies) on the 4th inst.

We learn from these letters that blame was attached to the commandant of the fort at Europa Point, who lately fired on a Spanish vessel (the same who some three or four months since sunk another Spanish vessel), and that he had in consequence been superseded. The Spanish Government expressed itself satisfied with this reparation.

**HOLLAND.**—During the past year French goods of the value of twelve millions of francs were imported into this country, being a decrease of five millions compared with the preceding year. French exports, however, to the Dutch colonies had considerably increased. The *Utrechtische Courant* states that the British and Foreign Bible Society at London have resolved to print, for the future, the Dutch editions in this country, and not, as hitherto, in London or Brussels. It adds that an order for 10,000 copies of the Dutch Lutheran Testament has been given to a printer in Amsterdam.

**THE GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—The priest John Rouge, in Breslau, and his followers, have, after several meetings, finally constituted their church, and adopted the confession of faith put forth by the priest Czerski, the leader of the community of German Catholic Christians in Schneidmühl, in East Prussia. Subscriptions have been raised in many towns of Germany for the purpose of providing Czerski with the necessary funds for building a regular place of worship of his own, the service according to the new ritual hitherto having been held in a private dwelling. Two Roman Catholic priests in the province of Posen, Hubert, priest in the town of Raszkow, and a country curate of the name of Wodzinski, have declared in his favour, and their Polish flock have followed the example of their pastors. An officer of the Prussian army, who asked the King to permit him to join Czerski, received the answer that there were no objections to his doing so, the new German Catholic confession being recognised by the state, and as such under its protection; and there is little doubt that the number of these seceders from Papal authority will rapidly increase throughout Germany.—*German paper.*

**THE REV. DR. WOLFF.**—Captain Grover has received intelligence of Dr. Wolff to the 10th of January, at which date he was at Erzeroum, endeavouring to recruit his strength for the journey over the mountains to Trebizonde. At Teheran the Doctor was received in the kindest manner by Colonel Shiel, her Majesty's Envoy, who sent a Government groom to meet him. He left Teheran in a "tuckravan" (a sort of litter), and by easy stages reached Tabriz. Here the judicious treatment of Dr. Casolani enabled him, after some days' repose, to proceed by a similar conveyance towards Erzeroum. On reaching the Turkish frontier, owing to the immense accumulation of snow, he was obliged to proceed on horseback, and after great bodily suffering, he reached Erzeroum on the 4th of January, completely exhausted, where he was kindly received by Colonel Williams, her Majesty's Commissioner.

**WEST INDIES.**—The *Dee*, Royal Mail steam-ship, reached Southampton on Monday.

By the *Nassau Royal Gazette* we find that the legislature of the Bahamas met on the 16th of December. His Excellency Governor Mathew opened the session in a speech of some length. Alluding to the scarcity of food that had been felt, Governor Mathew says:—"It has pleased an all-seeing Providence to visit these islands with the heavy affliction of famine during the past summer; but I am happy to be enabled to inform you that the chief pressure of want appears now to be past, and that private and public benevolence (to which the lives of very many are owing) was most liberally afforded during its continuance."

**UNITED STATES.**—The steam-ship *Cambria* arrived at Liverpool on Thursday morning. She brings important news from Mexico, which reached New-York on the 5th ult. By the schooner *Sarah Ann*, Captain Davidson, from Tampico, the *New Orleans Tropic* has papers from the city of Mexico to the 4th ult., and private advices as late as the 9th. Santa Anna has met another San Jacinto defeat, and is now a miserable captive. His war has shot madly from its zenith, and he whose light word was law, a brief period since, has fallen so low that there are "none so poor as to do him reverence." The latter announcing the battle says, that news to the 5th had been received by express from Mexico. Captain Davidson himself puts no confidence in this. Captain Davidson says, that although Santa Anna was contending against such vast odds, his situation was not deemed in any way desperate. It is reported in New-York that the state of Pennsylvania will not pay her debt. A series of resolutions for the annexation of Texas had passed the House of Representatives by a majority of 111, and eventually a bill for the same object passed by a majority of 17.

**TAHITI.**—Private letters to the 3rd of November, from Valparaiso, bring us the latest news from Tahiti. The





**SOLILOQUIES ON THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION:** Its Errors, and its Endless Truth. Translated from the German of Dr. David Friedrich Strauss. London: John Chapman, 121, Newgate-street.

**RAILWAY COMPANIES.**—The promoters of Railways may learn the political and family connections, opinions, &c., of every member of both Houses in **RODD'S PARLIAMENTARY COMPANION** for 1845 (thirteenth year). Royal 8mo., price 4s. 6d. money gilt. Whitaker and Co., Ave Marie Lane.

To be published next week, 127, Strand.  
**A LETTER** to the Hon. GRANTLEY FITZ-HARDINGE, BARRISTER, in answer to his Pamphlet in Defence of the Game Laws, and showing that the Game Laws, and the Gamekeepers under them, are James P. Connors, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister at Law.

**MEMORIALS.**  
**THE CRITIC**, No. XXVII., of this day, contains the **JOURNAL OF MEMORIALS**, detailing many new and interesting cases, and the Proceedings of the Memorial Society. The CRITIC contains also Reviews, with copious extracts, of all the new Books, Music, and Works of Art; Literary Intelligence, &c. &c.; and the Principles and Policy of **YOUNG ENGLAND**. Communications of new and interesting Investigations in Memorials are requested. Published at the Office, 29, Newgate-street, Strand, on the 1st and 15th of each month, price 6d., or 7d. stamped. A number, as a specimen, sent to any person enclosing two postage stamps.

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**THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT** have to express their satisfaction that the Board of Trade has reported in favour of the Main Line of this Railway from WOLVERHAMPTON to BIRMINGHAM. The Company's Engineers having carefully revised the Estimates, including a Branch from Wolverhampton to the Grand Junction Railway, recommend the adoption of quadruple lines of Rail between Birmingham and Wolverhampton, in accordance with the suggestions of the Board of Trade, and which the immense mineral traffic of the district will render necessary. The Committee of Management are happy to state that, with large allowances for contingencies, the Capital required will not exceed £1,100,000, which estimate has accordingly been inserted in their Bill now before Parliament. By Order, GEORGE KNOW, Secretary.

**TO CAPITALISTS, BUILDERS, JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, &c.**  
**NEW HOTEL or DORMITORY.**—WANTED very much, in a healthy and industrially central part of the west end of London, a new, commodious, and well-managed HOTEL, with a property vested in other money, due regard being paid to its structure to the quibbles of the sleeping apartments, and where the Proprietor shall be able to have his object the supplying a portion of the very large number of gentlemen daily arriving in the Metropolis with comfortable Beds and Breakfasts, Wines and Spirits. The attention of persons well qualified for Housekeeping is likewise particularly directed to this advertisement, as it offers a suggestion whereby there is no doubt such persons may realize a handsome fortune. Apply for further information, daily, at the different London Railway Stations.

**GRESHAM ROOMS**, 18, Basinghall-street, London. **GRESHAM AUCTION ROOMS.** Messrs. Gresham and Company of 7, Abchurch-lane, have opened three spacious Rooms for the disposal of Property of every description. Terms, 4 per cent. on the Sale (exclusive of Auction Duty), which includes Advancements and all expenses. Appointments made, and Property valued, on liberal terms. **HERNLEY and CO'S ESTATE OFFICES.** These Offices present superior facilities for Letting or Selling Houses, Warehouses, Offices, and other Property in London. Terms for Registering and Advertising, 10s. 6d. when Let, either by the owner or his Agent, 5 per cent. commission on the Lettings and first year's Rental, but if the Property be sold by private contract, 5 per cent. only on the purchase money. A Monthly Register published gratuitously. **HERNLEY and CO'S WAREHOUSES.** Three spacious, dry, and well-ventilated Premises are also open for the convenience of Merchants, Manufacturers, and Warehousemen, who may require extra room in deposit Goods; also, for the reception of Furniture, Pictures, and other Property. Terms for any period of time not exceeding twelve months, 4 per cent. on raw material and manufactured goods, but only 1 per cent. when the value of the Property exceeds £1000, 5 per cent. on Furniture, Pictures, and all bulky Property requiring space. N.B.—An Inventory must be sent with the Property, and the name of the Owner.

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**NEW CHRISTMAS GROUP.**—Madame TUSSAUD and SONS' greatest effort, which may challenge Europe. The House of Brunswick at one view.—George I., George II., George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, Princess Charlotte, the Duke of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. The Nelsons of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Group. Mr. Cobden and Bishop of Exeter. "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—The Times. Open from Eleven to Four, and from Seven till Ten. Admission, 1s.; Napoleon's Rooms, 6d.—Bazaar, White-street, Portman-square.

**FATHER MATHEW.**  
**NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY**, 39, Moor-gate-street.—As it is intended shortly to close the SUBSCRIPTION in aid of the REV. THEOBALD MATHEW, the Committee appeal once more to the sympathies of the British nation to relieve this distinguished philanthropist from his embarrassments. The same received at present amount to £394. 7s., including the following donations:—  
The Duke of Bedford .. .. £50  
Lord John Russell .. .. 25  
Anonymous, per ditto .. .. 50  
Jos. J. Gurney, Esq. .. .. 25  
Samuel Gurney, Esq. .. .. 25  
Edward Thomas, Esq. .. .. 21  
Joseph Eaton, Esq. .. .. 20  
Christopher Bowly, Esq. .. .. 20

The Committee earnestly hope that the numerous friends of Mr. Mathew will avail themselves of the opportunity now afforded of contributing to relieve him from his difficulties. The sum hitherto contributed falls far short of the anticipated amount. Subscriptions will be received by the Treasurer, G. W. Alexander, Esq., 40, Lombard-street; by the Secretary, Theodore Compton, Esq., 39, Moor-gate-street; and by the following bankers, viz., Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.; Messrs. Hankey and Co.; Messrs. Glyn and Co.; Messrs. Manson and Co.; and the London Joint-Stock Bank.

**JONES'S £4. 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES**, warranted not to vary more than 1 minute per week, are selling at the Manufactory, 338, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. They combine the truth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an ornament of taste. On receipt of a Post-office order for 1s. above the price, a Watch will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's "Sketch of Watch Work," sent free for a 2d. stamp.

**VAL DE PENAS**, of excellent quality, £18 the Quarter Cask; or in Bottle, 3s. per Dozen. MARALA WINES, finest imported, 21s. and 27s. per Dozen; or in Wood, £12 and £13 the Quarter Pipe. Fine old crusted PORTS, and Pale and Brown SHERRIES, 35s., 42s., 48s. per Dozen. HOCKS, CLARETS, and CHAMPAGNES, 60s., 72s., and 84s. CRAWFORD and CO., 129, Regent-street.

**HEAL and SON'S LIST OF BEDDING**, containing a full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasers are enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to make a good set of bedding. Sent free, by post, on application to their establishment, the largest in London, exclusively for the manufacture and sale of bedding (two hundred and thirty other furniture being kept). HEAL and SON, Feather Dressers and Bedding Manufacturers, 196, opposite the chapel, Tottenham-court-road.

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**OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLONIES.**—Parties leaving England will find it greatly to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'s, 165, Fenchurch-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Canvas, Merino Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the Voyage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles. Bedding, Military Accoutrements, Cabin and Camp Furniture of every description. Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

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**NOTICE.**—MR. LEWIS, the Inventor of the New Systems of WRITING, ARITHMETIC, and SHORTHAND, respectfully announces his arrival in Manchester, where he intends giving instructions in those useful and necessary branches of Education; likewise the most approved methods of BOOKKEEPING, both by Single and Double Entry. For Terms, &c., apply to Mr. Lewis, at his teaching-rooms, No. 13, Oxford-road, corner of George-street. Pupils may attend any hour from ten till four, and from six till ten in the evening.

**PRICE and GOSNELL'S PERFUMERY.**  
(Performer of the late JOHN GOSNELL versus REES PRICE, Per-fumer 24, Lombard-street.)  
The Judge in the Court of Exchequer this day decided in favour of the plaintiff in this case. The defendant, Rees Price, had disposed of his interest in the Perfumery and other trades carried on by the late firm of Price and Gosnell, to the late Mr. John Gosnell (father of the parties now carrying on business under the firm of John Gosnell and Co., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street), and he used himself, under the name of Price, to continue business within the City of London or Westminster, or within the distance of 100 miles from the same, and, notwithstanding this, had carried on business. This action was brought to recover liquidated damages for such breach of contract.—12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, Jan. 27, 1845.

**THE Public** are respectfully informed that **HENRY PENNY'S ORIGINAL METALLIC PAPER MEMORANDUM BOOKS** are to be had of any respectable Stationer in town or country, and the trade can be supplied by any of the wholesale houses in London. Nine years' extensive sale has proved that the writing on METALLIC PAPER (taken chemically prepared) is not to be obliterated, neither will the friction of the leaves at a distance of 100 miles from the place of issue, or the many numerous imitations bearing the name of Metallic, but which in fact are not in any way prepared, and are written on with common lead (made like Metallic Paper), but are neither so durable nor so good. In order to protect the public from such imitations, H. P. has recently commenced making METALLIC BOOKS of a second quality of binding, which causes a considerable reduction in price, so that now can be obtained the original books in the West and Second Bindings. H. P. has ascertained that many books have been sold bearing the name "Penny" in Gold Letters on the back, which were not made by him, all his Best Books have H. PENNY'S IMPROVED PATENT, with the No. of the book in Gold Letters on the back (observe H.). And his Second Quality have a label inside, printed, H. PENNY'S Second Quality.

**AFRICAN GUANO.**—The above MANURE, from Ichaboe, on SALE.—Apply to DABY and SIM, Importers, Liverpool, 1845.

**DRAWING and DINING ROOM CURTAINS** and CARPETS.—THOMAS PAUL and CO. having purchased many thousand pieces of BRUSSELS CARPETS, of elegant fashionable patterns, at less than half their value, are giving the advantage to the public. A selection may be made from this large quantity, commencing at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. The reduction on the materials for curtains may be effected by royal damasks, some as low as 6d. per yard; silk tabarets, 2s. 6d.; and chintzes, all wide, 4d. The immense stock of Cabinet Furniture is of the most approved style, workmanship, and finish, and full 50 per cent. under the general charges. A written warranty for any period of time is given where required. N.B. Ladies' fancy work elegantly and moderately made up.—Furniture and Carpet Warehouse, opposite the Mansion House, City.

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**ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL**, for the Growth, Preservation, and for Beautifying the HUMAN HAIR. Price 3s. 6d., 7s.; Family Bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size 21s. per bottle. ROWLAND'S KALYDOR, for Improving and Beautifying the SKIN and COMPLEXION. Price 4s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. per bottle, duty included. ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, for the TEETH and GUMS. Price 2s. 6d. per box, duty included.

**CAUTION.**  
Spurious Compounds are frequently offered for sale, under the same names (some under the implied sanction of Royalty), the labels, bills, and advertisements of the original articles are copied, and either a fictitious name, or the word "Genuine" is used in the place of "Rowland's." It is therefore imperative on purchasers to see that the word "ROWLAND'S" is on the wrapper of each article. For the protection of the Public from fraud and imposition, the Honorable Commissioners of Stamps have directed the Proprietors' signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus:—A. ROWLAND and SON, 20, HATTON GARDEN, Which is affixed on the Kalydor and Odonto. Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers. \* \* All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS!

**STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHEST** are entirely prevented, and easily and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the **PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER**, which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or inwardly, without bending beneath the arms, uncomfortable restraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent per post, by Mr. A. BIRTON, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, London; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

**EDEMATOUS LEGS.**—Persons who from a long residence abroad, sprains, contusions, &c., are suffering from Edema, dropsical or other affections of the Leg, will derive great benefit from the use of the **Patent Elastic Stocking**, which bandage, together with the Patent Elastic Knee Cap, Belt, &c., have for many years secured the patronage of the most eminent surgeons. The Bandages can be sent by post, by which means also the directions for measurement will be forwarded on receipt of a line addressed to the Patentees. Shoobred and Co., 24, Jermyn-street, St. James's.

**JACK FROST'S LETTER**  
TO E. MOSES and SON.

I trust, Messrs. MOSES, you'll grant your attention, To one or two things I'm anxious to mention. You're lately had days so remarkably pleasant, That Winter seem'd to end at least for the present; You've fancied, no doubt, that my powers were lost, But now you have still to be plagued by "Jack Frost." I still mean to freeze you like the lake and the rivers, And scatter my snow flakes while every one shivers; I still mean to let my bright letters freeze While they drop from the lancet's sharp edge on the nose. Yes, in spite of the frolicsome attempts of Miss Spang, "Jack Frost" is resolute that he still will be King. And therefore, I trust, Messrs. MOSES and Son, That you'll lend me your warm Winter garments on loan, You must still keep your warm Winter garments on loan, That people may cold blighting winds may withstand. Let the stock of your garments at once be increased— I shall want twenty thousand warm wrappers at least. I'm certain the public will shortly require An astonishing increase of Winter attire! Yes, thousands before the mild Spring is begun, Will purchase warm clothing of MOSES and Son. And now, Messrs. MOSES, I beg to conclude, In case you should happen to think I intrude; And at once (with the hope that my hints won't be lost), I remain your obedient servant, JACK FROST.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
The Public are especially informed that, during the re-erection of E. MOSES and SON'S premises in Aldgate, the entrance to their Establishment is only at 154, Mitre-lane. A new work, entitled "The Commercial Phenomenon," with full directions for self-insurance, on application, will be forwarded post free.

READY MADE.		A & S	
Beaver Tailcoats .. ..	.. ..	from 10 6	10 6
Ditto Chesterfields .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto Cadizcoats .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto Furcoats, Athol, Peltoes, and every description of Winter Coat, handsomely trimmed .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Boys' Winter Coats, in every style .. ..	.. ..	from 5 6	5 6
Warm Winter Trousers, lined .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto Doebles .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Dress Coats, edged, &c. .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Frock ditto, ditto .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Holloing Collar Vest .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Double breasted ditto .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Boys' Husar Suits .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto Tunic, neatly braided .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

MADE TO MEASURE.		from 10 6	
Save Gotha Coats, velvet collar and cuffs .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Winter Coats, in every style and shape, handsomely trimmed .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Milled Tweed Wrappers .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto, ditto, Trousers .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Buckskin ditto .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Doebles ditto, any pattern .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Heat, or Dress Trousers .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Cachemire Vest .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Winter ditto, in endless patterns .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Dress Coat .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Frock Coat .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto, the best manufactured .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Boys' Husar Suits .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Ditto Tunic .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

Mourning to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following prices:—  
Man's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. .. from 10 6  
Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers .. .. from 10 6

**IMPORTANT.**—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, exchanged, or the money returned. **GOSNELL.**—E. MOSES and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail Woollendriers, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 154, Mitre-lane, and 64, Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.

**CAUTION.**—E. MOSES and SON are obliged to guard the public against imposition, having learned that the unscrupulous character of being concerned with them, or it's the same concern, has been resorted to in many instances, and for obvious reasons. They have no connection whatever with any other establishment in or out of London, and those who desire genuine Cheap Clothing should be prevented from being deceived, and send to 154, Mitre-lane, or 64, Aldgate, opposite the Church. N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from sunset on Friday till sunset on Saturday, when business is resumed till twelve o'clock.

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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 74.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quattrin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE COUNTIES.

Those of our readers—we trust a large and increasing number—who have learned to interest themselves in the details of registration business, are aware that we last week recorded a judicial decision of capital importance to the future prospects of the Free-Trade cause. Under the heading "REGISTRATION APPEALS, Marshall, appellant—Bown, respondent," we reported the judgment of the Court of Common Pleas, affirming a legal doctrine on which large numbers of our friends had already acted, viz.:—the validity of purchases of freehold property made by two, three, or more persons JOINTLY, for the avowed purpose of securing the county franchise. This decision had been looked for with the utmost interest, doubts having been thrown out whether a plurality of votes could be legally constituted for a single lot of freehold property, conveyed to a number of joint purchasers by one deed, and paid for in one sum. These doubts are now cleared up, and the legality of such an arrangement is placed beyond all question. The result is of first-rate practical importance. It is ruled by the supreme court of appeal on matters of electoral law (a question being left open, as our legal readers will observe, with regard to the necessity of certain technical conditions which in the particular case had been complied with), that any number of persons may unite in buying a freehold property, for the declared purpose of obtaining county votes, and, provided each purchaser's share is of the clear annual value of forty shillings, he has a right to be put on the register. His franchise is as full and indefeasible, his vote at the polling-booth counts for as much, as that of the heir to an estate worth £50,000 a year.

For our own part, we had little apprehension as to the issue of this case. We did not contemplate the possibility of a judicial decision divorcing, from any bond fide annual 40s. worth of freehold property, whether severally or jointly purchased and conveyed, that franchise which both the spirit and letter of the ancient law of the land have annexed to it. Yet, knowing as we do the amount of hope and effort which a contrary result would have frus-

trated, we cannot but heartily congratulate our friends, the new freehold constituencies of the northern counties, that their electoral rights are placed beyond the reach of doubt. Their public-spirited exertions have not been thrown away. The £200,000, or £250,000, which, since last October, have been invested in the soil of England by the Free-Traders of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire—in a large number of cases, on the faith of the legal doctrine now judicially affirmed—will yield their due return, not only of liberal pecuniary percentage, put of political enfranchisement. South Lancashire, the West Riding, and North Cheshire are now our own, without let or hindrance, by a title which only awaits for its completion the formality of the next registration.

"A quarter of a million of money spent in buying votes—how benevolent! how prodigal!" or "how unconstitutional!" will be some people's comments on the affair. Not at all. It is neither the one nor the other. The men of the north can be benevolent enough on fit occasion; but in this particular business we see nothing to compliment them on but their extreme good sense and intelligent activity. They have been prodigal of nothing except time and trouble. As for the "Constitution," their respect for it is sufficiently evidenced by their eagerness to possess and enjoy its franchises. We must explain the matter a little. The people of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire have not laid out this quarter of a million of money in buying votes. They have simply invested their money, on the finest security in the world, and at an excellent rate of interest. The vote is a free gift of the law and constitution of England—annexed, by certain good old statutes, to that particular description of investment. The quarter of a million of money is not lost nor thrown away: there it is still, yielding an annual return of six or eight per cent., and the principal is at any time recoverable on demand. It is as simple and regular a business transaction as paying money into a savings'-bank: the difference being that the rate of interest is double, and that the constitution of the country superadds a civil franchise to the proprietary right. When the skilled operative or frugal tradesman

takes his £30 out of the bank to buy a bit of ground that returns him 40s. a year, we have frequently known it done in the north of England, where cottage property is purchased jointly, it is quite a mistake to say that he buys a vote. He gets his vote gratis. It is given him, over and above, by the old constitutional law of England; a law whose rationale is, that a little independent property is some sort of guarantee for the independence of a man's politics, and that a visible, tangible stake in the country is the only needful qualification for the highest degree of citizenship.

In calling on the industrious classes of this country—those who, whether by the industry of head or hands, make and keep the country—to come forward and take up their freedom, by complying with the cheap and simple condition on which the law of the land offers it, we suggest nothing in the shape of trick or finesse. They have a stake in England; that is a fact already. We invite them to register that fact—to make themselves legal and actual as well as virtual shareholders in their own country—to take out their certificates of citizenship—and, by one vigorous and united effort, wrest the government out of the hands of the sordid and greedy idlers that tax their bread, chain their industry, take toll of their earnings, and mock their cry for justice. There is nothing artificial or crooked about this move in the counties. Nothing can be more natural and straightforward. Fairly worked out, it will do more to put reality and sincerity into our politics than any agitation this island has yet seen. It will turn the most disgraceful political sham of these times into a great fact: it will make county elections real. It will make the old complimentary formula, "Worthy and independent electors," no longer an impudent lie, but a most indisputable truth. No electoral worth and independence is like that of the voter whose franchise is representative of his own honest industry. There is nothing violent or "revolutionary" about it. Its tendencies are all conservative and restorative—conservative of the rights and rewards of industry, restorative of the principles and spirit of the best parts of our ancient constitution. The modern innovation of the tenancy-at-will "franchise," as they pleasantly call it, has extinguished county elections: as Lord Stanley says, you have only to count up "the great landed proprietors," with the number of votes that each of them has in his pocket, and there is your election. It must be the work of the ancient free-

hold franchise to restore county elections, by bringing into the field a constitutional democracy of little landed proprietors—an industrial landed interest. Every way, this is an honest as it is a legal movement. The industry of towns, the intelligence of towns, has a right to be represented in counties, for the towns make the counties. The power that makes Lancashire to differ from Buckinghamshire, and Middlesex to differ from Huntingdonshire—who will dare say that it has not the right to rule Lancashire and Middlesex?

The more closely and circumstantially we have looked into this matter, the more entirely are we convinced that the forty-shilling freehold franchise is the weapon by which the industry of England is to come victorious out of the conflict with feudalism. Taking our stand on the good old constitution of our country; availing ourselves of that venerable relic of our ancient electoral law which annexes political rights to the wages of labour when invested in the soil, it is within the power of us, the working millions of this island, to get into our own hands the control and management of those vast national resources of which we are the creators. This is the cheapest, simplest, and most accessible form of the elective franchise. There is, indeed, much good work yet to be done in the boroughs, towards completing the electoral lists up to the measure which the law allows and intends. But we cannot conquer by the boroughs alone. Some fifty or so of them are, as we said last week, hopelessly sealed against us; and, generally, the law of borough franchise and registration is in a state which renders popular action by means of it peculiarly difficult. To get and keep a borough vote is comparatively an expensive process. To take a £10 house, furnish it, keep it, and live up to it is far less within the power of many working men than to invest from £25 to £50 in the purchase of forty shillings of annual income accruing from land. The effort needed for this, once made, is made once for all: from the moment the money is paid the man becomes a shareholder for life in the sovereignty of the country. We tell the industrious classes of England that if, with this magnificent resource within their reach, they will

not use it for their own liberation—if they actually will not take shares in their own country, and wrench it from the grip of the idle and insolent few that portion daughters, pay interest on mortgages, and "maintain a station in society" by levying blackmail on their earnings—they deserve to be Richmonded and Buckinghamed to the end of the chapter. There cannot well be a more shameful self-contradiction than that of men crying for "more franchise," while neglecting the franchises that the law already gives them. We have seen enough of the temper of the trading and working classes in those counties where the question has been put before them in a practical shape, to know that their honourable desire for political enfranchisement is too real and earnest for that.

We shall take many future opportunities of returning to this subject; less with the view of stirring up public feeling on the matter, than of showing, with detailed reference to specific localities, in what channels and by what means the feeling already excited may most profitably express itself. For the present, we have only one more to remind our readers that the splendid electoral victories necessary to the carrying of the Free-Trade question are not to be had without a vast deal of work—hard, dry, disagreeable work—begun, carried on, and ended months and even years before the day of actual conflict, and apart from all the exciting and stimulating influences of an election time. We beseech them to remember that the next general election—an election which in its consequences, immediate and remote, will be one of the most important in the history of Great Britain—will not be carried by enthusiasm. Since the Reform Act, elections never have been carried by enthusiasm. That act effected a revolution in our politics (otherwise than by its clauses of enfranchisement and disfranchisement) which, from its very nature, the people have been slow of practically appreciating: it is to be hoped we understand it now, or we have bitter and humiliating lessons in store that will teach us. The Reform Act disfranchised septennial enthusiasm; put bustings' eloquence and popular excitement in Schedule A; and transferred the franchise to the family of the sober, patient, plodding virtues. The country can never again be taken by storm (as in 1830) in the power of a good popular "cry." The "cry" is good for nothing without the votes; the votes are good for nothing if they are not registered; and they will not be registered if people do not



attend to it. A self-acting registry is a political invention reserved, to all appearance, for a future and more fortunate generation. Enthusiasm and patriotism are invaluable qualities: only they positively must be trained to send in claims, sustain and resist objections, read acts of Parliament, and inspect the lists on the church-doors. We must have our enthusiasm, not septennially, but annually, and all the year round. Rather, we must have that which is better than enthusiasm—the earnestness, principle, and heart in the cause of truth and justice, which enable a man to make daily, unconsciously and as by habit, those little efforts and little sacrifices of leisure and convenience which are needed for the practical triumph of a great principle. Patriotism for the year 1845, means quiet, systematic, unsleeping attention to the details of registration business—the sort of attention which a prudent man pays to the details of his ledger and his bank-book.

### THE BUDGET.

The most remarkable feature in Sir Robert Peel's much-lauded budget is, that the income-tax on trades, offices, and professions is to be continued, for the purpose of maintaining the West India monopoly. Schedule D, though recognised to be unjust, inquisitorial, and oppressive, must be forced on the industrial classes, that the fruits of their toil may swell the profits of the lords of the sugar-hogs-heads. An equalization of the sugar duties to the present colonial rate would have given sugar to consumers at a price equally low with that which may be expected from the Premier's new arrangement—would consequently have produced an equally extended consumption—and have secured a revenue of at least six millions; but nearly three millions of this revenue are recklessly slung to the high and mighty powers of Mining-lane, and a tax is maintained on the precarious and fluctuating incomes derived from personal occupations and labours to supply the deficiency. No man could for a moment believe that the landlords in the House of Commons would allow the incomes of farmers to be thus grievously mulcted for the support of the monopolists of Mining-lane, if they did not require the aid of the West India interest to prop up the food monopoly. Mr. James Wilson's speech, which will be found in our report of the Covent Garden meeting, enters so fully into the facts and figures of the case, that we need not go over the same ground here; but we wish to rivet public attention on the galling fact that the inquisitorial tax on income derived from offices, trades, and professions, is continued, not for the exigencies of Government, but for the maintenance of the public revenue, not solely and exclusively for the sustentation of monopoly. The monopolists are not satisfied with being protected in their system of public plunder unless they make the plundered pay the cost of the protection. Sir Robert Peel, in his long and laboured speech, offered neither explanation nor defence of this monstrous wrong inflicted on the industrial classes. He merely announced that differential duties were to be maintained; but he did not attempt to assign any reason why the people of England should pay annual tribute to the proprietors of land in the West Indies. His silence on this point, when contrasted with the diffuseness of his dissertations on all other parts of his financial policy, is sadly significant; it showed a lurking consciousness of the wrong which he was labouring to perpetuate—a conviction that his plausibilities could not cover what was so palpably indefensible, and a reluctance to confess that he could only rely for support on the obstinacy of selfishness. To the combination of selfish interests we are sacrificing the entire commerce of the New World. The monopoly of provisions cuts off our trade with the United States, the monopoly of sugar produces the same result with the Brazilian trade; and the purpose to which the income-tax subserves is to enable the Minister to effect such wanton destruction of our natural commerce and our national resources. The income-tax on trades and professions is not only injurious in itself, but it is expressly and almost avowedly maintained for working further and incalculable injury to the industrial classes by which it is paid; they are grievously mulcted, not for the protection of themselves, not for the benefit of the nation, not for the service of the state, but for the direct injury of all—for the exclusion of the products of British industry from the best markets and the most profitable markets. It would be a wiser because a more simple and honest policy to pay the West Indian proprietors regular stipends, as the army and navy are paid, rather than to give them their profits by circuitous and fraudulent means: the English people, under present circumstances, have not only to give these men the annuities, but have to pay the expense of the tortuous and indirect means by which the amount is levied, and the cost of the fraud by which the extortion is disguised. The absurdity of the distinction between slave-grown and free-grown sugar—that precious specimen of Sandonian morality deduced from the wooden bible—is so patent and palpable that the

Premier did not attempt its defence. He will not be allowed to preserve his discreet silence, even though he has declared that his arrangements are merely temporary. The commerce of South America is infinitely more valuable to the country than the consistency of Lord Sandon, or the purse morality of Mr. Goulburn, or even the new-born zeal against slavery which has suddenly distinguished the house of Gladstone.

In one important particular—important so far at least as principle is concerned—Sir Robert Peel has put in practice the League doctrine of total and immediate repeal, by removing at once every impost on the exportation of British produce and manufactures; but the laws of trade are as invariable as the laws of nature; we cannot have exports unless we receive a proportionate amount of imports, for the simple reason that we cannot sell our goods to other nations unless we are prepared to take what they have to offer us as payment. There is no such thing as a one-sided commerce; the course of trade establishes its own reciprocity infinitely better than any treaty that has been framed since the days of Pericles, and legislative interference can no more guide and direct the natural balance of trade than it can predestinate the ebb and flow of the tide. In both cases unwise and artificial structures may close markets and choke harbours, but the great highway of nations still remains open, and commerce will go to the markets where there is depth of wisdom as ships to the harbours where there is depth of water.

We doubt not that the remission of the duty on cotton, and the total removal of the onerous and perplexing excise on glass, will give a great stimulus to production in these important branches of British manufacture. But we do not appreciate very highly the financial wisdom of stimulating production, and at the same time keeping the markets closed where that produce can be profitably sold. We know that the monopolies which now close those markets cannot be perpetuated: Sir Robert Peel himself confesses that his arrangements are but temporary by making the sugar duties an annual vote. But nothing can be more impolitic or more destructive to sound commerce than the uncertainty produced by merely temporary arrangements. At this very moment there is a hesitation in some of the most important branches of business because no man is able to calculate what another year may bring forth.

We do not regard the budget with the admiration that has been bestowed upon it by some of our contemporaries. The abolition of the duty on exports, however important as a recognition of principle, is but miserable in amount; for only one article, the duty on which was imposed by the Premier himself, namely, coal, remained to be liberated from restriction. The removal of duties on raw material is confined to the class of duties which, in point of principle, was the least objectionable; because, however impolitic were the duty on cotton and the excise of glass, the amount they produced went directly to the revenue: they did not, like the duties on timber, sugar, and corn, serve merely for the profit of selfish classes at the expense of the nation, and with a direct loss to the state. The change in the sugar duties, so far from being an advance in the direction of Free Trade, is, in fact, a retrograde movement in favour of the monopolists. On this subject we beg attention to the following extract from a letter which has been sent us by a valued correspondent long and extensively engaged in the sugar trade:—

"Now, as to Peel's measures, so far as I know, they are most of them good measures except the sugar proposition, and if they cannot be altered it is a perfect delusion. Last year the Free-Traders were blamed for dividing with Peel and supporting him against Miles, by which means a larger protection on clayed sugar was prevented. But Sir Robert Peel's scheme this year is Miles's over again, or worse. The duty on West Indian or British colonial is to be 14s.; clayed, 16s. 4d., of which there is none at present. The duty on free-labour foreign is to be 25s. 4d.; but thou wilt see that Sir Robert Peel, in his speech, only expects to bring in 5000 tons of that quality; for the best of all reasons—nearly all the foreign is clayed; so that the competition will be virtually between British at 14s., and foreign at 28s., or 100 per cent. protection, and the public, instead of getting their 14d. per lb., will only get 4d. Now, with the duties at 25s. 3d. and 35s. 9d., as they are now, the protection is 40 to 45 per cent., but with the duties at 14s. and 23s. 4d. the proportion is 65 to 70 per cent., so that the people of England are to have the inquisitorial income-tax perpetuated upon them in order to put money into the pockets of the West Indians. A very large boon has been granted to the West Indians in the large reduction of duty without increasing the relative protection; and I do say, if the measure passes as it is, that the people of this country will be most shamefully imposed upon."

In fact, Sir Robert Peel has struck his colours to Mr. Miles, and not only adopted the vicious principle of that gentleman's amendment of last year, but has even granted a greater amount of protection than the monopolists themselves then ventured to demand. Whether this sacrifice is the result of timidity or of sheer ignorance is questioned; some reports attribute it to the one cause and some to the other; but in either case the proposal is only a clumsy

contrivance to prevent a threatened defection of the monopolist supporters of the Ministry at the expense of the nation.

### THE BAZAAR.

Our ladies' committees are zealously exerting themselves in every part of the country. Several have begun to canvass for subscriptions among the gentlemen of their acquaintance, to purchase raw materials for fancy work; and we beg leave to direct their attention to an extension of this plan suggested by an "Old Lady," whose letter will be found in the accompanying correspondence. The great extent of our report of the Covent-garden meeting compels us to defer some other suggestions which we had prepared. We can only recommend perseverance in active exertion, so as to turn the brief interval that remains to the best advantage.

"University Club, Feb. 17.  
"SIR,—Many of Washington's letters, whose private correspondence it is well known was very minute and voluminous, are to be found in the United States. By comparing the one I now send you with that which you have received for the approaching Bazaar, you will be able to test its authenticity. It was given to me some years ago in America by one of that noble band who are striving, in the face of obloquy, contempt, and personal injury, to obtain for their enslaved fellow-countrymen those rights without which political liberty is a curse and commercial liberty a chimera. Convinced that the cause of abolition is the cause of the League—that free ports in the old country and free hands in the new are the sole conditions of prosperity in either, and for permanent peace with each other—I have much pleasure in transmitting to you a memorial of one whom both may regard as an example of disinterestedness in a struggle for congenial objects.  
I have the honour, &c. &c.,  
"E. S. ANDY."

"Sheffield, 2 mo. 12th.  
"ESTEEMED FRIEND,—I shall feel much pleasure in furnishing a case of table cutlery for the approaching Bazaar, and am preparing one. Our excellent friend R. R. Moore has called upon many of our leading manufacturers in the past two days, and has promised from them of contributions for the same purpose; and we hope that the Sheffield stall will do no discredit to the town.  
"Very respectfully yours,  
"To George Wilson."  
"WM. HARGREAVES."

"Colchester, Feb. 11.  
"SIR,—Being a working country blacksmith, I have lately made, at the suggestion of the gentlemen of the East Essex Hunt, some horseshoes of novel construction, and I humbly think of some merit as adapted for hunters. This, perhaps presumptuous, opinion of mine is prompted by the unqualified approval given by the gentlemen in this neighbourhood who have used them.  
"If you will accept a set or two of them for the Bazaar, say in the LEAGUE or some other way, how I can send them, as I think they might fetch something as pattern shoes, should any fox-hunter visit your Bazaar.  
"Yours, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq."  
"HENRY DOWES."

"7, Sussex-street, University College, Feb. 17.  
"DEAR SIR,—As I have a firm conviction that the universal adoption of Free Trade will be of incalculable benefit to the teeming millions of our 'seagirt isle,' I shall be happy to contribute my mite to the forthcoming Free-Trade Bazaar, in the shape of a few English and foreign silver and copper coins, and two pieces of iron ore from Picton, Nova Scotia, if they will be accepted by you and your worthy colleagues, to whom I am constrained to say I feel personally much obliged by your untiring efforts in the good cause.  
Believe me, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq."  
"JOHN CALE."

"Leamington, Feb. 15.  
"SIR,—I am extremely anxious to contribute to the funds of the Anti-Corn-Law League; and as I have had some experience in the erection of farm-houses and buildings of an improved character, I will send some plans, models, estimates, &c. (for such buildings), to the Bazaar in May next, if you think they would be worthy of notice. I can assure you that there has been less judgment displayed in the erection of agricultural buildings and peasants' cottages than in any other class of building property in this district. I am, &c. &c.,  
"JOHN COLLINS, Architect."

"George Wilson, Esq."  
"Relfe Manse, Kelso, Roxburghshire, Feb. 13.  
"SIR,—I solicit your acceptance of six copies of a little book entitled 'Jubilee Notes,' being a memorial of the fiftieth year of my church.  
"Many who were once members of it now reside in London, and in a few instances have attained to opulence and distinction in the City.  
"Some of them may be attracted to your splendid Bazaar; and should half a dozen such chances to notice with interest the views of the church where they worshipped, and the manse of their own and their fathers' minister by the Tweed, and so be induced to swell, by even the small amount of their purchase, your noble Free-Trade treasury, a pastor's feelings shall be gratified in their religious advantage, and the furtherance of your righteous cause.  
"I am, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq."  
"JAMES JARVIS."

"Whitehaven, Feb. 19.  
"SIR,—Having seen in the LEAGUE a letter from a gentleman who proposed sending some old coins and medals to the Bazaar, I have enclosed a coin and a Waterloo medal to put along with them, as a very small contribution from,  
"Sir, your obedient and humble servant,  
"R. C."  
"Jullington, Feb. 19.  
"SIR,—Herewith I send for the Bazaar two copies of works published by subscription, and sold exclusively at Trinity College, Cambridge. The price of one is £1. 2s.; the other £1. 5s.; of course you will name what change you think proper.  
"Wishing your philanthropy every success, I remain  
yours truly,  
"To G. Wilson, Esq."  
"JAMES SWAN."

"Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your card, with a request I should use my effort to influence my acquaintance to aid the success of the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar, to be held in Covent Garden Theatre next May. My advanced age prevents my giving personal activity to promote it, but knowing many young ladies who would be pleased to work for the Bazaar, but whose limited means preclude them from purchasing materials, I have adopted a plan, which I have found successful, by making it known to gentlemen (who, what-ever may be their politics, are interested in every measure that has Free Trade for its object), and asking from them a donation to buy materials, and to enable ladies to them a donation to buy materials, and to enable ladies to procure wools or fancy screens to embellish; and to furnish respectable females who may have their maintenance to earn by their needlework, with employment, by giving them articles of clothing to make up for children.

"As an encouragement for my plan to be generally acted upon, I must inform you that every gentleman (with only one exception) has sent me gold.

"I am of opinion that many young ladies would find relatives and friends who, not liking to have their names published as subscribers to the League fund, would not object to gratify their feelings of approbation of the efforts of the League, by setting some lady to work, and thus giving her a pleasure she would otherwise be denied.

"Another plan my sons' wives have adopted, their time being too much occupied by domestic duties to give their time and needlework, and at the same time work for the Bazaar, is to employ respectable females, whose business it is to sew plain work, in doing all the household sewing, and occupy themselves in ornamental work of various kinds for the Bazaar.

"Excuse the prolixity of  
"George Wilson, Esq." "AN OLD LADY."

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Third Week, ending Saturday, Feb. 22.

In former days the BUDGET was generally regarded as a great mystery. Intelligent men are not ashamed to confess that they are ignorant of the differential calculus, and other scientific profundities; and in by-past times politicians possessing an average acquaintance with the general public topics of the day, thought it no discredit to shrink from comprehending the annual financial statement of a Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was not alone the mere array of formidable-looking figures which repelled them. There was something incomprehensible about the debt and the sinking fund, the surplus and the deficit, the crown lands and implest moneys, Exchequer tallies and Exchequer bills; even the returns of Customs and Excise were to them "a darkness that might be felt," and the only things very level to their apprehension were the Stamps and Assessed Taxes. We believe in astronomy, though we may be unable to calculate an eclipse; and, even if we should scarcely know a three-decker from a Newcastle collier, we rejoice that on Greenwich-hill is an astronomer royal, whose special business it is to watch the stars, and calculate for our ships pathways across the ocean. So, in those days of which we are speaking, the Budget was left to the Rothschilds of the Exchange, and the ledger-poring merchants of the counting-house; and all our consolation was, that, if there existed a VANSITTART to puzzle us, there was a Hume to bore the puzzle, and, by dint of unwearied watchings and untiring industry, to do somewhat towards protecting the public interests.

The change that has been effected, bear witness Friday night, the 14th of February, the same being Valentine's day. Even little boys and girls manifested excitement on the subject of the forthcoming "financial statement;" and the way in which the House of Commons was besieged by strangers, showed that all men have discovered that the key to unlock Exchequer complexities and financial propositions, is the very simple and commonplace principle of "dot and carry one." And, to do Sir Robert Peel justice, he is unrivalled in the House of Commons (at least amongst all who are or have been connected with office) for felicity of exposition. Whenever he chooses (he does not always choose), he is as transparent as glass. A child might have understood his financial statement; an assertion which is corroborated by the rumour current in and out of the House, that all the country members very distinctly comprehended him. Nobody but he can keep the attention alive, without in the least exciting the feelings or the imagination, during some three or four hours, by statements necessarily dry; it is a far harder task to interest an audience with figures of account than with figures of speech. This was effected, in a very masterly way, by Sir Robert Peel; and though Sir John Tyrell—that droll and comfortable-looking Essex baronet, who, on Wednesday night, declared that he did not put himself forward as a specimen of agricultural distress (he is not such a fool as manner and style would seem to indicate)—trifled the Prime Minister with his faithless desertion of the agricultural interests, he was obliged to admit the "ability" with which he had opened the Budget. In fact, all the "farmers' friends" are now fully aware of that truth which Mr. Roebuck, with caustic emphasis, told them on Wednesday night; their King Lou, whom they thought they could jump over and turn roundabout, has become a King Broom, coolly gobbling them up; and, like the frogs in the fable, who prayed to Jupiter for protection, they find that protection is their undoing. For the agriculturists now see that the removal of the property and income-tax is only Sir Robert's peculiar method of compelling them to contribute to "THE ABOLITION OF

THE CORN LAWS, and the destruction of all other monopolies."

We need not now recapitulate the particulars of a Budget familiar to every man in the United Kingdom who reads a newspaper. It was "a mingled yarn" of much good and much evil. The evil will come under our notice when the SUGAR DUTIES are discussed; the good we may here briefly dwell upon. First, Sir Robert Peel has practically demonstrated the truth of what he proclaimed on the night of Thursday week—that "the restoration of protection is IMPOSSIBLE." Secondly, he has affirmed one great doctrine of the Anti-Corn-Law League, that, being essentially a commercial and manufacturing country, Britain requires free and unrestricted means of supplying itself, at the cheapest rate, with all the varied materials essential to our wonderfully varied and marvellously ingenious manufactures; and so he takes off the duties on the IMPORT OF RAW MATERIALS. Thirdly, he announces another and a consequent truth, that there should be as much freedom in sending out our manufactures, as facility in bringing in the materials with which to manufacture; and though here nothing stands in his way but a tax on coals sent abroad, which he himself had imposed in 1842, he announces that he takes off all duties on EXPORTS. And lastly, by his removal of the excise on glass, he commences that career of sound economical reform which must go on—that of removing from complicated and ingenious processes of manufacture the vexatious and deteriorating interference and inspection of revenue officers, for the mere sake of bringing in a certain amount to the Exchequer.

Considered with reference to the state of political parties, and excluding altogether the recollection of principles, it must be admitted that Sir Robert Peel's Budget is a piece of great financial dexterity. All parties, with the exception of the agricultural, are pleased and offended, and therefore unable wholly to approve, or wholly to oppose. He has, in vulgar or pugilistic phrase, "taken the wind" out of all his opponents; and, by confounding and neutralizing the elements of resistance, prepared for himself, except on the subject of SUGAR and DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES, a triumphant ascendancy. And, so far it is matter for sincere congratulation that the ascendancy is on the side of FREE TRADE, and not of MONOPOLY; even the sugar duties are only to be annual, not permanent; and, therefore, there is room for readjustment.

Of the debates produced by the Budget little need now be said. Sir Robert Peel and the Chancellor of the Exchequer repeatedly announced, on Monday night, that they contemplate farther experiments in the reduction of duties on articles of consumption and manufacture. Lord John Russell renewed his declaration that protection is the bane, not the support, of agriculture. The chap-fallen agriculturists, through the mouth of Mr. George Banks, beseeched the House to consider that, if they were really all-powerful, they were certainly not selfish, seeing that their helplessness compels them to acquiesce in the propositions of Sir Robert Peel. And Mr. Hume and others rejoice to see the Government moving onwards from a system of indirect to a system of direct taxation.

Direct taxation is simple; and with land, and in a simple state of society, probably the best that could be desired. But in a country whose circumstances and social state are wonderfully complicated, and almost infinitely diversified, direct taxation, except on realized capital and tangible property, meets with many sound objections. At the same time, any system of indirect taxation which interferes with processes of manufacture, obstructs commerce, facilitates smuggling, and deceives the country, is in itself utterly pernicious. But when FREE TRADE is completely carried out, there may arise some Free Trade statesman, with the principles of Adam Smith and Ricardo, and the abilities of a Huskisson, who may develop some new scheme of finance, which may combine the excellencies of direct and indirect taxation, without their defects, and place this country on such a basis as to secure the permanence and the diffusion of its commercial prosperity. Meantime, we are in a state of transition, waiting the arrival of that Free Trade, which comes as surely as the sun rises on the morrow.

Lord Ashley has reappeared in his old character of a limiter of the hours of labour, and has got so far on the road to Free Trade as to declare that "if it could be proved" to him that the Corn Laws were an obstacle towards the realization of his objects, he would vote for their abolition. Is it—

"Convince a man against his will,  
He's of the same opinion still!"

Lord Ashley does not take such high ground as he did last session. He merely wants to interfere with the labour of young persons in calico print-works. Mr. Cobden offered to give the noble lord all the information in his power; but Sir James Graham stated so many substantial objections to the measure as to warrant the conclusion that the House of Commons will reject it by a very large majority.

Mr. Cobden gave notice on Thursday, of his motion for "A Select Committee to inquire into the operation of protective duties on imports upon the interests of tenant-farmers and farm-labourers." The debate is fixed for Thursday, the 6th of March.

At Shepton Mallet the silk, velvet, and crape manufactories are in full work, but the general trade of the town is very dull.

## GREAT METROPOLITAN ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETING.

On Wednesday evening last, the second Metropolitan Meeting for the present year was held at Covent-garden Theatre. Shortly after the doors were opened, every portion of the house, including the lobbies and avenues in every direction, was completely crammed, and many hundreds, friends of the League, were subsequently unable to obtain admission. The meeting was presided over by W. Brown, Esq., of Liverpool, who was very appropriately introduced to the meeting by Mr. Cobden as the future Free-Trade member for South Lancashire—an announcement which elicited the most enthusiastic response from the assembly. The meeting was addressed in speeches of peculiar excellence by Mr. James Wilson, Mr. George Thompson, and Mr. J. Bright, M.P.

Among the gentlemen present were William Brown, Esq. (of Liverpool), Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P., Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P., J. L. Ricardo, Esq., M.P., George Thompson, Esq., James Wilson, Esq., W. J. Fox, Esq., J. Wordsworth, Esq., Major-General Briggs, Sir John Morris, Bart., Dr. William Cooke Taylor, Colonel Tucker, Messrs. John Taylor Crook (of Liverpool), Joseph Wrigley (of Huddersfield), Greenhow (of Trieste), Dr. Edward Schmidt (of Vienna), W. Graham, Robert Bowler, J. Gerstenberg, C. S. Crowley, D. Dewar, Robert Toogood, Thompson, Wm. Garrard, T. F. Ashton, T. Gosnell, H. Heginbotham, Bailey, James Mellor, J. T. Campart, W. A. Wilkinson, J. Fergus (of Kirkcaldy), J. Hodgkin, John Poulton, John Dyte, John Chalmers, George Bret-tell, James Stanfield, J. Williams, Farrand, Richardson, James Midgley (of Rochdale), Alexander Graham, Wm. Graham (Glasgow), T. K. Pritchard, C. J. Baker, W. Weir, Henry Briggs (of Wakefield), J. M'Conkey (of Belfast), Henry Yandall, F. Scheer, Thom (of Inverness), S. B. Bayfield, Holland (of Dunbarton), T. L. Hay Grant, Henry Marshall Fooks, Joseph Heap (of Liverpool), J. P. Nixon, Thomas Harvey (of Falmouth), Henry L. Keeling, Henry Crossfield (of Liverpool), Rev. W. P. Davis (late of Ashburton, Devon), Agate (of Horsham), George Ridge, J. Fitzpatrick, T. Mackenzie, J. Battiscombe, H. Sparrow, Wm. Green, &c. &c.

Mr. COBDEN advanced to the table, but was prevented for some time from speaking by the enthusiastic applause with which he was greeted. The hon. gentleman said:—In the absence of our friend Mr. Wilson, I beg to move that Mr. William Brown, of Liverpool, our late candidate and future member for South Lancashire, do take the chair upon the present occasion.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN (as soon as the prolonged applause which his appearance had created had subsided) then spoke as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, our good friend Mr. Cobden has apprised you of the reason why the League have called upon me to occupy this honourable position this evening. I only regret that, in the absence of our friend Mr. Wilson, you were not able to get upon the present occasion a gentleman of more influence and of greater importance to conduct the affairs of this meeting. I can assure you, however, that there is no individual in this community who has more at heart the promotion of Free Trade than the humble individual before you. It is not, gentlemen, the province of a chairman to make long speeches upon such an occasion as this, but I cannot refrain from congratulating you upon so much of the Premier's budget as carries out the principles of Free Trade. Without at all being considered to sanction that portion of it which we cannot approve of, yet I do hope and expect that the progress that Free-Trade opinions are making will be pressed forward by the proceedings of Friday evening last, and that at no very distant day we shall be able to congratulate the members of the League upon having accomplished all they wished. A great deal, gentlemen, has been said about Sir Robert Peel desiring or wishing us "to buy in the cheapest market and to sell in the dearest;" but he quite forgot to remind you of a fact which another Cabinet Minister told us some years ago, and which I consider still more important than that stated by the Premier. The language of the Minister I allude to—Sir James Graham—and which I shall repeat to you to-night, ought to be known through the length and breadth of the land. He stated that the public feeling must be hostile to the present Corn Laws. (Hear.) That, I apprehend, was not the last sliding scale, but the previous Corn Laws; but still the observation is equally applicable to the present moment. He stated further, that the receivers of rent are a very small body; that, backed by public opinion, they are almost omnipotent; and that in opposition to public opinion they cannot expect long to enjoy exclusive benefits. (Hear.) He stated that the contest was a fearful one, and inquired upon what ground it was to be decided. He said that opinion—that is not probably the exact expression he made use of, but it is the purport of it,—that that which influences and maddens—the hunger which breaks through stone walls—was arrayed against them; that the barriers of the State would be broken down, and estates, dignities, and honours would be overthrown by one overwhelming torrent. (Hear.) Such were the opinions of a Cabinet Minister some years ago, and I cannot believe that at this moment he will repudiate those sentiments. I shall not now trouble you with any further observations, except again to congratulate you on the onward step which was made in the House of Commons on Friday night, and to call upon our distinguished friend Mr. James Wilson, who has been so great an advocate of the Anti-Corn-Law League and the cause of Free Trade. I now beg to introduce that gentleman to your notice. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. JAMES WILSON, upon rising, was received with rapturous applause. He addressed the meeting as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, your worthy chairman has already congratulated you on so much of the budget as was proposed by Sir Robert Peel last Friday night as carried out, in our estimation, the principles of



Free Trade. I very heartily join with the honourable chairman in that congratulation, for I conceive that in the measure then proposed to Parliament there are two of the most important doctrines for which Free-Traders have contended for the last half century, which have received not only the full recognition of the Ministry, but have been carried also into full practical effect. But, ladies and gentlemen, although I would congratulate you on that part of the measure, yet I think it must have been a subject of public observation and notoriety, that, in all the measures of relief which the right hon. baronet now at the head of her Majesty's Government has proposed for this people of this country, he has carefully selected those articles to which, although his measures have been termed bold, he had good reason to expect the slightest opposition, and to carry which he had to contend with the least powerful parties. (Hear.) I cannot help saying—while I admit the full value of what he has done—that he has attacked in rather an unwarrantable manner many of the minor sources of industry of this country, while at the same time he has entirely overlooked and neglected some great and material interests which bear severely upon the most productive classes, whom he has exposed to open competition. (Cheers.) I would not, however, wish to detract in any way from the merits of the principles which he has recognised, but I am desirous of impressing upon you and the country, that we ought not to give him so great credit for what he has done, when we see how much he has left undone. (Loud cheers.) Of the two great monopolies which exist in this country the right hon. baronet has left one altogether out of his budget; and, instead of ameliorating the other as far as the consumer is concerned, I am prepared to show that he has studied rather the interests of those who already possess the monopoly of that article. (Hear.) The right hon. baronet, among other things, has proposed a change in the sugar duties. Now, although that alteration is, upon the face of it, very spacious, and he brings it forward to the country under the pretence of reducing the present duties, yet I believe it can be proved to the satisfaction of every reasonable man, that instead of lowering the price of sugar to the consumer, or relieving the people of this country—taking the taxes which they have to pay on the one hand, and the price of sugar on the other, into consideration—that instead of being a good measure it is a bad one. The experience of the last four years has taught the people of this country one great fact, namely, that their interests are identified with the prosperity of the revenue. I am sure it is the last thing that you would consent to, that it should sink so as to endanger in any way the credit of the country. As far as that was the object to be attained, the people are willing to submit to an income-tax; and I believe they will be willing to submit to a more onerous tax rather than have the country disgraced by discredit. But, while we maintain that principle, let us see that the reductions in duties, which are pretended to be for the sake of the consumers, really do go to them, and are not merely for enriching the producer. If we are called on to submit to fresh taxation for the purpose of reducing duties, let us see that that reduction really finds its way into the pocket of the people, where it is pretended it is to go. (Hear, hear, hear.) There is no principle in English legislation which has been so delusive—now perhaps, which is less understood, or through which so much evil has been perpetrated upon the consumer, than that involved in the deceptive operation of our "differential duties." I am quite sure that if their true character were known, and their true operation for some years past upon different articles of produce had been understood—had the community understood them as well as they do what prohibition means altogether—at this day we should have had neither the one nor the other. It is, I am afraid, a very difficult task for any one to undertake to attempt to explain the exact operation of differential duties to such an assemblage as the present; but it is of such importance to the true understanding of these questions, and to the real merits of Free Trade, that I shall make the attempt and do the best I can, even though I should fall. (Loud cheers.) In order to illustrate the effect of a differential duty I will take the proposition which the right hon. baronet made on Friday last. He treated the country with an estimate of what he thinks will be the supply of sugar for the next year, and the amount of revenue which he will derive therefrom. He seeks to establish—which tends very much to mystify the matter—four different rates of duty. On one, at the lowest rate, he expects a supply of 160,000 tons from our colonies; from the second he anticipates a supply of 70,000 tons from the same quarter; from the third he expects a supply of 50,000 tons of foreign sugar; and from the fourth, 15,000 tons of the same description of sugar. Now, I would claim your particular attention for one moment to this statement. On the 15,000 tons of sugar he establishes a duty of 28s. per cwt. It is quite clear, therefore, before you get that amount of sugar into consumption, you must pay 28s. duty in addition to the prime or first cost of the article. That sugar being foreign produce which is used equally all over the continent of Europe, and which is submitted to the same price in this country because it has a common market in all others, to that 15,000 tons you must add the highest rate of duty, 28s. Now, its price at the present moment in London is 21s. per cwt.; it is the same in Antwerp, Hamburg, and all places throughout the continent—that is the price of this sugar established in the general market of the world. Its price, with the highest rate of duty added to it in this country, is therefore 52s. per cwt. It is quite clear that sugar of the same quality, when brought to the consumer, is worth an equal price; therefore, if there is any other sugar brought into this country which the Minister says you shall have at a lower rate of duty, that sugar being worth the same sum when it is brought to the consumer, any difference which the Minister chooses to result will go to the producer, and not to the public. (Hear.) Sir Robert Peel proposes that you shall have 15,000 tons of sugar on which you pay 28s. per cwt., raising the price to 52s.; and that you shall have further 50,000 tons of a second quality, upon which you shall pay a duty of 24s. 4d. The importing merchant will be able to get just as much more as the price in bond for that sugar as the difference of the duty. Instead, therefore, of 52s., the price of this sugar in bond will be 28s. 4d.; which with the lower rate of duty will again make 52s. to the consumer. He then establishes another rate of duty at 18s. 4d. for colonial sugar, of which he calculates

to get 70,000 tons. To the importer of this sugar he says, "Your sugar produced in our own colonies shall be taken by the consumer at the same price, 52s.; but you shall only pay 16s. 4d. duty," enabling him, therefore, to receive 33s. 8d. for the same article for which the first importer received 24s. (Hear, hear.) There is, then, a fourth class of producers in the West India Islands, and he says to them, "We will take from you 160,000 tons of sugar, which you also shall bring to the consumer at 52s. per cwt., but we will allow you to enter it at 14s.," by which he will enable them to receive the price of 38s., instead of the original price of 24s. In all this process you will see that, while the Minister is giving up duties, he is not doing so to the benefit of the consumer. (Hear, hear.) By lowering the duty he is not reducing the price to the consumer, but merely increasing the sum which the producer will receive for it. The whole of these sugars are brought to our market at 52s. per cwt., and were the Prime Minister to say to the importer of the 160,000 tons, "Bring your sugar free of duty, I will relinquish my two millions of duty to you altogether," the consumer would not receive his sugar one fraction cheaper, so long as the 15,000 tons of sugar paid the 28s. duty. You therefore see, by those four different rates of duty, that the importer of sugar of the one class receives 24s. per cwt.; of the second class, 28s.; of the third, 35s.; and of the fourth, 38s.; while the consumer pays the same price for all. (Hear.) Now, suppose that the Minister were to say, "I will charge the highest rate of duty upon the whole of these sugars—I will impose a tax of 28s. on all;" it is quite clear he might do that and not raise the price of these sugars one fraction to the consumer. (Hear.) He reckons from these various duties that he will receive a revenue amounting to £3,916,000; he makes a sacrifice of revenue in this reduction of nearly two millions sterling, and then he asks the country to make up that sacrifice by the reimposition of an income-tax. (Loud cheers.) Now, if he would impose the same rate of duty on all these different descriptions of sugar which would enable the colonial grower to receive only the same price as the foreign grower, he would receive a revenue, instead of £3,900,000, amounting to no less than £7,000,000 sterling, and the community would pay not one fraction more for their sugar. (Loud cheers.) Sir Robert Peel, too, upon this occasion, in order, I suppose, to render his proposition more acceptable to the country, has also favoured us with certain estimates of what he believes will be the supply of sugar next year. Now, estimates of supply are an exceedingly unsatisfactory thing for people to rely upon. I remember four years ago, when the present Ministers in opposition opposed the proposition of the late Ministry upon the sugar duties, that Lord Sandon, part of his argument on an estimate of the future supply. That noble lord then said that we really did not require slave-grown sugar, because the produce of our colonies was increasing so rapidly that it would be quite sufficient without having recourse to any other country, and would supply us as cheaply as any market in the world. In that year he estimated the supply of sugar at 225,000 tons; four years, however, have passed over our heads, the population has increased upwards of a million, you have managed to consume 3,000,000 lbs. of tea more, and upwards of 3,000,000 lbs. of coffee additional, and yet up to this day, notwithstanding the estimate that was then made by Lord Sandon as an excuse for his measure, the supply of sugar has fallen year by year to a lower rate than it was then; until in the last year, although that noble lord promised you 225,000 tons as a reason why you should exclude Brazilian sugar, you had only 204,000 tons, which is a smaller supply than in the year in which he spoke. (Hear.) Therefore I do not think the public should place much confidence in any estimate that a Minister may make as to a future supply of sugar from any particular country. That article has, perhaps, been one upon which monopoly has told more than upon any other; for I find ever since 1811, during which time the population has increased upwards of 8,000,000, the supply of sugar has remained stationary;—while your supply of tea has doubled, and that of coffee quadrupled, sugar, the most protected article, has during the whole of that period remained stationary. Now, we find that, notwithstanding the continued disappointment which the community of this country has suffered in the supply from our own colonies, still that most absurd distinction is intended to be kept up—a distinction which I think every Englishman must feel ashamed of, when he thinks of the numerous inconsistencies into which it lands us, and the difficulties in which it places our commerce. Sir Robert Peel has already said that he intends to persist in the distinction between slave and free-labour sugar; but when the right honourable baronet in the budget propounds that principle, we find at the same time he is proposing the total repeal of the duty on cotton wool,—a measure which, in itself, I think is as good as he could almost possibly have proposed,—yet, while he recognises this principle of the evil of slave labour, he is again repudiating it by totally repealing the duty on an article the whole of which is produced by slaves, and a considerable portion of it in the very country whose sugar he excludes. (Cheers.) The right honourable baronet, while he has been sanctioning this principle and making this convenient distinction for purposes which he best knows with regard to sugar, has abandoned it with respect to coffee; for twice within the last four years, since he first established that distinction, he has reduced the duty upon coffee, which is the largest and most important production of Brazil. (Hear.) You have a new budget now proposing to repeal the duty on certain articles the exclusive products of Brazil, such as rosewood, satinwood, and all the finer woods for cabinet articles; which reductions I am glad he has made. I do not find fault with these measures, but I do with his inconsistency. (Hear, hear.) These the right hon. baronet has found it convenient to repeal the duty upon. There is also another article upon which he takes great credit in having reduced the duty—and I think he is entitled, *per se*, to that merit—and that is the reduction of the duty on copper ore. But copper ore is not only the production of slavery in Brazil and Cuba, but of slavery of the very worst description. Mr. Gladstone has frequently defined the distinction between slave labour in coffee and sugar; because, forsooth, he said that coffee was an easy labour, and was not much calculated to abuse the constitution of the negro; but the working of copper ore, I take it, is the most distressing and injurious labour to which slaves can be put either in Cuba or Brazil. Therefore, gentlemen, the real effect of Sir Robert Peel's sugar duty, instead of being, to de-

crease the protective duty, as he would wish us to believe, or being a relief to the community,—revenue and price being taken together,—it will be found to be quite the reverse. The law of last year left a differential duty of 10s. 6d.; but by the measure now proposed it will leave a difference between 14s. and 28s. for all practical purposes; and if the whole of these duties are really available, and carried into practice, it will leave a differential duty of 14s., instead of 10s. 6d. as formerly. It may, perhaps, be fair to ask upon what ground these distinctions are made in favour of colonial produce? We know there are many arguments and feelings in the public mind which tend to induce them to give a preference to colonial produce, but I believe that many of those feelings and opinions are based upon erroneous impressions. The community are very apt to believe that a very large portion of the exported manufactures of this country go to the British colonies; and it is frequently urged that it is right that we should maintain our colonies even at an apparent loss, in order to secure an outlet for our manufactures. As far as exports of goods are concerned, our colonial possessions in America in 1843, which is the last year for which our accounts are made up, including the West India Islands, Canada, and Nova Scotia, took goods from this country to the amount of £4,600,000. The other parts of America, the produce of which we now seek to exclude by this class legislation, including Brazil, purchased of us to the amount of £11,500,000. The whole of our colonies in the world during the same year took goods to the amount of £13,500,000; while the foreign countries with which we trade, seeking for no preference, asking for nothing but a fair exchange, giving us their produce at the price of the world's market, and asking for no privilege whatever except the fair exchange of trade, took goods to the amount of £38,000,000. (Cheers.) Some again support the colonial legislation and our colonial principle upon the ground that they form an outlet for increasing population. For my part I am not a friend to emigration. (Cheers.) I would rather see the many means that we have at home applied for the purpose of employing the population, which I am sure might very easily be done by extending our commerce, than see that population sent abroad and scattered over the whole face of the earth, to find a market for their labour in different countries. (Cheers.) But, were I a friend to emigration, then I would tell the men who support our colonial system upon that ground that the reports of our emigration commissioners show me that the United States of America have furnished an asylum for the last twenty years for double the amount of emigrants which all our colonial possessions in the world put together have done. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, if it is on account of emigration, then countries which look for no privilege in trade have furnished an asylum greater than your own colonies. Another and a favourite expression of the right honourable baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government is this: he is very fond of talking of protecting and encouraging the countries where the English tongue is spoken. Now, I do not know whether it ever entered his head that he would encourage colonies in order that there might be a great demand either for "Lindley Murray's Grammars," or for "Walker's Pronouncing Dictionary;" if that be the reason, then I apprehend very little attention to the subject will show any one that there are more than four times the number speaking the English language out of the English colonies than in them. There is another reason given for this colonial protection. We have heard that the colonies are the stay of the empire; that they are a great protection to our political power; but, when we come to bring that argument home, we constantly find that men are reasoning in a circle, and that, if you talk of colonies, they tell you they are to be supported because you have an army and navy, and extensive possessions, and great political power; if you come to speak of your army and navy, you are told you must support them because you have great colonial possessions. It was only the other night that Sir Robert Peel went down to the House and said, "I cannot reduce the army," not because you require it at home, but "because it is necessary to have relays of men to send to the colonies abroad." I quite agree with the statement, that as long as we insist upon keeping those colonies—and I do not say we ought to give them up—that it is an unfair thing for us to exact from soldiers and military men greater sacrifices than we have a right to demand. The time of their service abroad ought not to be extended beyond what was originally intended; and, therefore, if we do retain the possession of these places, we are bound to pay the expense of their maintenance. But the right hon. baronet comes down with another proposition, and asks for a million a year for the support of the navy, not because you want it at home, but because you have increased your colonial possessions so much that you must have such a number of ships afloat over the whole surface of the ocean, and the present extent of your navy is insufficient for the purpose. I do not say that there is anything wrong in this, or that we should not have this augmented navy. I believe there is great practical safety in having ships cruising in the different seas of the world, and that it tends greatly to the preservation of peace; but I do not want to have our political power given as a reason why you should protect your colonies in a way detrimental to the consumers of articles of colonial produce in this country. (Hear.) But what, after all, do we find to be the effect of this protective system in our colonies? There are in them many classes of productions; but I will venture to say you will not find one single article there produced which has been freed from the influence of protection which has not excelled and beaten all the world in its production. (Hear.) A few years ago, the cultivation of indigo was unknown in the East Indies, that article having been introduced there from Mexico about fifty years back. Since that period our East Indian possessions have nearly obtained its exclusive production, not only for this country, but this actually because the great mart of the world, from which the whole of Europe, and almost every other place, is supplied. (Hear.) Again, with reference to wool, silks, and flax—articles which we grow in our colonies—we have managed greatly to increase the market for them without any protection whatever. I believe that if we had not protected our sugar-growers, but they had been left to the competition to which other producers are liable, that at this day our own colonies would have been able to produce sugar cheaper than anywhere else. (Cheers.) I would not hastily form an opinion upon a subject, which I am quite sure is of the greatest im-

portance to our West Indian possessions especially, and not much less so to those of the East Indies. For some time past there has not been a newspaper published in the West Indies of which I have not received a file by every mail which has arrived; there is not one of those papers which has not been carefully perused by me; and if they have taught me anything it has been that protection to those colonies has been their great bane. (Hear, hear.) Not a mail arrives, or a file of colonial papers do I look over, without finding an acknowledgment in numerous ways that the protective system has been there, as elsewhere, a bar to all improvement. It is but within the last year or two, since this question has been agitated in this country, that they have become alive to their situation, and that some symptoms of improvement have taken place. From the last mail I found several extracts, which I will not trouble you by reading, showing that the people there, writing reports of agricultural and planters' societies, confess that there has been no alteration in the process of sugar-making for three centuries. (Hear.) Premiums have been offered for the greatest amount of production similar to those offered in this country lately for agricultural purposes. In the autumn of last year one of these premiums was given by the Clarendon Agricultural Association of Jamaica, for the cheapest production of sugar from an estate. There were two candidates for this prize; the result of the competition being that the one produced the article at 8s. 10½d. per cwt., and the other at 9s. 6½d.; in both cases at less than 1d. per lb. (Hear.) We have also heard that in Jamaica and the West India colonies there has been a great complaint of a want of labour since the abolition of slavery; but I find from these papers constant evidence not of a want, but I was going to say a superabundance, of labour. Frequent complaints are made there of the number of able-bodied paupers. (Hear.) Is it, therefore, consistent with a want of labour to complain of the burden of able-bodied paupers? A railway is now making in Jamaica; and I have recently conversed with the chief promoter of the work, who tells me that plenty of labour can be procured—at that peculiarly hard description of employment in a hot climate—at the rate of 7s. per week. I find also, from the papers, that within the last two or three months there has been an argument raised in some of the parishes whether the price of labour should be 1s. or 1s. 3d. per day. (Hear.) With respect to the scarcity of labour, whatever may have been the case two or three years ago, that evil is very materially mitigated now. Those papers are constantly finding fault with the proprietors for their want of spirit in introducing improvements into the management of their estates. One very remarkable instance, which I cannot help alluding to, occurred in Jamaica last summer. The railway to which I have referred was proposed to be made by a native of Jamaica, a man who has a warm interest in his native country, possessing a capacious mind, and who has taken an enlarged view of the difficulty under which those colonies labour,—and, seeing that one chief cause which raised the price of produce was the difficulty in getting to the shipping port, he proposed the construction of a railway. He went to capitalists interested in the island—to those who had large mortgages, and who were fearful of their safety—he applied to planters and West India merchants; but he could not obtain the slightest encouragement from any one of those parties for making that railway. At last, fearing he must give it up as a bad job, he proposed it—to whom do you think? To two or three Free-Traders in Liverpool, and in less than two days the capital was subscribed. (Cheers.) In that short time a sufficient sum was raised to make a railway in the island of Jamaica by the very Free-Traders who are charged with having the intention to ruin that colony. The gentleman who originated that railway is a native of that island; I believe his main interest and all his sympathies are in it—his chief sympathies are bound up with it. He is, I believe, very shortly to return to Jamaica for the purpose of attending to his own estates, and preaching the doctrine of Free Trade and an entire equalization of the sugar duties. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, there is one very grave question, which the present proposition of the Minister and the position of this question leave open to the British community, and the British merchant in particular. A year ago, Sir Robert Peel introduced a new sugar bill; twelve months have now nearly passed away since that measure was introduced; but it has been perfectly inoperative except for the purpose of disorganizing trade and baffling every calculation which the merchant, planter, or dealer could make. It has been utterly useless for all the intended benefits as far as the consumer was concerned: it has only operated in allowing a small quantity of slave-produced sugar to come in, which it was intended particularly to exclude. (Hear.) But in the meantime your merchants have found it utterly impossible, upon anything like an ordinary security to base their calculations as to what their future transactions would be. A year of anxious and insecure time has passed over; the Minister has promised from one session to another to propose a final measure as far as he was concerned. Is it the proposition of this session? Now he comes down to the House and proposes a new law of so difficult and intricate a description that I believe there is not one merchant in the city of London who will take upon himself to say what its operation will be for the next twelve months. (Hear.) How, then, can it be that the mercantile interests of this country can go on with anything like certainty if, session after session, new laws and fresh propositions, each more intricate than the last, are to succeed each other in this way? How will it be with the West Indians themselves; for in looking at these papers I find that they have been expecting, in anticipation of the next mail, a notification of something like a final settlement of this question? They are laying their account for it, and, looking out for capital to embark in their estates, they know that that capital will not be available unless some permanent arrangement be made; and until those duties are put upon something like a secure basis they will find they are as far off it as ever. This is one of the great evils of the protective system, that you never are or can be settled as long as you remain protected. I believe that the West Indians as a body have lost more years they have gained by protection, and that in five years they would be in a better position if it were removed, not gradually, but totally and entirely, to-day, than they would be if you continued their monopoly to the full extent. I believe that these improvements, of which they themselves have furnished evidence, can be effected in this experiment which they have made; it would place

them in a position, in a very short time, by the application of capital, skill, and the spur of competition, to compete with the whole world, and supply sugar cheaper, and at a larger profit to themselves, than they ever have done, or ever will do, under the present protective system. (Cheers.) I am quite sure that no rational person, as long as this association continues, can hope for any permanent settlement of these questions, except by the entire giving up of this protection. I am quite satisfied, from the vigour, spirit, and determination which the Anti-Corn-Law League has shown from the first,—from the perseverance with which it has followed out its objects,—the success attending its labours hitherto, and from the encouragement which it receives to persevere yet further,—that, until all protective systems and every particle of commercial monopoly are given up, there is no chance of this agitation subsiding. (Loud cheers.) I therefore trust that the day is not far distant when all the protected interests, whether they be of sugar or corn, will come to the conclusion that there is some way by which their interests may be rendered mutual with that of the world at large; and I trust they will discover some means by which they can be rendered so reciprocally beneficial without their seeking for undue favouritism and advantage. I believe that can only be accomplished by a perfect and unreserved Free Trade, and an entire abandonment and repudiation of the protective system. (Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then came forward and said—Ladies and gentlemen, I beg to introduce to you our distinguished and eloquent friend, who has long proved himself a great and powerful advocate of Free Trade, Mr. George Thompson.

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON then came forward amid prolonged and reiterated applause, which having subsided he addressed the meeting as follows:—I deem it, Sir, a high and noble privilege to be permitted to occupy such a position as that in which I now stand. If pride were allowable under any circumstances, a man, I think, might be forgiven being proud to address such an audience as this, on so important a theme, surrounded by such individuals as occupy this platform, and various other portions of this house. It is gratifying to know, in giving utterance to what we believe to be just, humane, and enlightened opinions, that our audience is not confined within these walls, but that we find an audience of millions of men, wherever our language is known, and in whatever locality the measures we recommend are likely to affect the interests and destinies of the human race. (Loud cheering.) I do not think there is a spot on the surface of the globe to which human eyes are directed with more interest than that on which we stand to-night. I do not believe there is a question agitating the minds of intelligent beings in any part of the world, more important than the one which is occupying our attention to-night. I do not think there is a question that enters more minutely into the concerns of men, or is more closely and inseparably allied to their best temporal interests. (Cheers.) We are not even discussing a national question; for we hold it to be true that Free Trade is not only the right of men individually, but that it is the interest of nations universally. (Cheers.)

We are not advocating the cause of our country alone, still less of any particular class in the community, but of men everywhere, wherever they live—and where do they not?—under the primeval curse of earning their bread in the sweat of their brow. (Cheers.) All we ask is that human industry should possess its own; that men should be permitted to enjoy the fruits of their honest labour—that no man should be permitted to rob them in the quantity, quality, or price of that which they obtain in exchange for their labour. (Hear.) It is exceedingly difficult to know on what topic to address an audience in Covent-garden Theatre. I would advise the man who expects to speak here at any time never to read the speeches that are made upon these occasions, or even to hear them. Let him content himself with the merits of this question, and be as ignorant as he can be of what goes on in this house, or in reference to the question of Free Trade in other public meetings; for if he should attend them, or read the addresses there delivered, he cannot, while he sits here, or while he meditates elsewhere, select a topic on which he does not know that eloquence and argument have been almost exhausted, and he cannot choose a subject without treading over ground that has already been traversed by those who have gone before him. In fact, our ground is growing every day narrower, even if we take in all the topics that are legitimately in connexion with this question. We had a good many fallacies afloat in days past, but now they are exploded. (Laughter.) The man would be fighting a shadow to-night who got up to battle with "the paramount interest of agriculture." He would be contending with a shadow who got up to talk about "peculiar burdens," for we have never been able to find them, and the squires will not help us to do so, or show us where they are. We cannot even take up the old topics on which we used to talk, namely, the antidotes to distress, depression, and misery, which, when brought forward, were all intended to direct public attention away from the one great source of evil, and the one grand remedy for existing grievances. We hear no more said now about emigration as a substitute for a repeal of the Corn Laws; no more talk—or very little at most—of home colonization; and scarcely anything of national education, as the things to which the public should direct their attention; and not much, I believe, considering the sensation created awhile ago, on the subject of allotments of land. We may, however, glance, Sir, to-night, at some events which have transpired since the last public meeting was held in this place. Several interesting events have subsequently occurred. The first to which I will allude is the holding of a great meeting in Manchester, at which the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League laid a report before their constituents. It was a good report. As our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic would say, it was "a most satisfactory document." (Cheers and laughter.) It stated that £28,000 had been collected in fifteen months; that our respected Chairman would not again have to sustain a defeat in the Southern Division of Lancashire. (Great cheering.) It reported that his defeat had led to the enfranchisement of about 1750 individuals in that county, and the obtaining of a clear majority of more than 1000 of the votes in that county in the cause of Free Trade. (Much cheering.) The report also alleged that a great effort, and a successful one too, had been

made in the cause of registration in almost all parts of the country; that much had been done in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and that that important portion of the kingdom is not likely soon to be again represented by two gentlemen who are monopolists. It went on to state, that in other parts of the kingdom, in North Cheshire, as well as in the county in which we are assembled, much had been done in the way of carrying out the plan so ably devised by the distinguished gentleman on the platform, and his coadjutors, for the purpose of regenerating the county constituencies of the kingdom. (Loud cheers.) All this is reported; and, in addition, a sanguine expectation is held out, that when the magnificent Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar is held in this place, in May next, there will be such an addition made to the League fund, as the result of the entrance and purchase money connected with that grand exhibition, that the maximum sum asked for at the hands of the public in the cause of Free Trade will be quite, if not more than, realized. (Loud cheers.) We have not only had a report from the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League of a most gratifying character, but, on the other hand, we have also perused, in the city of London, accounts of a grand meeting of the Agricultural Protection Society. (Laughter.) I have read the report of that meeting, but I cannot pronounce upon it the same verdict which I have with reference to the report of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Hear, hear.) A more stale, flat, unprofitable, and unargumentative document I have never before seen (laughter); all rationality seems to have fled from the heads of the men who are connected with that Protection Society. (Laughter.) While it seems to be only necessary to join the Anti-Corn-Law League for an individual to become a sensible man (cheers and laughter), it seems only requisite to join the Protection Society in order to become most confused in intellect (renewed laughter)—most incapable of understanding the subject, and still less of arguing respecting it. I will undertake to sacrifice anything you shall please to condemn me to forfeit if you will find an individual who will point out to me, throughout the speeches made at the Freemasons' Tavern on the occasion of the great agricultural dinner, one argument. (Cheers and laughter.) It is needless to dwell on that spectacle. If there was nothing edifying, there was something at least amusing, and a vast deal supremely ridiculous. (Laughter.) We have also recently had a Queen's speech. On that it will not become me to speak, excepting to say that it is as tame as queens' and kings' speeches usually are, and has turned out as delusive as such speeches generally turn out to be. And we have had, above all this, a financial statement from the Prime Minister of the country, which seems to be the topic of topics at the present moment. And what shall we say of this? I will not say it wants skill, but I will assert that it wants courage. (Cheers.) I will not allege it wants plausibility, and tact, and eloquence, but that it is vastly deficient in honesty and truth. (Cheers.) I will not say it does not profess sympathy with the poor, but I will say that the measures recommended do not possess much power to benefit this class of society, which seems to be, according to the words of the right honourable baronet, the special object of his sympathy and regard. (Cheers.) It has been already stated by the enlightened gentleman who has preceded me, that with the measures of Sir Robert Peel brought before the public in that statement we do not seriously quarrel. They are good as far as they go. We are thankful to know that the course is now being cleared by degrees for the grand heat. (Laughter and cheers.) This might not be absolutely necessary, but at all events it will prove to be convenient. We shall not now have deputations going up to Government about glass. We see through that subject now. (Great laughter.) We shall hear no more of deputations on the subject of coals, unless others come up to London to ask for an export duty again to be put on that article, which is not very probable. (Laughter.) Sir Robert allows the introduction of certain kinds of woods to save off the discussions on other subjects; and then, by delusive schemes, which Mr. Wilson has so ably exposed—and no man can do so better, and few so well—he tries to be exceedingly sweet on the community, and to put off the repeal of the Corn Laws by giving us a lollipop. (Laughter.) Now, some benefit will doubtless accrue from these changes. We cannot contemplate without thankfulness any prospect of glass windows being put into the cabins of the Irish. (Cheers.) We are very curious to know whether we shall have our watches and chronometers regulated by glass balances instead of steel ones, for we are told that one of these remarkable curiosities was exhibited by the Prime Minister of England on the Treasury benches the other night. We find little fault with that which he has done. His grievous sin lies in what he has omitted, and it is a heavy one for such a man to commit,—with his knowledge of this country, its geographical position, its high and wide connexion with the world at large, the peculiarities of its population and the resources for which it is distinguished, as well as the many features for which it is celebrated,—that he can satisfy his own conscience and seek to pacify the public and the world, by coming down to the House of Commons for the purpose of reducing duties on certain articles without disturbing those gigantic robberies in the shape of protection which are still permitted to live unscathed and even unthreatened by the Prime Minister. (Great cheering.) He has granted what we never asked for. We did not demand a reduction of taxes levied for the purposes of revenue. We did ask for a reduction and annihilation of the taxes levied for the sole purpose of protection; but Sir Robert Peel has not only not touched the protective system, but he has rather strengthened it and augmented its profits, so far as he has meddled with it at all. Errors of judgment have been corrected by the right hon. baronet. He has known how to remedy the defects of his predecessors in matters of legislation upon minor points. This he has done certainly. He has shown a degree of sagacity, industry, patient toil, and mastery of details, perhaps superior to what almost any other man could have exhibited; but what else has he done? He has corrected those errors of Parliament, those defects in legislation, which may be referred more to the judgment than to the heart—more to the intellect than to the want of principle; but he has left alone that vice of legislation against which the whole community is crying out, and he has purchased the support of great monopolists, holding out to the people the prospect of buying certain articles more cheaply, and importing others more abundantly, although that very reduction in taxation they themselves will have to make up, and he



therefore is only making them a present of a part of their own. For what does he do? He says, "There is a surplus revenue for this year of £5,000,000 sterling; but I mean to continue the income-tax. I might do away with that obnoxious impost, and meet all the ordinary expenses of the State until April, 1847, without having recourse to that or any property-tax. I recommend nevertheless that you should continue it for the three years, and in exchange for the £5,000,000 taken out of the pockets of the people I will reduce the taxes on glass, cotton, coals, &c. &c., to the amount of a million and a half, two millions, or three millions." This is exceedingly generous; but I say again that we do not find fault with what he has done. His sin as a statesman lies in not having done that which he ought to have done. He has abated minor evils, but left the monster evil undisturbed. Small benefits have been conferred that huge injuries might go unredressed and in the matter of sugar be augmented. Sir Robert Peel has aimed at popularity by giving the people a part of that which he took from them in the first instance, and he has made the monopolists disgorge absolutely nothing. He has shifted the burdens, but he has not lessened them; as Mr. Cobden prophesied, he has shuffled the cards, and nothing more. The inrush of protection still remains; but, happily, the League exists too. (Cheers.) I have been met by one or two parties in the street, since Friday night, and they have said to me, "I suppose you are not going to carry on your League operations any more, are you?" My simple reply to that has been given in the shape of another question—"Are the Corn Laws repealed? Are the sugar duties abolished? May the corn, coffee, rice, sugar, and tobacco of other countries come in upon equal terms with the productions of our own plantations? If not, the League has yet its work to do, and is determined to do it." (Loud cheers.) What does Sir Robert Peel say? He says, "British industry must be protected; our trade with the colonies is important, and our merchantships must be guarded on their way over the great ocean, that they may arrive safely at their destination, and return uninjured back again. All this is for the sake of British industry. Very well, we thank him for allowing us to have ten line-of-battle ships, and moreover for promising that he will equip some steamers, so that we may indulge in the prospect of a safe sail to Jamaica or New South Wales, unafraid by any buccaner, or Prince de Joinville. (Laughter.) But we did not ask for ships; we did not seek so much to profit by means of war-steamer as through the results of fellowship in the way of trade, reciprocity in the form of benefits, copartnership upon a universal scale, all contributing alike to one another's happiness, and rendering a quarrel almost as impossible or unlikely as that two partners in Fleet-street should quarrel, break their windows, and tumble their own goods into the street. (Laughter and cheers.) If there be one part of Sir Robert Peel's financial statement which I regard with greater dislike than any other, it is the ridiculous affectation of humanity to the negro slaves across the Atlantic. (Hear, hear.) This has been most ably exposed by the gentleman who has gone before me; and I shall, therefore, say no more than this, that I unite with him in denouncing so barefaced an inconsistency as that into which Sir Robert Peel has fallen—fallen intentionally and designedly. (Hear, hear.) He has made the humanity of the people of this country a means of adding them with an annual tax; Mr. Wilson will tell you how much, but I think I shall not be far wrong in saying that the extra price which we shall have to pay for our sugar will much exceed two millions sterling; and this at the same time that he allows the cotton of America to come free of duty. (Hear, hear.) If it is good for us to have cotton, why should it not be beneficial for us to have corn also? (Hear, hear, hear.) If he has got over his scruples as to the cotton, and it is now to be allowed to come in not by paying a small duty, but absolutely free, why will he not allow us to have corn? (Hear, hear.) This is excluded. I know that there is a way of circumventing even this prohibition—namely, by carrying the corn of the western states down the rivers, and across the frontiers into our British Canadian possessions, where, on paying a small duty, it is permitted to be shipped into this country, where it is received on paying a nominal duty. But the Americans do not like this mode of doing business. (Hear, hear.) They want a direct, uninterrupted, immediate access to our ports, and they are fully able to supply us out of the superabundance of their produce with those necessities and comforts of life of which we stand so greatly in need. (Cheers.) Now, if Sir Robert Peel be that friend to peace which he professes to be,—if he be that sympathetic man which he desires us to believe that he is—for he tells us that he was deeply touched by the statements made by one of the deputations, though the House was so uncivil as to receive that announcement with something like a giggle and a laugh; so that the right hon. baronet was obliged to repeat his assertion, and to assure hon. gentlemen on the opposite side that he could feel, and had felt (laughter).—If, I say, Sir Robert Peel has a heart, and is the friend of peace, how is it that his heart does not beat high in the anticipation of securing peace by obtaining from America that of which our country is so much in need? (Hear, hear.) If there is one thing to be deprecated more than another, to be deplored above all other things, save and except a civil war, it is a conflict with our kinsmen on the opposite side of the Atlantic. (Hear, hear.) No disruption could be more calamitous, no spectacle more revolting, no conflict more unnatural than a war between the people of this country and the inhabitants of the United States. (Hear.) Well, our friends on the other side of the Atlantic suggest a mode of rendering this disruption impossible. They tell us what they can do—what they have—how much of what they possess they can spare—and they tell us what they are willing to take in exchange. They have, in fact, just that which we require, and we are able to produce that which they most need; and Sir Robert Peel has it in his power, if he pleases, to put their raw cotton into the shape of fabricated prints, and to send it out again to array the forms of those who are able to return flour, cheese, butter, pork, and beef, for the support of those who wave and spun the cotton in this country. (Loud cheers.) But no; with admirable consistency and equal humanity, what does he do? He says, "You may have as much as you please of slave-grown cotton;—the duty was before but five-sixteenths of a penny; but that is now removed—"huy, and work, and spin, and rejoice, and be merry. But," he adds, "if, when you have worked up this cotton in the mill, and you have spun it

in the loom—if, when fair fingers have tambered it at Paisley, any one of you, or your workpeople, should desire to purchase a pound of Brazilian sugar, you must not do so, for Brazilian sugar is prohibited—it is the produce of slave labour. It is true that you have gained all you have by working up slave-labour produce, but you must not have even half a pound of Brazilian sugar, because it is the produce of slavery." (Hear, hear.) But, worse than that, they may not taste American corn. The cotton, which is slave-grown, may come in; the corn, which is free-grown, is excluded. Now, Sir, I believe you will bear testimony to the truth of what I say, when I affirm that there are thousands and tens of thousands who hold our principles in America. Although Henry Clay hoisted the standard of protection, it must not be supposed that all who voted for him were the friends of monopoly. There were other reasons which induced many to vote for him besides a love of protection; while, on the other hand, we know that at least a large proportion of those who carried Mr. Polk into the chair of the Presidency were avowedly Free-Traders. I have, read, since I came upon this platform, one of the most eloquent speeches that I ever met with against protection in my life, by the present Secretary of State, the Honourable Mr. Calhoun. (Hear, hear.) Though I differ from that gentleman on some points, I do say that on the question of Free Trade his language is straightforward and statesman-like, not only consistent with the best interests of his own but also of our country. (Hear, hear.) I heartily wish that he may carry out this part, at least, of his plans, however I may desire that he may fall in some others. (Hear.) I say that the party who thus sympathise with us in the United States is a strong party; and no wonder that it should be so. I will not give you many figures, but will merely state that when the census of the United States was made in 1840 the total population amounted to 17,069,453. In the middle states, that is to say New York, Jersey, Pennsylvania, &c. &c., the population was 5,118,076; in the north-western states, comprising Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, it was 4,131,370, making in the middle and north-western states, as contradistinguished from the New England and south-western states, 9,249,446, leaving only 7,820,007 amongst all the other states. Now for the argument derivable from this statement in favour of Free Trade. Out of a population of 17,069,453 we find that there were engaged in commerce 117,607, in manufactures 791,749, and in agriculture 3,719,951. Now the agriculturists are the men whom we want for our customers. (Hear, hear, hear.) The longer we delay the greater are our straits and embarrassments, and the farther off is the prospect of reaping, when the change shall come, the advantages now within our reach. We have lost many already. Every year hundreds and thousands of young men in the New England States coming from college, and, having to choose what they shall be for their future lives, their hearts yearn for the prairies of the west; and when I was in that country, five hundred a day have I seen bearing for the borders of that vast territory, where they expected to find a home and an inheritance for their children. But they have been stopped in their career; they have been kept and fixed where they are, and have turned, or rather been made, manufacturers, which they did not desire to be, because you would not give them encouragement to become agriculturists, which they wished to become. This has done that which Sir Robert Peel professes to deplore; it has added to the number of planters who have laid out their capital in the purchase of gangs of slaves, and are found now among the growers of cotton, because you will not allow them to be cultivators of corn. That is the effect of the course which has been pursued by this country. The Government cannot be more pro-slavery in anything than they are in their conduct with regard to the agricultural produce of the United States of America; nor in the exclusion of all descriptions of sugar on the payment of an equal amount of duty. (Hear, hear, hear.) Having examined this question since we met here last year, I am only more deeply confirmed in the opinion which I then expressed, that the Anti-slavery party in this kingdom, with the purest and noblest intentions, are injuring the cause which they would fain serve, and procrastinating the day when competition and free labour shall destroy, not only slavery, but that traffic which grows out of it—the detestable commerce in the species between America and Africa. (Loud cheers.) I have only one other remark to make, with regard to America, and that is that whereas our supply of provisions in this country is known to be tolerably short,—for we have it on the authority of a clerical gentleman himself, that five millions of our population rejoice in potatoes, and a very large number in oatmeal,—and while a great proportion of the population, though they taste wheat bread, have much less of it than they desire;—while such are the facts with regard to our own country, it appears, from some tables inserted in an admirable pamphlet, entitled "American Corn and British Manufactures," that every man, woman, and child in the United States has 42 bushels of grain a year—that is to say, they have that to divide amongst them. (Hear, hear.) Only the other day I received a letter from a relative of mine who has recently gone out to the United States. It says, "If I were required to come back to England, I don't think I could make up my mind to it, because I should fancy that you were all starving, for we are rolling in plenty. We have," it adds, "on this, which is not an extraordinary day, roast turkey and plum pudding for dinner." (Laughter.) Now, I say that if Sir Robert Peel were to turn his attention to these things, we should give him more credit for compassion and sympathy with the sufferings of the people, for integrity and consistency, than he can expect in his present course of conduct to receive at our hands. I am thankful, however, that, in the present session, it has been rendered more apparent by what it is this distinguished man is fettered in office—by what parties he is bound and trammelled in pursuing his onward course. The fact is, my friends, that he has a sack of corn at one ankle, and a hoghead of sugar at the other; and when a man is manacled with a sack of corn at one ankle, and a hoghead of sugar at the other, it is not to be expected that he can make very great progress. Such seems to be the unfortunate predicament of Sir Robert Peel. Still we do not deem him to be in a hopeless condition. (Hear, hear.) We know that he is not unable to learn. We know that he is not blind—that he can read the signs of the times. We do not think that he is so completely disheartened that he would throw up office, and patronage, and friends, and connections, and all that surrounds him, in

his present position, rather than touch the Corn Laws, or the sugar monopoly. (Hear.) No; he wants a motive. He showed a glass balance in the House of Commons. There is another sort of balance that regulates his chronometer most exactly: he never escapes from it—it governs all his movements. Whether he is at Drayton House, Windsor Castle, the Pavilion at Brighton, Whitehall, or in St. Stephen's, this balance regulates him in all he says and does. I am not sure that it does not regulate his very looks. This balance is public opinion. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) He will do what is right when he cannot help doing it. (Hear, hear.) My friends, I remember who has to come after me, and I will not encroach upon the time which properly belongs to him. (Loud cries of "Go on, go on.") But I will conclude by putting this question:—Is there anything in Sir Robert Peel's financial statement to justify us in relaxing in our efforts? (Loud cries of "No, no.") You answer for me "No." On the contrary, we should be ungrateful were we to recede from the vantage-ground which we have attained—if we were not to profit by the lesson which this very financial statement reads us. A short time ago there were seven hundred excuses for not repealing the Corn Laws, and we have now got four hundred and thirty more. What a powerful body must we be when even the Prime Minister of England dare not attempt to excuse himself for neglecting what we think he ought to do with less than seven hundred, or at the very least four hundred and thirty, excuses in his mouth! Ay, he is obliged to print and circulate and get others to circulate them in order that he may delay for a little longer the sentence, condemnation, and execution of the Corn Laws. There is, I contend, every motive to urge us to proceed. The triumph which we have obtained in the recognition of our principles, the abandonment of the fallacies with which we had to grapple, the giving up of all those excuses which were once pleaded for the Corn Laws—these triumphs, I say, of the justice and truth of our cause are so many motives to continued and increased exertions. (Hear, hear.) While protection exists the Anti-Corn-Law League must proceed, adding strength to strength, numbers to numbers, force to force. We have made thus far an amazing progress, greater than any similar association ever made, I believe, in the history of the world. And when men hereafter shall inquire in what way they may overthrow some hoary abuse, protected by power, surrounded and defended by wealth, rank, and corruption—when they would learn whether they may venture to hope that, by exertion, toil, and sacrifice, they can bring such an abuse to the ground—they shall then turn to the pages which record the history of the Anti-Corn-Law League: they shall therein learn that voluntary association will work greater miracles than the hands of them who reared the Pyramids; that bloodless revolutions may be brought about by the agitation of men's minds; that there are weapons that cannot be struck down in the warfare; that there is a power which, though impalpable and invisible, is yet universal and irresistible, and will outlive Ministers, and Governments, and States, and rule the world when man is man indeed. Mr. G. Thompson resumed his seat amid rapturous applause.

The CHAIRMAN then came forward and said:—Ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour of introducing to you your old and well-tried friend, whose exertions to remove those odious Corn Laws have not only made him the benefactor of his country, but of all mankind. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. BRIGGS then came forward amidst prolonged cheers, and said:—I may be excused if I feel some anxiety in being called upon to address this meeting after the two speeches to which we have listened—one delivered by a gentleman who is well known as a perfect master of the science of political economy; the other by a gentleman celebrated, not only in this kingdom, but in distant parts of the globe, as a perfect master of the art of oratory. My confidence arises, however, from the fact, that the question which we are met to-night to discuss is one of vast importance, and almost limitless extent. I know not that the profoundest thinker, or the most powerful speaker, however much he may exert himself, can get farther than the very borders of this question; for, day by day, as we are connected with it and investigate it, we continually find more and more beauties, and become more and more enamoured of the great work in which we are engaged. (Cheers.) Its course has been like that of every other great question. Its beginning was feeble enough. At its commencement it was wrapped up in much sophistry and mystification. Fallacies the most ludicrous, pretensions the most absurd, were put forward to oppose the progress of those principles of which we have been the humble exponents to the people of this country. But now this sophistry and mystification, these fallacies and pretensions, have all vanished; and the question of Free Trade—the object for the promotion of which the Anti-Corn-Law League is organized—stands before the people of this country in the simple form; we have justice confronting wrong and oppression; and we are asking the people of this empire to side with justice against oppression. (Cheers.) Two principles are offered for your adoption. The one goes by the name of Protection, the other by the title of Free Trade. At the Mansion-house, and at a police-office not far from this place, men sometimes give false names. (Laughter.) If they have committed any act which is disgraceful and criminal, not being entirely lost to shame, they give a name by which they are not commonly known. (Renewed laughter.) Thus the men who support this system,—who for thirty years at least have laid hold, with a violent hand, upon the subsistence of the tolling millions of this country,—those individuals dare not call their system by the name which it justly deserves, but have assumed that of "protection"—an amiable and harmless thing. (Laughter.) On the other hand the Free-Trade principle is offered to you; and I believe that no meetings have not been held in this building and elsewhere without this effect, that there is now an almost universal assent to the beauty and honesty of the principles which the League is established to promote. (Hear, hear.) These great principles, or rather these great

the great "Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture," and the other the "National Anti-Corn-Law League." We have learned that protection is a robbery of those upon whom it acts, that it is enervating and injurious even to those who seek to profit by it. It is supported, for the most part, in this country by landowners, great and small; not by facts, reason, argument, and proof, but by force, fraud, cajolery, and delusion, practiced upon every class which comes within the range of its influence. The protection societies formed twelve months ago were fitting means of promoting this odious system. From them was formed the great Central Association, which has opened an office in this metropolis; and, to be particular, I may state that I am informed that it is at No. 17, Bond-street. (Laughter.) Now, in the north of England I have occasionally seen circulars which have been sent down from some certainly not very respectable firms in the city of London, offering to any party in the manufacturing districts, who was thought to be short of capital, certain accommodation bills, to be drawn, accepted, endorsed, dishonoured, and renewed, to be again dishonoured. (Laughter.) Now, those firms may be called swindling concerns; and I have been endeavouring to discover whether the establishment at 17, Bond-street, is not of the same character. (Laughter.) I told them in the House of Commons the other night, that they ought to put a sign over their door with this inscription upon it, "British farmers regularly taken in and done for." (Laughter.) The brass plate might have engraved upon it, "Richmond and Company." (Repeated laughter.) They offer to the farmers accommodation to help them out of their distresses; fraudulent bills of every description; promises which never can be realized; acts of Parliament which are of no more value for the purposes for which they are passed than the parchment upon which they are engrossed. And thus they lure on thousands of farmers to a reliance upon a support which must fail them, and to a ruin from which there is no escape. (Hear, hear.) This society is curiously formed. There are in it political landlords, dukes, lords, earls, baronets, and so forth; and then there is an unpleasant and amphibious creature who is known by the name of a land-valuer—half farmer, half small squire; (great applause)—there is a little also of the common steward and the auctioneer in his composition. Now, the leaders of this firm are the Dukes of Buckingham and Richmond; and time was when Sir Edward Knatchbull might have been regarded as filling the same character. It reminds me very much of a society which we hear of in "Martin Chuzzlewit," called, I believe, "The Anglo-Bengalee Disinterested Loan Society." (Laughter.) I believe the chairman of the board of directors and the one individual who formed the board were enriched; but all those who trusted to their professions were duped and ruined. Now, first, with respect to the Duke of Buckingham. When the Government came into office, that great man—"Planchette," I believe, is his name—was a member of that Cabinet. He was a farmers' friend. It became necessary to alter the Corn Laws, and greatly to modify the tariff, and it was not desirable for further purposes, to be hereafter accomplished, that the confidence of the farmers in the Duke of Buckingham should be entirely destroyed. He, therefore, left the Cabinet, and did not interfere with the carrying of those Free-Trade measures. But did he get anything for so doing? I am not able to estimate the compensation which he received, but it was stated in the public newspapers that he received what is called "a garter." (Laughter.) Let no one imagine that this garter is that homely article by which stockings are kept up. (Renewed laughter.) I do not know exactly what it is, because I never saw one, but I have some information from the ordinary sources that it is a decoration, a sort of toy, which the men in the pit of this theatre would laugh at, or be insulted if any one supposed they were for a moment covetous of; but still a decoration for which gentlemen with long lines of ancestry will do very dirty work. (Loud cheers.) I know not its use unless it be that it gives a man precedence of some one else. I have heard of magnetic or metallic rings, some contrivance by which either very wise or very superstitious people fancy they can cure *le docteur* and other complaints; it may be that this collar, or garter, may have some effect upon the body; but of this I am perfectly certain, that it comes like a shock of paralysis upon anything like independence and honourable feeling. (Loud cheers.) Then the next in the firm is the Duke of Richmond. (Laughter.) It is hard to tell whether he is not a bigger man than the Duke of Buckingham. He once talked as though he had made the Cabinet, and intimated that if its members did not do his bidding he would unmake it. (Hear.) Well, one would suppose that the Free-Trade measures of the Government had made the Duke of Richmond exceedingly hostile to it. When he talks to the farmers he tells them of his independance, of his having led soldiers to battle some time during the last generation, and that so long as there is a drop of blood in his veins he will stand by the British farmer. (Laughter.) What does all this mean? The Duke of Richmond is believed to be a rich man, but his brothers are supposed to be very poor. He allows his brother, or brothers, a small income out of the family property until they can get settled under the Government. Now, one of the Duke of Richmond's brothers—I know not whether he has more, but probably he has—is Lord Arthur Lennox, who has been placed in office, under this Government, as a Lord of the Treasury, and, I believe, holds the command of his regiment at the same time. The salary of a Lord of the Treasury is reputed to be about £1200 a year. Things are very much now as they were when Butler wrote his "Hudibras;" then it was £200 a year, now it is £1200.—

"What makes all doctrines plain and clear?  
About twelve hundred pounds a year.  
And that which was proved true before,  
Prove false again? Twelve hundred more." (Laughter.)

But the Duke of Richmond has a son known to the public by the title of the Earl of March; who represents, I believe, the district of West Sussex; and he also has had special favour from this Government. I am told that he has had left the army and shaved off his moustachios. (Laughter.) Now, I have often suspected that a vast deal of the gallant bearing of these men really consists in their moustachios. (Renewed laughter.) But I am told he has left the Blues.—(I may make a mistake in using these words, because I am not very conversant with such matters, where he was a lieutenant, and he has now an

unattached company on half-pay, and is besides a paid aide-de-camp to the Commander-in-Chief, the Duke of Wellington, a Cabinet Minister. It appears to me that this trade of a farmers' friend is not a bad one. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, you know the Duke of Richmond is remoured to be in the habit of withdrawing the family allowance when his brothers and relations get settled in life,—that is, settled upon you. (Laughter.) If, therefore, by his brother becoming a Lord of the Treasury, he is able to dispense with the allowance of £300 a year, why, then, that amount is some compensation to his grace for the loss which he sustained owing to the free trade in salmon. (Cheers.) We now come to Sir E. Knatchbull. (Laughter.) You recollect he comes from the county of Kent; that he once made a speech upon the question of the Corn Laws in the House of Commons, and as a country gentleman, a member of the House, told me the other day, "it was a very imprudent statement." (Laughter.) He spoke of the settlements of the daughters of the nobility and gentry, but never for a moment thought of the settlements of the daughters of farmers and labourers. (Hear, hear.) It is understood that Sir Edward Knatchbull is about to be called to the other House of Parliament, to be, as some people have expressed it, "translated." It is further understood that Sir Robert Peel has declined to give peerages or promotions in the peerage since his advent to office except on the ground of special service, for this very good reason, that he had a list of applicants so long that it would reach almost from Charing-cross to the House of Commons, and that he did not like, or dared not promote any one except where there were special reasons for it, because he would thereby offend all those whom he did not promote. Then we take it for granted that there are special services in the case of Sir E. Knatchbull. According to the newspapers, he is to be created Viscount Penenden. (Laughter.) Now, I believe there are special services which that hon. baronet has performed. He was taken into the Cabinet in 1841, along with the Duke of Buckingham, as a sort of decoy-duck. (Loud laughter.) He was understood to have such an unblemished reputation, to stand with a character so entirely unassailable, that his coming into the Cabinet and remaining there would be an undeniable guarantee that protection was not to be meddled with. Yet, Sir Edward has sat there with his hands in his pockets, and his chin upon his breast, enjoying the most comfortable slumbers imaginable, whilst laws have been passing through Parliament which, if his principles be true, must inevitably sacrifice the best interests of the paramount class in this country. (Hear, hear, hear.) However, it is not to be regretted that we should be relieved in that House from the soporific influence of his presence. He goes to that which has been fitly termed "the House of lacurables;" and I declare, without any reservation whatever, that I never beheld a man who, from nature or habit, was so likely or well qualified to occupy a bench in that House as Viscount Penenden. (Laughter.) You will see from these cases of Buckingham, Richmond, and Knatchbull that this trade of farmers' friends is really a very thriving affair. It is like the business in guano from Ichaboe, only it cannot be considered nearly so clean. (Loud cheers and laughter.) I would ask you to go to the class who are really agricultural; for these men of whom we have been speaking are not agriculturists. (Hear.) Ask the farmers how they fare under this system? I have heard of none of them getting rich church livings; no garters. (Laughter.) Some labourers have no stockings even. (Renewed laughter.) No, there are no titles, nor army or naval, or civil promotions for the men who have invested capital in the soil of England under the faith of these Corn Laws. And of the labourers it is hard to speak: it is a subject too sorrowful to joke upon; if it were not, I should say that the only decoration to which they are admissible is that of the order of the Union. (Cheers.) Well, if these "No. 17 Bond-street gentry" have played such fantastic tricks with the interests of farmers, and with their own principles, how do they conduct themselves when they are in the House of Commons? They sit on the side of the Ministers; they distrust the Government; they look uneasy; a little sullen;—but they do not make any great demonstration of resistance. (Laughter.) I told them the other night of a character given in a very ancient book to certain faithful guardians of old, that they were dumb dogs, who either could not or would not bark. (Cheers.) This was considered rather vituperative. (Laughter.) Sir Robert Peel, not wishing altogether to displease his party, took upon himself to lecture me for want of manners. (Renewed laughter.) He had forgotten charges which had been brought by him against an honourable friend of mine. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) There was another member on the Ministerial side—Mr. Stafford O'Brien, the member for Northamptonshire, chairman of the Publication Committee of the great Central Association, which meets at No. 17, Bond-street. (Laughter.) Now, Mr. Stafford O'Brien is, I was going to say, "guilty," and must be held answerable for the publication of a pamphlet in which the settlements of the venerated Adam Smith are altogether knowingly and intentionally perverted. (Hear, hear.) When I told them how they served their tenants and labourers, he assured me that was not the way to treat the gentry of England. (Laughter.) Now, it is a great mistake that Mr. Stafford O'Brien should have put on the lion's skin and taken upon himself to censure men in the House of Commons. He has disappointed nature that he is not something very different. From his dress, manners, and tone, it is evident that he would have made his fortune as a man-milliner (laughter); and more than that, I believe he might have borne with credit the stupendous responsibilities of such an avocation. (Loud laughter.) These protectionists do not, then, make a great demonstration against the Government. They mutter a little: it is a sort of human growl, but there is no great resolution to bite; their cause is bad, and they know it. (Hear, hear.) Their courage is ebbing out day by day; they have no faith whatever in the maintenance of their objects, and they never had any in the soundness and the honesty of their principles. (Cheers.) Sir Robert Peel drags them along, and they are able to make scarcely any opposition. A very beautiful and pleasure-giving writer, Leigh Hunt, in one of his delightful essays, describes the difficulty with which a very ingenious individual drove a number of pigs to Smithfield. (Cheers.) He says:—"Unwilling has been their subjection, but more in sorrow than in anger." They were too far gone for rage. Their case was hopeless. They did not see why they should proceed, but they felt themselves bound to do so—forced, ungodly, and damned, as they were, to do so.

polled by fate and Peel. Often would they have bolted under any other master. They squeaked and grunted as in ordinary; they sidled, they shuffled, they half stopped; they turned an eye to all the little outlets of escape, but in vain. There they stuck (for their very progress was a sort of sticking), charmed into the centre of his space of action, laying their heads together, but to no purpose; looking all as if they were shrugging their shoulders, and eschewing the tip-end of the whip of office. Much eye had they to their left leg—abroad, backward glances, not a little anticipation-squeak, and sudden rush of avoidance. It was a superfluous clutter, and they felt it; but a pig finds it more difficult than any other animal to accommodate himself to circumstances. Being out of his pale, he is in the highest state of wonderment and inaptitude. He is sluggish, obstinate, opinionate, not very social; has no desire of seeing foreign parts. Think of him in a multitude, forced to travel, and wondering what it is that drives him! Judge by this of the talents of the driver." [The reading of this extract was frequently interrupted by cheers and laughter.] Well, so much for the great Central Society for the Protection of British Agriculture. I take it that it will make a very ridiculous figure on the page of history, if any historian should ever deem it worth his while to notice it. It was an imposture when it was first started (hear, hear); it was got up for the purpose of making some spasmodic effort to perpetuate a gigantic injustice; all the intelligent classes saw through it in a moment, and those whom it was specially intended to delude are now beginning everywhere to find out, that as it has the features of an imposture, so it is one which ought speedily to be put down. (Cheers.) But in the other society, that of which we are a part,—assembled here and organized for the purpose of promoting the advancement of that other great principle of Free Trade and perfect emancipation of industry (cheers),—we have no Buckinghams, Richmonds, and Knatchbills, to whom you can point with stars, garters, titles, and promotions in the army or in the civil service. The prominent men in the Anti-Corn-Law League, whether here or in any other part of the country—for there are hundreds of them—are from the ranks; they have not joined this agitation for the purpose of obtaining place, power, and station. No; if there be one position more honourable and to be coveted than another, it is that it may be believed now and in aftertimes by the people of this land that we have done something in our day and generation to strike off the shackles which bind you, that your country may be made great, powerful, and happy. (The vast assembly here rose en masse, and continued standing for some time cheering and waving hats and handkerchiefs.) From the beginning, six or seven years ago, we have had no reliance except upon this—first the omnipotence of truth; and then upon the intelligence and virtue of our countrymen. We have applied to you time after time, and also to your fellow-men in every part of the kingdom; ay, and that appeal has been nobly responded to. There are no men in this country, I believe, connected with any political movement whatever, who could have had such a response as has been given to the appeal which the Anti-Corn-Law League has made to the population of Great Britain. (Loud cheers.) In 1839 we asked our friends and neighbours, principally in Lancashire and

Yorkshire, for a subscription to begin and carry on the war against the Corn Laws; £5000 was immediately subscribed. In 1840 we requested a further subscription, and £7000 or £8000 were raised for that and a part of the following year. In 1841 we sent out circulars to every county in the kingdom, asking the men who are engaged to teach the doctrines of religion to the people, what they thought about the Corn Laws. We invited them to come to Manchester and confer upon this subject, and not less than 700 of them did leave the districts in which they resided, and, at immense personal inconvenience and great expense, they assembled in Manchester to discuss this momentous question. (Cheers.) In 1842 we had a Bazaar in that town; the ladies provided the articles for it, sold them, and handed £10,000 to the Council of the League as the proceeds. (Hear.) In 1843 we asked for £50,000, and that sum was collected. In 1844 we solicited £100,000, and between £80,000 and £90,000 have been subscribed; although the great Bazaar to be held here in May next, and the proceeds of it, were reckoned when we originally asked the country for £100,000. This year is but young as yet; two months almost have gone, in the first of which, and in the three concluding months of 1844, we asked the Free-Traders in the northern counties not to subscribe money to the Council of the League, but to do that which was more beneficial—to invest some of their property in a powerful weapon by which at the hustings they could defend their rights and liberties. (Immense cheers.) During that time, according to a calculation, which I believe is under the mark, it appears the Free-Traders in those counties, at the recommendation of the Council of the League—in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire chiefly, have invested a sum of not less than £250,000 in the purchase of county qualifications. (Cheers.) There is a class of men, as you know, everywhere, who do not take the trouble to inquire into truth, and then go about spreading that which is not true. There is a set of individuals in the country who say, "This is very unconstitutional in the League; collecting money by thousands and scores of thousands, buying qualifications, and making fictitious votes." (Laughter.) Why, it is no such thing. The League never collected a penny to purchase a qualification for any one. We buy our own qualifications. I have five brothers, there being six of us altogether, and we have spent £900 in the last four months in purchasing qualifications in four counties in the north of England. The whole of this £250,000 has been subscribed by individual Free-Traders in those counties, who are resolved by this means to get within the pale of the constitution of their country that they may fight the battle of their country's rights and liberties on the constitutional ground of the hustings at the next election. (Cheers.) We shall have a Bazaar here in May next, and, from the reports which we have received by letters in London and Manchester, we find that in a large number of towns committees are already at work, and that a very magnificent collection of articles will be submitted for your inspection and purchase in the month of May. But every body in the country asks, "Are they doing what they ought in London?" (Hear.) Now, in the metropolis it is very difficult to form district or local associations for a purpose like this. In a town of twenty thousand inhabitants in the north you can get twenty or thirty ladies to meet together, and take the whole management, and do everything in very short-

time. In the metropolis it is very difficult to form district or local associations for a purpose like this. In a town of twenty thousand inhabitants in the north you can get twenty or thirty ladies to meet together, and take the whole management, and do everything in very short-



note style. Here it is not so easy, because people have their friends living a very long way apart, and they do not know their neighbours so much as they do in the small towns in the north; still I have no doubt that a great deal is being done, and that a vast deal more may and will be accomplished, before we are three months older, for the purpose of adding your contributions to those of your countrymen and countrywomen, in order that we may have in this building—and decorated as it will be in the most magnificent manner—a splendid collection of articles which would be worthy, ay, and would be no discredit to her—the Sovereign of this land herself to visit. (Loud cheers.) I take it that our position as an Anti-Corn-Law League is a very prosperous one. I never advise any one to look on the dark side of things; I always endeavour to look on the cheerful side of the picture; troubles and disasters will come fast enough without going half way to meet them. Recollect who is the Prime Minister of this country now. He did, it is true, come into office upon the shoulders of the great Central Association, or those who since that time have formed it; but what have been his opinions in past times, and what are his plans now? From what source does he expect that fame which he hopes will hereafter attach to his character? I have here a quotation from a speech made by Sir Robert Peel in 1824. He was then Secretary of State. Mr. Huskisson was at that time bringing forward his Free-Trade measure with regard to silks, ribbons, gloves, and so forth. The landowners do not make a great fight about those articles. The report says, "Mr. Secretary Peel exhorted the House to firmness—reminding it that the eyes of Europe were upon it, and he warned Parliament. Now, greatly those sound and irrefragable principles of commercial policy which they had heard so ably advocated would be prejudiced if it were to yield to the fears of the timid, or the representations of the interested." He knew a good deal about it in 1824; he cannot be less informed twenty-one years afterwards. In 1842 he said, "The true policy of a nation is to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market." In his speech on Friday last he had occasion to allude to a certain combination which exists, or is supposed to do so, amongst the coal-owners in the north of England, by which they fail largely and abundantly to supply this metropolis with coal. What was Sir Robert Peel's language with respect to that monopoly? He says, "I must also think that it is a great abuse of a natural monopoly, if there be combinations among coal-mine proprietors for the purpose of restricting the supply and enhancing the price of coal in this country." Now, I will read it in another way: "I must also think it is a great abuse of a natural monopoly if there be a combination among Corn-land proprietors for the purpose of restricting the supply and enhancing the price of corn in this country." (Loud and prolonged cheering.) A man cannot be so blind as not to see what is right with respect to coal, and be altogether oblivious of what is just with reference to corn. Then, towards the conclusion of his speech, he said:—"I know it will be said, that the principles I have laid down are capable of much further extension, and that I ought to have been led, in deference to those principles, to a still more extensive reduction of taxation. But it is our object, while we establish good principles,—at the same time viewing the state of society, the magnitude of the interests involved, the consequences upon those interests of hasty and rash interference,—to realize the utmost degree of good without the disturbance and alarm of interests, which cannot be disturbed and cannot be alarmed without paralyzing the industry of the country." Here there is an open acknowledgment of all the principles that we advocate here and in the House of Commons: it is clear he has no sympathy with the half-a-dozen members of the great Central Society who sit down behind him, but all his sympathies are with the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League who sit opposite to him. If you look to the other side of the table you find Lord John Russell not altogether stationary upon this great question. (Hear, hear.) He has been for three years past pertinaciously adhering to the idea of protection—protection because of special burdens, and protection by means of a fixed duty. What does he say now? Why, he did not let the first night of the session go over without expressing his full conviction that protection was not the support, but the bane, of agriculture (loud cheers); and the night before last, on the discussion upon the Income-tax, he said he adhered to that declaration, that not only had protection been a bane to agriculture, but to every other interest to which it had been applied—to our colonial interest, to the silk manufacture of this country, and to the timber-growers of our North American possessions. Then, where are we? The great and leading men, those to whom parties look up, are agreed upon this principle; and all we are doing is merely assailing those by whose hands and intervention these principles must eventually be carried out. We are only helping them to raise public opinion, enlightening the minds of the people, concentrating their irresistible power, until it shall become great enough to enable them to fix the sanction of the Legislature to a principle so obviously honest and necessary for the prosperity of the country. (Prolonged cheers.) Public opinion, then, is putting down all opposition to this great principle; the chief men of both parties are agreed; those who are not yet convinced I fear never will be; but their power is broken, their determination cowed, and they have not courage to stir out of Parliament to make a fair and manly defence of their principles. Our course then, as a League, is, as it ever has been, onward. The same reliance upon the principle with which we started; the same unflinching faith in the intelligence and power of the population of this kingdom. We have not the thought of going back, have no dreams of compromise, or prospect before us but that of a final and complete triumph. (Cheers.) We are charged, it is true—and there are men who bring the accusation against us, with an adherence to the science of political economy, whose teachings they say are hard, ungenerous, and grasping—they blame us because we do not rashly and suddenly lay hold of every proposition that is made for the purpose of relieving the distress of our countrymen; they censure us because we do not surrender a portion, at least, of this work for the purpose of helping other things which they believe to be essential to the relief of the suffering people of our country. I do not pretend that we are more charitable than other people, but I do assert this, that we have a love of justice as great as that which finds a home in the breast of any man; and that it is from that love of justice, and a belief that in this question, and in its honest settlement, there is, and will be, justice to the industry of this country,

that we pertinaciously adhere to it. What did the Home Secretary tell us only the other night? That subsequent to the close of the war, since the Corn Law of 1815 was imposed, £200,000,000 sterling have been taken from the people in the shape of poor-rates. All this, entirely independent of the vast sums which have been distributed by charitable institutions and private benevolence. He said, moreover, that one-tenth of the population of England and Wales are at this hour paupers (hear, hear); that in these parts of the United Kingdom, the richest portion of the empire, there are at this hour more than a million and a half of persons who are dependent for their subsistence upon parochial relief. I ask you to look, if you can, at that mass of misery, and then tell me what can charity and benevolence do for that? It may touch the edges or fringe of it only—it can make no sensible diminution in it. It cannot in its widest development even prevent its rapid increase. There must be another and a greater remedy than that. We have a charitable plan, not designed by us, but one which involves a principle laid down by the Creator of man when man himself was first formed (immense cheering): this plan is self-working; it requires no dukes or lords to patronize it; nor is it necessary that it should have the permissive smiles of titled and honourable ladies. It does not ask for a string of ornamental names as a committee, or subscription books upon the counters of the west-end bankers. No; this plan is one of a different nature altogether; it is not like mere charity that with cumbrous machinery gives relief to hundreds or thousands—not the most necessitous or really deserving, but rather the most importunate—but it is a principle which would spread through every rank of society, permeate through all classes of the community, and the highest and the lowest would see the beauty of it. There is not a wretch in any garret or cellar who would not find the darkness of his despair rendered less dark, if this just and blessed principle should receive the sanction of the law. (The hon. gentleman concluded the above eloquent address amid a burst of enthusiastic cheering and waving of hats, which continued for some time.)

The CHAIRMAN then came forward and said—I beg to inform you that the proceedings of this meeting are at an end, and when the time for the next meeting is fixed upon it will be duly announced to you.

Several hearty cheers having been given for the League, the meeting separated.

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING IN BIRMINGHAM.

At a recent meeting of the League Fund Committee in this town, the chairman, Mr. Henry Smith, made an excellent speech, from which we would gladly quote at length did our space permit. We have only room for a passage or two. Having lucidly reviewed the operations of the League for the past year, he went on to notice the anomalous position of Birmingham, represented as it was by a monopolist—Mr. Spooner; and he asked what protection did the inhabitants need? "Of what do our manufactures consist? Do we not, by the application of our capital, our talent, and our industry, convert the mineral productions of our country into articles of necessity and luxury for the whole human race? And is it for this that we require protection? Gentlemen, I assert, without fear of an opponent, that protection is the bane of our district, and (but that it cannot) it would have been our ruin. Who is it who demands it? Is it our workers in iron or steel—our gunmakers—our swordmakers—our machine-makers—our nailers—our screwmakers—or our lock-smiths? Is it our copper-smiths—our brassfounders—our buttonmakers—or our lampmakers? Is it our plumbers—our needlemakers—or our tin-smiths? Gentlemen, I say that no man, who seeks for facts from the sources of truth, can say that it is so. I say that the mechanics of Birmingham ask but for a clear stage and no favour, and they fear not the competition of the world." They had certainly one trade in the town which had protection, the glass trade, but that was in a languishing condition, and he argued that if the weight of protection which now pressed upon it were withdrawn, it would combine the elements of as vast a trade as the world ever saw. Having shown that Birmingham did not require any protection, he asked—"If, then, our improvement be not denied, and if we do not ascribe it to the beneficial influence of protection, nor to an important increase of foreign demand, to what is it to be attributed? Most certainly to a previous improvement in the home trade—to an extension of the home demand—founded on an improved condition in the people to buy, and the manufacturers to sell; and from what did those conditions proceed? As certainly, on the part of many manufacturers, from the establishment of a steady, fixed price of the raw material, by the withdrawal of protection from the producers thereof—and, as certainly, by the protection of an overruling Providence having counteracted that which spurious legislation had established injuriously for the people. Something might be ascribed to the introduction of stock under the altered tariff—something also to the increased facilities for the transmission of food—but the mighty cause was the cheapness of bread." Subsequently Mr. Smith expressed his hope that the members of the committee would exert themselves in aid of the proposed Bazaar, and in support of it offered his own subscription of £25.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURER.—Mr. Falvey delivered a lecture at Petersfield, on Monday evening, at the large assembly-room at the Dolphin Hotel, on "Free Trade and the Provision Laws." It was well attended, and was listened to throughout with marked attention by a large and respectable audience. The chairman, Mr. James Fielder, sen., of Liss, rose and stated that previously to coming to the meeting he had always been undecided on the question of Free Trade, but having heard the present able and highly interesting lecture, it had removed all further doubt, and he would now declare himself to be decidedly a Free-Trader. This statement was received with much cheering. On the motion of Mr. Falvey, three cheers were given for the chairman, and also for the Council of the League.—Mr. Falvey lectured at Andover, on Friday evening, the 14th inst.; and at Newport, in the Isle of Wight, on Wednesday the 19th. The lectures were well attended, and the feeling in favour of Free Trade all that could be desired by its most enthusiastic promoters.

The price of bread in Paris for the second fortnight of the present month has been fixed at 23 centimes the kilogramme first quality, and 22 centimes the second quality. Thus, the best bread costs rather less than in some parts of France.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, February 19, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

*Hull Free-Trade Club	10
Firth, Edwin, Heckmondwike, Yorkshire	10
*Small, William, Dundee	10
*Kay and Fletchers, dyers, Radcliffe, near Manchester	10
*Maxwell, Robert, 2, Brown-street, do.	10
*Barnes, Thos., Whitburn, Newcastle-on-Tyne	10
*Greenhow, Mrs. Low-house, Bowness, Westmorland	10
*Lowson, John, and Son, Dundee	10
*Newton, Peter, Mount-street, Great Ancoats-street, Manchester	10
Baylis, W. A., and Friends, Stroud	10
Harmer, Fred. W., and Friends, do.	10
Smith, Thomas, and Friends, do.	10
*W. C., Manchester	10
*Rome, John, 39, Thomas-street, do.	10
*Hauck, Albert, 68, King-street, do.	10
*Jackson, Geo., at Mr. Dell's, Barber's-lane, Tanner's-lane, Pendleton, do.	10
*Speak, Wilson, Hope-hill, Stockport	10
*Man, John, Kendal	10
*Robinson, Stephen, do.	10
*Cooke, Isaac B., 1, Exchange-buildings, Liverpool	10
*Hardy, Samuel Charles, Nottingham	10
*Lewis, Geo., farmer, Boglillie, near Kirkcaldy	10
*Walton, David, cotton dealer, Greenacre-moor, near Manchester	10
*Diggle, Thomas, York-street, Cheetham, do.	10
Thorpeley, I., Crown Inn, do.	10
*Standing, John, 28, Fountain-street, do.	10
*Stephens, Edward, 11, Bridge-street, do.	10
*Newton, W. G., 1, Lomax-st., Gt. Ancoats-street, do.	10
*Ogden, A., Mount-street, Great Ancoats-st., do.	10
*Bozson, Geo., 59, Clarendon-street, Hulme, do.	10
*Handley, Thos., 78, Shude-hill, do.	10
*Birch, E. T., 34, Lloyd-street, do.	10
*Potter, John, 1, George-street, do.	10
*E. H., do.	10
*Hitchings, Thos., Newton Pickersworks, near Butler-street, do.	10
*Aspell, John, Collyhurst, do.	10
Pownall, W., 103, Upper Brook-st., C.-on-M., do.	10
*Whitehead, Edwd., 53, London-rd., do.	10
*Andrews, John, 6, Church-gate, do.	10
*Corbett, Edwd., Byron's-court, St. Mary's-gate, do.	10
*Spetch, Thomas Johnson, 128, Moss-lane, Hulme, do.	10
Andrew, Jonathan, Staleybridge	10
*Stafford, John, manager, Hyde, Cheshire	10
*Potter, Jn., Woodale, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire	10
*Smith, Geo., Hope-hill, near Stockport	10
*Trickett, John, grocer, do.	10
*Bradley, Joseph, Bamford Arms, do.	10
*Beswick, Thomas, shoemaker, Bolton	10
*Mauco, James, Bridge-street, do.	10
*Wallworth, Richard, do.	10
*Green, Wm., innkeeper, Deansgate, do.	10
*Lomax, Robert, Oldscres, Great do.	10
*Scott, Moses, Joiner, Little do.	10
*King, John, Brighouse, near Huddersfield	10
*Avison, Wm., Crookland-moor, nr. do.	10
*Eason, Alexander, Dundee	10
*Hugden, Hugh, Hebden-bridge	10
*Hellewell, John, do.	10
*Slater, Wm., do.	10
*Dewhurst, George, Queen-street, Blackburn	10
*Durham, John, Shorrock-fold, do.	10
*Hasal, do.	10
Loughaw, Wm., Church-street, do.	10
*Parsons, Thomas, Stroud	10
Lavers, Joseph, Kendal	10
*Shaw, Wm., Furnace-hill, Dukensfield, near Ashton-under-Lyne	10
*Whitworth, Adam, Royton, near Oldham	10
*Butterworth, Joseph, Clockheaton, near Leeds	10
*Baldwin, John, Clay-house, near Halifax	10
*Weatherill, James, 5, Carliol-sq., Newc.-on-Tyne	10
*Richardson, Edward, Summerhill-grove, do.	10
*Cardwell, Mrs., Market-place, Wakefield	10
*Fleming, Mr., do.	10
*Scott, Wm., Wood-street, do.	10
*Law, Thomas, 204, Chapel-street, Salford	10
*Wheatley, Richard, Brighouse, near Halifax	10
Marmont, Joseph, & Friends, Light Mill Mills, Stroud	10
Backhouse, B., Rodborough	10
Piper, J. D., Colne Bagnall, Essex	10
Pool, Wm., 257, Deansgate, Manchester	10
*Stirling, David, Hogganfield, by	10
*Robson, S., 16, Argyle-street	10
*Barclay, Wm., 66, do.	10
*Shaw, W. C., 64, do.	10
*Laird, Robert, Garrengand-hill	10
*Stevenson, Wm. and Son, Virginia-street	10
*Turner and McLeish, 67, Argyle-street	10
Watson, Thos., surgeon, 54, West Nile-street	10
*Service, Wm., sen., Calceuch, Leaxtown, by	10
*Callender, J. and B., 14, Stirling-square	10
*Wylie, Robt., Jun., and Co., 27, Ingram-street	10
Harrower, Alexander, Alva, by Stirling	10
*Carsswell, Wm., 93, North Provan-side	10
*Martin, Wm., and Co., Virginia-place	10
*Cochrane, Wm., 85, Candleriggs	10
Clark, Thomas, 25, South Portland-street	10
*T. M., do.	10
*Mathieson, Nall, Eastfield Dye-works, Rother-glen, by	10
*Black, J. and D., 31, Glasgow-street	10
*Gowlands, John, Springfield-court	10
*Kerr, John, 7, South Hanover-street	10
*Kennew, Andrew, Mountrose-street	10
*Smith, Robert, 38, North Albion-street	10
*Goodwin, Robert, 40, George-street	10
*Watt, John, 168, Ingram-street	10
*Smith, W. K. W., 67, do.	10
*Nicholson, A. W., Antigua-place	10
*Kwing, Patrick, of Kwing, Paul, and Co., Ingram-street (and subscription for 1844)	10
*Fowden, John, Brinnington	10
*Koylance, Wm., Heston-lane	10
*An Enemy to all Monopolies	10
*Westbrooke, Wm., Chestergate	10
*Kiddell, Jas., Heston-lane	10
*Maydew, Ralph, do.	10
*Wells, John, do.	10
*Bowden, Joseph, New Bridge-lane	10
*Shawcross, Ellis, Bridge-moor	10
*Longson, John, Sandy-lane	10
*Longson, James, do.	10
*Athlone, George, Peter gate	10
*Nield, John, Crowther-street	10
*Greenwood, Isaac, Richmond-street	10
*Barnes, John, do.	10

Sheffield.	Proctor, Peter, Spring-gardens .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hegginbotham, James, Millgate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Dooley, Edward, Duke-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Price, John, John-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Evans, John, New Bridge-lane .. .. .	1	0	0
	Beard, James, Wharf-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Smith, Joseph, Home-hill .. .. .	1	0	0
	Walker, Samuel, Cheatergate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hobbs, William, Bishop Blaise .. .. .	1	0	0
	Chapman, George, Underbank .. .. .	1	0	0
Sheffield.	Clay, John, 147, Castle-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Smith, Charles, Higher Hillgate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Orme, Joseph, Wellington-road .. .. .	1	0	0
	Graham, Richard, Market-place .. .. .	1	0	0
	Ardern, Lawrence, Lower Hillgate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Workmen of Messrs. John Watson and Son .. .. .	1	0	0
	Milner, Charles, Fargate .. .. .	1	0	0
	A Friend, per G. J. .. .. .	0	5	0
	Chamberlain, James, Fargate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Osborn, Alfred, Smithfield .. .. .	1	0	0
Sheffield.	Ellison, Joseph, Silemaker, Allen-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Brookhouse, John, 52, Fargate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Taylor, John James, Burgess-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Workmen of Mr. Joseph Mappens .. .. .	1	4	0
	Deakin, Isaac, Rammoor .. .. .	1	0	0
	Cam, John, Eyre-lane .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hall, John, Green-lane, near Cornish-lane .. .. .	1	0	0
	Byre, Vincent, 30, Rock-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Murray Peter, 5, Charles-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Bell, Rev. John, 65, Arundel-street .. .. .	0	10	0
Edinburgh and Leith.	Stocks, John, at H. Wilkinson's, plated manu- factory, Norfolk-street .. .. .	1	2	6
	Glossop, Thos., do., do. .. .. .	1	2	6
	Stimson, John, 41, Regent-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Jarvis, Joshua, Sportman Inn, Bridgehouses .. .. .	0	4	0
	Wilson, James, Mr. Gillis's, 4, Cundfield, Newhaven, by .. .. .	1	0	0
	Imlach, George, Elder-street .. .. .	1	1	0
	Muir, William, merchant, Leith .. .. .	1	1	0
	Miller, James, Constitution-street, do. .. .. .	1	1	0
	Robertson, W. S., Timber-bush, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Phillip, Robert, Old Wharf, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
Edinburgh and Leith.	Dawson, William, colour merchant, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Taylor, William, Scotswood, by South Queensferry, near .. .. .	1	0	0
	Girdwood, William, merchant, Leith .. .. .	1	0	0
	Laird, Anthony, 13, Constitution-st., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hampton, Robert, cooper, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	James, John, Queen-street, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Conatin, David, Sherra-brae, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Gair, James, 8, Springfield, Leith-walk .. .. .	1	0	0
	Crabbie, John, 27, Pilrig-street, do. .. .. .	1	1	0
	Veitch, John, Cassels-place, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
Edinburgh and Leith.	Berry, George, merchant, Leith .. .. .	1	1	0
	Flaming, John, baker, 33, Duke-st., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Smith, David, builder, 7, Glover-st., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Laird, Wm., 96, Constitution-st., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Thom, David, 23, Pilrig-street, Leith-walk .. .. .	1	1	0
	Ireland, T. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Patterson, Rev. Dr., 11, Salisbury-place .. .. .	1	0	0
	M'Intosh, John, 42, Nicolson-street .. .. .	1	1	0
	Todd, A., 123, Prince's-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Lees, John, Brown-square .. .. .	1	1	0
Glasgow.	Wilshire, M., 13, Union-place .. .. .	1	0	0
	Malrose, John, Loanhead, Lasswade, near .. .. .	1	0	0
	Black, Dr. John, 53, Charlotte-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Adam, John, 206, Duke-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Young, Dr. Wm., James-street, Calton .. .. .	1	0	0
	Gonrley, H., and Co. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Martin, Wm., boot maker, 37, Gallowgate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Faxon, Hugh, 13, Eldon-place .. .. .	1	0	0
	Robertson, Andrew, 189, Trongate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hegginbotham, Samuel .. .. .	1	0	0
Glasgow.	Bayne, Thomas, 99, Hutcheson-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Steele, William, 5, South Hanover-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Ballant, J. M. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Shortland, George, 70, Carver-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Burgin, Charles, Queen-street .. .. .	2	0	0
	Liddell, Edward, Haymarket .. .. .	1	0	0
	Wells, Saml., Trafalgar Works, Wellington-st. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Berry, Frederick, do., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Turner, Thomas, do., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Coates, John, do., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
Glasgow.	Kay, John, do., do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Casson, Benjamin .. .. .	2	0	0
	A Friend .. .. .	1	0	0
	Walham, Joseph, Cottingham, near .. .. .	1	0	0
	Adamson, Benj., Durham Ox Inn, Blanket- row .. .. .	1	0	0
	Leach, John, Hurst .. .. .	1	0	0
	Clare, Jeremiah, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Tellow, Robert, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Bethell, John, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Lothhouse, Henry, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.	Wilson, Robert, builder, New-road .. .. .	1	1	0
	Oliver, Timothy, 7, Union-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Benson, John, 4, Shield-field .. .. .	1	0	0
	Riddell, Thomas, 33, Mosley-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Newman, T. F. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Blackwell, Joseph .. .. .	1	0	0
	Fewster, A. R. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Norton, James .. .. .	1	0	0
	Claissold and Thomas .. .. .	1	0	0
	Fidgin, Jabez, 60, High-street .. .. .	1	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.	Timmins, Richard, and Sons, Hurst-street .. .. .	3	0	0
	Conway, John, 10, Snow-hill .. .. .	1	0	0
	Leggitt, Wm., 6, High-street .. .. .	1	0	0
	Boyle, James, Sunethwick Soap Works .. .. .	1	0	0
	Boyle, William, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Robbins and Martin .. .. .	1	0	0
	Wood, G., Moor-street .. .. .	2	0	0
	Gray, Andrew, Dysart, by .. .. .	1	0	0
	A Friend .. .. .	1	0	0
	Greig, Walter, merchant, Pathhead .. .. .	1	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.	Madrumb, George .. .. .	1	0	0
	Cuddle, Nicolas, brewer, 112, Loch-st. .. .. .	1	0	0
	A Friend .. .. .	1	0	0
	Forbes, Balile .. .. .	1	0	0
	Brown, George, auctioneer .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hastler, William, Yeadon, near .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hick, James, Swinegate .. .. .	1	0	0
	Hay, R. C., Medical Hall .. .. .	1	0	0
	Taylor, James, Victoria-road .. .. .	1	0	0
	Bapt, Thomas, Wellington-bridge-road .. .. .	1	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.	Harrison, John, Meadow-lane .. .. .	1	1	0
	Bouverie, Admiral the Hon. D. Pleydell, City Hall .. .. .	10	0	0
	Bassett, A. R., Russell Mill .. .. .	1	0	0
	Smith, W. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Facker, W. M. H. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Willet, R., Piddington, near .. .. .	1	0	0
	Small sums .. .. .	0	18	6
	Relph, George, draper .. .. .	1	0	0
	Curric, John, china shop .. .. .	1	0	0
	Forster, Joseph, Caldewgate .. .. .	1	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.	Clarke, Joseph, Warwick-bridge .. .. .	1	0	0
	Black, Samuel, manufacturer .. .. .	1	0	0
	Gibb and Co., grocers .. .. .	1	0	0
	Walker, John, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Iving, John, do. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Robert, Thomas, builder .. .. .	1	0	0
	Henry, Henry, 61, Baker-st., Portman sq. .. .. .	1	0	0
	Robert, John, 1, Queen-st., Westminster .. .. .	1	0	0
	Small sums .. .. .	1	2	6
	Small sums .. .. .	1	2	6

## DEATH OF THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER.

We regret to announce the death of a noble and zealous Free-Trader, the Marquis of Westminster. At an important crisis in our great struggle, when the League was accused of hostility to property and the landed interest, he, one of the wealthiest and largest proprietors of land in England, came forward to give the calumny a practical refutation by sending, voluntarily and without solicitation, to the League Fund the munificent donation of five hundred pounds. The deceased marquis was lineally descended from a companion and near relative of William the Conqueror; but the family was not ennobled before 1761, when the father of the deceased marquis was created a baron, and subsequently elevated to an earldom in 1784. The marquis was born March 22, 1767, and had therefore nearly completed his 78th year. For many years he had withdrawn himself from political life, but continued to be a distinguished patron of the arts, and a liberal supporter of the charities in the county of Chester. His views of commercial policy were those which Pitt endeavoured to carry into effect before the wars of the French Revolution, and to which most of the party that assumed Mr. Pitt's name have shown themselves inveterate opponents.

His lordship is succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son Richard Earl Grosvenor, who represented the county of Chester in three successive parliaments previous to 1835, since which time he has lived in the retirement of private life.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXI.

TO GEORGE LYNES, CARPET WEAVER, NORWICH.

SIR,—I like you for a correspondent. You write in a simple, honest, straightforward way. You do not falsify, like Mr. Cayley; nor mystify, like Sir Robert Peel; nor bluster, like the Duke of Richmond. The "Sabbath-school education" has not been lost upon you. It has enabled you to express what you mean; and it has not enabled you to say one thing and mean another, like those who cant of independence for the country, and plan for profits to their own pockets. Never apologise again, man.

Your language is as English as your feelings. Moreover, truth and thought go well in any language. They are the language of humanity.

Your account, in your letter to me in the *Norwich Mercury*, of Mr. Worth's attempted reduction of wages, stands plain and uncontradicted. It does him no credit, either for the fact or the manner. You say "no strike was contemplated;" and I say "more's the pity," if there was the chance of its being effective. It is the workman's ultimate resource against such an attempt to beat down his labour below the market price which other masters show they can afford to give, and do give. There is one thing which always makes me feel very unforgiving towards a master manufacturer: and that is when by haughtiness, rapacity, or indifference, he widens the breach between the different sections of the industrial population. He comes into the labour-market for a weaver as he goes into the cattle-market for a horse. The weaver ought not to be treated less kindly than the horse, at any rate. To look only at the helplessness that arises from destitution; to calculate not merely his own occasion for labour, but the yielding spirit that makes famine eager to close the hardest bargain with capital; when "buying in the cheapest market" to make that market cheaper by unfair advantages; to be less careful of keeping the man than the machine in good working trim; and to confine to the warehouse or counting-house all thought of those whom he employs in the production of his merchandise: these are the faults, I trust, only of a small fraction of the class which have alienated the hearts of the working people, embittered their feelings, cherished their prejudices, sent their brains woolgathering after the nostrums of political, economical, and philanthropic quacks, and so recoiled upon the whole class by warring that cordial co-operation which, if hearty at first, might ere this, have done so much for the benefit of both by hastening the downfall of monopoly. The whole manufacturing interest suffers, and through that the whole nation suffers, for the unfaithfulness of some great masters and tradesmen to the duties of their position in relation to the working classes. They themselves suffer with others, in the long run, though they have not the sense to see it. Industry is a common cause; and, whether it be master or man who imagines an antagonism between their real interests, he is a mischievous blunderer. To have the confidence and zeal of their workpeople; to secure for them plenty of food and of employment; to guard them against the perils of vice and pauperism; and to win, for them, with them, and by them, those commercial rights of which political rights must be the safeguard: these

## Contributions

TOTAL

By name.

Forster, Joseph, Greenbat-cottage, Alnwick .. .. .	1	0	0
Mather, Miss, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool .. .. .	30	0	0
Mather, Miss Jane, do. .. .. .	30	0	0
Hawson, Mrs., 30, Ardwick-green, Manchester .. .. .	5	0	0
Gollaude, Misses, 17, George-street, do. .. .. .	3	0	0
Sheffield, Mrs., 112, Oldham-street, do. .. .. .	0	10	0
A Friend, do. .. .. .	0	3	6

## ERRATUM.

In LEAGUE No. 75, for Bailey, Samuel, 51, Cord-street, Liverpool, read Bailey, Samuel, 51, Grove-street.

PUBLIC WALKS, PARKS, &c.—The subscription to the fund for establishing public places for exercise and recreation, for our industrious population, now amounts to the sum which, at the commencement of the movement, we considered it possible to obtain, viz., £30,000: our place in the progress of this spirited effort is reached, and we can now look back upon what has been done, with advantage to the success of the future.





would be for some gentleman to move that this meeting resolve itself into a Bazaar Committee, with power to add to its numbers.

Mr. ARMSTRONG moved, and Mr. M'CARTNEY seconded, the resolution.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: I suppose donations in the shape of manufactures sent for exhibition with the manufacturers' names appended, will be received?

The CHAIRMAN: That is a matter to be considered. The suggestion is a good one, and no doubt will be favourably entertained.

Mr. J. B. SMITH: Would it not be desirable to let them remain for a time at the Bazaar on view, with the names of the manufacturers attached? It would induce many parties, no doubt, to send contributions.

The CHAIRMAN: It is desirable. They might be labelled, and if sold early, sold on the understanding that they should remain some days on view before they were delivered. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. EVANS: If you make it an exhibition of British manufactures, will not the French exhibition interfere with it?

Mr. J. B. SMITH: That is not held this year. It strikes me, if you make it an exhibition of British manufactures, you will not only have a great many people to visit it from various parts of this country, but a great many foreigners will come. A great many people flocked to Paris when the exhibition was held there; and many to Berlin on the occasion of an exhibition there, also; and of course, it may be naturally expected that many French and other people will come to London to see this. (Hear.)

Mr. JOHNSON: Will goods be taken for exhibition only and returned?

The CHAIRMAN: No, we have settled so far, that goods can only be received for sale; there would not be sufficient room in the theatre for more goods than it is calculated will be sent for actual sale.

Mr. W. RAWSON: It will be so advantageous for parties to send goods for exhibition, that they will no doubt be glad to give them for sale, for the sake of the opportunity. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: With regard to visits from foreigners, the Bazaar has been already advertised in *Galignani*, and the news will thus already have been circulated amongst our friends over the Continent. It has also been made known in America. (Hear.)

Mr. W. EVANS: It is necessary to impress upon the committee that there must be a good deal of labour to make it successful.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, we must have exertion. The precise day is not exactly fixed for the commencement or duration of the Bazaar, but the beginning or first week in May is talked of, and it may be expected that it will last the month out. The time is favourable, because there will be the Whitsuntide cheap trains to London, and it is thought it will be desirable to make arrangements with most of the railway companies, especially for the facilitating the visits of our friends in all parts of the kingdom. Then, again, May is the time for the anniversary religious meetings at Exeter Hall, and it is well known that the people who attend these anniversaries are very generally the friends and supporters of League principles. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and carried *nem. con.*; and a second resolution, appointing future meetings for every Monday and Thursday evening, having been adopted, the meeting separated.

#### MEETING IN PRESTON.

A select tea meeting, consisting chiefly of ladies favourable to the Free-Trade movement in this town, was held in the Corn Exchange Rooms, on Wednesday evening last, for the purpose of taking measures to support the Great National Bazaar, to take place in May. Cards of invitation were issued by the Free-Trade Registration Committee. The tea and accompaniments were gratuitously furnished by the ladies, and more excellently replenished trays were never presented at meetings of this kind. From the select character of the meeting, an unusual degree of cordiality, harmony, and good feeling prevailed. The room in which the company assembled was tastefully decorated with Free-Trade and other devices.

During tea, Mr. Alderman Brooks entered the room in company with Mr. Watkins, of Manchester. The company immediately rose from their seats, and testified their approbation with loud bursts of applause.

A plentiful supply of fruits of all kinds was set out on the table after the removal of the tea apparatus; and when an hour or two had been spent in the best of enjoyment and fellowship, the gentlemen present assembled round a platform, for the transaction of the more immediate business of the evening.

On the motion of Mr. LIVESLEY, Mr. Satterthwaite was unanimously called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN briefly stated the object of the meeting, to take measures for providing a stall at the Great Bazaar, to display the attachment of the ladies of Preston to Free-Trade principles.

Mr. G. SMITH moved the first resolution:—  
"That this meeting cordially approve of the proceedings of the League, and cheerfully respond to its call to support the Great Bazaar, to be held in London in the month of May next."

The Rev. Mr. SLATS seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. WATKINS addressed the meeting in support of the Bazaar project and Free Trade generally.

Mr. LIVESLEY moved the appointment of a committee of ladies, consisting of those present at that meeting, with power to add to their number.

Mr. JOSEPH HAWKINS seconded it.

Mr. ALDERMAN BROOKS followed in a speech of some length, and was warmly applauded.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried, and the names of the ladies present admitted to the committee, with power to add to their number. The secretaries of the committee are Miss Smith, Miss Haslam, and Miss Ord.

Mr. FRANKLAND moved that a committee of gentlemen should be appointed to assist the ladies in carrying out their plans, and that Mr. Charles Wilson and Mr. John Cart act as secretaries.

Mr. JAMES PARK seconded the motion, and trusted that, after the Bazaar, the finishing stroke would speedily be put upon monopoly.

The resolution was carried, and a large committee

Mr. R. ASHCROFT moved a vote of thanks to their friends for their attendance that evening.

Mr. HASLAM seconded the motion.

Mr. BROOKS, in reply, commented upon the increase to the register in North Cheshire, the West Riding, and South Lancashire. He had five sons himself, four of whom were competent to vote; and for an outlay of £160 in freeholds, he procured six per cent. for it, and would also have five votes into the bargain. (Applause.) In North Cheshire, too, for a small consideration, his lads had procured votes. In North Lancashire the register could be carried, there was no doubt of that—all that was wanted was a little exertion.

Mr. ASHCROFT stated that Mr. Livesey had procured votes for five of his sons in North Cheshire, and also in South and North Lancashire. (Loud cheers.) He hoped it would be a point of contest who will have the greatest number of sons qualified. (Hear, hear.) He begged to move a vote of thanks to his Worship the Mayor for the use of the Corn Exchange Rooms.

Mr. R. DICKSON seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

Thanks were also voted to the Chairman.

Mr. LIVESLEY made some comments on the protection petition which had received the signatures of some Preston millowners. He said that for the honour of Preston it was right the world should know that, while the paltry sum of £25 had been collected for the cause of monopoly, £800 and upwards was the sum given for Free Trade. (Loud applause.)—*Abridged from the Preston Guardian.*

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING AT HOYLAND.

(Abridged from the *Sheffield Independent*.)

A public meeting of the friends of Free Trade, was held on Saturday evening last, in the Mechanics' hall, Hoyland, to hear an address from Robert R. Moore, Esq. The meeting was most numerously attended by the inhabitants of Hoyland, Wentworth, Scholes, and the villages adjacent. James Russell, Esq., of Hoyland, was called to the chair.

Mr. MOORE, delivered an eloquent address, and concluded by urging on his hearers to aid in forwarding the great League Bazaar to be held in May next.

Mr. PARKER, of Hoyland, then addressed the meeting. Upon the subject of the Bazaar, Mr. Parker said he was aware that the articles manufactured by them (principally heavy cast metal pillars, &c.) were of too bulky and heavy a kind to be suitable for exhibition at the Bazaar; but he could not see any reason why they should not contribute their mite. He hoped the eloquent exposition they had had from Mr. Moore would have its due effect, as their own interests were deeply concerned in the subject.

The CHAIRMAN moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Moore, which was seconded, and carried by acclamation. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, and three cheers for the League and Mr. Moore, the meeting separated.

#### FREE-TRADE TEA PARTY AT NOTTINGHAM.

(Abridged from the *Notts Review*.)

On Tuesday evening last, at five o'clock (according to previous announcement), a respectable company of the Free-Traders at Nottingham assembled in the Exchange-hall, to listen to statements of the progress of the cause. Amongst the company were the Mayor and his lady, J. Bradley, Esq., S. Bean, Esq., Mr. Alderman Cullen, J. Wilson, Esq., J. Beardmore, Esq., Mr. Alderman Rogers, Mr. Alderman Heard, Mr. Smith Fowler, Mr. Alderman Judd, Mr. A. Wells, Mr. Plungst, Mr. Cripps, and other gentlemen. Many ladies also honoured the proceedings with their presence.

At about seven o'clock, Colonel Thompson and Robert R. Moore, Esq., were introduced to the meeting by S. Bean, Esq., amidst loud plaudits.

The Mayor having taken the chair, addressed the meeting. Colonel Thompson and Robert R. Moore, Esq., followed in able speeches, which were loudly and repeatedly cheered.

Mr. Alderman HEARD proposed the following resolution, "That this meeting, grateful for the exertions of the Anti-Corn-Law League, pledges itself to contribute specimens of the manufactures of Nottingham, and fancy articles, in aid of the forthcoming Bazaar; and begs to thank the gentlemen who have so ably represented the League on this occasion."

Mr. Alderman JUDG seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Alderman BEAN moved, and Mr. Alderman VICKERS seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman having acknowledged the vote, the meeting separated.

AN EXAMPLE TO LANDLORDS.—Certain gentlemen, who have long been allowed by Lord Francis Egerton to shoot over his Northamptonshire estates, having preserved so strictly as to cause a vast increase of game, and having oppressed and annoyed some of his lordship's tenants, the noble lord, on being informed of the circumstances, has ordered that the gentlemen shall be warned off, and has further given his tenants permission to deal with the game as they think proper, so that they can now destroy or preserve it, at their option.—*Liverpool Athlon.*

IRISH MANUFACTURES.—FREE TRADE.—A great meeting was held in Dublin, last week, to consider the best mode of developing the manufacturing resources of Ireland, in order to "employ the industrious millions." The Lord Mayor presided, and Mr. O'Connell and other remarkable political characters, among others the Rev. T. D. Gregg, an Orangeman and the leader of the Protestant Operative Society, were present. Mr. James Haughton, in seconding one of the resolutions, said that—"Unless they come forward and took hold of the principle of universal Free Trade, they would never succeed in establishing manufactures on a sound and extensive basis, or give employment to the thousands and tens of thousands of poor people who now stood in need of it. (Cheers.) He believed the principle of Free Trade with all the nations of the earth the surest guarantee for the prosperity of native manufacture, and if that boon were once conceded he felt convinced that the intelligence of the country—the immortal mind of Ireland—would take hold of the advantages thus afforded, and that in a very short time manufactories would spring up in every corner of the land, and to a greater extent than the most sanguine could suppose. (Cheers.) If Ireland had the whole world to look to as a mart for the produce and labour of her inhabitants, they would not deserve the high character which they had earned for intelligence and ingenuity if they were not able to take advantage of such circumstances, and turn them to account for the benefit of the country. (Cheers.)"

#### THE SOCIALIST ESTATE OF HARMONY. HALL, IN HAMPSHIRE.—WHAT ARE THE BURDENS UPON LAND?

The "exclusive burdens on land" is a topic which once more claims public notice. It has been reintroduced into Downing-street by a deputation of farmers and landowners, and from Downing-street it has come into the newspapers, and from the newspapers it has taken its place in common conversation; therefore, it is worth while to draw the attention of Free-Traders to the real facts of the case.

I shall first take five farms in the centre of Hampshire. One of them is only a fractional piece of land, eight acres, but the other four are of goodly size. The scale of taxation is precisely the same as prevails throughout that county and the other agricultural counties of England, with, I believe, the exception of poor's rates. There are fewer unemployed poor in the district referred to than in most other places: a result which is to be attributed to more than one cause, though the chief cause unquestionably is the extension of employment by grubbing out copes and old hedges, digging down useless banks, making composts, and by draining, ditching, and such like matters; and these works have been introduced into the district by an association of individuals commonly called "Socialists." They are the renters of the five farms I am now about to give details of; and though it so happens that their opinions and mine are radically different on the questions of "private property," "community of property," "competition the soul of commerce," and so on, I am bound to say that they, on a late occasion, allowed me to inspect their property, their account-books, their domestic establishment, and to obtain the most minute details of all their business affairs. And they did all this knowing that the present state of their society is not so prosperous as they would like to show it to a stranger, and that stranger an unbeliever in the possibility of carrying out a community of property.

But the difficulties which they have had to encounter are such as still compel me to say that, were they defunct to-morrow as a community, they have given an impetus to agriculture in their neighbourhood. It is but fair to state, however, that that excellent landlord, Baring Wall, Esq., M.P., who lives in the neighbourhood, has also of his own accord, on his own property, done much more than what landlords usually do to employ the labourers. Yet, when this is taken into account, there is still a considerable balance of public good due to the Socialist community for the example they have set the other farmers.

But my object, in referring to them, is to give a statement of rent and taxes. They keep their books in such a way that any item, or every item, of income and expenditure may be seen at a glance. Here are a few of the details.

The farms are Queenwood, containing 328 acres and 20 perches; and Buckholt, containing 206 acres, 1 rood, and 12 perches. The rent of both is £376; title, £31. 17s. 8d.; poor-rates, £37. 11s. 6d.; church-rate, £1. 3s.; county-rate, £2. 6s. 10d.; highway-rate, £1. 16s. 7d.; income-tax, £4. 17s. 8d.; insurance, £31. 13s. 6d.; property-tax, paid by the tenants for the landlord, and deducted from the rent, £12. 6s. 2d. On these two farms there is no land-tax.

Next there is the Brickfield property, containing 8 acres, the rent of which is £12, and the poor-rates £1. Its other taxes are included in the foregoing.

Next there is Great Bentley farm, containing 298 acres and 22 perches. Rent, £253; title, £63. 4s.; poor-rates, £30; church-rate, 11s. 11d.; county-rate, £1. 17s. 6d.; highway-rate, £1. 6s.; income-tax, £3. 5s. 4d.; land-tax, £13. 1s. 8d.; property-tax, £6 10s. These last two items, land and property taxes, are paid by the tenants for the landlord, and deducted from the rent.

Next there is Little Bentley, containing 245 acres, 3 roods, and 25 perches. Rent, £180; title, £56; poor-rates, £28. 5s. 3d.; church-rate, £1. 0s. 2d.; county-rate, 18s. 9d.; highway-rate, £1. 6s.; income-tax, £3. 0s. 2d.; no land-tax; property-tax, £0. 0s. 6d.

Next there is a property belonging to the society of 64 acres. The taxes upon which I did not ascertain save the land-tax, which is £3. 4s. 4d.

The assessed taxes will be higher this year than heretofore, as a portion of the buildings for schools, &c., will be occupied, which were not finished last year. The taxes paid last year were, for 116 windows, £34. 16s. 6d. When the building is all occupied this tax will be for 161 windows, £47. 3s. 6d. The other taxes will remain the same as now, namely, 18 windows in infant school, £4. 16s. 3d.; one male servant, £1. 4s.; one four-wheeled carriage, £4. 10s.; one two-wheeled ditto, £3. 6s.; one horse for riding, £1. 8s. 9d.; three dogs, £2. 8s.; ten per cent. on foregoing, £1. 14s.. Total, £54. 1s. 6d.

Total of acres rented, 1094, 1 rood, and 39 perches; total rent, £821. Total of local and general burdens—assessed taxes, £51. 1s. 6d.; title, £151. 1s. 8d.; poor-rates, £96. 16s. 9d.; church rate, £2. 15s. 1d.; county-rate, £7. 7s. 1d.; highway-rate, £4. 6s. 7d.; income-tax, £11. 3s. 2d.; insurance, £31. 13s. 6d. Add to which the landlords' burdens, paid by the tenants and deducted from the rent, £37. 18s. 3d.

Taking this as a sample of Hampshire, it does not afford a view of taxation in anyway oppressive to the landlords; but it does show a heavy load on the shoulders of the farmers. Mr. Baker, of Witley, in Essex,



said, at the interview with Sir Robert Peel, that rent formed but a very inconsiderable part of the tenants' outgoings. This may be true if every item of the expense—the wages of labour, the keep of horses, and wear and tear of implements—be taken into account. But it should be recollected that, whether rent be high or low, it is an abstraction from the farmer's working capital, and he must pay it whether he has made a profit or not.

Herein is the difference between the trade of manufacturing corn and the trade of manufacturing cloth. The cloth-maker is sometimes reproached for becoming rich, while the corn-grower remains poor. But the cloth-maker enriches himself by keeping his profits in his own hands. If he does not extend his trade, he saves his profits. But if, instead of hoarding them up, he extends his trade, buys more raw material, employs more hands, pays more wages, sells more goods, and realizes more profits, he not only enriches himself, but also the nation. If he makes no profit at all, he has at least the advantage of the corn-grower; for, by his trade of cloth-making prosperous or otherwise, he has no hand dipping into his pocket for money which that hand never earned.

The corn-grower has such a hand; and a hand that will have its bond whether there is a profit or not. The Duke of Richmond's tenantry whom he has sold up from time to time can bear testimony to this. And I wish general readers to look at it narrowly.

It is not the mere amount of rent that constitutes the rent burden. The burden is that the rent is abstracted from the tenant's working capital, without reference to the fact of his having or not having a profit to pay it from. The farmer may project drains; may decide on the virtues of guano; may determine to buy guano; may intend to collect composts; may see the expediency of erecting cisterns to save liquid manures; may think of doing all that the Royal Agricultural Society ever recommended him to do; but all at once the hand of the President of the Royal Agricultural Society is felt in his pocket, and away goes the money that should pay for those projects, and that without any reference to his ability to spare that money, or his ability to carry on his improvements without it.

So that he loses much more by paying this tax called rent than its mere amount. He loses the ability to cultivate his farm; and in the year 1844 loses the profits of the year 1845.

Now, do not let me be understood as deprecating the payment of rent: I only go the length of saying that rent should be contingent on profit. Were this so, we would soon see agriculture start into a new life of scientific vigour. This, in my opinion, would be the first principle of protection. Until tenants are so protected, it is a cruel mockery to talk to them of landlords' friendship.

Every legislative project shows that the tenant has had no share in the landlord's protective designs. Look at the landlord's taxes: the tenant must pay them. They are deducted from the rent. But the receipts must be shown before the deduction is made. And, if the rent be paid at the proper time, this shows that the landlords assembled in Parliament resolved that their tenantry should pay part of their rents, for the convenience of the landlords, before the proper time, thus again abstracting from the tenant-farmer his working capital.

But the five farms in Hampshire pay, like other farms, another tax. The occupants are prepared to prove that the destruction done by game this last year was fully equal to the amount of tithe. And this loss will continue; because the game comes from the adjoining estates, over which they have no control.

Mr. Baker states the heaviest burden on farmers to be the wages of labour; because, he says, they have to pay more men than they really want. He says they find a man and his family would cost in the workhouse 17s. 6d. a week; but if the man be employed at 10s. a week, he keeps his own family; therefore, argues Mr. Baker, the farmers, to save the difference of 7s. 6d., employ more men than they require. He says that in his district they employ at the rate of six to the hundred acres. This introduces an all-important topic.

The wages of labourers cannot be a burden on the farmer unless he employs more than he requires. It is a fallacy to call that a burden which produces value, and without which there would be no value. And it is an unhappy circumstance that our farmers, and landlords as well, speaking of them generally, do not distinguish between facts and fallacies.

The wages of labour are called a burden by Mr. Baker, although the land would yield no corn without labour.

Rent is stated by the same authority not to be a burden, although the land would yield corn if no rent were paid.

But labour is a burden if men are employed, as Mr. Baker says they are, merely to keep them from being more expensive in the workhouse. Now, my notions of getting rid of such a burden as this is to find such surplus labourers employment elsewhere. Let us open up every possible channel of trade, and make the law of parish settlements such as would induce labourers to move from home; and we would not only relieve Mr. Baker of his burden of unnecessary labour, but make new customers for his bread, and beef, and mutton; butter, bacon, and cheese.

An east country farmer, who spoke at the interview with the Prime Minister, had been unable to get a good

price in Smithfield for his cattle. He asked the salesman why; and the salesman said, "Look across the market, and you will see a hundred Dutch cattle." The east country farmer doubtless thought this a poser for Sir Robert. But what if that farmer, instead of looking across Smithfield, had looked across Essex, Suffolk, and his own county, Cambridge, and had seen, what he surely must know, that the farm-labourers never taste beef; no, not an ounce of it from year to year? What if he had gone into a calculation to show how the price of cattle would rise if every labourer's family of five persons had two or even three pounds of butcher's meat a day? And why should they not? The workers in factories have more than that. The coalminers of Durham eat on an average almost that weight of butcher's meat a day, each man, when working in the pits. This I have ascertained by personal observation.

We are told it is of great public benefit to extract a large sum of money out of the land in the shape of rent, to maintain the aristocracy in London, because they there spend their money, and, by creating a great market for all descriptions of necessaries and luxuries, they make the rents flow back again to the corn-growers and graziers.

This point I shall not dispute; although to spend money in merely consuming is not the same as to spend money in producing, and in consuming because you produce. But I shall take the liberty of reminding those who think this a great argument that it would be equally a benefit to corn-growers and graziers to pay higher wages to labourers. Nay, it would be a greater benefit, because the labourers eat no beef nor mutton now at all; and if they were paid sufficient wages to purchase both, such wages would go directly back to those who paid them.

But all this line of argument is fallacious. Labour can only be paid for if profitable; and it must itself add value to something before it can be profitable.

If it be true that Mr. Baker and his neighbours employ six men to the 100 acres, they employ just double the average of most other counties, and nearly double what are employed in some parts of Essex. I believe, and I have proved it, and am ready to do so to any inquirer or sceptic, that from six to ten labourers per 100 acres will return more profit than three or four. But a farmer must stand in a very different relation to his landlord from what is now common. On the Duke of Richmond's estates in Sussex there are not more, on an average, than three men employed to the 100 acres; and, taking an average of the whole kingdom, there are not more, if quite so many. The census tables would show more; but the census assumes every man to be a labourer who is so set down; whereas, in Sussex alone, not above two-thirds of those set down as labourers are actually employed at any one time, save in harvest.

Mr. Baker says the wages paid in Essex in lieu of parish relief are 10s. a week. But this is not so in Sussex. The more common method in Sussex is to give work at half wages; that is to say, to give one week's work and one week's wages in the fortnight, or 9s. every two weeks.

It now becomes a curious question to inquire what the labouring population, as returned in the census, contributes to the national revenue, the national commerce, the national manufactures, &c. It will be found that they contribute almost nothing, and in some counties absolutely nothing, to that description of national wealth which centres in Smithfield Market. Consequently they do little for the customs and excise duties; and less than either comfort or decency requires for the productions of the loom. But there is not now room for the calculation.

On the question of burdens on land with which I began I shall only remark in conclusion, that whatever burdens may be exhibited in figures, such as taxes and rent and destruction by game (wages of labour, keep of horses, and wear of implements not being burdens, but the producers of whatever wealth the farmer may possess)—I say, let the actual burdens be as heavy as they are represented, there is a heavier burden still, that which, instead of weighing upon the farmer's back as the others do, and flinging from his pocket, is a clog upon his feet, a drag upon his action, a bond which he cannot break, and which keeps him standing still while all the world is advancing. This is his dependence on the landlord's will and the caprice of his agents—a dependence which results directly from the acts of Parliament misnamed protection—a dependence which proves with melancholy truth that "protection is the bane of agriculture."

ONE WHO WAS WHITTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.—We are the enemies of all monopolies; and emphatically of monopolies effecting the food of the people. The League, as a wisely-conceived and judiciously-managed movement in favour of Free Trade, has had, and will have, our earnest advocacy. That movement must be sustained; and, as an easy and effectual mode of sustaining it, we strongly recommend the proposed Bazaar. We intend to give practical proof of our sincerity in this recommendation by presenting, as an appropriate gift, a splendid copy of a Scotch Bible—itsell the fruit of a successful effort to abolish a most unrighteous monopoly of "the word of life;" and we call on all classes of our readers to express their approval of Free Trade in some appropriate contributions to the Bazaar. What kind of contributions will be suitable and appropriate may be learned from an advertisement in another column, to which we respectfully invite the attention of our readers. Whatever they propose to do, we hope they will do cheerfully and immediately. The cause deserves liberality.—*Christian Examiner.*

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

13th of 2nd mo., 45.  
In accidentally perusing the columns of the *Morning Post* of this day, under the head of "Literature," I read a review of a recently-published work, entitled "Algeria, Past and Present, by J. H. Blofield, Esq."

After quoting from the work an enumeration of the population of Algiers, as follows:—

Moors	17,000
Jews	5,000
Turks	4,000
Negroes	2,000
Kabyles and Arabs	1,000
Baskirs and Mozambites, &c.,	1,000
Europeans	30,695

The reviewer says—"Despite the flourishing vocation made in the Chamber of Deputies by the 'Vainqueur d'Isly,' we fear that no country, even when enjoying the benefit of French rule, can ever prosper when it is overrun by so great a throng of Israelites. Five thousand Jews (and usurers for the term is necessarily synonymous) let loose upon a country at once; what defence can Algiers have committed to meet with so dire an infliction? It would be well for this distracted land if the people could be got rid of by some such summary process as was employed by the penultimate Turkish Sultan when he disposed of 30,000 troublesome Janissaries in the cool of the evening."

Now, to find sentiments such as these publicly advocated by one of our newspapers, taking a high stand (in its own estimation at any rate) amongst the periodical news literature of our country, does certainly strike me as evincing a barbarity of feeling and a brutal illiberality I should not have expected to have discovered, even from such a vitiated source, in this our modern day.

This enlightened Christian reviewer thus holds up to his benighted Mahomedan brother the propriety of massacring in cold blood, 5000 of a people well known as peaceful, industrious, and inoffensive; citing as an appropriate example, one of the bloodiest tragedies ever perpetrated in the annals of crime and murder.

Surely such a man, and such a paper, advocating so dire a dereliction from the mild and pure spirit of Christianity—so dark a stain even on the sanguinary code of the Prophet of Mecca—deserve alike to be scouted from the companionship and the home of every Englishman.

How deadly and bitter must be that ruthless feeling which could prompt the utterance of such sentiments! We, whose creed teacheth us to look upon all mankind as our brethren, thus issue from our country—the very centre of civilization—a murderous cry, calling upon the infidel to imbrue his hands in the blood of the conscientious followers of the faith of their fathers the patriarchs.

I have no kindred with these believers in the Law of the Prophets; but surely the mild benignancy of philanthropy may be allowed to cast one ray on our fellow-men, even though he be a Jew.

Well may such "blind leaders of the blind" (as this writer evidently is) be regardless of the miseries and sufferings of our agricultural and manufacturing population: the same feeling that could thus urge the sacrifice of the Hebrew, would ruthlessly offer up his poor countryman at the altar of Moloch, in the worship of hereditary slavery and aristocratic imbecility.

W. H. P.

To the Treasurer of the LEAGUE.

Sunderland, Feb. 8.

SIR,—About this time last year I sent up my little subscription towards your fund, and felt very much regret that, while others from this town were able to send their £5, the state of my finances would not allow me to contribute more than £1. As a shipowner, the previous years of depression had operated so cruelly upon my capital that it required all one's ability as a financier to make "ends meet." I then made an "inward resolve" that, when the power should come, my will should be ready to make my subscription equal to those of my neighbours. This opportunity has come. The late good harvest has left some capital to be invested in other articles of commerce; increased power of consumption has increased the demand to consume, and in consequence increased the demand for vessels to carry those articles of consumption, and thereby raised the rate of freight upon them. For ships are like labourers: when employment is scarce their wages (or freights) are low; when abundant they are in proportion high. Shipowners are now, for the first time since 1840, obtaining some remuneration for the risks their capital runs, and there is every prospect that this prosperity will continue until—another bad harvest. I hope, however, most ardently that, before this misfortune takes place, "Free Trade" will have placed our speculations out of the reach of the weather's caprice; and I think I may safely assert that in this hope I am joined by a majority of the shipowners here. The late years of misery that we have endured have set us to think more deeply upon the cause of the periodical distress to which we have during the last thirty years been subject, and we have at last discovered it to be the simple fact—a want of more trade; and to obtain this there is but one means—that is, Free Trade. Shipowners have long been blinded by infatuated notions about "reciprocity treaties," and "over-production" having something to do with their distress; but those are fast disappearing, and more common-sense views are taking their place.

I observe that the renewed subscriptions from here this year are only single pounds. By enclosing £5 I make mine for the two years equal to my neighbours.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A SINCERE FREE-TRADER.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Falkirk, Feb. 8.

SIR,—You will probably be as much surprised as I am interested to hear that there are some friends of Free Trade in this small Tory-riden agricultural town, who are very solicitous for the success of the approaching Bazaar; and you will doubtless be amused when I tell you that, "out of their comparatively deep poverty," they are offering of their money to manufacture and contribute a pair of handsome CUMING-STONES, used in a Scotch game, which "the *Edinburgh Philist*" consider themselves justly famous. The novelty of a pair of cutting-stones exhibited in London in the month of May, and mounted on ebony and silver, is great, and ought, I think, it is thought, to fetch an uncommonly heavy price.

## REVIEW.

At present the thermometer with us is far below the freezing point; "the roaring play," however, is at its height, and business and labour of all kinds are impracticable or forgotten. The sun shines brightly on our subscription paper, considering our means, and a farmer "takes the lead." One old curler puts down his mite "to rub off the guard," a phrase which all keen curlers applied to monopoly will at once understand and apply. No expense must be spared in making this contribution worthy of the object and the glorious game it calls to mind. A few other contributions, chiefly from the ladies, will go from this. We would like much, our resources being small, to co-operate with some other town in the neighbourhood,—as Killyth, Stirling, or Linlithgow,—in aiming to supply a whole table; and if the Carron works in our neighbourhood were fairly aroused, this part of Scotland might cut a figure. Address,  
Respectfully, yours always,  
A READER.

Hill Maraden, near Burnley, Feb. 4.

SIR,—I hope you will not value my subscription less when I inform you it comes from a small landowner and farmer, occupying all the land I own: therefore I consider, if any person in this country is benefited by the Corn Laws, I am one of them. As a landowner, perhaps I may, in some measure, be benefited. As a farmer, I neither am—nor do I believe it ever was intended by the Legislature that I should be—benefited, because if the produce be dear the landlord expects a higher rent for his land, and the poor-rates will be much higher. In 1842, I paid more than £50 in poor-rates for 45 acres of land; in 1844, I did not pay £25 for the same: therefore, if the price of the produce was lower than in the former year, the poor rate was also one half less.

With respect to the game laws, it is my misfortune to have my farm adjoining to a game preserve, and I have suffered all kinds of annoyance, both from the gamekeepers and the game, for the last twenty-four years. Besides my produce being destroyed by the game, the lord's farms are in such a dilapidated state that I am at present actually paying more poor-rates for forty-five acres of land, than one of his farms, in the same township, is paying for sixty acres of similar land, if in the same state of cultivation as mine.

I am, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,  
To A. W. Poulton, Esq. JAMES SMITH.

THE FINANCES OF THE LEAGUE.—We hear from a source, the authenticity of which it is impossible to doubt, that our anticipations as to the unsatisfactory nature of the so-called accounts rendered by the Anti-Corn-Law League have been already realized. Serious objections were, we are assured, urged at a late meeting of that body, to the one great thumping item of £59,000 expenditure; and a donor of £500 in particular, we are told, intimated that no further assistance was to be expected from himself. We have little doubt that this example will be widely followed.—*Brighton Gazette*.—[Will the *Brighton Gazette* give its readers the benefit of the authority upon which it relies?—ED. L.]

LEICESTER ANTI-CORN-LAW ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the Leicester Anti-Corn-Law Committee, held at the Town-hall on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1845—Richard Ilia, Esq. (ex-mayor), in the chair—Mr. William Biggs having communicated to the committee the resignation of the office of secretary by Mr. T. P. Hull, and the resignation having been accepted, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. E. Gittins, seconded by Mr. J. D. Harris, "That the thanks of the committee be given to Mr. T. P. Hull for his long-continued, energetic, and effective services in the cause of the Anti-Corn-Law League." On the motion of Mr. C. Billson, seconded by Mr. J. D. Harris, Mr. Joseph Biggs was appointed secretary.

INTENDED FREE-TRADE DEMONSTRATION IN WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—We are informed that it is the intention of a spirited coal company, in the Forest of Dean, to ship at Lydney a large cargo of the best Lydney coals, and to send it round the coast to London to be sold, and the amount applied as a contribution to the funds of the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar. This (our correspondent remarks) will be a fitting tribute of adhesion to the principles of Free Trade from the mineral district of the Forest of Dean, and will be an evidence of the hearty support which those principles may expect from the honest and independent Foresters. Our correspondent also informs us that this is merely an indication of the strong and earnest feelings with which the Foresters of Dean are taking up the question of Free Trade, and that whenever the time shall arrive that they may be called upon to give their suffrages at the hustings or elsewhere, commercial freedom and civil and religious liberty will alone be the watchwords under which they will engage, and for the success of which their best energies will be devoted.—*Gloucester Journal*.

POACHERS.—On Thursday, the 16th ult., the village of Ingham was visited by a most notorious gang of poachers from the adjoining village of Hickling, who were in pursuit of game; but their designs having been anticipated by the authorities, they were frustrated, and were obliged to defer their undertaking until a more convenient time. Being thus disappointed, they proceeded to the dwelling-house of a number of poor cottagers who take in washing, and plundered their gardens of the linen, which was put out for drying, and every article that came within their reach and was moveable, as they did not leave even the time upon which the linen was suspended. The parties have been taken and committed to take their trial at the next sessions.—*Nottingham Mercury*.

THE DIGNITY IN HUMBLE LIFE.—"Very many of the labouring class," says Dr. Channing, "need nothing but a higher taste for beauty, order, and neatness, to give us air of refinement and grace, as well as comfort, to their establishments." At Enfield, recently, George Healey, an agricultural labourer, died at the age of 77. He and his wife had been married 50 years, and had brought up a large family of children in the greatest respectability, almost solely by the deceased's labour. Their place of residence was like a little palace, the furniture, &c., being of the best description, and in the neatest order. In the parlour was a bookcase, filled with books, some of them elegantly bound, and all of the best authors, ancient and modern. The deceased delighted in his labour, which he continued until the day of his death. He was well known and much respected in the neighbourhood, and was greatly esteemed.

The Complete Concordance to Shakspeare. By Mrs. Cowden Clarke. London: Charles Knight and Co., Ludgate-street.

Every one of us, who studied the classics at schools from the Delphin editions, must remember the verbal indexes at the end of each work, industriously compiled to facilitate the searcher for a favourite or apt passage for a motto, quotation, or illustration; and every one, so seeking, has proved the value of such an index, in the time and labour that it has saved him in his uncertainty as to its precise situation in a poem of twelve books like the "Æneid." Even the refined conversation of the drawing-room has been indebted for many of its literary ornaments to the facility thus provided for ready reference and immediate appliance.

But while the great classic poets have been rendered thus accessible for the purposes of quotation or illustration, our own great poets have been strangely neglected. With the exception of Milton (to whose poetical works the late Mr. Todd added an excellent verbal index) and Shakspeare, none of them have been deemed worthy of such a ready reference; and such attempts as have hitherto been made in favour of the latter poet have been meagre and imperfect. Ayscough's and Twiss's indexes are both amenable to these charges. The former (Ayscough's) is notoriously insufficient; for it professes to supply only "the remarkable passages and words" of the original text, and, moreover, confines its design to "pointing out different meanings to which the words are applied." If we reflect a little, two defects will present themselves in Ayscough's plan. First, we do not want only "the remarkable passages and words," but all the passages and words (except, of course, the very inconsiderable ones, which would only unnecessarily swell the volume, and by the means of which no searcher would think of turning to a passage) that occur in the 37 dramas of the poet. We, therefore, constantly discover that there are phrases, "remarkable" and necessary to the reader, which, not being "remarkable" to the compiler of the index, have been omitted. Again: we do not desire to know merely the minute varieties of meanings that have been appointed to a word, but every passage in which the word has occurred. The plan of Ayscough, therefore, is defective, and it so constantly leads to disappointment that the remark has frequently been made that "every word in Shakspeare is to be found in Ayscough's Index, except the word you want to find."

Twiss's Index is correct and complete. Every important word is recorded with, we believe, perfect accuracy: but Twiss gives no context with the word noted; we have therefore no clue to the passage we are seeking; but are left to turn to every scene in every play wherein the word occurs, which in some cases, where it is recorded some hundred times, would give the reader the same labour as if he had no index at all.

In the plan of the work now before us, Mrs. Cowden Clarke has avoided the inefficiency of Twiss, and has supplied the deficiency of Ayscough: we have the accurate record of the one, and the full context of the other; and consequently her work is unquestionably preferable to both. It is not, however, in complete citation that Mrs. Cowden Clarke has surpassed Ayscough: she has surpassed him also in the range of words employed for the purposes of such a work. She has enabled us to discover the situation and verify the accuracy of a passage, a portion of which only, and that dimly, is floating in the memory, by incorporating in her index words of less significance than we can hope to find in Ayscough; and, to recur to the difference in the two works as regards their fulness of citation, we have turned to the word "CORN," and found it recorded ten times in Ayscough, while in Mrs. Clarke's "Concordance" we discover that the word occurs thirty-seven times in the plays of Shakspeare. In Ayscough the word "LEAGUE" is quoted six times; in Mrs. Clarke's work forty-five times. For the purpose of drawing the attention of our public speakers and writers upon the great question which is now agitating the kingdom—cheap corn and Free Trade—to the work under review, we will give them three quotations that we have turned to in the "Concordance" by remembering one word in each passage, and which will prove to them the care and accuracy of the compiler:—

"Our oppression hath made up this League."—*King John*, Act III., Scene I.

"If not by birth, have lands by wit."—*Lear*, Act I., Scene II.

"The gods sent not corn for the rich men only."—*Coriolanus*, Act I., Scene I.

The work has been the persevering labour of more than twelve years; and even now, when turning over the pages of each monthly part as it appears, we are struck with the care and pains that are daily bestowed in correcting the press of so full a page as is not at this time issuing from any book-printers in Europe. So minutely careful, too, has been the compiler, in supplying the necessity of any

future similar attempt, by rendering her "Concordance" perfect in every department, that we find even the slight variations in the editions of Collier and Knight all noted; it is, therefore, a verbal index to all the editions of Shakspeare.

There is yet another remarkable feature of excellence in Mrs. Clarke's "Concordance," and that is, the great skill and taste with which she has contrived in the quotations to comprise the most forcible portion, and that only. In short, it is a very extraordinary specimen of perseverance, good sense, good taste, order, and method. It is little to say that no collection of books making any pretension to a library will be complete without a copy of the work: no man or woman professing to admire or really admiring (without professing) the greatest imaginative genius the world ever saw, will be without this rapid and certain master-key to all the passages, phrases, and words in his immortal writings. Honour and gratitude to the woman whose steadfast nature and good taste have achieved so graceful and acceptable a homage to the genius of the "myriad-minded."

The Life of Major-General Worge. By G. Duke, Esq. London: Parker, Fumival, and Co.

Military readers will be much interested in this biography of an officer of the Cumberland age, who owed his promotion chiefly to his professional merit, at a time when commissions were common instruments of Parliamentary corruption. The founder of the Donoughmore family went so far as to obtain a cornetcy of dragoons for one of his daughters, but he soon sold out, for when he hesitated to support a ministerial measure, he was menaced with an order for the lady to join her regiment. General Worge's most remarkable achievement was his share in the conquest of the French settlements on the coast of Western Africa, which were subsequently abandoned by the slovenly and disgraceful treaty which signalized the Bute administration. Mr. Duke has entered at some length into the history of these settlements, and pointed out their importance to British commerce, and the efforts made for the suppression of the slave trade. Although this work does not possess a very striking interest, it is one which will afford pleasure to the reader, as it elucidates many points in the history of the seven years' war which are fast sinking into oblivion.

The Natural History of Animals. By T. R. Jones, Esq., F.R.S. London: Van Voorst.

Here is another of Van Voorst's meritorious publications in natural science, and one every way worthy of taking a high rank among works of amusing instruction. Professor Jones has peculiar skill in the implication of knowledge: he unfolds the mysteries of physiology with a clearness and facility which could only result from profound knowledge combined with the habitual practice of instruction. Commencing with the lowest order of animals, those whose structural formation scarcely separates them from the vegetable world, he traces the varied phenomena of vitality in its more complicated forms, exhibiting

"Above, how high progressive life may grow;  
Around, how wide, how deep extend below."

His work is so compact, and so closely held together by chains of illustration and argument, that we can find no passage which can be detached from its context without injury. General readers will derive most entertainment from the wonders of microscopic creation: his description of the Infusoria has all the interest of a physiological romance, combined with all the value of minute scientific detail. We have often regretted the want of a Natural History, suited for the instruction of families, to supersede "Goldsmith's Animated Nature," which is unsuited to such a purpose, not only on account of its gross inaccuracies, but for many other weighty reasons. The work before us will supply this deficiency: it is every way suited to family reading, and not the least of its merits is, that on every occasion where an opportunity is afforded the author points out the evidences of a Creator displayed in the works of creation.

The chapters on the Acalephs and Echinodermata will furnish sources of interesting research and observation to those who reside near the seashore. We have had frequent occasion to remark that naturalists escape all the lassitude and ennui to which others are subject in a fashionable bathing place; and we think that Professor Jones would perform an acceptable service if he prepared a Companion to the Seashore before the next bathing season: it would contribute to the health of mind and body more real advantages than mere change of scenery and occupation. It only remains to add, that the work is beautifully printed, and the wood-cut illustrations are truly admirable.

\* \* Several Reviews stand over for want of space.

GOOD PROFITS.—Many persons who bought Tuff Vale Railway shares in September last, at £50 each, are now selling the same at £110. Bristol and Exeter shares that cost £35 to £40 two years ago now sell at £125.



## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

\*. We are compelled to omit our usual Agricultural, and other articles, owing to the pressure on our space this week.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, February 22, 1845.

We have just received the list of the 430 articles on which the import duties are to be "totally and immediately" repealed. The catalogue is more calculated to excite surprise at the folly which taxed these articles, than admiration of the wisdom that discovered the expediency of their removal from the Tariff. Some of the items suggest a few serious reflections not wholly devoid of amusement. Thus, while our bread is taxed, *arsenic* is admitted duty free; so that, if we cannot have food at the natural price, we may have poison on moderate terms. *Beef-wood* meets our eye in the catalogue, where we should much rather see the beef without the wood. *Singing birds* are no longer entitled to protection, which must greatly annoy Lord Winchelsea and the rest of the Finches. *Bones of cattle* are liberated from duty, but the flesh upon them remains subject to the landlords' tax; foreign animals are allowed to furnish us with everything but meat: free admission is granted to their bones, their hides, their hair, their hoofs, their horns, and their tails,—to every thing but their flesh, which is precisely the part of which we stand most in need. *Brimstone in rolls* we may have if we please, but for bread in rolls we supplicate in vain; *brimstone in flour* we are to get at will, but no other flour will be allowed by the monopolists. We wish that we could reverse the arrangement, and leave them the brimstone, while the rolls and flour should go to the nation. *Bristles* may come in, but not the pork they covered: and should children cry for food, the State Doctor has provided the same remedy as Moliere's Mock Doctor, in "*Le Médecin malgré lui*," viz., "a good whipping," by allowing the admission of *cane* duty free. *Unmanufactured chalk* is liberated from taxation, but in its manufactured condition, as milk, its exclusion is continued for the sake of the agricultural interest. *Coals* may be carried to Newcastle without let or hindrance; and the same generosity is exhibited in the free admission of cotton-yarn to Manchester. *Feathers, flocks, and flower-roots, for beds*, have won the favour of the Premier; but flocks of sheep continue under the appropriate protection of the Duke of Richmond. All *gums*, except those in the head, are honoured with special recognition by the Minister; instead of a supply for them, he offers us *jewels*, duty free, which exemplifies "asking for bread and receiving a stone" with a vengeance. As we cannot obtain food to fatten ourselves or our cattle, we are graciously permitted to import *animal oil*; and *Orange Peel* having disappeared since 1829, a fresh supply may be had from abroad, with the addition of *Lemon Peel*, the acid being derived from the income-tax. We find a long catalogue of liberated seeds; but lament that the seeds of wheat, oats, and barley are not among the enfranchised, though hotanists might rank them among the *unenumerated grasses*. *Thrown silk* is the only article in which the principle of protection is directly abandoned, unless we include *teasles* as part of agricultural produce. There is much cry but very little wool in the Budget beyond cotton-wool, which is really important; there are, however, several long *garns* in addition to that spun by the Premier in his opening speech.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—Marshal Soult, at the earnest request of M. Villmain, has withdrawn the bill granting a pension of 15,000 francs a year to him and his family.—M. Duchatel, in introducing the secret-service-money bill, stated that, on the decision of the Chamber with regard to it, they would stake their continuance in office.

Accounts received at Paris state that the weather in the provinces continued very severe. At Strasbourg, on the 15th inst., Fahrenheit's thermometer had fallen to five degrees.

CANINE HUMANE SOCIETY.—Ten Newfoundland dogs have been imported into Paris for the purpose of watching the banks of the Seine, and experienced trainers are every day employed in teaching these magnificent animals to draw from the water stuffed figures of men and children. The rapidity with which they cross and recross the river, and come and go at the voice of their trainers, is truly marvellous. It is hoped that these fine dogs, for whom handsome kennels have been erected on the bridges across the Seine, will render great service to the cause of humanity.—Commerce.

SPAIN.—We have accounts from Madrid to the 12th inst. In the discussion on the Clergy Detention Bill on that day, the Finance Minister, in order to allay the public alarm as to the Church property already sold, announced

that the Government were fully resolved to maintain the inviolability of the property that had already passed out of the hands of the clergy, and that they would suffer no encroachment on acquired rights. It appears, however, that, owing to the folly of the priests, the purchasers of this property were seriously alarmed, and had called a public meeting on the subject.—Serious disputes exist between the Court and the Ministry, and Queen Christina is doing all in her power to get rid of Narvaer. The disputes have reached to such a pitch, that it is not improbable a crisis will soon be the result.

PORTUGAL.—Lisbon letters of the 11th inst. mention the arrival of Dr. Kalley, from Madeira, and of his intended return to that island. The object of his visit was said to be to obtain permission from the Government to open an apothecary's establishment in Madeira, with the view of supplying the people gratis with medicines. The recent broils and dissensions there were likely to prevent his application being complied with.

SWITZERLAND.—The affairs of Switzerland are again becoming serious. Lucerne insists on establishing the Jesuits at the head of its cantonal education. Berne declares that this must not be, and arms to expel the Jesuits from the neighbouring canton by force. There would be little matter in the Radical cantons threatening, but they are supported by Zurich, a powerful, Protestant, and Conservative canton.

THE JEWS IN HAMBURG.—Accounts from Hamburg state, that, in consideration of the active and generous conduct of the Jews of that city, and of the banker, Solomon Heine, in particular, on the occasion of the great fire in 1842, the Government of the city and province has felt it to be its duty to ameliorate the laws which weighed so heavily on this class of its population. Hitherto, the Jews of Hamburg have been restricted to commerce and to the exercise of the medical profession; but the Council of Ancients has proposed the opening to them of all the professions and trades.

PHILADELPHIAN BONDS.—The *New York American*, in its money article for the steamer, says, "The chief topic of interest and regret is the now certain failure of Pennsylvania to pay her interest to-morrow, the 1st of February. Part, and a large part of it, may be paid, possibly, some days hence; but payment in full on the day is now out of the question. The new governor, Mr. Shunk, sent a special message on the subject on the 29th, and it looks like any thing but present payment." Upon the above the *Genevieve Traveller* remarks, "The impression, however, is general, that the bill ordering the payment will pass, and will receive the signature of Governor Shunk."

CHABON.—This island has been the scene of rather serious disputes and petty conflicts, resulting from an attempt on the part of certain supercargoes to appropriate the principal portions of the island to their own use, by erecting landing stages, and selling pits at extravagant prices, to the prejudice of the general body of shipmasters seeking cargoes of the favourite manure. These latter, at length, organised a considerable body of men, whom they armed, and then drove the usurpers from their temporary occupancy, forcing them to abandon their exclusive claims, and to stand on the same common level as the other shipmasters.

ADEN.—A correspondent writing from this British possession to the *Times* states, that it was threatened to be attacked by the Sheriff of Mocha, at the head of an army reputed to number from fifty to thirty thousand Arabs. He assigned no particular reason for the threatened attack save that it was his intention to clear Arabia of all Christians. The writer states that the garrison, which numbered 1800 men, was not sufficiently strong to go out to attack the Arabs; and he complains of the bad state of the fortifications, and urges on the Government to send out engineers to put them in a fitting state of repair.

## DOMESTIC.

Sir Robert Peel contradicted, in the House of Commons on Monday, the rumour which had been current for some days, that Prince Albert was about to be created "King Consort."

Sir Henry Ellis states his opinion that a possibility still remains of restoring the Portland vase to its pristine integrity, by two skilful artists in the employ of the trustees of the Museum, who have had considerable experience in resetting the fragments of Greek vases.

A notorious robber, confined in the Chaudos House Gaol at Bath, with a view of making his escape, contrived on Thursday morning, the 13th inst., to set fire to his cell. He, however, met his death in the attempt, as on the alarm being given, his cell-door was broken open, when it was discovered that his career had been terminated by suffocation.

The committee of baths and wash-houses for the labouring classes, after a month's consideration, have selected the plan of Mr. P. P. Baly, as the best of 22 which were submitted to them in competition.

Some time before six o'clock on Saturday evening last a most daring burglary was effected in the warehouse of Messrs. M. and S. Hyams, clothiers, 9 and 10, King-street, Cheapside. There were stolen from the premises 1800 yards of silk velvet, 600 yards of silk serge, in rolls; 495 yards of satin, in pieces; and £13 in gold, silver, and copper.

A patent has been taken out for a new lithographic printing press, capable of being worked by steam. This invention will have the effect of saving much of the labour of the lithographer, who heretofore had not only to lithograph, but also to work at the press: the impressions, also, are more uniform, and the printing altogether better and cheaper.

By the death of the Earl of Effingham a vacancy has been occasioned in the borough of Shaftesbury, which Lord Howard (now Earl of Effingham) represented in Parliament since the general election of 1841. The present earl is a supporter of Whig principles, but voted against the abolition of the Corn Laws. He is now in his 39th year.

The influx of destitute persons is so great in the metropolitan asylums for the houseless poor that the benevolent individuals engaged in conducting the affairs of the charity have been obliged to make a pressing appeal to the public for assistance in saving their fellow-creatures from perishing. They have relieved this season upwards of 10,000 persons, at an expense of £1500, and their funds have become greatly diminished.

Mr. William Carter, coroner for East Surrey, held an inquest on Monday, on the body of Mr. Samuel Laman Blanchard, aged 45, of No. 11, Union-place, Lambeth-

walk, who committed suicide the previous Friday night. He was the author of several well-known pieces in the various periodicals. About Christmas last his wife, to whom he was fondly attached, died, and his great anxiety during the period of her long and harassing illness so injured his own health, that convulsive fits ensued. He continued to get worse, and on Friday night last, in the absence of Mrs. Jane Spinnell, who had been attending upon him, and who had left the room for an instant to call his eldest son, Edward, he cut his throat with a razor. The jury found a verdict of "temporary insanity." Deceased has left several orphan children.

The *Glasgow Constitution* gives a melancholy account of the loss of eight boys, who were drowned in Duntillan Loch, near Shott's Kirk, on Tuesday week, by the breaking of the ice. The whole party of boys fell in, and not one returned to tell to the afflicted parents the loss of their children.

The American line-of-packet ship *Gladiator* has arrived in the St. Katharine Docks from New York. This fine vessel has brought, in addition to a full complement of cabin and steerage passengers and a quantity of specie, an immense cargo of American provisions, consisting of cheese, beef, pork, &c.

The grant to Maynooth, says the *Dublin Evening Mail*, is to be raised to £28,000 a year, and the college is to be kept in repair at the public expense. Three additional visitors are to be appointed.

Government has granted £100 a year pension to the afflicted widow of Captain J. M'Leod, stipendiary magistrate, who was murdered at Ballinamore, Leitrim; at her demise £50 a year will devolve on her daughter, Miss M'Leod.

The Irish Repeal Association met on Monday in the Conciliation-hall, Dublin. Mr. O'Connell entered the hall amidst loud acclamation, accompanied by several M.P.'s and other gentlemen. In handing in a remittance from Louth, he denounced one of the members for that county, Mr. M. Bellew, as an "unsavoury renegade." In noticing the promised help to be given to Maynooth, the learned gentleman, while expressing his attachment to the voluntary principle, justified his approval of the additional grant: while the Established Church took money from the Catholics and Dissenters, for which it gave no value, he would take all he could get for Maynooth. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. O'Connell mentioned, that on the next day of meeting he would give notice of a resolution to the effect, that a petition to Parliament should be prepared, praying for a repeal of those clauses in the Emancipation Act which affected the Jews and other regular clergy. The rent for the week was announced to be £751. 10s. 5d., which included a sum of upwards of £300 from the United States.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LEAGUE BAZAAR.—It has been suggested that gentlemen friendly to the Anti-Corn-Law League, and interested in trades which include ornamental articles, such as the glass, brass and iron founding, paper, and cabinet making trades, might, at small expense to themselves, render material assistance to this excellent enterprise. We mention this, in the hope that the seed may not fall upon barren ground; and we feel assured that many of the operatives engaged in these trades would be glad to assist in the good work; which, in reality, interests them as much, or possibly more, than their employers.—*The Mercury*.

SIR R. PEEL AND LORD J. RUSSELL ON PROTECTION.—Let us look at these two chiefs as they exhibited themselves last week:—"I am convinced that protection is not the support, but the bane, of agriculture."—Lord John Russell. "The restoration of protection is impossible; and, even if it were possible, I would not recommend it as a remedy for the distress arising from causes which I deeply deplore."—Sir Robert Peel. It was on the first and third days of this present session that these declarations were made: the first of them by the chief who, little more than three years ago, officially proclaimed the necessity of a large measure of protection to agriculture; the last of them by the chief who at that time was crowned by Squidron with a diadem on which was written, without and within, "Protection to agriculture!"—*Bradford Observer*.

KING LOUIS PHILIPPE ON POPULATION.—We take the following from the *Glasgow Argus*. It proves how decided is the spread of true principles on "the Population Question:—"Another curious question which was propounded by Mr. Doubleday, in a recent treatise, also arises out of this. In consequence of the imperfect registration in Scotland, there is no means of arriving with any degree of certainty at the number of births; but, if there were, it would be profitable to inquire whether, as Mr. Doubleday propounds, the births, in proportion to the population, invariably increase in years of scarcity and depression of trade. It is asserted by that gentleman that they do—and he alleges, as a proof, a fact which Dr. Buchan notices in his celebrated work, and which every person must have observed:—that the more squallid and wretched a neighbourhood is, the greater is the number of children in it. His theory is, that whenever a species of animal or vegetable is threatened with extinction by the deficiency of nourishment, nature flies to the relief of the individuals and species so threatened, and increases their fecundity. His Majesty King Louis Philippe, who is well known to take great interest in this curious question, inclines to the opinion of Mr. Doubleday; and asserted recently as a reason for the non-appearance of heirs to certain noble families, that "they fed too much."—*The Mercury*.

MILLWORK AND MACHINERY.—A return, printed on the motion of Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary of the Treasury, has been issued, giving an account of the declared value of all millwork and machinery exported from the United Kingdom in each quarter of the years 1841, 1842, 1843, and 1844. The declared value of millwork and machinery exported from the United Kingdom in the year ended the 5th of January, 1842, was £351,361; in the year ended the 5th of January, 1843, £354,633; in the year ended the 5th of January, 1844, £713,474; and in the year ended the 5th of January last, to £773,187, showing an increase on every year in the value of millwork and machinery exported.

PROPOSED WEEKLY HALF-HOLIDAY IN A MILL.—We have much gratification in stating, that Messrs. Harrop, Taylor, and Pearson have announced their intention of giving the hands employed in their mill, at Harrop Heath, a holiday on Saturday afternoon, as is done in the







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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 75.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free-Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quentin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund. By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Manchester, Jan. 13, 1845.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE COUNTIES—SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

On looking over a map of the English counties with a view to the question, Which counties in particular, and which first, should be the object of the Free-Traders' efforts, the eye immediately fixes on SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE, as affording a peculiarly fit field for those exertions which have already emanated from the landlord yoke, South Lancashire, North Cheshire, and the West Riding.

We know not of any county, or division of a county, in Great Britain, more deeply interested in the success of this movement for defeating monopoly on its own ground, or better able to bear a part in it, than South Staffordshire. There is none which suffered more from the Corn Law, during those dreadful years when it was last in full operation. There is none which has more to fear from the prospect of the next bad harvest that shall revive this law from its present state of suspended animation, and recall the miseries of 1841 and 1842. There is none which has more to hope from the action of Free Trade, in opening, extending, and widening markets for its peculiar industry; producing, in this district does, every variety and sub-variety of that class of commodities—from a ploughshare to a nail or a needle—which are most in request with a young, raw, corn-growing population. There is none more entitled or better able to avail itself of that particular instrument of self-deliverance—the forty-shilling-freehold franchise. The towns and the towns-people of South Staffordshire have an especial right to assert themselves in the county representation. The county is theirs, for they have made it. Without its towns, and the skilled and organised labour of which towns are the centres, South Staffordshire would be one of the poorest, poorest districts in all England. It owes its growing wealth, not to the peasant, but to the artisan. It is famous through the world, not for its farms, but for its furnaces. It is a county altogether created by that industry which monopoly would starve and strangle. And nowhere are there more inviting facilities for the work of self-emancipation. Small freeholds are far more numerous

in South Staffordshire than they were a year ago in South Lancashire; opportunities of purchase are more frequent, and capital, instead of being piled up in a few large heaps, is widely diffused in the hands of a great number of small master-workers. We are perfectly confident not only that South Staffordshire can do what South Lancashire has done, but that the victory may be won by a comparatively moderate outlay of effort and attention.

Why, Wolverhampton alone may, by well-combined and systematic action on the district of which it is the centre, secure the representation of the division. Within twelve miles of this metropolis of South Staffordshire industry and intelligence, we find such towns as Walsall, Wednesbury, Darlaston, Bilston, Willenhall, Tipton, Sedgley, and Bloxwich—places, several of them, far superior in population and importance to not a few of the boroughs which the accident of prescription has left in possession of their member or two, even under the Reform Act—yet all of them (with the exception of Walsall) absolutely unrepresented in Parliament, unless so far as they can make themselves felt and heard in the county constituency. The forty-shilling-freehold franchise is their only hold on the constitution, their only mode of access to a share in the government of their country. That provision of the ancient law of the land, which annexes political power to ownership of the soil, exactly fits their case. By it, and by it alone, can the workers of this most busy and crowded working district obtain the means of protecting their industry from landlord spoliation. We are convinced that a united and vigorous movement here (it is a district abounding with small freeholds) would be successful in qualifying and registering freeholders enough to govern the representation of the division. To the men of Wolverhampton we look with full reliance for originating and guiding this movement. Their long-trying and unwavering adhesion to the Free-Trade cause well entitles the constituents of Mr. Villiers to the honour of winning another county for total and immediate repeal.

Going southward from Wolverhampton, near the borders of the county, we come to Dudley. Dudley, as every one knows, is, like Wolverhampton, a parliamentary borough; but, unlike Wolverhampton, it is a borough without a constituency. Is it true, we read in our "Parliamentary Companion?" "DUDLEY—population, 31,167, registered electors, 937." But the same high authority immediately subjoins, "The prevailing influence in the borough is that of Lord Ward;" which simply means that Lord Ward is the constituency of Dudley; that the 937 registered electors are 937 legal fictions; and the 31,167 inhabitants a constitutional nonentity. Yet there is hope and help for the people of Dudley. The constitution does not wholly cast them out. If they are gagged in their borough, they may speak in their county. Of these 31,167 unrepresented inhabitants of Dudley, there must be some hundreds both able and willing to comply with the cheap and easy condition of political enfranchisement—the investment of £30, £40, or £50 in the purchase of freehold property. Of 176 of them—the minority who unavailingly struggled last July against the "prevailing influence in the borough"—we suppose we may consider ourselves sure already. They will find it an easier and more hopeful task to make truth and justice the "prevailing influence" in their county. We believe that Dudley, although locally in Staffordshire, is legally a part of Worcestershire. Property in the borough will not, in that case, give a vote for South Staffordshire; but qualifications may be purchased, within three miles of Dudley, or in any other part of the division.

Although South Staffordshire is, we cannot doubt, perfectly able to work out its own emancipation, we see no sort of reason why it should not be largely aided by those towns on the borders of the adjacent counties, whose interests are identical with its own. The industry of Birmingham is as closely connected with that of South Staffordshire as the trade of Liverpool is with the manufactures of Manchester. All its interests extend across the county frontier, and its sympathies and services should not lag behind. Manchester sent its hundreds of freehold purchasers into the West Riding; and with even better reason may Birmingham make common cause with the iron and coal county of which it is really, though not nominally, a part. The ground for co-operation is still stronger in the case of Stourbridge, which is scarcely a stone's throw from Staffordshire, on the Worcestershire side. Stourbridge is not, even in name and pretence, a parliamentary borough—has no political weight or existence whatever, except such as it may happen to derive from the law

of county franchise. Stourbridge is nothing in the constitution, unless it choose to make itself something, by putting a handsome muster-roll of freeholders on the county register. We know enough of the zeal and spirit of the Free-Traders of this town, to hope that it will strike a good blow for the cause just where it will best tell, by reinforcing the South Stafford Free-Trade registry with a liberal quota of qualified freeholders.

We must not leave the subject without reminding our South Staffordshire readers of some circumstances connected with the present state of their electoral list, which show both the need of exertion and the certainty of the success that will reward it. The whole business of registration having been much neglected in their division for several years, we are convinced that it will be found, on closely looking into the matter, that a great number of Free-Traders, long since fully qualified, have never been on the registry at all. A good deal of profitable work, likewise, will be to be done in winnowing the registry of spurious and dead votes. When we add, that the existing lists do not show more than one registered voter for every thirty-one inhabitants of the division—8,469 voters for a population of 265,550—they will see how wide a margin the neglect of former years has left for the exertions of the present. The proportion is grossly inadequate for a population whose intelligence, industry, and diffused wealth ought to yield as high a relative number of voters as any district in Great Britain. Westmoreland, with considerably less than a quarter of the South Staffordshire population, has more than half the amount of voters; East Worcestershire and Herefordshire, with less than half the population, have, the one three-fourths, and the other seven-eighths, of the number of voters; North Devonshire has 300 votes more, for a population of 75,000 fewer; and North Lincolnshire registers 1700 more electors for 70,000 fewer people. In other respects, there is everything to encourage as well as to provoke activity. Even as the register stands, it is clear, from the state of the representation, that the preponderance of monopoly is not by any means overwhelming. The one-and-one compromise, by which Toryism, sliding scale, and Lord Augustus's consent to split the difference with the West India and Colonies, indicates a secret weakness, on which every resolute and honest blow is sure to tell for what it is worth.

We leave this cause in your hands, men of South Staffordshire! in full confidence that you will do it and yourselves justice. The county is yours, and not the landlords—for you, and not the landlords, have made it. Only get that fact put into regular legal form, as the South Lancashire men have done—see it set down in black and white—where it will be ready for use when you and your country want it.

## THE SUGAR DUTIES.

Sir Robert Peel has proposed that the people of England should pay a tax to the proprietors of estates in the West Indies, under the name of a differential duty on sugar, amounting to £2,600,000 annually, being about the sum derived from the onerous and iniquitous tax imposed on the incomes derived from offices, trades, and professions. But though this sum must be paid by the British people it will not all be received by the West India proprietors: from the indirect and slovenly manner in which it is raised, about one-half will be lost in the process of collection, so that if a case could be made out for the West India proprietors, it would be better for the nation, and better for themselves, to grant them compensation in the shape of annuities from the Consolidated Fund. The only conceivable reason why this direct and economic course has not been adopted is, that in such a case the West India proprietors would be obliged to offer an intelligible proof of their claims to the public; and it would then be easy to determine whether their demand amounts to the assertion of a prescriptive right to black mail, or whether we, the British people, have subjected the West Indians to any disadvantages for which we are bound in justice to afford compensation. By raising the tax indirectly, this examination is evaded, and the still more important question is kept out of sight whether the protection given by these differential duties is not an injury to the West India proprietors themselves, by giving a bounty to improvidence, and holding out a reward to negligence and incompetence. The Times were on what it calls respectable authority, that "the cost of production by free labour is double that of production by slaves." Were this

the case, the sugars of Java and Manilla could not meet those of Cuba and Brazil in the world's markets, nor would West India produce, in the old days of slavery, have required a discriminating duty for protection against competition with the free labour of the East Indies. Here are notorious facts which must countervail any anonymous authority, however respectable. But Mr. James went even beyond the *Times*, for he declared that the proprietors of slaves paid no wages at all. Were this the truth, or anything like the truth, our appeals to foreign nations for the total abolition of slavery would be the most hopeless and futile proposals ever made by man. The selfishness of consumers all over the world would be enlisted in perpetuating the system of slavery; and those who make use of such an argument justify those who declare that the British nation seeks the abolition of slavery under a mere pretext of humanity, but really for the purpose of depriving foreign sugar-growers of the advantages of a more profitable system than that which is pursued in the British colonies. But we may test this argument in another way: Mr. G. R. Porter, one of the secretaries to the Board of Trade, and known to Europe as one of the most eminent and accurate of living statisticians, has shown that the cost of producing a cwt. of sugar in the days of slavery was 9s. 10d. Now, Mr. Gibson showed, on the authority of the Clarendon Agricultural Society of Jamaica, which had offered a prize for the production of the greatest amount of sugar at the least cost, that on the Denbigh estate, sugar could be raised at 10s. 2d. per cwt., and on the Halse Hall estate at 6s. 9d. per cwt. The *Times* found this a very awkward fact, and therefore asserted that in this estimate Mr. Gibson omitted lumber, salaries to overseers, and other elements which had entered into Mr. Porter's calculations. Now, the fact is, that both estimates consist precisely of the same elements, for both include lumber and salaries, and both make a deduction for the rum. In order to put an end to cavil, we insert the items of the return of the expenditure on the Denbigh estate:—

"Total expenditure for labour, inclusive of domestics, buildings, tradesmen, hanging coppers, pans, &c.; in short, the whole labour of the estate, as per second extract £1284 12 2	
To which I add the items not given, say overseer's salary .. £200 0 0	
Two white bookkeepers or assistants, at £75 .. .. . 150 0 0	
The lumber account must consist chiefly of red and white oak staves, and heading for the sugar hds. and rum punichrons; but as these are uniformly paid for by purchasers of produce in the Jamaica markets (with which I shall by-and-by compare the result, as regards sales), the outlay is but temporary, and the price obtained will, moreover, repay some portion of the labour of the coppers already charged. Leaving the staves, therefore, out of the calculation, I put down for boards, &c., required in ordinary repairs upon the buildings during the year .. 100 0 0	
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Making the gross cost of working the estate 1784 12 2  
But the rum is the subsidiary production, being, in fact, created from that which would otherwise be wasted; I therefore claim to deduct from the actual cost of the main staple the price obtained for 3833 gallons of rum, which, by contemporaneous advices, was worth (exclusive of the duty on consumption) 2s. 6d. per gallon, or .. .. . 479 0 0

So that the net amount of .. .. . 1305 12 2  
may fairly be said to cover the total cost of producing 2367 cwt. of sugar, being at the rate of 10s. 2d. per cwt."

The first item in this estimate is the manager's account, which the *Times* declares to have been the only expenditure which entered into Mr. Gibson's calculation; but we have here given the unanswerable evidence of figures to show that Mr. Gibson made a homogeneous comparison with Mr. Porter, and brought in all the items necessary to make the result a capitalist's and not a manager's estimate. But a writer in our able contemporary, the *Economist*, has shown that this cost is greatly increased by the payment of an expensive staff of overseers and assistants, necessary in the times of slavery, but which, under the system of free labour, could be dispensed with if the absentee proprietor resided on his own estate, and attended to his own business. Were such a saving effected, the cost of production on the Denbigh estate would have been reduced to 7s. 6d., and on the Halse Hall estate to 4s. 6d.

But the argument goes much farther. We have no right to be bound by the present cost of production in the West Indies; we have a clear right to look rather to what the cost would be under a system of fair and open competition. The disadvantage under which West India production is not

that our colonial manufacturers have to pay for the labour which their Brazilian rivals obtain for nothing—an absurdity too palpable to need refutation—but because they, as absentee farmers and manufacturers, have to contend with resident farmers and manufacturers. Ireland affords abundant proofs of the evils arising from the absenteeism of landlords; but absentee farmers and absentee manufacturers are men very certain to impoverish themselves, and very likely to damnify the country with which they are connected.

In fact, the greater part of the money extorted by the West India proprietors from the people of England goes not to them, but to the agents, attorneys, and overseers intrusted with the mismanagement of their properties in the islands. The proofs given in the course of the debate of the low state of agricultural skill and enterprise in the West Indies abundantly show that protection is only required for the encouragement of sloth, indolence, and incompetency. The planters are "spendthrifts and slovens," to use the characteristic verbiage of the *Times*; and the evidence which Mr. Cobden adduced has placed this fact beyond all possibility of doubt or cavil.

When the West Indians and their advocates say that the people of England are bound to compensate them for the difference between the cost of slave-labour production and free-labour production, they conveniently forget that the compensation has been already paid. They received twenty millions of money from the people of England to meet this very case. In round numbers, the production of sugar in the West Indies may be taken at four millions of hundred weights; which, however, is over the mark. Now, the interest on twenty millions at three per cent. is six hundred thousand pounds, or twelve millions of shillings; so that they have already got in perpetuity three shillings per cwt. as a bounty on all the sugar they ever shall raise, to make up for any disadvantage which may arise from using free labour instead of slave labour. But no such disadvantage exists. Mr. Gladstone admitted that absenteeism was the chief cause why sugar was not produced in the West Indies as cheap as in Cuba or Brazil; so that this right hon. gentleman would have the people of England taxed to perpetuate absenteeism, though he confessed that absenteeism to be the chief cause of the depression of the West India interest, causing bankruptcy to the proprietors, and preventing the introduction of all improvement into the islands. We have already given the West Indians an advantage of three shillings per cwt. on all the sugars they ever can or will produce; and we should be glad to know if those who ask for the restoration of slavery would be content to pay back their share of the twenty millions? Every one knows that the abolition of slavery rescued the West Indies from ruin, because they had while it continued to pay enormous interest on their mortgages.

But the *Times* adds that the colonists are obliged to consume British manufactures; it has not stated the amount of that consumption or its value to the nation. It would have been rather awkward to confess that the sum allocated to the planters in the shape of differential duties exceeds in amount the value of all the British manufactures exported to the West Indies; so that it would be a national gain to give them all the goods they consume, not merely at cost price, but absolutely for nothing, provided they allowed us to purchase our sugars elsewhere. The British manufacturers would gladly give up their worthless exclusive privileges in the colonial market, if the colonists would in turn claim no advantages in the British market.

But the last argument put forward by the *Times* is one of the most whimsical that can be imagined: it declares that the West Indians contribute "a large quota to our expensive establishments;" it omits to say that these islands do not defray the expenses of their own military and naval defence, or of their civil administration. Under the head of "colonial estimates," about £200,000 is annually paid to supply the deficiencies of the colonies to maintain their own establishments; while they are supplied with regiments, ships of war, and ordnance stores at the sole expense of the people of Great Britain.

The question raised by the *Times*, whether these or any other colonies are worth being retained, is beside the issue, unless it can be shown that the allegiance of the West Indians depends on their receiving more than two millions annually from a tax levied on British industry as a premium for preserving wasteful habits and bad systems of cultivation.

The real question at issue is, What claim have the West Indians to divert the amount raised by the iniquitous income-tax on offices, trades, and professions from the public Exchequer into their own warehouses and counting-houses? No attempt was made to solve this question during the debate—if, indeed, that can be called a debate, in which all the eloquence and all the argument were on one side. Mr. Gibson's speech particularly deserves commendation; it was a model of a lucid arrangement

of facts bound together in logical sequence, the perfection of its eloquence consisting in the perfection of its argument. Lord Howick vigorously treated the labourers' question involved in the discussion, and exposed the hypocrisy of those who call themselves the labourers' friends, while they compel him to give the same amount of labour for 18 lbs. of sugar which under an equitable system would produce him 26 lbs., thus defrauding the working man of more than one-fourth of his earnings whenever he exchanges his labour for sugar. No one denied the wrongs inflicted on the British consumer; no one established a right in the West India proprietary to be pensioned out of the earnings of the industrious classes. It remains, then, as the result of the debate, that the amount raised by the income-tax on offices, trades, and professions must be handed over to the West India interest, because it commands votes necessary to swell the ministerial majority.

### THE BAZAAR.

We give a few selections from the mass of correspondence we continue to receive on this subject:—

"Wrotham-hill, Kent.

"SIR,—As you will have contributors to your monster Bazaar in all parts of the kingdom, it will afford a fine opportunity, of which I have no doubt many would gladly avail themselves, to form a large and valuable collection of geological specimens, at very little cost and trouble to the contributors. It would not be necessary to be at any expense in setting them off to advantage, or even naming them; the collection would be valuable if persons situated in different parts would merely send rough specimens of the fossils found in the district, mineral ore, kinds of rocks, slates, spars, oxides, salts, sands, &c.: the name of the place where found would be all that is necessary. You have plenty of geologists in London who could arrange and name them, as, perhaps, the contributors could not. I could send a bushel or two of fossils in chalk and flint, found in this neighbourhood; and, if you recommend it, I have no doubt you would have a large collection.

"I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,  
"WM. HICKSON."

"Wrexham, Feb. 1815.

"SIR,—It is our duty, as it must ever be our privilege, to communicate what can either confer benefit or pleasure; and, as I trust both these objects will be attained on the present occasion, I will not delay handing to the League fund a sovereign, which was sent as the annual subscription of an firm a friend to your great cause it can boast—George Ramson, Esq., of Pickhill-hall, near this town, who has heretofore been a liberal contributor, and has now also stated to me his intention of presenting to the Bazaar a painting by one of the old masters, formerly in the collection of the late Mr. Roscoe, of Liverpool, and for which that gentleman, on account of its antiquity, paid one hundred guineas. I trust you will receive many

more such intimations, and that the arduous labours of yourself and colleagues in this great struggle to promote our country's weal may be attended with success far exceeding your most sanguine expectations. I am hoping, with our own subscription, to obtain a little more, which I will shortly forward; but the friends here have individually taken up the cause, and now, therefore, send the money without solicitation; so that, though as much may be collected, it appears less by going in detached sums at different times.

"I am, dear Sir, with sincere respect and hearty good wishes, yours, most truly,  
"S. HINDRICH.  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"Willmott House, Old Kent-road, Feb. 18.

"SIR,—I have to apologize for my seeming inattention to your letter; but as my occupation prevents me affording you that assistance I could so much have wished, and which your truly excellent cause so well merits, therefore I have postponed writing to you till the present, that I might at the same time forward to you some trifling articles, which I would hope will be suitable for your Bazaar.

"Wishing you a speedy and successful termination to the noble struggle which you and the rest of the Council of the League are engaged in, and in which the happiness and comfort of so large a portion, not only of my fellow-countrymen, but all mankind, depends,

"I remain, &c. &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"Uphall, West Lothian, N.B., Feb. 19.

"SIR,—I feel great pleasure in having to inform you that the labouring men of Uphall, along with myself, are determined to show some respect for the League Bazaar. We have commenced collecting a quantity of bird-bones, which we intend manufacturing into moulded candles, and, if you deem my offer of them for the Bazaar worthy your attention, I shall have much pleasure in sending them to whatever address you may be good enough to mention to me. As we intend sending them to the Bazaar free of charge, we will be guided by you in the way we should send them. They will be neatly packed in a box, made for the purpose, and your acceptance of them will much oblige.

"Yours, &c. &c.,

"George Wilson, Esq."

"Donald Gilmore.

"Landport, Feb. 19.

"DEAR SIR,—In answer to your circular of the 5th of January, I beg to say I have called on several ladies who are forming a committee as fast as possible, some of whom had already begun to prepare articles for the Bazaar, and only wanted speaking to.

"I understand Miss Bilton, Union-road, Landport, is to be their secretary, to whom you will please to write for further information. The ladies seem all very anxious in our neighbourhood, and I hope they will do something handsome. At the same time the gentlemen are not behind. Our Anti-Corn-Law Association intend sending a model of a 120-gun ship (being the most appropriate thing we could think of). She is now being made, and, when complete, will be worth fifty pounds. The ladies in the 'Ocean,' representing a conveyer. Other articles will be



ent, no doubt, but that will be the principal. The folks here seem very fond of cheap provisions, and are ready to lend a hand to obtain them.

"I am, dear Sir, &c. &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "THOMAS ROSS.

"Low-street, Keighley, Feb. 22.

"DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Prospectus for the formation of a Ladies' Bazaar Committee in this district, with a list of the Ladies' Committee and a number of tracts and circulars; and I have to inform you, that those in reference to the Bazaar have been liberally distributed amongst our influential ladies, and I hope to make a favourable report of the result at no distant period. I avail myself of this opportunity of stating, that our Association have determined to furnish to the Bazaar a complete specimen of the manufacture of Alpaca, and other fine wools, commencing with the flock out of the fleece, and by regular progression, from spinning, roving, and yarn, to its final completion in the piece, and so, by exhibiting their beauty and utility in mixing with other fabrics, to claim for our town the credit of being the first to develop the multitudinous purposes to which Alpaca and other productions can be advantageously applied. Several ingenious specimens of mechanical apparatus, and the usual quantity of fancy productions, will, I have no doubt, be supplied.

"Yours, &c. &c.,  
"SAMUEL THOMPSON."

"Hull, Feb. 22.

"SIR,—Having purchased a set of lithographic marine views for presentation to the League Bazaar, I shall be glad to forward them, free of charge, as you may direct. The publishing price is £1. 1s., and with portfolio £1. 5s. They are executed by a Mr. John Ward, of this town, and, in my opinion, possess considerable merit, inasmuch as they are the production of a self-taught artist, both as a marine painter and lithographer. In his address they are designated as a series of sea views, illustrative of the several rates and classes of vessels in her Majesty's navy, lithographed in the tinted manner, from drawings taken by himself at the different naval establishments; and, as a work of reference, they must be highly desirable.

"I remain, &c. &c.,

"G. Wilson, Esq." "B. BOULTEN.

"12, Park-place, Highbury-park, Feb. 24.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your circular respecting the Bazaar, to be held in May next; and to assure you of my hearty sympathy with the objects of the 'League,' and, in general, of my full concurrence in the proceedings which it has adopted.

"I am happy to assure you that several ladies of my acquaintance take a deep interest in the contemplated Bazaar, and will, I doubt not, be active and zealous in preparing for it. As I constitute the whole of my own family, I can enlist none of them in your cause.

"I have no objection whatever to have my name placed on your general committee, could I be of any service. From the nature and number of my engagements, I could be of no personal assistance; and my name would be of no influence, since I have been resident here but a few months.

"I have to apologize for the late reply which I send. I beg you will not interpret it as indicative of indifference to your cause. I received your communication on the very day I was leaving London for the country, where I remained for some time, and first light of it on my return.

"Believe me to be, gentlemen, yours faithfully,  
"J. J. BROWN.

"To the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League."

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Fourth Week, ending Saturday, March 1.

The debate of Monday night on the ECONOMIC, or FREE-TRADE, view of the SUGAR DUTIES question, was animated, interesting, and admirably sustained, notwithstanding certain difficulties which in the House of Commons are calculated to abate the ardour of discussion. The case, which was stated and exhausted by Mr. MILNER GIBSON, met with no reply whatever. Ministers, as if conscious of inability to answer plain facts and figures, affected to reserve all their strength for the anti-slavery part of the subject—a tactic which spared them the humiliation of boldly controverting those principles which they have admitted as true, not only in the "abstract," but in the concrete, to apply practically in detail. They therefore put forward only two of what are technically termed "little men," to reply; and these, aided by the now unofficial voluntarism of Mr. Gladstone, and the ad misericordiam appeals of the two or three West India planters who spoke, altogether made out so deplorable and pitiable a defence, that it almost looked like heartless cruelty to continue a debate, of which the first speech had secured the triumph, and the remainder seemed to be but the surplussage of victory. Nevertheless, justice to the community, which is easily moved by mendacious appeals to its compassion, and, like a blind-hearted lady, looks only to the rage and the sores, without thinking of the roguery beneath, required an ample exposure of the protective delusions and fallacies; and this most effectually they received.

The member for Manchester, Mr. MILNER GIBSON, having opened the case, seconded by Mr. EYART, the first speech in reply was made from the Opposition benches. The member for Cumberland, Mr. William DAWKINS, is a very worthy gentleman, and a very decent whig; but he has the "misfortune" of being a West India proprietor; and therefore he was driven into confessing that he had "no patience" with the attempts made to deprive his order of their advantages, even though these advantages were proved not to benefit them in the long run. The House, by its "cheers and applause," gave expression at once to its own economic

and its perfect appreciation of the nature and value of the opinions and feelings of the member for Cumberland. Following him came Mr. Ricardo, who, in a speech worthy of the reputation of his illustrious relation (that Ricardo who cleared up what Adam Smith had left obscure, and whose position among the English economists is that of first class), gave a practically commercial view to the question, and compelled a reply from the Government. Sir George Clerk was "put up" to answer it. Now, nobody who ever saw Sir George, or came in contact with him, would feel disposed to say an unkind word to or of him. In his fifty-eighth year, he is bald-headed, comfortable-looking, and free from those airs of superciliousness which render Government clerks frequently offensive; a more apparently milder whipper-in never cracked a whip; and, like most respectable Scotchmen of the old school, he has that assiduity of attention to details, and that aptitude for red tape, which are necessary to constitute a useful subordinate. Sir George is now promoted to the Vice-Presidency of the Board of Trade; and, to his own astonishment, has now got to deal with principles as well as with details. He accordingly spoke a speech, of which Mr. VILLIERS, with all his real respect for the worthy lord of Pennycuik, was compelled to say that it looked as if it had been composed twenty-five years, and had been now drawn out from its pigeon-hole, wiped from its dust, and gravely repeated, for the edification of the House of Commons, in the year 1845. The speech of Mr. VILLIERS was exceedingly happy. It was full of pleasant sarcasm and ready retort; and so confirmed the case made out by Mr. Milner Gibson as to leave the matter literally "finished and concluded," so far as argument is concerned.

To answer the ARISTARCHUS of the Free-Trade question, arose a youth, who represents Bristol (Mr. Philip William Skinner Miles, brother of the Somerset and agricultural Miles, belonging to a West-India-owning family, and who, last year, proposed the amendment which led to the entanglement of Ministers on their then sugar propositions). He said—nothing; and spoke as if he had got his speech off by heart, and had been so long waiting for its delivery as to have forgotten half of what he intended to say. Then came Lord Howick, who, with his clear and sharp perspicacity, laid bare the economy of the question, and traced the influence of the economical influences into commerce, health, life, power—every thing which constitutes the numerical value, the social condition, and the national stability of a country.

This brought up Mr. Gladstone. He spoke from behind those front Ministerial benches where lately he sat as an organ of authority. The magical effect of such a change was manifested in the reception of his speech. No longer President of the Board of Trade, he was nevertheless listened to in silence, but a silence which plainly told that the whole House treated him as a party interested in the cause; a mere advocate of the West India influence. He stood on the same level as Mr. James; only that, with the same meaning, he had more ingenuity, and a greater command of words. Yet his admissions were noticeable. Protection, *per se*, was bad, and a differential duty abominable; only the West India planters were poor, and wanted—money!

If Mr. VILLIERS be the ARISTARCHUS, assuredly Mr. CONDEN is the ARCHIMEDES, of Free Trade. In a pithy speech, which commanded attention, roused flagging enthusiasm, and revived the whole debate (drooping as it was from want of opposition), he struck fleshhooks into the hypocritical pretences, and drew a cry of agony from the sufferers. To him was put up Mr. Cardwell, the new Secretary to the Treasury. Mr. Edward Cardwell, the member for Clitheroe, is the son of a Liverpool merchant, and, by profession, a barrister; he is about thirty years of age; and having made two (only two) carefully prepared crack speeches last session, has been taken notice of by Sir Robert Peel, and made a subordinate of the Treasury. He is, withal, a very gentlemanly young fellow; is too honest and too liberal to go very far wrong, and too much trammelled to go very far right. His speech was a melancholy failure, as the ill-concealed sidgetiness of Sir Robert Peel testified. In truth, young Cardwell is not yet hardened and hackneyed enough to resort to dust and dirt in lack of arguments; and, having no arguments, he spoke a speech which sounded like an empty tin case.

Mr. DAWKINS followed. The House by this time had become full; the members were eager for that mathematical demonstration called a division; and the member for Durham, alluding to the Free-Trade controversy and its effect on the mind of the public at large, exclaimed, "This debate has now gone on long enough." Immediately a burst of cheering, resembling a yell, broke out; the observation was sarcastically applied to the debate before the House. A nervous man might have been intimidated or put down. Not so Mr. Bright. It had only the effect of more completely rousing him; and he concluded his speech with a most thrashing assault upon the monopolists.

In the following abstract we condense the debate into an exhibition of the more noticeable points.

### SUGAR DUTIES.

On the order of the day having been read, that the House go into a Committee of Ways and Means on the Sugar Duties, Mr. MILNER GIBSON rose to move the amendment, of which he had given notice, "That no arrangement of the sugar duties will be satisfactory and permanent which does not involve an equalisation of duty on

foreign and colonial sugar." He was aware of the inconvenience of what are called "abstract" motions, but his present proposition, as pointing to a permanent settlement, was peculiarly a practical one. Slightly noticing the moral and social view of the question, he came to the economical; he called the attention of the House

"To a plain question of justice in taxation—to a matter which I think I can make clear to every man—namely, that it is not consistent with our duty as legislators, when we are resolving ourselves into a Committee of Ways and Means for the sole purpose of voting a supply to her Majesty to meet the current expenditure of the country—that it is not consistent with our duty at the same time to take the opportunity of levying another tax, as it were, which is not to be paid to the public exchequer, or to be applied in defraying the expenses of the country, but is to be appropriated to a certain class of our fellow-countrymen who have not yet made out any good claim for any such favour, and have not set forth any intelligible ground why we should take this legislative mode for making compensation for any alleged grievances. But it is proposed to take this indirect mode of putting the hands of the colonial proprietors into the pockets of the people of England at a moment when we are professing simply to be engaged in voting money for the public expenditure."

The effect of the different rates of duty he illustrated in this way:—

"I will take, as an illustration, two samples of sugar in bond of equal value—of equal value, I mean, in the markets of the world. I will take that value at 28s. the cwt. To one of these samples I will apply a duty of 28s.; to the other sample I will apply a duty of 14s. What is the consequence? It is quite clear that if the sample to which I applied 28s. be sold in the market of this country, it must fetch 52s., because that is the sum of 21s. and 28s. It is also equally clear that the other sample, being of equal value, must also fetch in the market, and for the purpose of refiners, an equal price with the first. But to this second sample I apply the duty of 14s., and still it, in the same market, must fetch 52s.; but if you deduct 14s. from 52s., what is left?—38s. The supposed intrinsic value of the sugar is 21s., exclusive of duty. Add to 21s. a duty of 14s., and that makes 35s. But in the former case the intrinsic value is also 21s.; but there is a duty of 28s., which makes 52s. Now, deduct 38s. from 52s., and that leaves 14s. Here, then, is a difference of 14s. between the price of foreign and colonial sugars. How does this difference of price arise? Certainly not from the market value of the sugars, irrespective of duty, because both foreign and colonial sugars are assumed to be at 21s. the cwt. The difference then arises from the duty—that on foreign sugar being 28s., that on colonial being 14s., and hence a difference of 14s. But to whom does this difference go? Not to her Majesty, because the price of both foreign and colonial is the same in the market. Then it must necessarily go to the grower of colonial sugar, for as his cost price is 21s., and his duty 14s., and his market price 52s., while the foreign cost price is also 21s., but the duty 28s., and the market price only 52s., the difference being 14s., is clearly a benefit given to the colonial proprietor. But the same argument applies to sugars of unequal value. Suppose two samples of sugar, one at 21s., the other at 15s. Apply the 28s. duty to the 21s. sugar; that makes the price, including duty, 52s. Then apply the 14s. duty to the 15s. sugar, 29s. The difference between 52s. and 29s. is 23s. If the 21s. sugar, with a duty of 28s., sells at 52s., then the 15s. sugar, with a duty of 14s., will sell for 43s. Now, deduct 29s. (which is the cost of the 15s. sugar, with 14s. duty added) from 43s. (the price at which it is sold), and you still have 14s. left as a clear advantage over the sale of the foreign-grown sugar. Now, in all these cases it is clear that this excess of price, where the duty is 14s., goes into the pockets of the colonial proprietors, and not into her Majesty's exchequer, and that whether you take sugars of equal value or of unequal value."

The produce of this "fraud" was demonstrable:—

"The right hon. baronet (Sir Robert Peel) told us the other evening that he expected 230,000 tons of colonial sugar to be consumed in this country in the course of the next year. Now, this at a duty of 10s. per cwt., being £10 a ton, upon 230,000 tons amounts to £2,300,000. That is the sum which we are now invited to take from her Majesty's exchequer, and pay over to the West and East India proprietors. £2,300,000, for which no explanation has been given, is to be taken out of the pockets of the people of this country and be paid over to our colonial producers. What a monstrous act of injustice this appears to be upon the face of it! I know there are gentlemen who will contend that there are good reasons why the colonial proprietors should thus be entitled to deduct £2,300,000 from the public exchequer next year. I know there are gentlemen here who would contend that a case had been made out for such a transfer of the public money. But I, as a member of Parliament, representing the public interest, and not the interest of any peculiar class, am entitled to ask what are those grounds and reasons? I am entitled to ask that something like a case should be substantiated before the claim is assented to, and that the House should not, in a blindfold manner, make a transfer of so large a sum of the public money to individuals of whose right or claim no notice whatever has been given to the House. We are invited to give money to her Majesty's exchequer, but we have since been asked to give £2,300,000 to the West and East India proprietors."

He had no animosity towards the West Indies, and he knew that,

"It has been alleged that, by the legislation of this country in former times, you acted towards the colonial proprietors in such a manner as to give them a just and equitable claim upon your exchequer. If that be so, I should prefer a more direct mode of making that claim than that of giving a compensation to the West and East India proprietors in the form of a monopoly. (Hear, hear.) I believe it would be more satisfactory also to the public if they could see an account made out, for there is nothing which the British people like so much as a balance-sheet, fairly set forth in a clear and perspicuous manner; and, if a just claim could be made out, they would not object to compensate the parties from the public exchequer. I contend that no such claim has been or can be made out; and that whatever difficulties the colonialists may have laboured under, in consequence of what

may be termed the legislation of this country, have been amply compensated in the shape of the vote of public money to the amount of £20,000,000 sterling."

Scarcity of labour was also alleged, and the comparative cost of free and slave labour. But, quoting the authority of Mr. Porter, of the Board of Trade, he stated that,

"The cost of producing a cwt. of sugar previous to 1828, when slavery existed and emancipation was hardly expected, was 9s. 10½d. He states that, for a period of ten years, from 1819 to 1828, the expense of cultivating a particular estate in the West Indies, including salt provisions, provision-grounds, lumber stores, expenses of manufacturing sugar, the salaries of overseers, amounted to £26,851. The number of slaves of all ages and both sexes averaged at 140. The produce for these years was 29,492 cwt. of sugar, and 164,285 gallons of rum. The rum, valued at 1s. 6d. per gallon (it was now 2s. 4d.), would amount to £12,321, thus leaving a balance of £14,530 as the cost of cultivating the sugar, being at the rate of 9s. 10½d. per cwt."

Contrast this with present cost, as given in the report of the Jamaica Royal Agricultural Society:—

"The statement is this:—The Clarendon Agricultural Society gave a prize of £20, or a piece of plate of that value, to the manager in the parish making the greatest quantity of sugar at the smallest cost from the 1st of January to the 31st of December, 1843, all things considered." "All things considered," mark; thus evidently making an allowance for every difficulty arising from an insufficient supply of labour, and also for competition with other countries. But what is the sum stated in this report as the cost of producing one cwt. of sugar? On one of the estates the cost was 10s., and on the other it was about 6s. 9½d. So that we have good authority for stating that the cost of producing one cwt. of sugar in the West India islands, during the period of slavery, was 9s. 10½d., while at the present moment it was something between 10s. and 6s. 9½d. I want to know why that can possibly be a ground for giving the West India proprietors a protecting duty of 10s.? Why, 10s. is more than the whole cost of the sugar. I will take the protection duty at 10s., as stated by the right honourable gentleman (Sir R. Peel) himself, though rumour is saying that the measure of the right honourable gentleman will give a larger protection. But, taking it at 10s., I ask upon what ground is it that you give this large additional price upon every cwt. of sugar produced in the West India colonies? I repeat, 10s. is more than the cost of all the labour; so that if Brazil could grow sugar for nothing, if their sugar rained down from the skies without the slightest effort used by common industry to produce it, still this protection duty of 10s. on colonial sugar would place Brazil at a disadvantage as compared with the West India proprietors."

Slavery and Absenteeism had been pointed out as the true causes of the distresses of the planters, by no less an authority than Lord Stanley himself:—

"The great bulk of West India proprietors live away from their estates, and are ignorant of all the branches of industry necessary to the cultivation of their estates. Those estates are left entirely at the mercy of overseers and attorneys, persons who have no interest in the permanent value of the inheritance, but merely in getting as much out of the soil as will answer their own purposes. Manufacture, agriculture, distillery, chemistry, are all necessary to the production of sugar and the cane, and all these are entirely neglected by the only person who has a real and lasting interest in the successful cultivation of his property. I may ask my honourable friend the member for Stockport (Mr. Cobden) if he were to reside in Vienna, and leave his print-works to be conducted by attorneys and agents, bent only on filling their own pockets, whether he would find it possible, however fair markets and prices might be, to continue his business with such a profit as ought to give him a due return for his capital? (Cheers.) Yet this is the condition in which the West India proprietors place themselves. An English landowner lets his estate to a tenant, and it has at least the benefit of the personal presence and exertions of that tenant; but the West India proprietor, who is landlord, tenant, manufacturer, distiller, and merchant, all in one, comes to us and tells us that his business is not profitable, and that the representatives of the people of this country must levy a contribution on the great mass of working industry, in order to make good a deficiency produced by his own absurd and injurious management."

One consequence was the want of all improvement; for three centuries there had been no progress, and even the steam-engine was alleged to be absent from the West Indies. Besides the injury inflicted by protection, it took away all faith in principle or stability.

"At present a great number of labourers are employed, in consequence of want of facility of locomotion, and the means of conveying goods from one part of the island to another; and some spirited individuals, therefore, proposed a railroad between Kingston and Spanish-town. Not one of the gentlemen whose interests are protected, and whom protection, according to their own account, stimulates to improvement, could be found to give countenance and support to this undertaking. Who, then, were the parties who did come forward to take up the proposition, and to furnish funds? The persons who have no confidence in protection, but who look forward to the adoption of Free Trade, and to exposing the West Indies to free competition with the produce of the world. (Cheers.) There were the parties who found the money for the railroad between Kingston and Spanish-town, who relied upon the soundness of their own principles, and who, as necessity, according to the old proverb, is the mother of invention, see the time not far distant when competition will reduce the West Indies to the necessity of introducing improvements."

Look at the effect upon the interests both of home and the colonies:—

"It may be said, therefore, that the consumption was entirely sugar of our own colonies; and what was the average price here and abroad? It was 21s. per cwt. on the Continent, and 31s. at home. (Hear.) Thus there were 10s. per cwt. difference upon no smaller a quantity than 207,000 tons: 10s. per cwt. is £15 per ton, and £15 per ton upon 207,000 tons, according to my calculation, makes a difference of no less than £2,600,000, paid by

the people of this country for their sugar beyond the price paid for an equal quantity on the Continent. (Much cheering.) Is this legislating for the benefit of the poorer classes? (Cheers.) Is this in accordance with the Queen's speech, that we were at last to consider the condition of agricultural labourers and artisans in the various branches of industry, with a view to promote the comforts of the lower orders? (Cheers.) Are you prepared to maintain that the working man in England shall pay 13s. per cwt. more for his sugar than the working man upon the Continent? Is that your pretended sympathy for the sufferings of the poor, and your vaunted anxiety that their comforts should be increased? Are not such professions disgusting, and do they not tend to humiliate us in the eyes of the world? (Cheers.) It is humiliating for us to affect such sympathy for the working classes, and to show such real anxiety for the welfare of protected interests. (Hear.) We cut down the expenditure—we pretend the deepest regret at the sufferings of the poor—we are anxious to relieve the great body of the tax-payers from their burden; but we coolly, and without explanation, inflict a real impost of several millions a year on the lower orders in the shape of protection to the West Indies, and augment the miseries we profess to feel and pretend to relieve. (Cheers.)"

This injury at home was not compensated by advantage to the colonies:—

"Have your exports increased under the protective system? Certainly not. They were as great in 1794 as they are now. (Hear, hear.) It may, indeed, be alleged that in 1794 the West India colonies were the mart for the supply of our manufactures to the Spanish Main, and that on this account the comparison is not fair: I will, therefore, take the last twenty years, and ask whether your exports have materially increased? Have they shown a disposition gradually to augment? Quite the reverse. The House does not like to be troubled with tables; but let us look for a moment at the exports at various periods during the last twenty years. At this moment they were not so great as in 1794, when the exports amounted to £3,632,000. In 1801 they were £4,281,736; 1814, £6,315,073; 1824, £4,870,836; 1829, £3,612,085; 1842, £2,591,425; 1843, £2,882,441. The difference, therefore, between 1824 and 1843 was upwards of £2,000,000, so that this beneficial system of protection has had the effect in twenty years of most importantly reducing the exports."

The honourable member, whose speech was delivered with telling effect, concluded by enforcing the Free-Trade view of the question. His amendment was seconded by Mr. Ewart; and after a plea of distress from Mr. James, Mr. Ricardo thus examined Sir R. Peel's propositions:—

"On looking over the resolutions of the right honourable baronet, he found that it was proposed to charge not less than ten different rates of duty on sugar. When he first took up the paper containing them, it appeared as if the 430 articles, with respect to which the duty was to be repealed, had been transferred here. In looking over this paper they would constantly meet with distinctions without differences, and differences without distinctions. There were *ad valorem* duties which were inoperative, and a needless sacrifice of revenue without any corresponding advantages. (Hear, hear.) He was ignorant of the source from whence the right honourable baronet had obtained his information, but if he had discovered a man who could tell him where white clayed sugars began, or brown clayed sugars ended—what clayed was equal to, what Muscovado—why some Muscovados should not be of a greater value than some clayed sugars—by what test it was possible to judge of the proportionate value or relative quality of sugars without actual comparison—such a man must be much wiser and have much more knowledge of the subject than the most experienced and acute merchants who had passed their lives in the trade, and the right honourable baronet should take care at once to engage him and secure his services for the Custom-house. (Hear.) Testing these allegations by practical evidence and figures, he found that these different rates of duties being thus chargeable would act as protective duties thus:—

15,000 tons at the 28s. duty, natural price.	
5,000 tons at the 23s. 4d. duty will establish a relative protection to the extent of 4s. 8d. per cwt., or	£ 23,333
70,000 tons at the 16s. 4d. duty will establish a protection to the extent of 11s. 8d. per cwt. on the natural price of the world, and of 7s. on the protected foreign Muscovado; the whole protection will be equal to, at 11s. 8d.	816,666
160,000 tons at the 14s. duty will establish a protection to the extent of 14s. per cwt. on the natural price, 2s. 4d. per cwt. on the clayed colonial, and 9s. 3d. per cwt. on the foreign Muscovado; the whole protection being at 14s.	2,240,000

£3,079,999 showing a greater sacrifice to be made by the English consumer, under the proposed plan of the Ministers, than was made under the previous arrangements."

Sir George Clerk pleaded the arguments which were urged with somewhat more of elaboration, in the debate on the subsequent Wednesday night; by Mr. Goulbourn and Sir Robert Peel. The topics are the same as those with which the public were rendered familiar in the sugar debates of last year. Indeed, Sir Robert Peel, on Wednesday night, admitted that the propositions of the Government were open to serious financial and commercial objections; and he also admitted the inconsistency of our freely receiving slave-grown cotton, while we rigidly refuse slave-grown sugar. But the arguments of Sir Robert Peel, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone, and Sir George Clerk, as detailed in their speeches of Monday and Wednesday nights, may be summed up thus:—There is a necessity for lowering the duties on sugar, in order to benefit the home consumer, by cheaper rates and larger supplies. But having paid twenty millions for the emancipation of our slaves; having deprived the West India proprietors of the ad-

vantage of cheap labour; being engaged in efforts to suppress the slave trade; we must, even in destroying the old monopoly, leave a moderate protection, and at the same time persevere in our attempts to discriminate between foreign slave-grown and foreign free-grown sugars. At the same time all the organs of the Government, from Sir Robert Peel downwards, freely condemn a differential duty, as being bad in itself, and only to be justified by peculiar circumstances; they also intimate their hope that the West Indies, in a few years, will be able to dispense with protection, and to stand fair competition in the open markets of the world.

With reference to the speech of Sir George Clerk,

Mr. VILLIERS said it was rather remarkable that the right honourable baronet who had just sat down should have proposed to his honourable friend the member for Stoke-upon-Trent (Mr. Ricardo), to satisfy himself and the House as to the propriety and justice of his opinion on the question then before them, by going down to his constituency and asking them whether they approved of his doctrine on Free Trade or not. If they mean to decide whether the doctrines of Free Trade were impediments to commerce or otherwise by such a test, he thought the right honourable baronet might enlighten them a good deal on the point after his recent visit to his constituency, as he could tell them—submitting to that test—how far he considered the constituencies of this country appeared disposed to support those views which the right honourable baronet advocated. ("Hear," and laughter.) He perceived that the right honourable baronet recognized his allusion to his late reception by his constituency. The weather was still in about the same state as when the right honourable baronet had experienced the feelings of his constituents towards him, and if his honourable friend (Mr. Ricardo) went down, as he had been invited to do so, he scarcely thought he would meet with similar proofs of the opposition of his constituents in consequence of his avowal of the doctrine of Free Trade. (Hear, hear.) On the other hand, he scarcely thought that the right hon. baronet had much improved his chances of a more favourable reception from his constituents, by the opinions which he had just expressed, and the speech which had just been delivered by him. ("Hear," and laughter.) With all due respect to the right hon. baronet—and he did respect him personally—he did not think that he had much raised himself by that speech. He did not mean to say that the right hon. baronet's address was not a fair average speech for a functionary of a government (laughter), but it seemed to him to be that sort of a speech which might have been drawn by accident out of a pigeon-hole of the Board of Trade, where it had lain for the last twenty years, and applied, in the absence of any better argument, for the occasion. (Laughter, and "hear, hear.") It appeared in his estimation to be composed of a collection of commonplace vague generalities—of that sort of no-answer declamation which was sometimes brought before the House to occupy a certain portion of their time, without being intended for any other effect. (Hear, hear.) For, as far as any answer to the specific question which his hon. friend had brought before the House was concerned, he did think that there never was an occasion when a gentleman of mature years (renewed laughter), and holding so responsible a position as that filled by the right hon. baronet, did occupy so much of the time of the House without making any reference to the matter really before them. ("Hear," and laughter.)

No answer had been given to the pointed question of Mr. Milner Gibson, as to the nature of the planter's claims to that £2,300,000 which Sir Robert Peel proposed to put into their pockets.

"He should like to know whether these colonies and dependencies were all in the same state or not, and what ohurm was in the mystical sum of 10s. 6d. that rendered it exactly just towards all parties. (Hear, hear.) They had then £2,300,000 taken out of the pockets of the people of England, without any information being given as to why they should lose so great a sum. There was no return to show them that the colonies would benefit by that grant. But he would ask the House to look at the condition of this country at the time they were called upon to make so great a sacrifice. (Hear, hear.) The Government could not give up a property-tax that pressed upon the precarious incomes of the industrial classes; and why could they not do so? Because they were unable to spare that amount of revenue. (Hear.) Now, he wanted every individual in the country to look at the question in that light. They had there a surplus revenue of £2,300,000, which might be immediately applied for the reduction of the tax on incomes, and which they could get from the sugar duties. (Hear.) Would they do so? Now, it was according to the answer that they gave to that question that the people would judge of their measures. Here was an odious tax—an impost levied upon the incomes arising out of trades and professions—and that tax, so oppressive in its nature, could be dispensed with, but for the determination to continue an enormous protection to the West India proprietors. (Hear, hear.) He would wish to know whether that view of the case was disputed. Not one word that had fallen from the right honourable baronet could let him know whether it was or not. He did not tell them whether, if the revenue permitted further reductions to be made, they would be expended in the same manner—whether, if the sugar duties produced two or three millions more, they might be made available by the right honourable baronet (Sir R. Peel) for the reduction of other taxes. This country wanted to have the duty on tea reduced, so as to lower the price of that necessary article to the people, who were anxious to have it cheap, while it would also enable them materially to increase their trade with that distant part of the world. (Hear, hear, hear.) The country was also anxious to have other taxes reduced. The right honourable baronet had told them if he had more surplus revenue he would apply it as he had done the remainder. But why had he not a greater surplus to devote to the reduction of taxation? Because the amount which should be expended in relieving trade and the consumers generally, was swallowed up in an unjust protection to the West India proprietors."

Quoting Bryan Edwards in 1792, and from the reports of select committees of the House of Commons in 1807



and subsequent years, he showed that "protection had been the bane" of the West India interest:—

"He had the highest authority for stating, that on no spot on the globe where sugar is cultivated, is it cultivated in so barbarous a manner as it is in Jamaica by the agents; while, on the other hand, nowhere can it be grown better by proper care, as any gentleman knew who went out there to look for himself; and the proof of this was, that several persons, whose names had been given him, who had gone over to their estates in all but utter despair, with the full intention of selling them if they found their agents' representations correct, had on inquiry and examination purchased other estates in addition to their own, fully confident of making the speculation a profitable one, by means of that care, those improvements, that conscientious management which had before been entirely wanting. (Hear, hear.) He trusted the House would agree to the motion of his honourable friend. It afforded an admirable and practical opportunity for those gentlemen who were always talking so much about their sympathy with the poor, who were ever advocating all sorts of charities, to do an act of all-pervading charity, of universal good to the community, an act which, while it benefited the poor to a very large extent indeed, would indirectly benefit them enormously, by the extension it would necessarily give to trade and commerce. (Hear, hear.) Next week a large portion of the aristocracy was going to dance for the good of the distressed needlewomen, and a very good thing too. Let the House and the country, meantime, bear in mind what these poor creatures, in common with the rest of the community, paid every week for sugar, beyond what they ought to pay, for the benefit of the West India sugar growers; every week did the metropolis pay £4000 monopoly bonus into the pockets of the West India planters; every week did the rest of the country pay £50,000 monopoly bonus into the pockets of the same gentlemen, being the sum paid for sugar beyond the sum which ought to be paid for sugar, and beyond the sum which would be paid for sugar, were the honourable gentleman's motion carried. (Hear, hear.) This calculation was no mere vague speculation. It was a calculation carefully made, and published in a weekly newspaper, and which no one had ventured to controvert. (Hear, hear.) He would ask the country, then, to decide whether they were not justified in bringing this matter before Parliament. (Hear, hear.) By the means proposed in the honourable gentleman's motion, the right honourable baronet opposite might be enabled to reduce a great part of his income-tax, diminish considerably the duties on the lower priced tea, and give increased employment to a large class of the community, nay, indirectly, to the whole community. (Hear, hear.)"

After a short speech from Mr. Philip Miles,

Lord Howick rose, and with his clearness, directness, and felicity of exposition, put the point of the differential duty, as being a tax on the British consumer, in a very forcible way:—

"Let them look into the matter. He presumed it would be admitted that sugar, whether foreign or colonial, was ultimately paid for by the exportation of British manufactures. The affair was simply the exchange of the produce of British industry for the produce of the industry of those countries in which sugar is cultivated. Already had some change taken place in the market, in consequence of the Government announcement. Several days back Brazilian sugar was sold at 18s. 6d., of precisely the same quality as colonial sugar producing 20s.; thus 26 tons of foreign sugar at 18s. 6d., and 18½ tons of colonial sugar at 20s. per cwt., would equally cost £481; in other words, as much British labour would have to be given for only 18½ tons of colonial sugar as for 26 tons of foreign sugar of precisely the same quality. (Hear, hear.) Why should this monstrous injustice to the suffering people of this country exist? (Hear, hear.) There was plenty of Brazil sugar which the owners were eager to exchange with us for our produce; there were plenty of British manufacturers eager to exchange their produce for the sugar; there was the whole community eager for an arrangement so beneficial to them directly and indirectly. Why should Government, then, at the behest of the West India body, step in, and, by a monstrous fiscal impediment, prevent an exchange of such high importance to the country? (Hear, hear, hear.) The very Government whose chief had told the House and the public that it was the height of injustice to prevent men turning their labour to the best account, now came forward and said that British labourers—for the manufacturers were labourers, whether as masters or as operatives—should not be permitted to make the most of their labour, by giving it in exchange to those who would give them most in return for it. (Hear.) This was the matter upon which the House had a right to have a distinct explanation from Government. The loss, be it borne in mind, did not fall on the manufacturers alone; it fell on the community at large, on all those who purchased sugar; but most of all on the labouring classes, agricultural as well as manufacturing, not only directly, but by lessening the productive powers of British industry, and thereby lessening the remuneration of those whose lot it was to labour with their hands, as well as of those who employ them. It was not merely a question of having one's sugar cheap—the question went far beyond that. The right hon. baronet told them last year that Brazil was unreasonable enough not to be willing to receive our goods on favourable terms, unless we agreed to receive her sugar in return; that Brazil, if we consented to receive her sugar on the same terms with colonial sugar, would admit our manufactures on favourable terms. What a large trade would at once be open to us in that direction, were we to accept this overture. (Hear, hear.) Consider how immense a stimulus would be given to our manufacturing industry by an enlarged commerce with the Brazils. And this very increase of business in the manufacturing districts would increase the demand for agricultural produce; which increased demand, by improving the condition of the agriculturist, would react favourably upon our manufacturing home trade. The agriculturists complained of the want of interest shown in their support by the present Government. Why did not those who wished to serve the agricultural in common with other interests come forward and join those at that side of the House who supported the motion of the honourable member, and ask the Minister to confer the advantage on the country of getting rid of this monopoly in sugar? (Hear, hear.)"

He pursued this topic throughout a long and able speech, and concluded by expressing his hope that

"The people of this country would look carefully to this question, and compare the taunt of being indifferent to the horrors of slavery, which had been thrown out, with the former conduct of those who threw out that taunt, and thus be enabled to see how much sincerity was at the bottom of their argument. (Loud cheers.) He hoped that they would consider whether an argument like this, which was utterly unfounded, ought to be sufficient ground for subjecting the working-classes of this country to an undenied burden, an undenied tax, which was a still greater burden on the people than by its mere pecuniary amount."

Mr. Gladstone followed the noble lord. He also spoke at considerable length on Wednesday night. On both occasions he practically abandoned the question on the ground of principle, converting it into one of mere temporary expediency. At the same time, while ringing the changes on the anti-slavery topics, he denied that the people of this country would be taxed to the whole amount of the differential duty; and, on Wednesday night, went a little farther, by affirming that out of doors no interest whatever was felt on the subject, the whole commercial community being disposed to acquiesce in the propositions of the Government.

After a few words from Mr. Labouchere—

Mr. Cobden said that he had taken some pains to justify himself, as the present was a question on which he had suffered some little obloquy some months ago. He had made inquiries in the City, and found that the proposal of the Government was Mr. Miles's proposition over again. They had not only got the measure of last year, but they had got something worse. Now, he had been rather ill-used in this matter. (A laugh.) The right honourable baronet was disposed to have a flirtation with their (the Free-Traders') principles, and for a time they had been charmed with the constancy of his attachment. (Hear, hear.) Now, if the right honourable baronet went back to his first love, he must not expect to pass muster for a Free-Trader. He had done something in the way of fiscal changes. He had taken money from the pockets of the people by the income-tax, and restored something to them in the shape of cotton and glass duties. But on the whole, speaking as a Free-Trader, with the Government sugar measures taken with the rest, he (Mr. Cobden) believed that they stood in a worse position now, as regarded protective duties, than they did last year. (Hear, hear.) He did not know that he had any branch of the question before the House to refer to, except that which had been alluded to, and when it was said that they were anxious to evade the question, he meant that branch of it which had reference to the question of slavery. The noble lord the member for London had been charged with having attributed motives to the honourable gentlemen opposite. Now he (Mr. Cobden) would not attribute motives to them; nothing, in fact, was so difficult to discover. (Hear, hear.) But, although he himself would not charge any motives upon them, he might do the honourable gentlemen opposite some service if he told them what were the motives which the people out of doors attributed to them. (Hear, hear.) A great deal had that night been said of Sir T. Buxton and the anti-slavery party, and hon. gentlemen thought that, holding these duties under the plea that by so doing they were preventing slavery, they were sure of conciliating the support of the anti-slavery body. In that they were most grievously mistaken. (Hear, hear.) As a body, he (Mr. Cobden) respected the anti-slavery party, and he had made some acquaintance with many of the most influential members of that body which had fought and won the anti-slavery battle. Now, the very same men, in all parts of the country, who fought and won that battle, were now in the ranks of the Corn-Law repeaters. ("Hear, hear," and some laughter.) They had in London, it was true, a committee sitting in Broad-street and in Lombard-street; and of all localities, he was most ready to suspect committees sitting either in Broad-street or in Lombard-street. Over these they might have some influence; but he could tell honourable gentlemen opposite, that by the great body of the anti-slavery party they were suspected, and that that party regarded them as hypocrites. ("Hear, hear," and "Oh, oh.") He did not charge them with being so. (A laugh.) He was only telling them what was the feeling out of doors. (Hear, hear.) Now, let them look at whom they represented, and who they were who were represented on that (the Opposition) side of the House. The anti-slavery party, when it existed in its strength, had exercised a power over the acts of that House, and had its representatives in that House; and where then were its headquarters? In Manchester, Kendal, Leeds, Bath, &c.—and were the members of these constituencies on that side of the House, or on the opposite?—by whom were the men representing these constituencies sent there? By that body to which the anti-slavery party belonged. Let them take the case of Leeds, in which gentlemen opposite had one representative, and they (the Opposition) another. And who sent the member which hon. gentlemen opposite claimed as their own, and who the member on his side of the House—who? Why, the Conservative member represented the party opposed to the abolition of slavery; the Liberal member represented the anti-slavery party. He would ask the hon. member for Bath, although he was afraid the hon. and learned gentleman was suffering from a severe cold, and could not answer—were the anti-slavery people of Bath anxious to keep up the discriminating duty—to tax the poor people of Somersetshire to put down slavery? They repudiated such a notion. He would venture to say that the great body of them would support the honourable and learned gentleman when he went to the hustings, having voted against this attempt to tax the sugar of the people. Well, seeing these facts, if they (the Ministerialists) were the parties opposed to emancipation—if they were the parties who had voted even against the abolition of the punishment of women by the lash (hear)—and some of their very leaders had their votes recorded against the abolition of that revolting practice (hear), seeing that they never lent a hand to carry out that object—why, the last deputation which came to London, in 1833, consisting of 230 members, had not six of the Tory party amongst them—he believed not three; and on asking his friend Mr.

George Thompson, about it, he was informed by that gentleman that he thought there was not even one; seeing these things, he could not refrain from telling them the honest conviction of those out of doors, who regarded their conduct as utter hypocrisy, when they set up such a plea in that House. (Hear, hear.) He did not charge them with hypocrisy. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) He showed them that there was certainly some argument on his side, when he could show them that very questionable motives were charged upon them by the people out of doors. Parties out of doors spoke out, and it was important that honourable gentlemen should know what was the opinion held of them, and what motives were attributed to them out of doors. As regarded foreigners, too, they should know these things; and he could tell them honestly that they were by foreigners suspected in this matter, and it was known to foreigners how they were suspected by parties at home.

Quoting from private letters, and other documents, he showed that the management of West India estates was radically vicious, improvident, and ruinous, results traceable to protection and absenteeism; and turning to the condition of the people of this country, he illustrated, in a way as pithy as it was familiar the effects of the sugar monopoly on the minds of the humbler classes:—

"At the close of the last session there was between both sides of that House a sort of rivalry upon that which they called 'the condition-of-England question.' Now, there were some people who argued that sugar was not wholesome; the children of the poor were told by their parents, that if they went to the cupboard to look for it they would find 'Old Bogey' there. (Laughter.) It was because it was so dear, it was said it would spoil their teeth, that it would injure their stomachs. Never was there a greater mistake. (Hear, hear.) There was no more nutritious food. (Hear, hear.) Second to bread itself, there was no one thing that was more fitting that the people should have in great quantity than sugar, and yet they in that House deprived the people of that comfort. (Hear, hear.) They all professed a great love for the people—they professed to be wonderfully charitable—they all professed a great tenderness for the poor, as long as the question they had to deal with was not a money question; but when it was that, then they found the land lords and the sugar lords both combining together upon corn and sugar, and putting their hands into the pockets of the poor people. What would be thought of those who did this? What said of them? That there they were, noble lords and honourable members, professing their regard for the poor, declaring their willingness to serve them, but when it came to the test—when it came to be a question of protection—when it came even to the small difference of a penny in the price of a pound of sugar—then they threw the poor and their families to the winds, and stood by their party. (Cheers.)"

Mr. Cardwell having made his very laboured and tame speech,

Mr. Buxton followed, dealing with the statistics of the question, and showing in figures the mischief inflicted on our commerce and trade by the sugar monopoly. Vigorously assailing the monopolist interests, on the injustice they were perpetuating, he warned them that

"The party that advocates free trade in sugar and corn is swelling in numbers every day, while your ranks are thinning rapidly; and, though we may be in a minority to-night, there may be yet another time, before this sugar bill passes, when we shall again meet, and when we shall again ask you why you persist in compelling the people of this country, to pay a tax of two millions a year for the sake of the West India planters; and why you insist upon giving protection to the East Indies and the Mauritius, who have made no claim for it? How can you suppose you are doing your duty to the country when you thus decide for the interests of party, against the interests of the whole people?"

A few remarks followed from the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord Sandon; and then came the division—

For Mr. Gibson's motion ..... 81  
Against it ..... 211  
Majority ..... 127

A comparison of the relative numbers in the division upon Mr. Ewart's motion for equalizing the sugar duties last year, will show a considerable accession to the ranks of the Free-Traders. Last year, on Mr. Ewart's motion, only 56 out of a House of 315 members voted for an equalization of the sugar duties; this year the above division on Mr. Gibson's motion shows 84 votes in favour of equalization out of a House of 295—a considerable increase both relatively and numerically. The division lists, both for this and last year, will be given in our next number.

#### THE DEBATE OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

The debate of Wednesday night was raised by Lord John Russell, who, on reading the order of the day for going into Committee of Ways and Means on sugar, moved

"That it is the opinion of this House, that the plan proposed by her Majesty's Government in reference to the sugar duties, professes to keep up a distinction between foreign free-labour and foreign slave-labour sugar, which is impracticable and illusory, aggravates the evil of the protection given to the colonist at the expense of the consumer, and tends so greatly to impair the revenue as to render the removal of the income and property-tax, at the end of three years, extremely uncertain and improbable."

There was nothing very novel in the debate which followed, with the exception of a brilliant speech from Mr. MACAULAY on the MORAL and HUMANITARIAN of the question. We give this speech in another column.

The economical view was exhausted on Monday night; and on this ground there was nothing new to urge. But the Whig leaders placed themselves at a great disadvantage in debate, by maintaining the principle of a moderate protection to the West Indies, an advantage of which Sir Robert Peel was not slow to avail himself, hitting, with his peculiar adroitness, Lord John Russell exactly





there is a distinction between the case of cotton and sugar. "The cultivation of cotton," they say, "is less painful, and less destructive to human life, than that of sugar." But that position seems hardly tenable; for sugar is now actually reducing, to the right hon. baronet, the duty on slave-grown sugar to a considerable extent. The duty on slave-grown sugar is imported from the United States. Then a new distinction is set up. The sugar and cotton of the United States, it is said, are undoubtedly slave-grown produce; but they are not produced by means of the slave trade. This brings me to a part of this subject which I approach with great unwillingness. I utterly deny the proposition that the products we are to take from the southern states of America are not the fruits of the slave trade. If they are; and I say that, if there be, on the face of this earth, a society which, before God be, is more accountable than another for the misery and man, is more accountable than another for the misery and man, it is that very republic of the United States, to whose produce the right hon. baronet proposes to give free admission into this country. I can assure the House that I feel no pleasure in going into arguments of this nature. I conceive that it is not the duty of members of Parliament here to discuss abuses which exist in the institutions of other nations. By discussions of that nature, indeed, we can scarcely expect to produce any salutary effect with regard to the reform of such abuses. (Hear.) They are rather calculated to wound national pride, and to inflame national animosity. But the right hon. baronet opposite turns this House into a judicature where we are to arraign and criticise the conduct of all nations under Heaven, before we determine what our scale of duties shall be, and with what countries we shall or shall not trade. The right hon. gentleman forces upon our consideration questions with which, as a member of Parliament, I have nothing to do, and which I am anxious to avoid. But how can I do so? The showkeepers and professional men whom I represent say, "Why are we to go on paying probably for several years, an impost admitted by those who imposed it to be grievous, unequal, and inquisitorial?" The paper manufacturer and the soap manufacturer asked why, if the income-tax is to be continued, they are not to have some share of relief? The answer is, "Because Brazil does not behave so well as the United States with respect to the negro race." Then, can I avoid instituting a comparison? Am I not absolutely forced to test the truth of this statement? I say, then, that there exists in the United States a slave trade in no respect less odious or demoralising—and, in my opinion, more odious and more demoralising—than that which is carried on between the coast of Africa and Brazil. North Carolina and Virginia are to Louisiana and Alabama, what Congo is to Rio Janeiro. The slave-states of the Union are to be divided into two classes—the breeding states and the consuming states. In some of the United States slaves are bred—the human beast of burden is reared up till he is enabled to endure deadly labour in the sugar and cotton estates, with which you are extending our relations, and to which he is sent to be killed. The extent of this traffic we may learn from the census of the United States of 1830 and that of 1840. North Carolina and Virginia are two of the chief breeding states. During the ten years from 1830 to 1840, the number of slaves in North Carolina has been, as nearly as possible, stationary. In Virginia, during the same period, the number positively decreased, although, both in North Carolina and Virginia, propagation was going on to an enormous extent. In both those states, during the time I have mentioned, hundreds of thousands of negro slaves were born; the births exceeded by hundreds of thousands the number of deaths. What, then, became of these people? Look at the census of those states where we know the negro race is worn down by a cruel labour, and where from its own resources it could scarcely keep up its numbers—say, where those numbers would rather diminish. Take the case of Louisiana. In 1830 there were in that state 167,000 slaves; in 1840, 170,000. The slave population of Alabama in 1830 was 117,000; in 1840, 253,000. In Mississippi, during the same period, slave population increased threefold. In 1830 the numbers were 65,000; in 1840, 193,000. That is the scale of this slave trade. As to its nature, ask any Englishman who ever travelled through the southern states of America. Jobbers go about from state to state, taking advantage of the difficulties of the planters in the breeding states; they rend asunder the dearest ties of nature and of marriage as unscrupulously as any Guinea captain; they buy slaves until they have made up their "gang" to 300 or 400; and then these human beings, handcuffed, fettered, guarded by armed men, are driven as you would drive (or rather as you would not drive) a herd of oxen to Smithfield, to the southern states, to undergo the deadly labour of the sugar-mill. In Louisiana the labour of the sugar-mill sends, in a short time, the stoutest African to his grave; but still in Virginia negroes are growing up to supply the horrid trade. God forbid that I should extenuate the slave trade in any form; but I must say that I conceive it may be viewed in its most horrible and odious aspect in the United States. It is bad enough that uncivilized men should go to the coast of an uncivilized country, and that they should thereafter upon wretched barbarians and carry them in slavery to a foreign land; but that civilized men—Christians, freemen—should breed the slave, and, if I must speak out the whole horrible truth, even beget the slaves they breed,—that a man, proud of his liberty, calling himself a Christian, a baptized man, frequenting a Christian church, should see his own offspring gambolling about him in their childhood, that he should watch them growing up to age, and that he should then sell them for dollars, and consign them to a life which is a lingering death,—this is more painful, infinitely more painful to contemplate than the slave trade of Africa. I am now talking of a slave trade which extends to tens of thousands of human beings every year—a slave trade as regular as the trade in pigs between Dublin and Liverpool, or in coals between the Tyne and the Thames. I have no wish to extenuate the evils of slavery in the Brazil; but I do say that on the whole it is less hopeless, and its evils are not so dreadful as those of slavery in the southern states of America. The evils of slavery everywhere are great; but the peculiar characteristics of slavery on the American continent—that which, wherever it exists, almost destroys the hope that you can ever see a free community there—is the antipathy of colour. (Hear.) That antipathy does not exist in Brazil to anything like the extent to which it prevails in the southern states of America. It is well known that in Brazil there is a free coloured and black population, comprising many hundreds and thousands of persons;

they are not excluded from honourable professions, and there may be found among them physicians and lawyers, numbers who bear arms, and many priests. Whoever considers the honour and dignity with which the Roman Catholic religion invests its priests, will appreciate the estimation in which these men must be held. It is by no means unusual to see white penitents kneeling to confess their sins and to receive absolution before the spiritual tribunal of a negro; nor is it uncommon to witness a negro dispensing the Eucharist to whites. I need not tell the House how utterly different is the state of things existing in the southern states. Fully admitting all the evils of Brazilian slavery, if I were compelled to state in which of the two countries I considered it probable the condition of the African race would be most elevated 80 or 100 years hence, I should at once reply in Brazil. But the system of maritime police by which we sought to prevent the slave trade has been referred to by the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone); and how stands the case as regards the conduct of the United States, and of Brazil, with reference to that measure? Brazil agreed to grant you the right of search, and, if it be found impossible to exercise that power, the impediment has been opposed by the United States. What the opinion of the present Government is as to that power we know from the letter of Lord Aberdeen, which was published the other day. I believe I state correctly the spirit of that letter, when I say the opinion of the noble earl, as there expressed, is that the right of search is the only efficacious means of suppressing the slave trade, and that he entertains very great doubt whether any other effectual mode can be adopted for the prevention of that traffic. To this system of maritime police which, as I think with great humanity and wisdom, the Government of this country proposed to institute, Brazil submitted. The United States refused to submit to it, and by such refusal deprived the system to a great extent of its importance and efficiency; nay, they even contested that right of visit which, I will venture to say, was perfectly consistent with the law of nations, and in every part of the continent of Europe they have been endeavouring, through their diplomatic agents, to excite an opposition to it. You cannot have forgotten General Cass's letter. You cannot doubt that, if the United States had submitted to the right of search, the outcry in France against the exercise of that power would never have been excited. But when one maritime nation makes it a point of honour to refuse assent to such a power, you cannot wonder that any country in which there exists a feeling of national pride should be unwilling to submit to its exercise. They will naturally say, "Why should the tricolor submit to this degradation more than the stars and stripes?" It is very well for the right hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Gladstone) to say that, if my noble friend's proposition is adopted, the right of search will be useless, in effect, abandoned. A negotiation has been entered into on that subject with France. Every body knows how that will end. France will be released from the supervision of this maritime police. Spain will then ask for a similar release, and, if it is acceded to all other nations, will make a like request. The right of search is worth nothing when France and America refuse to accede to it; and I will venture to say, therefore, that the right of search is abandoned in consequence of the course of conduct pursued by the United States of America. For the existence of the slave trade between Congo and Brazil the United States are more responsible than the Government of Brazil itself. The right hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Gladstone) has alluded to Mr. Calhoun's letter; and I will put it to the House whether the Government of the United States has not, with reference to this subject, placed itself upon a bad eminence to which Brazil never aspired, and to which, if it had aspired, it never could have attained? The United States' Government has openly declared itself the patron, the champion, and the upholder of slavery; it has admitted that it sets up its own principles of slavery in opposition to the principles of freedom, as if it considered that this conduct gives it a title to glory—that it renders itself illustrious as the evil genius of the unfortunate African race. I well understand how statesmen in the United States should say, with reference to slavery, "It is a horrible evil, but we were born to it; we must endure it; what can we do?" But that is not the feeling of the American Government. They are actuated by a propagandist spirit; they seek to spread and extend slavery with more energy than was ever exerted by any other nation to diffuse civilization. Nay, more than that, they seem to think the cause so holy that it sanctifies all means they can employ to promote it; and with that object they snatch away provinces right and left, from those of their neighbours who enjoy free institutions. They put themselves at the head of the slave interest, just as Queen Elizabeth put herself at the head of the Protestant interest of Europe, and, wherever their favourite institution is in danger, are ready to stand by it as Queen Elizabeth stood by the Dutch. I say, therefore, that I think I have made out this, viz., that of all the states now existing, the republic of the United States is that which has long been acting, and is now acting, in a manner the most culpable as regards slavery and the slave trade. (Hear.) I say that they have been restlessly active in preventing every efficient measure of ours for suppressing the slave trade; and I say that the slave trade between Brazil and the coast of Africa is to be attributed, in a great measure, to the United States. (Hear.) Then I come to this: the right hon. baronet says he can't admit Brazilian sugar, because the Brazilians use the negroes so ill; but he will admit the slave-grown cotton of the United States. Is it possible for him to prove that my noble friend's proposition would give a stimulus to the slave trade in Brazil? I use his own argument to prove that his proposition would give a stimulus to the slave trade of the United States. (Cheers.) I have not the least doubt but that as soon as the contents of his budget shall be known across the Atlantic, the slave-trade traffic will become more horrible than ever—that the jobbers in human flesh and blood will be more busy than ever—that the gangs of manacled negroes moving southward to their doom will be more numerous on every road. (Cheers.) But the right hon. baronet says, that this is a great boon that he is giving to the country. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.) But I don't intend to oppose his proposition—I intend to support it, and I can perfectly reconcile it to my conscience. How the right hon. baronet can reconcile it to his, I don't know.

quite at a loss to conceive, and what I am very curious to hear. (Cheers.) The right hon. baronet cannot say that it is an old abuse he is keeping up. He comes forward to propose a budget favourable in the highest degree to that society, which of all societies has the most to answer for in respect to the slave trade, and in the same breath he says that he cannot possibly admit the sugar of Brazil. (Hear, hear.) No one is more capable of doing justice to his case than the right hon. baronet; and it would be in the highest degree presumptuous in me to anticipate the defence that he means to set up. But I hope the House will permit me, as one who feels deeply on this subject, to explain how I shall justify the vote which I shall give to his proposition; and that explanation will, at the same time, explain the vote which I shall give now. (Hear, hear.) I most fully admit the paramount authority of moral obligations. But what are our moral obligations to other men? We are bound not to wrong them. We are bound to regard them with benevolence; but it is nevertheless true that Providence has assigned, both to individuals, and to societies, certain spheres within which it is desirable that their benevolence should be peculiarly active; and if, neglecting that within their province, they aim at setting right what is beyond, in all probability their too active benevolence will fall in its intention, and more harm than benefit will arise. (Hear.) We can all see this. None of us would be justified in injuring any stranger to benefit ourselves; it is clear that any stranger is justified in claiming from us many good offices, which we are clearly bound, by the laws of humanity, to render him; but it is not true that a man is bound to exert himself to serve strangers as he exerts himself to serve his family. It is not true that a man would be justified in subjecting his wife and children to disagreeable privations in order to save, even from ruin, some foreigner whom he never saw. If we were to conduct life on that principle, we should entail misery on our families. The same of nations: no legislator, no statesman, ought to benefit his own country by injuring others. No statesman ought to omit any reasonable opportunity that comes in his way of rendering good services to another nation; but, after all, our country is our country. (Cheers.) Observe: I am not so narrow-minded as to prefer the happiness of a particular society to the happiness of mankind; but I say, that by promoting the happiness of the society which I know best, and with which I am most connected, I shall best promote the happiness of mankind. (Hear.) If we attempt more, in what a wilderness shall we not find ourselves. Look at the factory system pursued in England. We may agree that there are evils in that system which might be amended by legislation; we shall at any rate all agree that every member of this House ought to give his mind to the subject; in the same manner we shall agree that there are great evils in the system of serfdom pursued in Russia; but could any good be done to the cause of humanity if the Emperor of the Russians and the British Parliament were to exchange their sympathies in these matters, and the Emperor were to take our factory children under his special care, whilst we undertake the cause of the poor peasants on the banks of the Volga? (Cheers.) What good, I say, would be done to the cause of humanity, if pursuing this course—if thus extending and exchanging our active benevolence—we should say to the Emperor, "We'll take none of your tallow or your hemp until you emancipate your serfs;" and he were to say to us, "I'll take none of your manufactures till you emancipate your factory children?" (Cheers.) By this I mean no sophistry, or casuistical quibbling; but I think, on these principles of common sense, that I can vindicate (as I hope I shall ever be able to do) the whole course of conduct which I have pursued with respect to the question of slavery and the slave trade. (Loud cheers from the Opposition benches.) When I first came into Parliament I had, as was natural that I should have, a strong feeling on this subject. I found then slavery existing; and I gave, according to my situation and my measure of ability, every aid in my power in order to its removal. I never shrunk from any exertion, or hesitated to make any personal sacrifice, to accomplish it. (Cheers.) I do not mention this as matter of boast. It was merely my duty. The right hon. gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department knows that for this cause, in 1833, I put my resignation into the hands of Lord Spencer, and voted and spoke against the Government of which I was a member, at a time when office was of as much consequence to me as it could be to any one. (Hear, hear.) Lord Spencer and Lord Grey did not choose to accept my resignation, and I remained in office; but for some days I did, in consequence of the course I then pursued, consider myself out of the service of the Crown. (Hear, hear.) However, slavery was abolished. Then, in my opinion, as a member of the British Parliament, intrusted with the care of my black fellow-subjects, it was my duty, at any sacrifice of my own interests, to do everything in my power to remove that stain from our laws, and to set at liberty the negroes of Jamaica. (Hear, hear.) But now comes the question of the negroes of Louisiana and Alabama; and I consider that they do not stand in the same relation to us as the negroes of Jamaica. (Cheers.) I have a great and solemn duty to perform to those whom I represent—to a great number of persons, who I will not say are in a state worse than slavery, but who are toiling hard from sunrise to sunset to obtain an honest living—persons who, if I could succeed in opening to them a new great new market, might possibly experience some alleviation of their hard lot. I cannot doubt that the evil which I should inflict on them by going out of my sphere would be great; but the good which I should do to the negroes of Louisiana and Alabama is exceedingly problematical. (Hear, hear, hear.) With regard to the right hon. gentleman's proposition it has, I admit, a tendency to give an impulse to the slave trade in South America. But I look at it in this way—I very much doubt whether the marked interference of the English Parliament would on the whole have a good effect with the South Americans. What right have we to interfere? All nations have a susceptibility of feeling upon such a point as this. No nation likes to be told "We are more virtuous than you." (Hear, hear.) I feel this myself. I feel that there are many abuses in Ireland which we ought to redress, but I must confess that when I take up a New York paper and read most furious attacks upon our country (such for instance as the speeches of President Tyler's son), in consequence of our treatment of Ireland, I feel almost inclined to retrace my own steps, and to ask "of what concern is it to America?" (Hear, hear.) If there be

anything to be done with regard to the amelioration of the American institutions as respects slavery, we must look to the co-operation of that large, enlightened, and respectable body of citizens of the United States, who hate slavery as much as we. They may possibly accomplish something. But if we refuse to take their produce in order to punish them for their national offences, we should probably wound the pride and excite the resentment of those very persons; and it would become a point of national honour with them to stand by slavery, which they have hitherto thought a national disgrace. We should thus confer no benefit on the negro, whilst we should inevitably inflict mischief upon our own countrymen, by making them pay higher than they need pay, for the necessities of life. (Hear, hear.) On these principles I can reconcile to my conscience the vote which I intend to give on this part of the right hon. baronet's plan; but on the same principle I can reconcile the vote which I shall give to my noble friend to-night. I confess I shall find some difficulty in understanding in what manner the right hon. baronet will distinguish between the cases. (Cheers.) There are many other points that have been referred to in the course of this debate to which I will not advert—there is one, however—"the refining" of the right hon. gentleman—that I cannot help touching on. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) Was such a distinction ever heard of? Not for the world are we to eat one ounce of the accursed thing; but we are to dress it up in a more pleasing form, and to export it to Hamburg, or Leghorn—to all the coffee-houses of Italy or Germany! But we don't taste it;—no! We can stand up with a pharisaical air, and thank God that we are not as those Italians and Germans are, who eat slave-grown sugar. (Hear, hear.) Clearly such distinctions as these in matters of morality are most absurd. I hardly know what to say to them. It seems to me very like the distinction drawn by the perjured witness. "What," said he, "I perjure myself! not for the world—no, no—I only kissed my thumb—I didn't kiss the book—I wouldn't do it on any account." (Cheers, and laughter.) But this is surely not the way in which we should treat considerations of this sort. I remember something very analogous to it in an old Spanish novel that I read some time ago, and which seems to me to be singularly appropos. A wandering lad, something after the fashion of Gil Blas, is taken into the service of a rich old silversmith—a most pious man, who is always telling his beads, who hears mass daily, and observes the fasts and fasts of the church with the utmost scrupulosity. He is always preaching honesty and piety. "Never," he constantly repeats to his young assistant, "never touch what is not your own; never take liberties with sacred things." Sacrilege, as uniting theft with profaneness, is the sin of which he has the deepest horror. One day while he is lecturing after his usual fashion, an ill-looking fellow comes into the shop with a sack under his arm. "Will you buy these?" says the visitor, and produces from the sack some church plate and a rich silver crucifix. "Buy them!" cries the pious man. "No; nor touch them; not for the world. I know where you got them. Wretch that you are, have you no care for your soul?" "Well then," says the thief, "if you will not buy them, will you melt them down for me?" "Melt them down!" answers the silversmith, "that is quite another matter." He takes the chalices and the crucifix with a pair of tongs; the silver, thus in bond, is dropped into the crucible, melted, and delivered to the thief, who lays down five pistoles and departs with his booty. The young servant stares at this strange scene. But the master very gravely resumes his lecture. "My son," he says, "take warning by that sacrilegious knave, and take example by me. Think what a load of guilt lies on his conscience. You will see him hanged before long. But as to me, you saw that I would not even touch the stolen property. I keep these tongs for such occasions. And thus I thrive in the fear of God, and manage to turn an honest penny." (Cheers and laughter.) But really I do say that the cause of morality is very much injured by admitting such distinctions as these—nothing can have a more immoral tendency than the quibbling away our moral obligations in this way, making distinctions of such a description as we have of late seen introduced into theology, where it was attempted to be shown that a gentleman could hold the dogmas of Rome, and hold with them the best benefits in the Church of England. I hope we shall keep the sophistry of Tract XC. out of these debates at all events. (Cheers and laughter.) Then, the right hon. gentleman wonders that people on the Continent say that all this is hypocrisy. Why, can anything be more natural? It is, I should say, perfectly natural; and, I should add, that it is all the effect of this new distinction. (Hear, hear.) I do not think, till the right hon. baronet came into office, that the particular topic of our admitting slave-grown cotton and tobacco was ever mentioned, much less ever made a charge against an administration. But as soon as the right hon. baronet began to profess that he acted on a new and exalted moral principle, everybody began to inquire whether he consistently adhered to that principle; and the result of the inquiry is that every foreign journal, whether in Germany, or France, it signifies not what country, laughs at the philanthropy of England. "Oh!" say they, "it is nothing but a farce, for it applies only to sugar, and affects not cotton, tobacco, or coffee. You take the Hawaiian cigar, and grab up the plantations of the poor Irish freemen who want to cultivate tobacco, and you even admit the sugar of New Orleans." (Hear, hear.) I care little about the abuse which foreign journalists or orators may throw on the Machiavellian policy of perfidious Albion. But I am sorry and ashamed when I feel that I have nothing to say in reply to their reflections. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman who preceded me said a good deal about the former history of slavery; and he alluded to the names of one or two persons who were very eminent indeed in their exertions in the abolition of slavery, who did agree with the measures of the right hon. baronet in 1841. But I must tell the right hon. gentleman that I very much doubt whether my lamented friend, the late Sir T. Buxton, or Sir S. Lushington, would approve of the present budget of the right hon. baronet. They, at least, I believe, would be consistent. But, if we go back to the services of those eminent men with regard to slavery, is it possible to deny that there are some circumstances in the conduct of the supporters of that man which lay them open—I won't say to the charge of hypocrisy, but to be accused, in some degree at least, of having deceived themselves, to say nothing of the possibility that their own interests may have exercised, even without their knowing it, some influence on their minds.

(Hear, hear.) Who are now the great supporters of the right hon. baronet's plan in this House? his right hon. colleague the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the right hon. gentleman who immediately preceded me in this discussion. Now, when I look back to the history of the great struggle which ended in the abolition of slavery, I find nothing there that leads me to conceive why their sensibility upon this point should be greater than ours. (Cheers.) The right hon. baronet at the head of the Government would think that I was speaking of him in terms of irony, were I to say that during the whole of that great struggle he ever threw the weight of his influence on the side of the negro. At the very last, when the bill was brought in which put an end to slavery, I myself well remember that the right hon. baronet declared that he could not give his support either to the plan of immediate emancipation proposed by my noble friend, now the member for Sunderland (Lord Howick), or to the plan proposed by the noble lord, now Secretary for the Colonies (Lord Stanley); and I well remember that the right hon. baronet said,—"I shall now claim no credit for this measure; I only desire to be absolved from the responsibility." (Loud cheers from the Opposition benches.) As the right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer is not present, I shall not advert to his course of conduct further than to say that I believe he has always acted as other West India proprietors acted upon this point; but as to the right hon. gentleman the late President of the Board of Trade, he must allow me to bring to his recollection the part which he took in the debates in 1833. He said, "You raise a great cry about the distinctions between cotton and tobacco cultivation, and the cultivation of sugar. I don't mean to say that there is no difference between the hardship of cultivating cotton and tobacco on the one hand and sugar on the other hand; but it is not so great as you may think. In some damp marshy soils the cultivation of sugar may be very difficult, but it is not so in other situations. Go, for example, to Barbadoes, and there you will find the slave population engaged in the cultivation of sugar extremely well off." That was what the right hon. gentleman then said upon this point. He said, too, that there were other employments quite as injurious and detrimental to health as that pursued by the slaves, and he referred particularly to "grinding," saying, "See how grinding injures the sight and shortens life." He went on to say that he thought the system had originated with the West India Legislature.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Really I never said anything of the sort. You are not quoting me at all correctly.

Mr. MACAULAY: What, not about the grinding?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Yes, about the grinding, but nothing more.

Mr. MACAULAY continued, I at once admit the right hon. gentleman's denial: I will let that pass. Now, I must say that I am forced to look for some common principle that shall explain the meaning of these gentlemen going all round the compass in this manner; one time assuming one ground, and at another time another; and I do find that there is one principle common to all, and that that is a great desire to protect the West India interest. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.) At one time they are for protecting slave-labour sugar against free-labour sugar, at another time free-labour sugar is the only sugar that is to be admitted at all. When I see gentlemen moving from one side to the other in this way, what am I to understand?—what can I do but see, if amid all these changes there be any one point to which they universally adhere? I have so looked, and I perceive that one point governs all their actions, to one principle, regardless of consequences, they ever point, and that is—protection to the West India interest. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.) These are my views on this subject, and I do hope that I have at least succeeded in acquitting myself of the charge of inconsistency, or of insensibility to the evils of the slave trade, in the vote which I am about to give; my conduct I can perfectly reconcile with my conscience, and I must say that I shall be much surprised if the right hon. baronet or the Government can readily reconcile their present conduct with their past actions, and convince the House of their consistency. (Cheers.)

NATURE'S PROVISION AGAINST SCARCITY.—Does any mystery of nature conceal the fact, that different countries have been created under such circumstances as make it practically impossible that a partial favour in the harvests of one should not be remediable by communication with the others, if man, in the wisdom of his absurdity, could be persuaded not to stand by to prevent? And is it not plain that the suffering to one country would be balanced by a correspondent profit to the other? And thus, as nature presented the cup of suffering and of profit to each by turns, the movement of the great machine would be kept up with the least practicable aggregate of human evil.—Colonel T. P. Thompson.

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURER OF IRELAND.—The condition of the agricultural labourer of Ireland is thus summed up by the commission appointed to inquire into the Tenure of Land in Ireland, whose report has just been published:—"The agricultural labourer of Ireland continues to suffer the greatest privations and hardships—he continues to depend upon casual and precarious employment for subsistence—he is still badly housed, badly fed, badly clothed, badly paid for his labour. Our personal experience and observations during our inquiry have afforded us a melancholy confirmation of these statements; and we cannot forbear expressing our strong sense of the patient endurance which the labouring classes have generally exhibited under sufferings greater, we believe, than the people of any other country in Europe have to sustain." And so vividly does this misery appear to have presented itself to the commissioners, that in another part of their report it is spoken of in language equally forcible—language that shows that the aspect of it had made a deep impression on their feelings. "It would be impossible," they say, "to describe adequately the privations which the cottiers and their families habitually and patiently endure. It will be seen from the evidence, that in many districts their only food is the potato, their only beverage water, that their cabins are seldom a protection against the weather, that a bed or a blanket is a rare luxury, and that nearly in all their pigs and manure heap constitute their only property."

Silk milliners, the manufacture of Malta, are now imported into this country on payment of 5 per cent. duty ad valorem.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, February 26, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Morris, Sir John, Bart., Southsea-house, Portsmouth	25 0 0
Fullalove, Wm., 69, King-street, Manchester	3 3 0
Hamilton, John, Yafforth-lodge, Northallerton	2 0 0
Southam, Thomas, Park-lane, Higher Broughton, Manchester	1 1 0
Ryder, John, Bradford	1 1 0
Crook, John, 3, Newton-street, do.	1 1 0
Chadwick, John, 13, Princess-street, do.	1 1 0
Hartley, John, Smedley, near do.	1 1 0
Thompson, Jas., Concert Tavern, York-st., do.	1 1 0
Sloan, John, Queen's Theatre, do.	1 1 0
Schofield, John, Tim Bobbin, Miln-row, Rochdale	1 1 0
Tordiffe, Thomas, Staleybridge	1 1 0
Macaulay, T. E., Halifax	1 1 0
Leech, James, Scholes, near Wigan	1 1 0
Ackroyd, Wm., painter, Castle-hill, Sheffield	1 1 0
Wild, Thomas, Far-gate, do.	1 1 0
One who has swept his own warehouse	1 1 0
Shaw, Joseph, Lees, near Manchester	1 1 0
Shirlock, Joseph, jun., 82, Shude-hill, do.	1 1 0
Hardman, John, agent, Mumps, Green-acres-moor, near do.	1 1 0
Cooke, Thomas, 12, St. Mary's-gate, do.	1 1 0
Warden, R. H., 13, Rook-street, do.	1 1 0
Norbury, James, St. Paul's-place, do.	1 1 0
Wilkinson, James, 80, Deansgate, do.	1 1 0
Royle, James, 32, Duke-street, Hulme, do.	1 1 0
J. B., do.	1 1 0
Bythell, James, 47, George-street, do.	1 1 0
Thompson, John, 16, Police-street, do.	1 1 0
Weich, Daniel, Bolton	1 1 0
Lever, Henry, Johnson-street, Great do.	1 1 0
Lomax, William, Toll-bar, Halliwell, do.	1 1 0
Bulcock, B., and Sons, Clitheroe	1 1 0
Mauder, G., Exeter	1 1 0
Rawson, George, Pickhill-hall, near Wrexham	1 1 0
Neild, Wm., Ramden-row, Wardleworth, Rochdale	1 1 0
Barnes, William, manufacturer, do.	1 1 0
Milne, Chas., Rake-wood, nr. Littleborough, nr. do.	1 1 0
Jones, John, confectioner, Abergele, North Wales	1 1 0
Stroud, William, Bank, Swansea	1 1 0
Jenkins, David, Tregrove Farm, do.	1 1 0
Parker, James, Kendal	1 1 0
Crosfield, Simeon, 8, West Derby-street, Liverpool	1 1 0
Pitcher, Edward, 7, North John-street, do.	1 1 0
Shanks, James, St. Helen's	1 1 0
Gamble, Charles, do.	1 1 0
Gamble, J. C., and Son, do.	1 1 0
Gamble and Crosfield, do.	1 1 0
Phillip, Thomas, sen., Ossett, near Wakefield	1 1 0
Parkinson, John, Eastburn, Cross-hills, near Bradford, Yorkshire	1 1 0
Field, Luke Goodyear, Stamp-cross, near Halifax	1 1 0
Patrick, J. T., Leominster	1 1 0
The carriers of Messrs. Gibson and Sons, Arbroath	1 1 0
Bigham, Thomas, Queen-street, Wigan	1 1 0
Cyte, John, London-road, do.	1 1 0
Francis, John, Tutbury street, do.	1 1 0
Cambell, George, Bangor, Flintshire	1 1 0
Greenbow, J. M., Eldon-square, Newcastle-on-Tyne	1 1 0
Harford, George, do.	1 1 0
Revely, William, Collingwood-street, do.	1 1 0
T. J. F., Gateshead	1 1 0
Chorley, James, 27, Smithy-door, Manchester	0 10 0
Murdock, William, 10, Croesley-street, C.-on-M., do.	0 5 0
Parr, Henry, 10, Bank-street, Hulme, do.	0 5 0
Hulme, John, 57, Duke-street, do.	0 5 0
Gregory, George, 57, Owen-street, do.	0 5 0
Avalon, T. J., Glastonbury	0 2 6
Carey, Mr., Wick, do.	0 2 6
Cheap Bread, do.	0 2 6
Seymour, S., Barton St. David, near do.	0 2 6
Wilkins, Samuel, do., do.	0 2 6
Richards Joseph, Batleigh, near do.	0 2 6
Close, Albin, High-st., Cattle Carey, near do.	0 2 6
Smith, S., High-street, do.	0 1 0
A Friend, do.	0 1 0
Evans, Edward, High-street, Swansea	0 2 6
Langridge, J. jun., Bristol, per W. Burton, Manchester	0 2 6
Hillhouse, J., do., do.	0 0 6
Holgate, John and George	2 2 0
Hargreaves, Mrs. William, South-parade	1 1 0
Hopwood, William	1 1 0
Spencer, T. B.	1 1 0
Roberts and Walton	2 2 0
Holroyd, Henry	1 1 0
Howorth, James	1 1 0
Williamson and Harling	1 1 0
Kay, John, South-parade	1 1 0
Smallpage, Samuel	1 1 0
Pollard, James	1 1 0
Sutcliffe, James	1 1 0
Marsland, James, and Son	1 1 0
Spencer and Moore	2 2 0
Smallpage and Lord	1 1 0
Knowles, Henry, and Son	1 1 0
Sellers, John, and Sons	1 1 0
Slater, George	1 1 0
Massey, L.	1 1 0
Margerson and Co.	2 2 0
Barnes, George, and Brothers	1 1 0
Brennam, J., and Brothers	1 1 0
Witham, Francis	1 1 0
Lomas, William	1 1 0
Funtill, Henry	1 1 0
Eaglin, Thomas	1 1 0
Witham, J. Sutcliffe	1 1 0
Folds, James	1 1 0
Bracewell, William	1 1 0
Walker, John, and Co.	1 1 0
Haklwin and Cromley	0 10 6
Brown, Robert, Low-bridge	0 7 10
Small subscriptions	0 7 0
Brooks and Son, Rockingham-street	1 1 0
Crooks and Roberts, Foster-street	1 1 0
Richardson, E. W., surgeon, Attercliffe	1 1 0
Turton, Mrs. Thomas B., Spring-works	1 1 0
Turton, Mrs. Joseph, do.	1 1 0
Matthews, Mrs.	1 1 0
Turton, Mrs. William, 27, Nelson-square	1 1 0
Blackfriars, London	1 1 0
Sanderson, J., Charles-street	1 1 0
Birks, Thomas, Pond street Brewery	1 1 0
Parker, Samuel, Parker's-wharf	1 1 0
Wild, Thomas, Wisewood	0 5 0
Atkin, Thomas, North-street	1 1 0
Horror, Richard, Heald	1 1 0
Stansfield, Charles, Blacksteads	1 1 0
Whitehead, John, do.	1 1 0
Ashworth, Richard, do.	1 1 0
Ashworth, Benjamin, do.	1 1 0
Tattersall, Henry, Shaw Clough, Newcastle	1 1 0
Whitaker, Henry, Blackhead	1 1 0
Marsden, John	1 1 0



Glasgow.	Whitehead, John, 36, Ingram-street	1 0 0	Chadwick, Mrs., Hallgate, Doncaster	1 0 0
	Paterson, Thomas L., North-court, Royal Exchange	1 0 0	Neave, Samuel, Forton-road, Gosport	1 0 0
	Stephens, William, 88, Duke-street	1 0 0	Cochrane, A., Blower's-green, near Dudley	1 0 0
	Temple and Co., St. Enoch-square	1 0 0	Farrow, W., Woburn, Bedfordshire	1 0 0
	M'Luckie, Thomas, Campsie, by	1 0 0	Gale, Henry, Malmsbury, Wiltshire	1 0 0
	Gow, Robert, 15, Abbotsford-place	1 0 0	Cobb, Preston, Malton	1 0 0
	Whyte, John, 137, Trongate	1 0 0	Dakeyne, Edward, Green-house, Darley-dale, near Bakewell	1 0 0
	Paton, Andrew, Moodie's-court, Argyle-street	1 0 0	Aldred, James, French-gate, Doncaster	1 0 0
	Miller, Robert, 45, London-street	1 0 0	Smith, Alexander, Arbroath, N.B.	1 0 0
	M'Callum, Mungo, 56, St. Vincent-street	1 0 0	Wright, A., North-street, St. Andrew's, Fife	1 0 0
	Kelly, Wm., and Co., 52, Virginia-street	2 2 0	Coventry, Mary P., 3, Phythian-street, Liverpool	1 0 0
	Fyfe, John, 63, Miller-street	1 0 0	A Lequer, York	1 0 0
	Hamilton, Walter, Kilsyth	1 0 0	Carter, Robert, 16, Minorities	1 0 0
	M'Ewen, Sons, and Co., Trongate	2 0 0	Waters, T., Worcester	1 0 0
	Brown, J. and T., 124, Argyle-street	1 0 0	Wood, Charles, carver and gilder, Fleet-street, Bury, Lancashire	1 0 0
	Bankier and M'Kenzie, Argyle-street	1 0 0	Petchell, Thomas, Hull	1 0 0
	Walker, Andrew, 114, Trongate	1 0 0	Callander, J. W., Whitehaven	1 0 0
	Barclay, Robert, and Co., Slip-dock	2 2 0	Benney, Mr., Bonny-bridge, Denny, near Falkirk	1 0 0
	Caulter, John, 164, Main-street, Bridgeton	0 1 6	Cairns, Alexander, do., do., do.	1 0 0
	Andrew, George, draper, Airdrie	0 2 6	Lewis, William, Rum Puncheon, Cross-lane, Parker-street, Holborn	1 0 0
Huddersfield.	Miller, Robert, 15, Gallowgate	0 2 6	Stevens, Joseph, 20, Cross-street, Blackfriars	1 0 0
	Thomson, John, 243, do.	0 5 0	Seagram, Thomas, 119, Pall-mall	1 0 0
	Bland, Robert, and Co., 8, Clyde-terrace	0 2 6	Kirkmoor, James, Langwith, near Mansfield	1 0 0
	A Friend	0 2 6	Murray, William, Anstruther, Fife	1 0 0
	A Friend	0 2 6	The Workmen of Kenny, Sons, and Co., Panbridge-bleachfields, by Carnoustie, per A. Mitchell	1 0 0
	Bottomley, H., South Crosland, nr.	1 1 0	Valentine, James, coal-merchant, Montrose	1 0 0
	Armitage, S. and J., Shelley, near	1 0 0	R. H. K., Kirkcaldy	1 0 0
	Thewlis, Titus	1 1 0	Payne, Edward, 18, John-street, Woolwich	1 0 0
	Schwann, P.	1 1 0	T. M., Woodstock, Oxon	1 0 0
	Smith, William, 119, Cheapside	1 0 0	Sanders, Thomas Richard, jun., St. Vincent's-parade, Wells, Clifton, Bristol	1 0 0
	Wright, Thomas, St. Martin's-lane	1 0 0	Johnson, John, Clotton-lodge, Tarporley, Cheshire	1 0 0
	A Friend	0 10 6	Williamson, Edward H., Greenfield, near Holywell	1 0 0
	Collins, J., jun., 74, Parade	0 10 0	Ross, James, Stanwix, Carlisle	1 0 0
	Kvans, Charles M., 37, Edmund-street	1 1 0	A Barrister, Lincoln's-inn	1 0 0
	Cowper, Edward Alfred, Messrs. Fox, Hender-son, and Co.'s, London Works	1 0 0	Hargreaves, William, 234, Regent-street	1 0 0
	Cowper, Charles, Chance, Brothers, and Co.'s Glass Works, near	1 0 0	Butterworth, James, 61, Bermondsey-street	1 0 0
	Piggott, Thomas, Taylor's Dock	2 0 0	Epps, Mrs., Cold-bath Cott., Old Charlton, Blackheath	1 0 0
	Higgs, Thomas, Smallbrook-street	2 0 0	Wells, Thomas, Moxley, Darlington	1 0 0
	Moore, John, Mary Ann-street	1 0 0	Bagnall and Charles, Carmarthen	1 0 0
	Sabin, Hannah, Warstone-lane	0 10 0	Armitage, S., plumber, Market-st., Bradford, Yorks.	1 0 0
Birmingham.	Moore, Mrs. and Miss, Mary Ann-street	0 3 0	Simpson, Allan, Kendal	1 0 0
	Workmen of Messrs. Moore and Sabin, Mary Ann-street	1 0 0	Edmondson, Isaac, manufacturer, do.	1 0 0
	Edwards, Wm., 113, Suffolk-street	1 0 0	Holland, Thos., Penkmill-st., Newcastle-under-Lyne	1 0 0
	Massey, H., Clumber-street	1 1 0	Blackley, Robert, Oxmead, Norfolk	1 0 0
	Clarke, William, Castle-terrace	1 0 0	Durden, E. H., Pitchcombe-mills, Stroud, Glousters.	1 0 0
	Rideout, H. G., Houndsgate	1 0 0	Hollins, William, Pleasley, near Mansfield	1 0 0
	P. T.	1 0 0	Hogg, George, Dovemount, Hawick	1 0 0
	Dickinson, N., Poultry	1 0 0	Johnson, Henry, 8 Court, Fitzwilliam-street, Sheffield	1 0 0
	North, T., Esq., Mayor of	1 0 0	Muckart, John, Montrose	1 0 0
	Nicholls, Alfred	1 0 0	Buckingham, Thos. P., Strood, Kent	1 0 0
	Nicholls, E.	1 0 0	Keele, John S., lighterman, North Hyde, nr. Hounslow	0 5 0
	Macellian, Rev. E. B.	1 0 0	Cook, Joseph, 3, Greville-street, Hatton-garden	0 5 0
	Stephens, Silvanus	1 0 0	Henley, Richard Codner, 9, Mill-lane, Tooley-street	0 5 0
	Stephens, J. P.	1 0 0	Hain, Andrew, Cupar	0 5 0
	Ewens, Thomas	1 0 0	Shepherd, Jas., 13, Dorrington-street, Leather-lane	0 2 6
	Gundry, Joseph	1 0 0	Verry, John, 17, Finsbury-street, Finsbury	0 2 6
	Gundry, Benjamin	1 0 0	Bull, George, 6, Little Chesterfield-street, High-st., Marylebone	0 2 6
	Williams, James	1 0 0		
	Turner, Robert	1 0 0		
	Stephens, Henry	1 0 0		
Nottingham.	Hounsell, Joseph	1 0 0		
	Culfox, William	1 0 0		
	Hounsell, William	1 0 0		
	Hayward and Sons, West Chinnock, Somerset	1 0 0		
	Pratt, Robert, Broadwindsor, near	1 0 0		
	Kelland, Matthew, High Wickham	1 1 0		
	Ross, Thomas, jun., Castle-street	0 10 0		
	Burgess, John, High-street	0 10 0		
	Yates, Wm. Lawrence, Royal Oak Hotel	0 10 0		
	Bannister, Joseph, Waterloo-place	0 5 0		
	Thwaites, Stephen, John-street	0 5 0		
	Toby, John, Longfield	0 5 0		
	Mann, Thomas, High-street	0 5 0		
	Chandler, Charles, Castle-street	0 2 6		
	Howell, John, White Rock-place	0 2 6		
	Alerton, Edward, East-hill	0 2 6		
	Griffin, Thomas, Fish-market	0 2 6		
	Picknell, Edward, Castle-street	0 2 6		
	Edwards, Thomas, High-street	0 2 6		
	Winter, George, Meadow-sottages	0 2 6		
Bridport.	Crowhurst, Thomas, Longfield	0 2 6		
	J. C.	0 2 6		
	Small subscriptions	0 6 0		
	Hoppe, Edward A., 131, North-street	1 0 0		
	Shaw, Mrs. Elizabeth, 9, Water-lane	1 0 0		
	S. S.	1 0 0		
	Bertram, A., Bigg-market	1 0 0		
	Moffatt, D. and W., Cross-street	1 0 0		
	Irving, George, Blenheim-street	1 0 0		
	Gouldar, John	1 0 0		
	Dobble, Mr.	1 0 0		
	J. S.	1 0 0		
	Prancillon, John G.	1 0 0		
	Higgs, William, sen., 2, York-buildings	1 0 0		
	Forster, John, merchant	1 0 0		
	King, James, Eastgate-street	1 0 0		
	Gough, George, Westgate-street	1 0 0		
	Blakely, John, Frec-lane	1 0 0		
	Sharpe, Thomas, Cheapside	1 0 0		
	Manning, John, High-street	1 0 0		
	Hall, William, Friday-street	1 0 0		
Leeds.	Corab, Thomas, Regent-street	1 0 0		
	Sunderland, Thomas, King-street	1 0 0		
	Hill and Greward	1 0 0		
	Jarvis, Mr.	1 0 0		
	Neal and Sturgess	1 0 0		
	An East Lothian Farmer	1 0 0		
	Smith, Andrew, Palace-yard	1 0 0		
	Runkine, R., 37, Rankellour-street	1 0 0		
	Kirkwood, Rev. James, 16, Gayfield-square	1 0 0		
	M'Intosh, James, 9, Graham-street	1 0 0		
	Smith, James, Weir's-close, Leith	1 0 0		
	Peter, Charles, 49, Berners-street, Oxford-street	5 0 0		
	Brown, Henry, Overton, near Wakefield	5 0 0		
	Tate, James H., Castle-gate, York	2 2 0		
	Herrett, George, Southampton	2 2 0		
	Coleman, Wm. L., Clatwick, Crick, N.B.	2 2 0		
	Brown, J., Orchard-house, by Carlisle, Lanarkshire	2 0 0		
	Brown, Charles, Montrose	1 1 6		
	James, Wm., Titchfield Mills, Titchfield	1 10 0		
	Forster, James, 45, Fore-street, Cripplegate	1 5 0		
	Hawthorn, Mr., civil engineer, Melton Iron Works, Sheffield	1 5 0		
Edinburgh.	Berton, Alfred, 9, Castle-street East, Oxford-street	1 1 0		
	Dodd, H., collector, Milk-street, Cheapside	1 1 0		
	McNeill, Mr., Blackheath-hill	1 1 0		
	McNeill, John, Hermondsey New-road	1 1 0		
	McNeill, Wm., Gravel lane, Southwark	1 1 0		
	McNeill, Wm., currier, Ashton-under-Lyne	1 1 0		
	McNeill, D. and W., drapers, Arbroath, N.B.	1 1 0		
	McNeill, John, 29, City-road	1 1 0		
	McNeill, Rev. Maurice, B.D., rector of Pembridge, Herefordshire	1 1 0		
	The Workmen of D. J. Anderson, 26, South Hano-ver-street, Glasgow, per R. Reid	1 1 0		
	McNeill, R. M., and Co., 14, Charles-st., Sheffield	1 0 0		
	McNeill, Wm., English-street, Carlisle	1 0 0		
	McNeill, Samuel, New-road, Chatham	1 0 0		
	McNeill, David, 23, Kirkgate, Leith	1 0 0		
	McNeill, James, Oak-bank, Cockermouth	1 0 0		

### Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Ferris, J., Totnes	1 0 0
Cobb, Preston, Malton	1 0 0
S. S.	1 0 0
Hall, T., sen.	0 2 6
Pepper, Joseph	0 2 6
Newnam, H.	0 2 6
Whitley, William	0 2 6
Wood, William	0 2 6
Agates, John	0 2 6
Roberts, Edward	0 2 6
Hart, James	0 2 6
Sums under 2s. 6d. each	1 0 0
Thompson, Edmund T., Manchester	10 0 0
Walker, Benjamin, flax spinner, Leeds	5 0 0
Hulcock, B., and Sons, Clitheroe	4 0 0
Allen, Mrs. Wm., Bliffall	2 0 0
Welch, David, Bolton	2 0 0
Dale, T., Market-place, Manchester	1 1 0
Gatenby, Thos., 25, Portland-street, do.	1 0 0
Hall, M., Cromford-bridge, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire	0 10 0

### ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 71, the following sums were acknowledged as "Contributions to the £100,000 Fund," but ought to have appeared as "Contributions to the Bazaar":—

Prince, J. B.	1 0 0
Prince, Mrs.	0 10 0
Prince, Master	0 10 0
Prince, Master John	0 10 0

In LEAGUE No. 72, for Hearne, John, Allen-street, Sheffield, read Pearce, John. In LEAGUE No. 74, for Close, J., jun., Windsor, read Clode, John, Peasod-street, Windsor; for Westley, William, Friar-street, Doctors' commons, read Westley, Frederick; for Barnes, Thomas, Whitburn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, read Whitburn, Sunderland; and for Lavers, Joseph, Kendal, read Bevers, Joseph.

**ADVANCE OF WAGES.**—It is gratifying to learn, as another proof that the manufacturers do not withhold from those in their employment the benefit of an improved demand for their goods, that the nail-makers of Dudley have agreed to advance wages ten per cent., and that a similar advance has been agreed upon at Bromsgrove. There is still an impression that the price of iron will be advanced.

**Morning Advertiser.**  
**THE BRITISH PLATE GLASS COMPANY.**—The liberal and comprehensive plans of Sir Robert Peel, so far as the recognition of Free-Trade principles is concerned, are already about to be brought into practical operation in this neighbourhood. Owing, in a great measure, to the restrictive and vexatious duties levied on glass, the above company relinquished business about two years ago, it being found impossible to carry on the manufacture without loss to the shareholders; and their extensive works have up to the present time been at a standstill. Since, however, the announcement of the Premier's plan of commercial reform, it has, we understand, been determined to bring the works once more into operation; the effect of which will be to give employment and bread to hundreds of families in the neighbourhood. Independently of the demand which the home trade will create in a material which is susceptible of application to almost every conceivable purpose of use or ornament, our manufactures, released from the restrictions which pressed so heavily upon the trade, will be able to enter into successful competition with our continental neighbours, and regain those markets abroad from which they were all but excluded by the policy or impolicy of our rulers.—*Birmingham Journal.*

### LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXII.

TO THOMAS MILNER GIBSON, ESQ., M.P.

SIR,—There are many who, like myself, have watched your public career with the liveliest interest. A rare openness to conviction, in spite of early associations or party connexions, and a frankness of bearing and expression, not less rare, soon fixed upon you the observance of those who desiderate in political life a purer and loftier tone of morals than is generally to be found. You have borne alike gracefully, first, the punishment which corruption awarded to your sincerity, and then its reward in the selection which identifies you with the constituency of the manufacturing metropolis of the empire. And not from that constituency alone, but from all the industrial classes throughout the country, have you earned a feeling of deep and lasting gratitude, for your uncompromising advocacy of Free-Trade principles in their general application; and for your late able and lucid application of them, in your motion of Monday last, to the differential duties on sugar. The debate which you originated, and in which Lord Howick and Messrs. Villiers, Cobden, and Bright so well supported you, is by no means one of the least impressive disquisitions on monopoly that has been submitted to public attention.

On Free-Trade questions the *Times* newspaper starts with the hare and runs with the hounds. Its acuteness anticipated at once the effect which its report would produce. No time was to be lost. Accordingly, its leading article on Tuesday morning is directed to the purpose of abating whatever influence in favour of Free-Trade principles, as applied to the importation of sugar, might have been produced by the discussion, on the preceding evening, in the House of Commons. Its path is as crooked as yours is straightforward. My design is to inquire into the character of the means employed for the accomplishment of its purpose. To what its columns have contained in favour of Free Trade on other occasions I shall not advert: I raise no question about its consistency; I shall cite no former articles. All I intend will be effected, if I induce its readers to analyze the reasonings therein advanced; although it will be no cause of regret should this mental exercise lead to a similar mode of dealing with other lucubrations of the leading journal.

The article begins by suggesting the association of impertinence, or irrelevance, with your proposition. It is said to have "no especial bearing whatever on the details of the new Ministerial settlement of the duties on sugar;" but to be "aimed as much against a differential duty of 6d. as of 10s. or 15s."

The last clause is true; but the truth of fact is adduced to support a fallacy in logic. The fact is, that the motion had no exclusive bearing against high duties; but the hearing may be "especial" when it is not exclusive; it becomes especial by the very fact that the duties are high which the general principle is introduced to avert. Exactly in the degree in which protecting duties are onerous on the consumer, does the application of the general principle of Free Trade become special. It is antagonistic to all; but especially to those which are very oppressive and injurious. The first sentence is a sophism; and a sophism tending to excite a prejudice. It aims at making the would-be knowing ones shake their heads, and say, "Ay, all an abstract impertinence; not business-like; nothing to do with these particular duties;" when, in truth, the proposition had more to do with these than with any other duties on sugar proposed of late, simply because they are the grossest violation of the principle which it asserts.

I proceed to the next clause of the article:—

"He (Mr. M. Gibson) belongs to a school of statesmen who legislate by general principles and mathematical certainties. In their minds the axiom that if equals are added to unequals, the wholes are unequal, is not more certain and universal in its application than the doctrine that a differential duty is so much money gained by a certain producer at the expense of a certain consumer."

Here is an attempt to mystify between the certainty of an operation on the mass, and its uncertainty as to particular individuals. The extra three halfpence of the poor needlewoman, for her half pound of sugar, cannot be traced and identified, with police accuracy, through their passage from her fingers to the pocket of the great West India proprietor. It is uncertain that the very coppers ever reach that destination. Nor can their change, by accumulation with others, into silver, gold, notes, bills, be put in evidence. And so, because the toll-worn wretch looks bewildered at the question, "My dear, did you ever give any halfpence to Mr. Gladstone?" and because Mr. Gladstone declares, on his honour, he never took her coppers, the *Times* would have us infer that there is no certainty about the payments of the one and the receipts of the other being enhanced by the operation of the duties. This, too, is a sophism. The next sentence proves the writer to be perfectly aware of its being so. Instead of showing that the loss to consumers, and the gain to producers, were in themselves, uncer-

tain, he proceeds as follows, upon this very repudiated assumption of their reality:—

"If it be shown that the consumer enjoys some compensation for that loss, and, on the other hand, the producer is only repaid for certain peculiar burdens and difficulties, these reasons treat such considerations merely as they would so much contingent matter—a slight friction at the axle, a grain of dust in the balance. As long as they are expounding their theory they make a wonderful parade of certainty and exactitude; but when, in the order of things, or rather in the course of talk, they come to the facts of the case, they relapse into a popular gossiping style, as if vested interests, national engagements, ancient ties, and such incidental circumstances, were really beneath the notice of a philosopher."

The "uncertainty" is here altogether dropped. It has done its work. It has been fired off, and lodged in some thick head; and there let it rest. The writer flies off to a matter wholly irrelevant so far as the "exactitude" of politico-economical doctrines is concerned. A third charge springs up, viz.: that the proposition disregards certain things for which the British sugar-buyer ought to pay, and the West India sugar-grower to receive, compensation.

What in the world has this to do with the fact that differential duties tax the consumers, unless it be to prove that fact in the teeth of the writer's sarcasm on its certainty? The "compensation" and the "burdens" are entirely independent and irrelevant. Let us suppose the glories of negro emancipation and colonial empire to be so great to farm labourers, handloom weavers, and distressed needlewomen, that they ought to subscribe towards paying the planters for their help in realizing those glories; and let us also suppose that "the peculiar burdens and difficulties" of those planters are so severe that even pauperism should contribute towards their mitigation; still the question remains, how this affects the certainty of the doctrine of differential duties; and also, how, whether that certainty be affected or not, such duties should be the best mode of collecting the contributions of beggars for the suffering proprietary. Is there not more than "a slight friction at the axle" of the argument? Who objects to inquiring into the "peculiar burdens and difficulties" of the West Indians? Who objects to consider the question of the money payment for negro emancipation? The propriety of such consideration impeaches the doctrine of Adam Smith just as much as it impeaches the doctrine of Euclid. They are plainly, what the economists are accused of taking them to be, "so much contingent matter." Having first objected to the motion as wholly irrelevant, the writer now objects to it as exclusively relevant. The common character of both objections is, that they are so expressed as to stimulate dislike and prejudice.

When the *Times* catches "a popular gossiping style" in narratives of sugar-making and such things, and even the appearance of "certainty and exactitude" in "expounding a theory," it will be singularly consistent in sneering at those who do not so reverse the common custom of language, and the fitness of procedure. Always to state your theories loosely and in a "gossiping style," and always to "make a wonderful parade of certainty and exactitude" in telling how Sambo and his overseer got on at melting time, are new canons of composition, whether for parliamentary speeches or leading articles. "Vested interests, national engagements, ancient ties," &c. &c., all apropos to a sugar-tax for the advantage of the planter, are specimens of a very old style, and of one which has often attracted "the notice of a philosopher" from the time that Socrates exposed the logomachies of the Athenian sophists.

Without pursuing the rest of this article so minutely, the following sentences afford a specimen both of the correctness and congruousness of its assertions:—

"Whatever the character of the West Indians fifty or a hundred years since, they have for these twenty or thirty years at least been the most universal and remarkable types of ruin and distress. And as for their management, we believe they have of late improved as much on their own former practice, and on the rest of the world, as our own manufacturers of every class at home."

The nine lives of a cat are nothing to the vitality of West India solvency, which is thus capable of ruin once a year for a quarter of a century. And this continuous ruin has not been averted nor mitigated by the protective system, which is nevertheless to be enforced at the expense of the people of this country for its prevention in future. Nor have the twenty or thirty rubations interfered with spirited improvements comparable to those of "our own manufacturers of every class at home." Nor can there be a doubt of the future success of this improvement and protection after their signal and total failure, in leaving only "the most universal and remarkable types of ruin and distress." Such are the contradictions which, by a sort of steam pressure, the *Times* has contrived to condense into a couple of sentences.

While the *Times* supports monopoly by rating free labour at twice the expense of slave labour, the *Morning Herald* supports monopoly by rating free labour as less expensive than slave labour in the proportion of three to five. Yet they both come to

the same conclusion. Both agree in taxing the people's sugar here, and making war upon the wages of the free black labourers in the colonies. Notwithstanding all the cant that is abroad, it is plain the English people and the emancipated negroes are in the same boat. Monopoly would plunder us in the cost of sugar, and them in the wages of labour. Even abolitionists join a struggle whose watchword should be, "Up with sugar, and down with the blacks."

The effort you have made, the abuse you have braved, and the services you have rendered by extricating this question from the entanglement of mere party tactics, and anticipating in the luminous discussion of Monday the mystifications of Wednesday, will not be unappreciated or forgotten.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

#### FREE TRADE — MEETING OF LADIES — ISLINGTON.

A crowded and most respectably composed meeting of ladies, resident in Islington, was held on Tuesday in the large room of Canonbury-house, for the purpose of hearing an address from Mr. George Thompson, the eloquent advocate of slave abolition, explanatory of the objects of the Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in Covent Garden Theatre in the ensuing May. The meeting was almost exclusively one of ladies, and formed a new feature in the Free-Trade agitation.

On the motion of WM. LEAVERS, Esq., the Rev. ISAAC BROWN was called to the chair. The rev. gentleman, in opening the business of the meeting, said that the question which had brought that respectable assemblage together was not a political question, and was, therefore, one in which ladies might take part. In questions of humanity they certainly did feel, and they could not be indifferent to the maintenance of any laws which subjected vast numbers of the people to the sufferings of great distress. It seemed hard that the vast abundance of Providence should be kept from an industrious people for the gain of an unjust and unwise monopoly. No ladies, and especially ladies who were in the habit of visiting the habitations of the poor, could be insensible to the importance of the great cause which they were met to advocate; and they must be convinced that the interests, not only of humanity, but of religion and morals, were involved in it. They could not witness with indifference the vast amount of crime committed and fostered daily for want of bread, without being satisfied that there was something wrong that should be put an end to. He rejoiced, therefore, to see the ladies coming forward to take a part in the subject. Much was due to the Society (the League) that stood forward in opposition to the monopoly that oppressed the people; and he (the rev. chairman) felt assured that the ladies (to whose valuable exertions in the cause of human improvement so much was due) would not, on the present important occasion, be deficient in their exertions.

Mr. George Thompson then presented himself, and said he was very agreeably surprised to find so large a number of the ladies of the neighbourhood present, for the purpose of advancing the cause in which he had the proud distinction to be engaged; and he took it for granted that

they felt an interest in it, or they would not be there. That such an agitation was in progress the great and influential meeting of ladies he then had the honour of addressing was a sure, as it was a most gratifying, indication. And under such auspices, and by such means, abolition must soon come, and their great cause must prosper. It was not his intention to prove, by any arithmetical calculation, the extent to which the community was injured by protection—a protection, he repeated, merely for the benefit of a monopoly in land, and of the West India planters; but he felt called upon to denounce as unfair, and most unjustly oppressive, such a system. He conceived the question to be one most legitimate and proper for such a meeting as that to consider. It was a question not merely of money, but it was a question of mind, a question of morals, a question of religion, a question of truth, a question of justice, and a question of humanity. If, then, they admired with just regard, truth as the foundation of the pillars of the throne of Justice itself, and of the principles that should guide them here below; if, in addition to that, they had benevolent hearts, and could sympathize with those who were the foundations of society—the industrious and productive classes—they would not hesitate to lend their co-operation in carrying out this great cause. Mr. Thompson concluded by drawing attention to the approaching Bazaar, urging his auditory to give it their earnest co-operation. The eloquent gentleman was heard throughout with attention, and evidently made a favourable impression upon the ladies assembled.

A Committee of Ladies, with power to add to their number, was then formed, to add in carrying out the objects of the meeting in the district of Islington: the following are the names already enrolled:—

Mrs. Roger Cuthill, 21, Highbury-place.  
\*Mrs. Piles, 7, Highbury-terrace.  
\*Mrs. Bealey, Molineux-lodge, Holloway.  
\*Mrs. Edward Smith, Barnsbury-park.  
\*Mrs. Barker, Lyster-road, Islington.  
\*Mrs. Barker, 21, Upper Barnsbury-street.  
Miss Maria Barker, 21, Upper Barnsbury-street.  
Miss Kate Barker, 21, Upper Barnsbury-street.  
Miss Philpot, 12, Myddleton-square.  
Miss Billham, 7, Minerva-terrace.  
Miss Julian, 12, Stonefield-street.  
Miss James, Bride-street.  
Mrs. Barnett, Barnsbury-park.  
Miss Elsie, 2, Lonsdale-square.  
Miss Conibard, Abdon-grove, Barnsbury-park.  
Miss Higham, Upper Brunswick-terrace.  
\*Mrs. Leavers, Park-street.

The ladies to whose names an asterisk is affixed have consented to receive articles intended as contributions to the Bazaar.

#### ANTI-CORN LAW BAZAAR.

MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER COMMITTEE.  
A meeting of the committee appointed in Manchester to assist in getting up the approaching Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre, was held on Tuesday evening, at the Queen's-room of the League, and as the object is to make the contribution here, as far as possible, representative of

the different descriptions of manufactures carried on in the town, sub-committees of gentlemen were formed to wait upon the manufacturers. Amongst others, committees were appointed under the names "Calico, Fustian, &c., Committee," "Silk Committee," "Fancy Muslin, Smallwares, &c., Committee," "Glass Committee," "Colico Printers' Committee," and "Book and Artists' Committee."

Mr. GEORGE WILSON, in taking the chair, said the Ladies' Committee had received since the previous week an addition of 150 names, making the total number now on the books, 650. (Applause.) He read a list of the contributors at Nottingham, which included the name of almost every large and respectable house in that town; and he said their correspondent there informed them that the contribution from Nottingham would probably exceed £500. (Applause.) He said that Mr. Robert R. Moore had held a large and influential meeting at Derby, the mayor in the chair; and a numerous and highly respectable committee had been formed there, and were at work. In the *Leeds Mercury* he found a paragraph stating that the ladies there had met with great encouragement, and that the contributions from that town might be expected to be neither few nor insignificant in value. (Applause.) The publication of the previous week's proceedings had drawn a letter from Mr. Charles Walker, of Rochdale, who quite corroborated him in what he had said of the extremely large contribution likely to be sent from that town. The contribution, that gentleman said, was likely to reach quite £1500; and, if the whole of the goods met with a ready sale, they might realize even a larger amount. (Cheers.)

Mr. Alderman Brooks, Mr. Rostron, Mr. Rawson, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Samuel Lees, Mr. W. Morris, Mr. Sale, Mr. Smith Philip Robinson, Mr. McCall, Mr. Burton, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Standring, Mr. Hall, Mr. McCartney, and others of the numerous gentlemen present took part in an extremely interesting discussion, referring to matters of detail as well as the general working of the committee; and the following is a list of the gentlemen named upon the different sub-committees, (which will doubtless receive an augmentation of names from time to time at subsequent meetings):—

*Calico Printers' Committee.*—Messrs. W. M. Cartney, S. P. Robinson, J. E. Royle, W. M. Call, W. Bickham, Charles Duffield, and John Hough.

*Silk Committee.*—Messrs. Benjamin Lyddall, Willis, G. Castree, Abbott, T. B. Potter, D. Proctor, J. Sutcliffe, and Charles Bury.

*Fancy Muslins, and Small Wares Committee.*—Messrs. Isaac Skimwell, Abraham Lees, T. Britton, E. Hall, Jonathan Rawson, F. A. Fynney, John Harding, and Abraham Ward.

*Calico, Fustian, &c., Committee.*—Messrs. W. Harvey, John Leadbeater, George Ashworth, John Swallow, Samuel Lees, Thomas Bright, W. Robb, E. Armitage, J. S. Ormerod, T. Woolley, E. W. Watkins, and W. Morris.

*Glass Committee.*—Messrs. W. Burton, Atherton, W. D. Fullalove, and George Johnson.

*Mechanical Committee.*—Messrs. J. Nasmyth, James Harvey, S. P. Spencer, John McCall, D. Morris, M. Curtis, Fothergill, Whitworth, and Forsyth.

*Book and Fine Arts Committee.*—Messrs. James Hall, jun., J. Standring, Benjamin Hampson, J. Stevenson, C. A. Duval, Pett, and Captain Rafter.

After the appointment of the committees, Mr. ROSTRON, speaking of the extent of the canvas about to be entered upon, said he thought there would be contributions enough from Manchester to fill Covent-garden Theatre.

The CHAIRMAN said, in addition to the space in the theatre, which was considerable, there was a yard which could be covered in if desirable. He expected the contributions would be numerous; indeed the opportunity for manufacturers' goods and patent inventions to be exhibited would be one rarely to be met with.

Mr. W. MORRIS suggested that working men should be invited to contribute small articles of their own workmanship.

The committee adjourned till Thursday.

#### MEETING AT DERBY.

(Abridged from the *Derby Reporter*.)

On Monday evening, the 17th ult., the Lecture Hall, Derby, was crowded to overflowing by an audience composed of all classes—rich and poor—met for the occasion of receiving a deputation from the League, and pronouncing the Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre in May. A considerable number of highly respectable families were present. Soon after seven o'clock, his Worship the Mayor, Colonel Thompson, Robert R. Moore, Esq., and other friends of the cause ascended the platform amidst loud applause; and after a short interval his Worship introduced

Mr. MOORE, who delivered an able speech, replete with facts and sound arguments, in support of Free Trade. He urged on the people of Derby to contribute to the approaching Bazaar. Let them place it in the power of Mr. Strutt and Lord Duncannon to invite their Parliamentary friends to see the Derby stall, that they might the better understand the capacity and character of the town they represent. Let them put it in the power of the Parliamentary friends of Free Trade to appeal to their stall, and ask their opponents if such manufactures as these can want protection? And have not the men who can produce such goods a right to earn, by the production of their industry, as much of the food of the world as it is their industry to produce? (Cheers.) Let them remember that this Bazaar would be visited by almost every foreigner in London. It would be advertised in the continental papers, and it would serve to show foreign nations what they lose by prohibiting the entrance of such goods into their markets. Every manufacturing town and village in the country would be represented there; it would be a strong representation of the earnestness of the people in demanding a repeal of the laws that stifle them of food. It would show the position and the influence of the League. Mr. Moore concluded with an eloquent appeal to the ladies to assist in this glorious undertaking, the celebration of whose triumph was not far distant, and re-announced his seat amidst reiterated plaudits.

[It is right to state here that the silk-manufacturers of Derby were the only silk-manufacturers in the kingdom who approved of and supported the Government in their measures for abolishing the prohibitive duties on silk.] The Mayor then introduced Colonel Thompson, who was received with



plaudits. The gallant Colonel adverted to his recent travels in Germany and Sardinia; stated the great progress which was there making in social comfort and improved commerce; and contrasted the comfortable, happy, and healthy appearance of the peasantry there with the pride of our native land."

The Rev. NOAH JONES moved, and Mr. Alderman Paterson seconded, a vote of thanks to the League, and to the gentlemen forming the deputation on the present occasion; which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Mooker returned thanks, and concluded by proposing "His Worship the Mayor and Free Trade," which was vociferously responded to by the whole meeting.

The Mayor acknowledged the vote. Towards the close of the proceedings, about thirty ladies sent in their names as members of the General Committee, and the Mayor announced that Mr. Fritche had handed him in a subscription of £1 to the League, and £1 to the Bazaar Fund.

#### FREE-TRADE DINNER AT WAKEFIELD.

On the 19th ult. the Free-Traders of the Wakefield polling district dined together, at Wainwright's Hotel, to celebrate the triumphant conclusion of their labours in making 40s. freehold qualification. James Mickleshaite, Esq., Chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law Committee, presided, and Mr. Israel Burrows, of Horbury, and Mr. J. Boston, of Wakefield, were vice-chairmen. Upwards of ninety gentlemen sat down to dinner, which Mr. Wainwright provided in the most liberal manner. The following toasts, amongst others, were given on the occasion:—

"Freedom of Commerce all over the world." "The Earl of Radnor, and other noble supporters in the House of Lords." "The Hon. E. P. Villiers, and the other Free-Trade Members in the House of Commons." "Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and the other Members of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League." "A speedy retirement into private life for Wortley and Denison." "The new Free-Trade Freeholders of the Wakefield Polling District of the West Riding, who have so nobly exerted themselves to rescue their country from the thralldom of monopoly."

Messrs. Fearnside, Mitchell, Burrows, Boston, J. Rhodes, jun., Nettleton, and Hammetton, responded to these and other toasts.

Mr. JOHN HARRINGTON, reporter to the York Courier, responded to "The Liberty of the Press," and gave "The Chairman, and thanks for his most efficient conduct in the chair."

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks. It was stated, during the evening, that upwards of £5000 had passed through the hands of the committee for the purchase of property; and 1200 qualifications had been made by one solicitor, in Manchester. There can be no doubt that the important West Riding is sure to return two Free-Traders to Parliament after the next registration.

#### TAXATION ON PROPERTY—FREEDOM TO INDUSTRY.

##### LIVERPOOL ANTI-MONOPOLY ASSOCIATION.

Just before going to press, we received the *Liverpool Mercury*, containing a long account of an important meeting held by the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, on Thursday, in the Theatre Royal, "to consider the propriety of protesting against the continuance of venious and unequal taxation, levied, not for the necessities of the country, but for the support of the corn, sugar, timber, and other monopolies."

The doors were announced to be opened at seven o'clock, but long before that hour crowds had assembled in William-square, anxious to obtain admittance—a proof that Free-Trade principles have not retrograded in Liverpool. The boxes and stage were reserved for the members of the association, who were admitted by ticket; the gallery and pit were thrown open to the public generally. At the back of the stage a handsome marine view was exhibited, and over the proscenium a brilliant transparency, with the motto, in large characters, "Taxation on Property—Freedom to Industry."

Long before the proceedings commenced, the house was densely crowded in every part. A number of ladies were seated in the boxes. Shortly after half-past seven o'clock, William Brown, Esq., one of the vice-presidents of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association, and chairman elect for the evening, made his appearance upon the stage, and was greeted with an enthusiastic burst of applause. He was followed by William Rathbone, Esq., who was also vehemently welcomed, the cheers being renewed upon the appearance of George Thompson, Esq. The theatre at this moment presented the most brilliant and lively appearance; thousands of their fellow-townsmen welcomed the champions of Free Trade, and about after about ascended for some time. Surrounding the chairman we observed the following gentlemen, namely:—George Thompson, Esq., William Rathbone, Esq., Richard Shell, Esq., Thos. Blackburn, Esq., Chas. Robertson, Esq., W. Turner, jun., Esq. (of Carnarvon), Charles Holland, Esq., J. T. Croke, Esq., J. B. Cooke, Esq., Samuel Bailey, Esq., William Thorp, Esq., E. Lewin, Esq., Eyre Evans, Esq., Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M. J. Whitty, Esq., A. Higginson, Esq., W. M'Kee, Esq., J. Bradley, Esq., Dr. Mansfield, James Stitt, Esq., Hugo Reid, Esq., Peter Eastwood, Esq., John Mure, Esq., Sigmund Lebn Levi (from Ancona), Thomas Mathér, Esq., R. W. Ronald, Esq., Thos. Blackburn, jun., Esq., Daniel Harrison, Esq., James Mellor, Esq., Samuel Hobson, Esq., Charles Edward Rawlin, Esq., James M'Gee, Esq., Robert Mober, Esq., Dr. MacIntyre, Henry Wood, Esq., Andrew Leighton, Esq., Jas. Hodgson, Esq., John Russell, Esq., Samuel Seward, Esq., John Murray (of the League), J. King, jun., Esq., Samuel Tomkinson, Esq., George Maxwell, Esq., David Lamb, Esq., Richard Johnson, Esq., James Lewin, Esq., George Bradley, Esq.

We regret that want of both time and space prevents us giving or quoting from any of the excellent speeches delivered on the occasion, by Wm. Brown, Esq., chairman; Messrs. Wm. Rathbone, Charles Holland, Charles Robertson, Richard Shell, and George Thompson. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were unanimously agreed to.

#### NOTTINGHAM FREE-TRADE TEA PARTY.

Want of space prevented us last week giving more than a brief notice of the interesting speeches and proceedings

at the annual meeting of the Nottingham Free-Traders, held on Tuesday evening in the Exchange Hall. Colonel Thompson's speech was as graphic and racy in illustration as his speeches always are. The signs of progress on the Continent, as indicative of a healthier social condition and the precursor of peace, he first dwelt upon, and confirmed his views by what he had witnessed when a traveller there. He then noticed the continental custom-house system:—

"Railways and steam-boats are putting down the passport and custom-house systems on the Continent—they cannot stop for them. (Cheers.) In the dominions of Sardinia, on the Lago Maggiore, the custom-house troops boarded our wherry; their corporal—not a plain man such as you are used to see a custom-house officer, but with a cocked-hat and aiguillette like a field marshal—opened a box at hazard, and put in his hand to sweat by; and when he turned but a young lady's frills, he supported them down with an air of reverence, as if the young lady had been inside. It is clear this man saw nothing serious in his vocation. Sardinia is laying itself out for a place among civilized powers; so, if Sardinians ever find their way to Nottingham, let them have the benefit of it."

The Colonel is but too likely, many will think, to have the following prophecy fulfilled almost to the letter:—

"It is perilous to prophesy, but a man may be allowed to guess. See, then, whether the expiration of the new term for which the income-tax is to be continued—two years; or some day three—an effort is not made to continue the income-tax again on consideration of taking off the malt tax. It will be represented as the simple course of nature, the inevitable return for the boon (such is the miserable phrase) conferred on commerce in the present instance. 'To have diminished an injustice, will be a thing that must be paid for. If the proposal comes, see whether it shall be admitted without removing the Corn Law besides; and perhaps, with that, you might not consider it so bad a bargain.'"

If the monopolists are so blind, when they look at home, as to remain unconscious of the folly and injustice of their pretensions to exclusive advantages at the expense of their neighbours, perhaps, if they look abroad, they may be led to reflect on the character of such pretensions when exhibited by foreigners. The Colonel supplies them with an illustration:—

"See what the great northern organ of our opponents—'Blackwood's Magazine'—in its last number, says of Spain:—'It must truly be a difficult thing to legislate for a country split into so many conflicting interests—fancied interests mainly of them—as Spain is. The Catalonians, for instance, have got a notion that they are cotton-manufacturers (laughter)—a notion which their northern neighbours do all in their power to encourage.'—It is impossible to persuade them, so pig-headed are they (laughter), that it would be better to limit foreign manufactures at a far duty, than to have their markets deluged with smuggled ones that pay no duty at all. 'To these miserable manufacturers (says the author under review), only capable of producing about one-half of what is required for the consumption of the kingdom (and that half, be it observed, of inferior quality, and at vastly higher prices than the same merchandise could be imported for), is the interest of the landed proprietors and commercial class, as well as that of the entire community sacrificed.'—'These manufacturing madmen, the Catalonians (laughter), are the plague-spot of the Peninsula (Bursts of laughter). Observe, they, and selfishly, they only think of themselves, and of what they consider their interests, petty and miserable as the latter are compared to those of the rest of Spain (Excessive laughter). The real interests of the country are obvious to any but prejudiced understandings. It is a land flowing with milk and honey, or, what is far better, with wine and oil; abounding in valuable products, of which the export might be greatly increased by admitting the manufacture of countries possessing, perhaps, a less favoured soil and climate, but a more industrious population. Instead of making bad calves at a high price, let the Spaniards set to work to clear and plant their *dehesas* (waters)—let them improve their system of agriculture, their mode of producing oil; let them cut canals and make roads, and get something like decent communications between towns and provinces.' See only what sharp-sighted hawkmen are when it is on their side; and what owls and bats they are when it is on the side of anybody else!"

The Corn Laws are unfortunately of somewhat ancient date, but from their first establishment there were not wanting honest and stout-hearted men to protest against their litigious and oppressive character. Who, that loves justice and hates grasping self-hood, will unite in the wish uttered by the speaker, that a bishop having the spirit of Hugh Latimer would rise up in our days in the presence of royalty, and express such sentiments as the following:—

"The complaint about the Corn Laws was not a new one; close upon 300 years ago 'the Rev. Father Master Hugh Latimer, before our late Sovereign Lord of famous memory, King Edward VI., within the preaching-place in the palace of Westminster,' was harping on the same string in no gentle tones. 'You landlords, you reitainers, I may say you step-lords, you unnatural lords, you for your possessions yearly too much. Priers are so enhanced that I think verily, if this continue, we shall be constrained to pay for a pence a pound.'—'Thus all the enhancing and raising goeth to your own private commodity and wealth. So that were we have a single to much, you have that; and since the same ye have enhanced the rents, and so have increased another too much; so now ye have double too much, which is too much. (Laughter and cheers.) What would the proverb have said, if, besides all this, they had made a law to raise their rents by act of Parliament? At that same bishop in these days would speak out thus in the preaching-place in the palace, instead of raising gown and surplice question, 'black, white, and grey!' (Laughter.) He saw they knew the rest."

We have not space to notice Mr. Moore's speech at the meeting; but the *Nottingham Mercury*, from which we have made the foregoing extracts, speaking of it, says that it was "one of the most eloquent, forcible, and convincing speeches ever delivered in this town, on the fatal effects of monopoly."

VENEZUELA SUGAR.—A return has just been presented to the House of Commons, stating the quantity of sugar which has been admitted for home consumption under the 7th and 8th Vic., c. 28, at the rate of 31s. per cwt., and 6 per cent., between the 5th of July, 1811, and the latest period to which it could be made up. It appears that the total amount is 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 3 lbs. of sugar, all of which is the produce of Venezuela.

THE BAKED MONOPOLY.—This bread monopoly, with its alleged principle and rationale of independence of foreigners, is an enemy to civilization. It would, if it could, stop the world from growing. It seeks to hedge in and pare down this nation's wealth, population, power, and greatness, to the measure of the food-producing resources of the acres of this small island; it bids out, as far as we are concerned, fruitful fields and profitable herds to beyond the sea, as effectually as an earthquake would do it; it would smite whole tracts of the earth with the curse of perpetual barrenness, and enslave the whole of the world to a few nations.—P. *Harwood*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Hampstead-road, Feb. 27.

SIR.—I have read in your last paper the paragraph from the *Tyne Mercury* respecting contributions to the Bazaar. I beg to say, that I have prevailed upon a friend of mine, who, by the way, needed not much persuasion, to contribute agricultural machinery, of which he is an eminent manufacturer, to the value of £20.

Yours, truly,  
J. G.

#### THE BAZAAR.

DOVER.—A correspondent writing to the *Dover Chronicle* urges the claims of the League, and especially with reference to the intended Bazaar. He says: "If some of our active spirits will but start the matter, I am convinced that they will be liberally countenanced; for the people of Dover surely cannot be content to be merely idle spectators of a struggle affecting the welfare of so large a portion of their fellow-men."

HULL.—We call upon our Free-Trade friends to bestir themselves in aid of the League Bazaar. Sir William Lowthrop has kindly set apart a room in his house for the temporary reception of Bazaar articles intended to be forwarded from Hull to London. All persons, therefore, having donations of articles to send can forward them to Sir William's residence in George-street, in this town. The most useful, as well as the most curious, articles will be accepted. One contributor is preparing to send fine linen shirts; another, a collection of views of the navy, drawn and coloured by a Hull artist; a third, some valuable prints; a fourth, slippers, and so on. Articles associated with the lives of Marvel, Wilberforce, and other distinguished men of Hull, would impart a character to donations from the town. Let all who can, contribute something for the honour of the place, and out of devotion to the cause.—*Hull Advertiser*.

LEEDS.—We have every reason to believe that the contributions from Leeds to this undertaking will be neither few nor insignificant, and are informed that the ladies of the committee have met with considerable encouragement in the course of their labours. We are not aware whether any steps have been taken to ensure the collection of a complete exhibition of our local manufactures, as we observed the Free-Traders of Sheffield, Leicester, and other towns intend doing; but we trust and believe that the gentlemen of this town and neighbourhood, who are able and willing to further the cause, will not be behindhand in seconding the praiseworthy industry of the ladies. A notice will be found in our advertising columns requesting that all articles may be sent as soon as convenient, to the treasurer or secretary of the committee.—*Leeds Mercury*.

SHEFFIELD.—We are glad to learn not only that additions have been made to the number of the zealous and respectable ladies who as a committee are making, and canvassing for, articles for the ensuing grand exhibition in Covent-garden Theatre, but that several valuable contributions are promised, and now being got up, in specimens of our staple trade from many of our manufacturers. This is as it should be. The aim of the League being to extend commerce and manufactures, it is entitled to the best support of the whole producing community.—*Sheffield Iris*.

GLIMMOROUGH.—A correspondent of the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle* says:—"I happen to have a small piece of oak post me, which formed part of the planking of the Royal George, that was sunk in 1782, when Kempenfeldt went down."

With three three hundred men. Were this formed into handles for little seal stamps, or into some such nick-nackery, do you think it would be rare enough to make it sufficiently attractive as an object of sale at the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar? and, if so, do you know any neat-handed patriotic cabinet-maker, who would undertake the fashioning of it into such articles? If so, the writer will have great pleasure in forwarding it to your office, to be disposed of as you may think fit."

A contemporary last week announced the death of the Hull Free-Trade Association. He will very soon have an opportunity of recording its joyous and triumphant resurrection—a miracle never likely to happen in the case of the Yorkshire Protection Society. Preparations for a grand public meeting are on foot, and our friends may hold themselves in readiness for a movement which shall materially affect the future prospects of the Tories in the East Riding.—*Hull Advertiser*.

PORTS OF HULL AND BRISTOL.—The number of vessels entered into the ports of Hull and Bristol, during the year 1811, exhibits an increase of six vessels, with 1914 tonnage. The clearances outwards show a larger increase, Bristol and Hull despatching 13 vessels more in 1811 than 1810, with an increase of 3755 tonnage. The East India trade has thus exhibited a much more active appearance than during the previous year.—*Hull Packet*.

Nations, like men, will come to years of discretion in time; and till they do, they must suffer.—Colonel T. P. Thompson.

CHEAP TRIP TO LONDON.—The Committee of the Great National Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar intend to make arrangements with all the lines leading to London, for cheap trips, during the month of May next.

GOLDAR.—We heard it remarked during the week by an old Goldar manufacturer, that the people in this village were never better off since he knew it than they are at present, and this improvement he attributes to the great quantity of low priced goods which are made there for the Huddersfield market. Although wages are low, corn is proportionably cheap, and the great bulk of the operatives live in comparative happiness from what they did a few years since.—*Leeds Mercury*.

MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY.—FRUIT OF PLUNTY.—On the eastern bank of the Pontypool line of the Monmouthshire Canal, within six miles of the town of Newport, a new iron work has sprung up, as if by magic, and is just commencing active operations. It consists of one blast furnace, with all requisite conveniences.

HAWICK.—The manufacturers in this thriving town are in constant and full employment. Wages are good, and, with cheap provisions, our mill-workers are well off. It is understood that some of the manufacturers have pledged themselves to give constant work with no diminution of wages during the current year.—*Perthshire Courier*.

## THE PROPOSED NEW TARIFF.

The following are the resolutions proposed to be moved in committees on the Customs Acts:—

1. Resolved,—That, from and after the day of 1845, the duties of Customs chargeable upon the goods, wares, and merchandise hereafter mentioned, imported into the United Kingdom, shall cease and determine; viz.:—

Agates, not set; Alganobilla  
Alkali, not being Barilla  
Alkanet Root; Almonds, Bitter  
Alces; Alum, Rock  
Amber, Rough; Ambergis  
Amboyana Wood; Angelica  
Annatto, Roll; Antimony,  
Ore of, Crude, Regulus of;  
Argol  
Aristolochia; Arsenic  
Ashes, Pearl and Pot, Soap,  
Weed, and Wood unenumerated  
Asphaltum or Bitumen Judicum  
Balsam, Canada, Capivi, Peru,  
Tolu, Balm of Gilead, and  
unenumerated Balsam; Barilla;  
Bar Wood  
Bark, Extract of, or of other  
vegetable substances to be  
used only for tanning leather,  
for tanners' or dyers' use,  
Cascarilla, Peruvian,  
of other sorts not for tanning  
or dyeing  
Basket Rada, peeled and unpeeled  
Beef Wood; Berries, Bay,  
other than Bay, Juniper,  
Yellow, and those commonly  
made use of for chemical  
processes, Juniper,  
Yellow, unenumerated,  
commonly made use of for  
chemical purposes  
Birds, Singing  
Blackwood; Bladders  
Bones of Cattle and other  
Animals, and of Fish (except  
Whale Fluke), whether  
burnt or not, or as Animal  
Charcoal  
Box Wood; Borax, refined  
Borax or Tinctal, unrefined  
Boric Acid; Brazil Wood  
Brazilletto Wood  
Brimstone, refined in Rolls;  
In flour, not refined  
Bristles, rough, or in any way  
sorted  
Bronze Works of Art; Dul-  
cambes  
Camomile Flowers  
Camphor, unrefined  
Candlewick  
Cannella, Alba  
Cane, Bamboo Reed, Rattana  
not grafted, or Sticks, un-  
enumerated  
Caoutchouc; Cardamom  
Cassia Buda, Flatula; Castor  
Cedar Wood  
Chalk, unmanufactured  
Chip, or Willow, for Plaiting  
Chenopodium; China Root  
Crystal, rough; Cinabaria  
Natives  
Civet; Coals, Cobs, and Cin-  
ders  
Colalt, Ore of; Cochineal,  
Dust, Granilla  
Cott Rope and Junk, old and  
new, cut into lengths not  
exceeding three feet each  
Columbo Root  
Copperas, Blue, Green, White  
Coral, whole, polished, un-  
polished, in fragments;  
Cork; Cotton Yarn  
Cubeba; Cream of Tartar  
Divi Divi; Down; Drugs, un-  
enumerated; Ebony  
Feathers for Beds, in Beds or  
otherwise, Ostrich un-  
dressed, Paddy Bird un-  
dressed, unenumerated,  
and undressed; Flocks  
Flax and Tow, or Cordilla of  
Hemp and Flax, dressed  
and undressed  
Flower Roots; Fustic  
Gall Powder; Galls; Gamba-  
ge  
Geranium; Garnets, not cut  
Gentian; Ginseng  
Glue Clippings, or Waste of  
any kind, fit only for  
making glue  
Goods unenumerated, not  
being either in part or  
wholly manufactured, not  
enumerated or prohibited;  
Grease  
Greaves for dogs and Tallow  
(Greaves); Guano  
Gum, Anilui, Arabic, Aca-  
ca, Guttula, Ammoniacum, Ben-  
jamin, Copal, Euphorbium,  
Gulonicum, Kino, Lac Dye,  
Mastic, Seed Lac, Benzoin,  
Squilla, Storax, Tragacont, un-  
enumerated  
Gun Stocks in the rough, of  
Wood  
Gypsum; Hair, Camel Hair  
or Wool, Cow, Ox, Bull, or  
Hk, Horse, Human, un-  
enumerated  
Heath, for Brushes; Hellebore  
Hemp, dressed; Hemp,  
rough, or undressed, or  
any other vegetable sub-  
stance of the nature and  
quality of undressed hemp,  
and applicable to the same  
purposes  
Hides, not tanned, tawed,  
curried, or in any way  
dressed, dry and wet, or  
pieces of Hides, raw or  
undressed, and unnume-  
rated; Tails, Buffalo, Bull,  
Cow, or Ox, tanned, not  
otherwise dressed  
Hoofs of Cattle; Hoops of  
Wood  
Horns—Horn tips and pieces

of Horn; Indigo; Ink, un-  
wrought  
Iron, Bloom, Cast, Chromate of  
Iron, in bars, unwrought  
Hoops  
Iron, Old Broken and Cast  
Iron, Ore, Pig, Blit or Ham-  
mered into Rods; Jalap; Jet  
Jewels—Emeralds and all o-  
ther precious Stones, unset,  
Pearls  
Kingwood; Lac, viz., Sticklac  
Lapis Calaminitis; Lard  
Latten, Shaven; Lavender  
Flowers  
Lead Ore, Red, White, Black,  
Chromate of; Leaves of  
Roses  
Leeches; Lignum Vitæ; Li-  
tharge  
Logwood; Losh Hides; Mad-  
der  
Madder Root; Mahogany  
Manganese, Ore of; Manna  
Manures, unenumerated  
Metal, Bell Metal  
Minerals and Fossils, unnu-  
merated  
Models of Cork or Wood  
Moss, Lichen Islandicus, o-  
ther than Rock or Iceland  
Moss; Rock for Dyers' use  
Mother-o'-Pearl Shells; Musk  
Myrrh; Nicaragua Wood  
Nickel, Arsenate of, in Lumps  
or Powder, being in an un-  
refined state, Metallic and  
oxide of, refined Ore of,  
Nitric, Cubic Nitric  
Nuts, Kernels of Walnuts, and  
of Peach Stones, and of Nuts  
or Kernels thereof, unnu-  
merated, commonly used  
for expressing Oil therefrom  
Nuts and Kernels unnume-  
rated, not commonly used  
for expressing Oil therefrom  
Oakum; Ochre  
Oil, Animal Oil, Castor, Co-  
coa Nut, of Olives, except in  
ships of the Two Sicilies,  
Palm, Paran, Rock, Lard  
Oil, unenumerated, Train,  
Blubber, Spermaceti Oil,  
and Head Matter, the pro-  
duce of Fish or creatures  
living in the sea, caught by  
the crews of British vessels,  
and imported direct from  
the fishery or from any British  
possession in a British  
vessel, Seed Oils, viz.:—  
Hempseed, Linseed, Rape-  
seed, Walnut, Seed Cake,  
Seed Oil unenumerated  
Oilbainum; Olive Wood  
Orange Peel and Lemon Peel  
Ore, unenumerated; Orchal  
Orpiment; Oris Root  
Painters' Colours, unnume-  
rated, unmanufactured  
Palmetto Thatch; Pink Root  
Pitch, Burgundy; Plaster of  
Paris  
Platina and Ore of Platina  
Plaiting or other manufac-  
tures to be used in or pro-  
per for making Hats, or  
Bonnets, of Chip  
Pomegranates, Peel of  
Frustrate of Potash; Quick-  
silver  
Quills, Goose, Swan  
Radix Contrayerva, Enula  
Campane, Eriogon, Ipecacu-  
hana, Rhubarb, Seneca,  
Serpentine, or Snake Root  
Rags, old Rags, old Ropes, or  
Junk, or old Fishing-nets,  
fit only for making Paper  
or Pasteboard; pulp of  
woollen  
Rape of Grapes  
Red Wood, or Guinea Wood  
Rhubarb; Rosewood; Rosin;  
Safflower; Saffron; Salep,  
or Salop; Saltpetre; Nau-  
gula Draconis; Santa Maria  
Wood; Sapan Wood; Sar-  
saparilla; Sassafras; Satin  
Wood; Saunders' Red,  
White or Yellow  
Scammony  
Seeds, viz.:—  
Acorn, Anniseed, Beans,  
Kidney or French, Burnet,  
Colchicum, Cole, Coriander,  
Cummin, Fenugreek, Fo-  
root, Garden, unnume-  
rated, Grass, unenumerated,  
Leisure, Linseed and Flax-  
seed, Lupines, Maw, Millet,  
Parsley, Quince, Rape,  
Shrub Tree, Tares, Worms,  
Cotton, commonly used for  
expressing oil therefrom,  
Hemp, Poppy, Sesamum,  
unenumerated, commonly  
used for expressing oil  
therefrom  
Senna; Sumach  
Silk, Raw—  
Kumbe or Husks and Waste  
Silk, thrown, not dyed  
Skins and Furs, viz.:—  
Marten, undressed; Seal, in  
the hair, not tanned, tawed,  
or dressed, Squirrel or Ca-  
labar  
Furs, Pelts, and Tails, viz.:—  
Badger, undressed, Bear,  
ditto, Beaver, ditto, Cat,  
ditto, Chinchilla, ditto,  
Coney, ditto, Deer, ditto,  
Dog, in the hair, not  
tanned or dressed, Dog  
Fish, undressed, Elk, ditto,  
Ermine, ditto, Fisher, ditto,  
Fitch, ditto, Fox, ditto, Fox

Tails, ditto, Goat, raw,  
Goose, undressed, Hare,  
ditto, Huxie, ditto, Kang-  
aroo, raw and undressed,  
Kid, in the hair, undressed,  
Kolinski, ditto, Leopard,  
ditto, Lion, ditto, Lynx,  
ditto, Marten Tails, ditto  
Mink, ditto, Mole, ditto,  
Musquash, ditto, Nautria,  
ditto, Otter, ditto, Ounce,  
ditto, Panther, ditto, Pelts,  
ditto, of Goats, Pelts of all  
other sorts, Raccoon, un-  
dressed, Sable, ditto, Sable  
Tails or Tips, ditto, Squir-  
rel or Calabar, Tails of,  
ditto, Swan, ditto, Tiger,  
ditto, Weasel, ditto, Wolf,  
ditto, Wolverings, ditto  
Furs, Pelts, and Tails, tanned,  
tawed, or dressed, viz.:—  
Deer, Indian, half-dressed,  
tanned, tawed, or in any  
way dressed, Ermine,  
dressed, Kid, dressed and  
died or coloured, Lamb,  
tanned or tawed, Lamb,  
died or coloured, Lamb,  
dressed in Oil, Mink,  
dressed, Pelts of all sorts  
tanned, tawed, or in any  
way dressed, Licer, Indian,  
undressed or shaved, Goat,  
tanned, tawed, or in any  
way dressed, Lamb in the  
Wool, tanned or tawed,  
dressed in Oil, Squirrel or  
Calabar, tawed, Wolf,  
tawed, Kid, dressed, not  
died or coloured, and Furs,  
or pieces thereof, unnu-  
merated, tawed, curried,  
or dressed, and Furs, or pieces  
thereof, raw or undressed,  
unenumerated  
Specimens of Minerals, Fos-  
sils, or Ores, unenumerated,  
exceeding 14 pounds weight  
each  
Speckled Wood  
Spelter or Zinc, rolled but not  
otherwise manufactured,  
crude, in cakes  
2. Resolved,—That, from and after the dates specified  
against the articles undermentioned, the duties of Cu-  
stoms now chargeable upon such articles imported in the  
United Kingdom, shall cease and determine, viz.:—  
Spermaceti .. 1 January, 1849  
Sperm Oil of Foreign Fishing .. Ditto  
Train Oil, or Blubber of Foreign .. 1 January, 1847  
Fishing  
Whales' Fins of Foreign taking, and .. 1 January, 1849  
not prohibited  
3. Resolved,—That, from and after the cessation of the  
Excise duties on British glass, the following duties of  
Customs be charged on the articles undermentioned, im-  
ported into the United Kingdom, in lieu of the duties  
now chargeable thereon:—  
Painted Glass or Paintings on Glass—for every £100 .. of the value, £3.  
All other Glass, and Glass Manufactures—for every .. £100 of the value, £15.  
4. Resolved,—That from and after the day of .. 1845, in lieu of the duties of Customs now  
chargeable on the articles undermentioned, imported into  
the United Kingdom, the following duties shall be  
charged, viz.:—  
Tinglass .. 5s. per cwt.  
Oils, chemical, essential, or perfumed .. 1s. per lb.  
Refined Camphor .. 5s. per cwt.  
Smalts .. 10s. per cwt.  
Turpentine, above the value of 15s. per .. 2s. per cwt.  
cwt.  
Verdigris .. 5s. per cwt.  
5. Resolved,—That from and after the day of .. 1845, the duties of Customs chargeable upon  
the goods, wares, and merchandise hereafter mentioned,  
exported from the United Kingdom, shall cease and de-  
termine, viz.:—  
Cement, Stone, and Flint, ground or unground.  
Clay and China Stone.  
Coals, Culm, or Cinders, exported in a British ship.

TRADE OF LANCAIRE.—In the month of December, 1841, there were 139 mills in the county of Lancaster working what is called short time; there were, likewise, an equal number entirely stopped in consequence of the badness of trade. This stagnation was equal to about 4071 horse power, and 20,115 operatives unemployed. What is the contrast now? All the factories in the country capable of being worked are employed; and, notwithstanding the prodigious improvement in machinery, the labour of the mill operatives is in good demand at wages averaging from 15 to 20 per cent. advance from the lowest point. Manufactories are being enlarged in Manchester, Stockport, Ashton, Oldham, Rochdale, Blackburn, &c.; and it is confidently anticipated that within a year and a half the productive power in the weaving department will be increased by nine or ten thousand looms. —*Liverpool Chronicle*.

WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR, &c.—An account of all wheat and wheat flour imported into the United Kingdom in the years ending the 5th of January, 1843, to 1845 inclusive, and also of the quantities entered for home consumption during the same period, was obtained a few evenings since on the motion of Mr. J. Trotter, M.P. for West Surrey. We find, on inspecting the return before us, that the gross total quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported was, in 1841-42, 2,770,647 quarters; of which 2,511,628 were foreign, and 259,019 quarters colonial produce: in 1842-43, 3,040,269 quarters; of which 2,810,726 quarters were foreign, and 229,543 quarters colonial produce: in 1843-44, 1,064,912 quarters, of which 616,638 were foreign, and 448,274 quarters colonial produce: and in 1844-45, 1,341,977 quarters, of which 1,145,086 were foreign, and 196,891 quarters colonial produce. The total quantity of wheat and wheat flour which has been imported (certified as the produce of Canada, under the act 6 and 7 Vic., c. 29) since the 10th of October, 1843, amounts to 383,899 quarters. The total quantities retained for our home consumption amounted in 1841-42, to 2,619,702 quarters; in 1842-43, to 2,977,302 quarters; in 1843-44, to 982,287 quarters; and in 1844-45, to 1,080,976 quarters.

## AGRICULTURE.

## IT'S A QUESTION OF RENT!

It has been the habit of such wolves in sheep's clothing as Mr. Robert Baker and his fellow land-agents, who act the part of tenant-farmers at protectionist meetings, to asseverate that rent forms so minute a portion of the cost of production that the abandonment of all their rent on the part of the landlords would form no compensation to the tenants for the loss of "protection." It is true that this is a gross and most transparent fallacy; yet so is it true that, to those who know practically the class of tenant-farmers, Messrs. Baker and Co. appear about as like to tenant-farmers as the peasants and village lasses of a ballet or an opera are to the real rural labourers of England. They do, in fact, what Punch, in fun, offers to do: they supply "a contented tenantry" at so much per head for show occasions. But instead of being paid by the job, as are the theatrical peasants, these men are paid by the hope of patronage, to come in the shape of stewardships, valuations of estates, valuing in and out tenants, and auctions of farming stock. And still a large class of farmers silently permit these men to talk and splutter bad English and worse logic in the names of the tenantry of the kingdom, and allow themselves to be led blindfold into the landlord trap of "protection."

And this does not happen because there are no men amongst the tenant-farmers capable of discerning such fallacies and exposing such mummery, for there are hundreds of farmers in every county, shrewd, thinking men, who regard all these with supreme contempt. But they are in great measure employed upon their own farms; they do not meet and compare notes as men in trades do. At fairs and markets they are too busy with the actual business of the day to discuss aught but the present prices of cattle or corn. Hence somewhat of narrowness is found in the views of all but the more educated of the tenant-farmers. We suspect, however, that farmers' clubs are gradually effecting a remedy for this evil. Although some of the promoters of these clubs are most anxious to exclude all topics which may touch upon farmers' grievances, under the pretence that such subjects are political, and love to disport themselves in experimental agriculture and chemical lectures, still at these clubs farmers soon go up to the limits assigned for their inquiries, and learn to look over the boundary line at the prescribed topics. There, they perceive, lie all the questions which really and seriously affect their condition. It requires no prophet to foretell that these imaginary boundaries will soon be passed; that the hobgoblin of politics, which like a nursery tale is used to scare them, won't long keep the farmers' clubs from adopting as constant themes questions of rents and tenures.

Let us illustrate this by an incident which came under our own observation a few days since. A gentleman—an avowed protectionist—who is the leading member of a farmers' club, was descending of the necessity of using artificial manures, of appointing a chemist to the club to analyze guano and so forth, when it was observed that, looking at the slovenly state of the farming in the locality,—the undrained land, the uncoursed ditches, the high, rude, neglected hedgerows, the abundance of timber, and the superabundance of game,—it would be mere waste of time and money to buy or analyze guano, &c., until, by the removal of all the above evils, the first and most obvious steps towards good farming had been taken. He admitted the force of the objection, but said, "All that must be removed by the landlords; the farmers can't correct these things without leases, and we can't entertain such questions in the club because they are political." All present at once acceded to the response naturally made, "Of what use, then, is your farmers' club?" But can it be supposed that farmers, having proceeded so far upon the inquiry as to the means of agricultural improvement, will be thus stopped from examining the most important questions which lie at the very beginning? The notion is absurd. Again, at protection meetings, which are avowedly political, farmers are precluded from bringing forward the real evils from which they require protection, lest there should be signs of disunion between the landlords and tenants? Witness the reception Mr. Wood met with at the Brighton monopolist meeting, when he hinted at the actual condition of the agricultural labourer whom the Duke of Richmond and his toadies so ostentatiously toasted. In the agricultural and provincial journals, however, the subject of rent is beginning to be canvassed by farmers with more reality and purpose. For instance, the *Mark-lane Express* contains every week some very sharp complaints of the mischief done by game, and of the want of secure tenures; and of late the question of corn-rents, and the effect and incidence of rent in general, have called forth many useful remarks from practical farmers. A recent number of that paper contains letters from these first-rate farmers, Mr. George Hope, of East Lothian, and Mr. C. H. Lattimore, of Hertfordshire, from the perusal of which farmers may profit much. Now, what do these practical farmers say?



that rent is a matter of small moment to the farmer, but that it is the grand question; that it is the surplus, the margin from which all immediately effective relief to the tenant-farmer must come. And until the abrogation of the Corn Laws that relief must be obtained by means of corn-rents. We give some passages from these valuable letters. Mr. Hope, after alluding to the invitation of the editor of the *Mark-lane Express* to discuss the question of corn-rents, says:—

"Before proceeding to the question of rent, allow me first to express my astonishment at the notorious fact that a large proportion of the soil of England is farmed by tenants at will; that there should exist landlords so blind to their own interest as to let their farms from year to year, and that there are men found willing to occupy them on these terms, is to me alike unaccountable. It is held as an established principle by every agriculturist that I am acquainted with, that a tenant can afford a higher rent, and, at the same time, make more money himself, during the currency of a twenty years' lease, than if he continues liable to be dismissed at six months' notice, taking it for granted that his lease is a fair one, and unencumbered with absurd restrictions, and that he possesses skill and ample capital for the stocking and improving of his farm."

The truth is that the state of the relations between farm-tenants and landlords in England is such as would be incredible, were it not proved by daily-occurring evidence, and which is, in fact, almost incredible to all who have not some practical acquaintance with English agriculture: that a body of industrious capitalists should submit to live year after year under engagements which the slightest reference to the experience of the last thirty years would show them can only be performed in years of scarcity; that they should place their capital, and often their very means of subsistence, at the absolute disposal of other men,—and men as a class the most ignorant and prejudiced in the community, the landowners,—by farming under yearly holdings; and that they should render any chance of substantial profit impossible by submitting to restrictions on cultivation which preclude good farming. We lately heard a landowner, possessing very large estates, say, in a tone of exultation, that he "had only two jobbing farmers on his estate," meaning by the term "jobbing farmers" those who buy and feed for the butcher much stock! Yet this gentleman admitted that these "jobbing farmers" were the only men of capital, and the only men making money, on the estate. Moreover, he is a most estimable person, who wishes to be, and believes himself to be, a good landlord. The error lies in considering the relation of landlord and tenant to be that of feudal chief and feudal vassal, instead of a trading contract between a capitalist whose business is to till the soil, and the owner of that soil who has not the skill, the means, or the inclination to cultivate it with profit to himself. Favour and forbearance there ought to be none, and there should be no room for any as between landlord and tenant. They ought both to consider like reasonable men the terms of their contract and the capacity of each for fulfilling it before they make it; but having made it, it should be a fact accomplished, not an engagement to be kept or abandoned according to the accidents of a season, or the mere will of the stronger party. But to return to Mr. Hope's letter. He thus enforces the economy of good farming:—

"And not only so, but it is also for the interest of both parties that a lease should be renewed before its expiration, as now-a-days it is impossible to farm profitably without the land be both put into and maintained in the highest order, which cannot be unless the tenant himself invest considerable capital; and it is much more economical to keep land in high condition, than to have again to make it so. Farmers should treat their land as they do their horses—feed them high and work them well, but always have them fit for any work."

It is not that leases will alone secure good farming, that must depend upon the tenants' capacity for advancing their own interests, but good farming cannot exist without leases. Mr. Hope says:—

"I do not say that a fixed tenure will ensure good farming; but I am certain it can rarely be found without it. No landlord can expect his estate to improve under the management of an individual whom he can remove for the slightest whim. For the landlord's interest the tenant must be a free man. And it is right that it should be so: it is most degrading that any man should be compelled to study the every wish, or to use the political or religious spectacles of another. If the proprietor clings to the system I condemn, let him be content with the small and ill-paid rents which he has hitherto got, only through the odious monopoly of the food of a great people, and which will scarcely be longer tolerated."

In some sense there may be some truth in the assertion of the monopolist landowners, that if the trade in corn were free, some land would go out of cultivation; and it is in this sense, and this sense only, that where estates are let only from year to year, where game abounds, and where unwise or vexatious restrictions on cultivation exist, farmers would not be found to occupy them were prices steady and moderate. But the remedy for this is in the landlord's own hands, for he has only to enter into fair engagements with his tenants so that they may become "free men," and he will in the end get more than by the present system. The condition of the Scotch farmers proves this to demonstration. Mr. Hope says:—

"Why, with present prices, there is not a whisper of distress amongst the farmers, as a body, in the Lothians of Scotland, while the rents are as high, and the money wages expended annually per acre perhaps more than in any other quarter of the kingdom. It will not do to say that here the land is good, for a great proportion of it is naturally very inferior. Not fifty years ago, nearly one-fourth of this farm was uncultivated, and not worth 2s. 6d. per acre, and not above another fourth was ever reckoned good land; now, the crops produced are equally good over the whole. Every acre has been thoroughly drained with tiles, at least 300 miles have been made within the last ten years, while large sums are annually expended in the purchase of bones, rape-cakes, guano, besides linseed-cakes for feeding. I do not mention this from any feeling of vanity, because my neighbours do the same, but simply to show what tenants actually do, farming under fair leases, and which would be madness for men to attempt who are completely under the power of their landlord; as whenever any difference of opinion arises between them, or perhaps from the succession of a new landlord, or a remonstrance about game, the tenant is always the party who suffers. If the tenant himself chooses to leave his farm, the landlord is in no worse situation; but it is a very different thing if the tenant is summarily dismissed, after having spent his last shilling in improving his farm, or having his rent raised to the full value of his own improvements, if men so rash as to do all this are really to be found."

Farmers of England, is not this true to the letter? Are you not constantly living under this unpleasant and unprofitable condition? Scarcely a day passes in which some account does not ooze out to show how the yearly tenant—or, perhaps, his widow and family—are victimised by a capricious, tyrannical, or avaricious landlord. Then, besides a lease, the tenant, whilst the Corn Law lasts, can only be safe by means of a corn rent. Mr. Hope puts the matter thus:—

"It is only as far as possible to protect the tenant from this fluctuation caused by fiscal regulations that I advocate the system of corn rents. Not very long ago, most landlords, and many farmers too, imagined that it was impossible to grow or sell wheat in this country under 80s. per quarter; latterly, from 55s. to 60s. per quarter has been the price expected to be realized. Now, were every tenant paying a money rent to ask himself the price he fixed in his own mind as likely to be obtained for his produce, and compare it with what he has on the average received, it will not require much argument to convince him of the value of a corn rent. True, too much grain, as well as too much money, may be paid, but RENTS ARE ALMOST ALWAYS CALCULATED AT THE MAXIMUM PRICE EVER LIKELY TO BE OBTAINED. If the landlord, in asking a rent, expects that prices are likely to be higher than the tenant is disposed to allow, the former cannot object to a grain rent. Under the violent fluctuations caused by the Corn Law, I think it the fairest plan for both parties, otherwise either one party or the other is getting the advantage. In the year 1822, the greater part of the landlords in this county met their tenants in the most handsome manner, relieving them from their difficulties by converting the high money rents then paid into so many quarters of wheat, at the rate of from 75s. to 80s. per quarter. Those landlords who did so at once found it for their advantage in the end, as their tenants went on improving their possessions; while those who exhausted the capital of their tenants had their land ultimately returned on their hands deteriorated in value, when smaller rents than ever had to be taken. These leases are generally renewed at an occasional increase in the quantity of wheat paid as rent, but with a maximum of 70s. per quarter, beyond which it does not rise. From my own experience, and as far as I can judge from that of my neighbours, grain rents have been the main cause of the thriving condition of the Scotch farmers, when our English brethren have been suffering so severely. Yes; CORN-LAW RENTS, AT FREE-TRADE PRICES, ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FARMER'S DISTRESS."

Let English farmers test Mr. Hope's statement by referring to their own experience and their own books, and see whether they have not been made the landlords' dupes! Upon the important question of the proportion which rent bears to produce Mr. Hope has this most explicit statement:—

"My experience confirms the views of Mr. Lattimore, and that fully one-half of the saleable produce of an ordinary arable farm (at least in Scotland) goes to the landlord in the shape of rent. The gross produce being worth about three rents, one-third of which is required for seed corn, horse keep, the maintenance of the labourers, and domestic consumption; the other two-thirds being sold, one for the landlord, the other to pay wages, tradesmen's accounts, rates, and profits; it follows as a necessary consequence that grain of every kind could be sold at about one-half of even present rates, allowing all the horses and cattle to be kept as usual, the same wages paid to labourers (say 10s. per week), and leaving the same profit to the farmer, BEFORE THE BROAD MARGIN OF RENT WAS WHOLLY EXHAUSTED."

This is the fact that every farmer should impress on his mind when landlords and land-agents talk about rent bearing a small proportion to the cost of production, the truth being that from one-half to one-third of the whole saleable produce goes for rent. Now, the whole of this ought to be absorbed, and in a natural state of things must be absorbed, before the tenant's profits could be touched. Of the Scotch peasantry Mr. Hope gives this picture:—

"But I cannot be done with 'Philopatris' without rebutting the libel he has penned against the Scotch agriculturists and their labourers: it is true the latter are paid chiefly in kind, but their earnings on an average amount to fully 10s. per week. Is this below or above the rates in England? 'Philopatris' does not say what the actual wages are in Lincolnshire. I admit, too, that oatmeal porridge is their food night and morning, and which from choice I have breakfasted on nearly my whole life, and with good milk there is nothing better or more wholesome. And each labourer has a cow, his own property,

which is grazed and kept on the farm, and which is a great assistance to him in bringing up his family. He feeds generally a couple of pigs in a year, which he consumes himself, besides occasionally purchasing a piece of fresh butcher's meat. I would like to see them better paid than they are, for there is not a more respectable class of men in any country. They are being constantly sent to market with grain, which they sell, and get the money for, and bring it home, without the master ever losing a copper. They can read and write, and cast accounts, and are frequently taken, at high wages, to England and Ireland as land-stewards, where they don't disgrace their country. At home they are civil, active, and obliging; going to church or chapel (for many of them are Dissenters) on Sundays with coats of good broad-cloth on their backs, when it takes a practical eye to distinguish them from their masters. What folly, then, to talk of a system producing results like these, 'as branded with selfishness,' 'as destroying all sense of common interest and kind feeling between landlord, tenant, and labourer.' You must look elsewhere than in Scotland for a game-destroying peasantry or that maniacal spirit which, in some other quarters, almost nightly illumines the horizon with the blaze of burning corn-ricks."

Contrast this with the protected farm-labourers of Buckinghamshire, Dorsetshire, Wiltshire, indeed, with a few local exceptions, of England generally. The truth of Mr. Hope's views is confirmed by Mr. Lattimore, not only himself a good practical English farmer, but one who mixes much with farmers, and knows their wants, their sufferings, and grievances as well as any man in the country, and knowing them has the courage and ability to explain their landlord-begotten origin. He commences by showing from statistical authorities the estimated quantities of cultivated and other lands in England and Wales, and says:—

"The rent and tithe charges upon the cultivated land have been calculated at 42 millions per annum, exclusive of rates, which may be roughly estimated at 3s. in the pound; which, upon the rental of 34 millions, amounts to £5,100,000. If we take the capital employed upon the 28,749,000 acres of cultivated lands, at only 45 per acre, it will amount to £143,745,000; a good round sum on which land agents and valuers can rest with security and for the payment of rents (however high in proportion to the price of produce) in addition to the growing crops, and the law of distress. And I doubt this has not much effect upon the receivers of rent, making them very complacent under existing prospects, as a very large portion of that vast sum will be, and probably is already, absorbed by the rent sponge, if all arrears and claims were fairly adjusted before the corn and provision laws are finally settled. This is an interesting question for the farmers and the country at large, for it is impossible that the vast amount of capital annually lost by the farmers under the present system, and consequently by the community, can continue much longer."

And he adds:—

"We come now to the point, what effect will be produced upon the welfare and prospects of the farmers by well-adjusted leases, upon the basis of a corn rent, compared to the current system of fixed money rents. Under the latter system the rents and tithes have been in some cases trebled during the last century, while the price of wheat is now nearly the same: it follows, therefore, that either vast improvements in cultivation must have taken place, or that the rapidly-increased rents, &c., have absorbed all the profits of the cultivators, including a vast amount of capital employed upon the soil. Is there any feasible prospect of an alteration in this matter so long as the present fluctuations are liable to recur, and the law, so vitally important to the farmers, remains in their present precarious position?"

After referring to, and commenting upon, some remarks of a Pro-Corn-Law correspondent of the *Express*, Mr. Lattimore says:—

"If this is a fair specimen of the feelings of Conservative landlords, the prospect of reduction in fixed money rents is not very encouraging to the farmers, and it also shows the objects these gentlemen had in view when they called upon the farmers to place the present Government in office, and their present motive and expectations in retaining Sir R. Peel in power. How can the farmers reconcile these remarks and passing events with their future welfare, and the interests of their order? Will not a doubt arise in their minds as to those delusive specifics of 'rowing in the same boat,' 'mutual welfare,' 'identity of interest,' &c. &c., so much vaunted of late by their professed Conservative friends, and a thorough conviction obtain of the complete alienation of interest and feeling that exists between the small scale cultivators of the soil and this class of political landlords? This is the result of fixed money rents under the sliding scale. Let us compare the difference under a corn rent. These political landlords are not disposed to lower rents according to prices; that would be inconvenient; how are they then to be made to participate in the fluctuations of prices, which will occur in spite of all their legislation to prevent it, save only by a corn rent? In a natural and perfectly healthy state of things fixed money rents would be feasible; but under an artificial sliding scale, liable to be modified at any time, and, in all probability, to be entirely abolished at the recurrence of the first deficient harvest, there appears to me no method so secure to both parties as a corn rent. By this means these legislators in corn will be amenable for the fulfilment of their bonds, and made to share in its deficiencies. The settlement of this matter will also be productive of the great good derivable from an improved cultivation, which will obtain, whenever the tenant feels assured that he will be permitted to reap the benefit of an enlarged outlay in cultivation, or in the purchase of artificial or other manures. With regard to the only reasonable drawback made to corn rents, viz., 'high prices contingent upon deficient seasons,' limits should be assigned to advancing prices (which may rarely be expected) beyond which the rent should never be calculated."

The following illustration of the operation of a

corn rent will go home to the breasts of the struggling tenant-farmers at the present moment:—

"The present price of wheat, 45s., being about twenty per cent. below the 'act-of-Parliament-promised price,' it follows that this difference in the price of wheat, calculated upon a rental of £11,000,000, would amount to £2,800,000. If this sum were left in the pockets of the tenants (as would be the case now under a corn rent), instead of going to the landlords, a reasonable calculation may be made of the great benefits obtainable from the well-directed application of this vast sum in the employment of labour, and in the promotion of improvements."

"And yet persons have been found to assert that rent is but a trifling item in the cost of production, and that, if the whole rental of the kingdom were taken off, corn could not be grown to compete with low prices. This arises from not adequately calculating the proportion in which rent enters into the cost of production, from the capital employed being indiscriminately mixed up with the produce of the soil. For instance, a person having £2000 embarked in trade, and taking stock at the close of the year, would not calculate profit till he had deducted the amount of fixed capital, with interest thereon, allowance for bad debts, &c. How is it that the farmers alone are induced to sink their capital in calculations of this kind? Surely, they are as much entitled to security for their capital as any other class of the community. Now, let them generally calculate their circumstances in the way I have alluded to, viz., first, to make out their fixed capital, then deduct their liabilities for rent, tithes, rates, taxes, &c., and they will then be able to estimate the proportionate amount of cost in production which rent bears upon an average of years, also the balance left to remunerate the labour employed, and the skill of the cultivator."

"The chief difficulty in this calculation arises from the too prevalent error of confounding produce with profit. I am contending for the principle that rent can only fairly be estimated from profit; and that if, regardless of profits, it be taken from produce, then it trenches upon, and must ultimately absorb, the tenant's capital. I believe few intelligent and reflective farmers will wantonly assert that an annual profit of forty to fifty millions sterling from the cultivation of the soil in England and Wales is either a light or trifling matter; and I am persuaded that a careful examination into the bearings of this important question, taking all the circumstances into consideration, will bring them to the conclusion, that at least one half or more of the bona fide saleable produce is absorbed in rent and tithe charges, upon a consecutive average of years."

Comment on this passage is needless. Mr. Latimore thus refers to the way in which the monopolist landowners shirk these questions, observing:

"I regret exceedingly to observe the inattention to this important point manifested by farmers at their public meetings with the landowners, and the too prevalent custom of avoiding any allusion to those grievances under which so large a portion of the British farmers are now groaning, such as high rents, increased tithe charges, ravages by game, want of control over the expenditure of county rates, insecurity of tenure, &c.; which evils can be redressed by the landlord alone."

While they are vainly looking to the Legislature for high prices, which are unobtainable, they are neglecting to secure the only solid advantages they can enjoy, separate from benefits shared by the community at large."

And if, as we think would sometimes happen, corn rents give the turn in the tenants' favour, landlords who uphold monopoly have only themselves to blame. Thus Mr. Latimore corroborates the statement of Mr. Hope, that in a natural state of the corn trade there would be no difficulty in fixing money rents for a long series of years, which would be fair towards both landlords and tenants; nor must tenants submit to have their present high rents converted into corn rents.

"In contending for corn rents upon principle, as best adapted to the repeated fluctuations of prices, I by no means intend to assert that it would be either wise or prudent for farmers to adopt, at the present high standard of rents, which prevails wherever tenants-at-will have been screwed up to the last shilling which fear or competition could enable needy or rapacious owners to obtain. I know contiguous lands, of nearly similar value, where a difference prevails in the rent of 15 to 30 per cent. In such instances a corn rent based upon the present rental would annually transfer from the occupier to the pockets of the receiver of rent a great many quarters of corn, in addition to the fair value of the land."

Farmers of England, these statements, these unanswerable reasonings, proceed from men of your own class, men whose capital is "embarked in the same boat" with your own, who can have no interest in misleading you, and who have proved by their success in life that they understand the business of farming on which they write. Now, the reverse of all this is true of the monopolist landlords and land-agents, who strive to divert your attention from your actual grievances and the real causes of your present difficulties, and to lead you after the will-o'-the-wisp "protection."

Ask yourselves who are most likely to be candid and honest advisers—those who are of your own body, or those who have gained high rents and overwhelming political influence by leading you into your present most lamentable state of distress? Ay, and who will leave you to struggle through it as you best may, without attempting to enforce upon their own Minister the measures they pretend to tell you are necessary for your deliverance.

HARVEY AND RABBITS.—A tenant-farmer, writing to the *Norwich Mercury*, says:—"The greatest relief that could be given to a tenant farmer in the present time of need, would be the full liberty to kill hares and rabbits any way he may think best."

**GREAT LEAGUE MEETING.**—The next great aggregate meeting of the LEAGUE will be HELD in the FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER, on WEDNESDAY Evening next, the 5th of MARCH.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., will take the Chair at SEVEN O'CLOCK precisely.

The meeting will be addressed by W. J. Fox, Esq., and by GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq.

**BOROUGH OF MARYLEBONE REGISTRATION AND FREE-TRADE DINNER.**—The MARYLEBONE REFORM and REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION, with others, alive to the important movement now in progress in favour of the great principles of FREE TRADE, have deemed the present a fitting occasion publicly to attempt their proposition by all the means in their power; amongst which, attention to the Registration of Electors is admitted to be of paramount importance.

It is hoped that such an occasion may be the means of extending the Reform interest, and of more closely uniting the electors in the pursuit of objects important, not only to the Borough, but to the Empire at large. A DINNER will take place in the Concert Room of the Princess's Theatre, Great Portland-street, Oxford-street, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th of March next, at which their esteemed President, JOHN BARNARD, Esq., has consented to preside.

The following, among other gentlemen, have accepted invitations, and will attend:—Sir B. Hall, Bart., M.P.; Sir C. Napier, K.C.B., M.P.; J. Hope, Esq., M.P.; W. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.; J. Bright, Esq., M.P.; T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P.; General Sir De Lacey Evans, and W. J. Fox, Esq.

By order of the Committee, WILLIAM ALLEN, Secretary. N.B. Tickets, Five Shillings each, may be had of the Secretary, at the Office of the Association, 62, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square.

We have omitted our Reviews, with other matters, in order to give at full length the excellent speech of Mr. Macaulay.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 1, 1845.

Mr. Bright's motion for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Game Laws has been carried with the consent of the Government. All parties agreed in praising the temper, moderation, and ability of the speech with which the honourable member introduced his motion. He presented to the House an array of facts and figures, lucidly arranged, which could not be resisted; his unaffected sympathy for the sufferings which these laws have brought on the poor and the defenceless gave to his arguments a tone and colouring of rich feeling, which made them as touching to the heart as they were convincing to the head. As if anticipating the cavils of the versatile *Times*, he explained, in simple but clear language, the connexion between the Game Laws and the Corn Laws as the cause why the attention of the League had been directed to the subject. The landowners have taken to themselves the exclusive right of furnishing the people of the three kingdoms with food, and have passed iniquitous laws to prevent consumers from obtaining a supply elsewhere; they, consequently, aggravate the grievance of the artificial scarcity, which it is the object of the Corn Laws to produce, when they maintain multitudes of game merely for their own amusement, by which large quantities of corn are annually destroyed, and the pressure of fictitious famine increased. The *Times* is indignant that a member of the Society of Friends should interfere between the peasantry and the peasantry, venting several ponderous jests on broad brims and drab coats with the usual liberality and good taste by which its polemical articles are so eminently distinguished; and, of course, superadding at random hints and insinuations suggestive of the falsehood which it would be inconvenient to express directly. The *Times* indeed, of late, seems to aim at establishing for itself the character of "the worm of Nilus;" its proprietors may say with the *Clown*, "Its biting is immortal; those that do die of it do seldom or never recover;" they add the menacing warning, "You must think this, look you, that the worm will do his kind," and "Look you, the worm is not to be trusted but in the keeping of wise people; for indeed their is no goodness in the worm." Wise people, however, have not always directed the worm; for, with all the pretensions made by the *Times* to advocacy of the cause of the labouring classes, it deliberately advises the muleting of the working man of one-fourth of his wages whenever he exchanges labour for sugar. Verily, "the worm will do after his kind."

The *Times* asks, "What should we say to strictures on the character of William the Conqueror by Obadiah Broadbrim, or Ebenezer Longface on the feudal system?" We can discover no inconsistency in such topics being discussed by persons belonging to the societies that these very clever mechanisms are intended to designate; it is far more inconsistent to learn that pretensions to decency and morality are occasionally made in the parlours of Printing-house-square. There can be no incongruity in any honest man expressing his detestation of the Norman tyrant, or his hatred of feudal despotism. It is contrary to historical justice and truth to assert that "Norman tastes are part of the British character;" our whole history is nothing more than a record of the reconquest of English liberty from the Norman tyranny which triumphed at the Battle of Hastings. "Our nation's body, blood, and bones" are essentially Saxon; and the just impatience of the game laws felt by the great body of the people is mainly caused by the fact, that they are the remnant of the odious and cruel forest laws—the most galling and torturing badge of tyranny which the Norman bandits, in the insolent wantonness of victory, imposed upon the English people. This view of the case is sanctioned by the

high authority of Sir W. Blackstone, who says, "Yet from this root (the Forest Laws) has sprung a bastard slip, known by the name of the Game Laws, now arrived to, and wantoning in, its highest vigour; both founded on the same unreasonable notions of permanent property in wild creatures, and both productive of the same tyranny to the commons; but with this difference, that the Forest Laws established one mighty hunter throughout the land, the Game Laws have raised a little Nimrod in every manor." The historical accuracy of the *Times* is in strict keeping with its morality, its decency, and its philanthropy.

The general tone of the debate leads us to hope that these laws, the barbarous relic of barbarous feudalism, will not long be maintained in an enlightened age and nation. Too long have the poor been viewed by the Legislature as objects to be legislated against; the results of Mr. Bright's committee will, we doubt not, show how, at least in one particular, they should be legislated for. He will be rewarded by the prayers of those whom he will rescue from pain and contamination, and he may console himself for the sneers of the *Times* by reflecting that "the worm will do after his kind."

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The division on the secret service money grant took place in the French Chamber on Friday evening, the 21st ult., when there was a majority of 24 in favour of Ministers.

In the Chamber of Peers, on Tuesday, M. Duchatel, the Minister of the Interior, presented the Secret Service Funds Bill as passed by the deputies, in a speech in which he declared his conviction that France had never been more peaceful or prosperous at home, or more influential and respected abroad, than at the present moment.

MADRID, Feb. 10.—The differences between Sweden and Denmark, with Morocco have been arranged, under the joint mediation of France and England. The Emperor has renounced the claim of tribute.

LISBON, Feb. 18.—The Queen was taken with the pains of labour at three p.m. yesterday, and at half-past ten last night gave birth to a princess. Both mother and child are doing very well.

It is a curious fact that Viscount Saldanha, who, when Minister of Foreign Affairs some years ago, so pertinaciously refused to enter into any treaty with England for the suppression of the slave trade, has since then on many occasions shown himself a most zealous advocate for the extinction of that traffic. This conduct on his part, though seemingly inconsistent, is in perfect harmony with the character of his countrymen: they may be led but cannot be driven.

MUNICH, February 14.—The deputies of the States of the Zollverein will meet in this city on the 1st of July. There are several indications which encourage us to hope that in this meeting of the deputies the Cabinets of the States of southern Germany will exert themselves with more energy than ever in favour of higher duties, to protect several branches of German manufactures.—*German paper.*

SWITZERLAND.—The excitement in the various cantons still continues. The *Journal des Debats* gives a concise history of the origin of the dispute, which threatens to result in a civil war. It alleges that the real design of the Radical party is to bring about a revolution with a view to establish a pure Republican Government instead of the federal system which now prevails, and that their demand for the expulsion of the Jesuits from Lucerne is made a pretext for bringing about this their main object. The most active canton in the movement is Berne, which hopes to become the centre of such a republic. Genes and Vaud, although Protestant, and hostile to the influence of the Jesuits, refuse to join a cry which they regard as a pretext for destroying the present federal constitution. It is said that the European powers will interfere should the republican movement party proceed to any overt acts of violence to enforce their demands.

CIRCASSIA.—News from Caucasus comes, down to the beginning of the year. The severity of the cold had impeded the operations of the hostile armies. Hostilities were expected to be renewed in March. The reports of the great losses sustained by the Russians, and the capture of their forts by Schamyl, are denied: there were but two slight engagements, in which it is alleged the Russians had the advantage.

INDIA.—Despatches from India and China, in anticipation of the mail which left Calcutta on the 5th of January, arrived on Monday last, by express, from Madras. The Punjab is again in commotion. A revolution broke out, and Heera Singh, the Rajah, and Jella Pandit, have been killed. The English Government had, it was believed, no idea of interference in this instance (though the time may not be far off when it will be obliged to do so), not being in the slightest bound to assist or uphold either party or Ministry.

The news from Selude is unfavourable. The Highlanders at Sukkur were still dying off. Upwards of 200 men, women, and children had perished since their arrival. They were to be removed immediately.

The non-arrival of the ships *Ranunculus* and *Briton*, the former from London with recruits, and the latter from Sydney with a detachment of her Majesty's 50th Regt., is causing great uneasiness, and great fears are entertained for their safety. The Company's steamer *Waterbury* had been sent in search of them.

CHINA.—There had been rather a serious disturbance at Hong Kong, in consequence of a registration decree issued by Government, which was resisted by the Europeans, who, in an address to Council, styled it as "unjust, oppressive, and despotic." A good time, arbitrary, unconstitutional, and despotic. A good deal of bickering was the result between the Europeans and the Chinese, as the former refused to answer the address. Three thousand Chinese left the island, and at last the Government deemed it fit "to amend and modify" the registration ordinance.

UNITED STATES.—By the Patrick Henry, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, we learn that the Oregon Territory Bill had passed the House of Representatives.



The *New York Express* says:—"The Oregon Bill, we have passed by a large majority, but the most mischievous part of it had been extracted. Slavery was prohibited in Oregon by the bill—Ayes, 121; Noes, 69 (all bled in the vote). The bill provides for notice to Great Britain of our intention to annul, at the end of twelve months, the convention for a joint occupancy, and affords a guarantee that the rights of British subjects, under the guarantee, shall not in the mean time be interfered with. Even now, it is passed by a vote of 121 ayes to 82 noes."

The revolution in Mexico had been terminated. The bill to pay the whole interest on the foreign portion of the State debt, in February, had passed both branches of the States legislature, and been signed by the Governors. The treasurer of the State has arrived in Philadelphia for the purpose of making the payments. This step towards liquidating the State debts had given great satisfaction.

## DOMESTIC.

Mr. Oakeley, of Margaret-street Chapel, who has made himself so notorious by his Romanist practices and his Romanist publications, and by a late defiance to his diocese, has been at length suspended by the Bishop of London.—*Standard*. This statement is denied by the *Morning Post*.

Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, so well known for his efforts to promote the abolition of the slave trade, and the civilization of Africa, died last week, at his seat in Norfolk, aged fifty-nine.

Mr. C. Tower, a supporter of Sir R. Peel's Government, has been elected to represent Buckinghamshire in Parliament. Mr. W. P. Carew, a gentleman of similar politics, has been elected representative for East Cornwall.

The Rev. Sydney Smith, the well-known and accomplished Canon of St. Paul's, died on Saturday morning, at his house at Mayfair, after an illness of several months, in the 73rd year of his age. He was the founder, and for many years the editor, of the "*Edinburgh Review*." His most remarkable work was "*The Letters of Peter Plymley*," in which he advocated, in his own peculiarly powerful and witty style, the claims of the Irish Catholics to civil and religious liberty.

On Friday evening the 21st ult., shortly after seven o'clock, Mr. John De la Rue, a professor of the piano-forte, was found barbarously murdered near the Finchley-road, Hampstead. When discovered by parties who had heard, and were attracted by, cries of murder, he was quite dead, and his watch and other property stolen from his person. Suspicion fell, in the first instance, on three men, dressed as labourers, who had been lurking about the neighbourhood during the day; subsequently, however, a young man named Thomas Henry Hooker, an acquaintance of the deceased, was arrested, and his person, as well as his lodgings at Victoria-terrace, Portland-town, and his father's house, where he occasionally stopped, having undergone a thorough search, evidence was given seriously involving him in the charge of having been guilty of the frightful crime. The deceased's watch was found under his pillow; but this he alleged had been given him by the unfortunate victim to pledge. Blood was found on the cuffs of his coat, his trousers, and drawers; and two buttons, picked up on the spot where the murder was committed, corresponded with those on his coat, from which two were missing. A number of other circumstances of a corroborative character were also proved against the prisoner. The inquest was adjourned to this morning (Saturday).

During the past fortnight a number of parties have been apprehended, and brought before the magistrates of Worcestershire, on the charge of being implicated in the fatal poaching affray which took place at Croome, in that county, on the night of the 19th of December last, when Thomas Stalte, gamekeeper to the Earl of Coventry, was so badly injured that he died a few days afterwards. Several of the prisoners have been discharged, and others are remanded for further examination. The whole of the prisoners are from the town of Pershore, which is near to the preserves of the Earl of Coventry, and some of them are respectively connected. Pershore, and indeed the whole of the country, is in a very excited state in consequence of these proceedings. Several other outrages, by large bands of poachers, took place in different parts of Worcestershire about the time of the fatal occurrence at Croome, and it is expected the result of the present inquiries will be to show that the same party is implicated in them all. On Wednesday last a further examination took place, when nine poachers implicated in the murder were committed to take their trial at the next assizes.

A fire of an alarming nature broke out on Thursday morning early, on the premises occupied by Messrs. Courtold, Taylors, and Courtold, in Gutter-lane, craps, and silk merchants. The fire spread with such rapidity that the inmates had barely time to escape for their lives. They consisted of Mr. P. A. Taylor, jun., his wife, and two female servants. One of the latter, Caroline Norris, a young woman about 25, was so severely injured that for two hours after the fire was extinguished she was insensible. It appears that she jumped from the second floor, intending to fall upon the sheet fire-escape, which several persons were holding underneath. The flames, however, bursting through the warehouse window with violence, they drove some of the parties back, and instead of falling into the centre of the escape, she fell at the side, and from thence on to the stone pavement. The house-keeper was saved by throwing herself into the escape. The damage done to Messrs. Courtold, Taylors, and Co.'s property is estimated at near £10,000.

The *Herald's* Dublin correspondent says that a split has taken place in the Repeal Committee between Mr. O'Connell and R. D. Brown, M.P., on the one side, and Mr. Smith O'Brien, M.P., H. Grattan, M.P., and "Young Ireland," on the other. Mr. O'Connell, supported by Mr. Brown, urged on the committee that the negotiation should demand of the Government to concede the proposed new universities strictly Catholic; this was strenuously and successfully resisted by Mr. O'Brien, supported by Mr. Grattan and "Young Ireland," who are for a mixed education to be equally available to both Catholics and Protestants. The dispute was finally calmed down, on the understanding that the question should remain an open one in the association. The Repeal Association met on Monday, at the Convent-hall, Dublin; R. A. Fitzgerald, the newly-elected member for Tipperary, was called to the chair. Mr. R. D. Brown, M.P., addressed the meeting in reply to the strictures of Mr. Foxbuck on the Irish members for having deserted their posts. The hon. member soundly rebuked the member for Bath, whom he described as "a

little angry wasp, running over the floor of the House of Commons, which inflicted upon all parties a little would-be powerful sting, because he could not collect from any the honey of office; but he was perfectly innoxious—he had no position." Mr. O'Connell moved, and Mr. Davis, a Protestant barrister, and a contributor to the *Nation*, seconded, the adoption of a petition to Parliament for the repeal of so much of the Emancipation Act as relates to the monastic orders (the Jesuits). The motion was carried unanimously. Mr. O'Connell addressed the meeting on the subject of the report of the "Land Commission," and pronounced it to be what Cobbett called a cat-lap report. It was one of the most foolish pieces of composition he had ever read, and furnished him with a powerful argument in favour of repeal. The rent for the week was announced to be £366.

## THE FUNDS.

	Bar. Feb. 22	Mon. Feb. 24	Tues. Feb. 25	Wed. Feb. 26	Thurs. Feb. 27	Fri. Feb. 28
Bank of England	212½	212½	212½	212½	212½	212½
4 per Ct. Consol.	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
3 per Ct. Consol.	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Long. An. Ex. 1840	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1841	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1842	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1843	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1844	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1845	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1846	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1847	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1848	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1849	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1850	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1851	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1852	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1853	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1854	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1855	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1856	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1857	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1858	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1859	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1860	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1861	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1862	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1863	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1864	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1865	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1866	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1867	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1868	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1869	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1870	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1871	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1872	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
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Long. An. Ex. 1895	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1896	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1897	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1898	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1899	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long. An. Ex. 1900	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½

## MARKETS.

**CORN MARKET.**  
MARK-LANE, Monday, Feb. 21.—The supply of English Wheat last week was large, and most of it direct to the millers from Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire; the fresh arrivals from the near counties were not large. The best qualities were sold readily at last week's rates, but inferior qualities were very difficult of disposal, and some quantity of the Kentish remained unsold at the close of the market. The demand for foreign Wheat continues slow at former rates. With good supplies of barley the trade remains the same as last week, except that in some cases a little improvement has been obtained for the very finest qualities. No alteration in Beans and Peas. The supplies of Oats were large from Scotland and Ireland, with a few cargoes from our own coast; prices generally were 6d. to 1s. lower than this day week, and even at this decline the sales were not extensive.

	Bar. Feb. 22	Mon. Feb. 24	Tues. Feb. 25	Wed. Feb. 26	Thurs. Feb. 27	Fri. Feb. 28
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 40 to 41	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto New 42 to 48	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old 42 to 48	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Scotch 42 to 48	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Red 23 to 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto ditto Polands 23 to 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Scotch Feed 23 to 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Limerick 23 to 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto 23 to 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Cork 21 to 22	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Wexford, Toughest, & Cork Black 21 to 22	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Silgo 21 to 22	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Galway 20 to 21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barley, Maltster Old 31 to 35 New 32 to 33	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Harrow do. 35 to 41	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Small do.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peas, White, New 34 to 35	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Grey 31 to 32	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flour, Town-made per sack of 250 lbs 36 to 37	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Norfolk and Suffolk 34 to 35	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Bar. Feb. 22	Mon. Feb. 24	Tues. Feb. 25	Wed. Feb. 26	Thurs. Feb. 27	Fri. Feb. 28
Wheat, English, high mixed 48 to 50	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Kentish 47 to 48	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Stettin 46 to 47	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Hamburg 45 to 46	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Olesza 44 to 45	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto Polish 43 to 44	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Russian soft 42 to 43	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto hard 41 to 42	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Spanish soft 40 to 41	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto White 39 to 40	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Australian 38 to 39	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barley, English 36 to 37	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Distilling 29 to 31	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oats, Archangel 22 to 23	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Minsk 21 to 22	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Dutch Brew 20 to 21	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Poland 19 to 20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans, Egyptian 33 to 34	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Peas, White 32 to 33	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Ditto Bolivar 31 to 32	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flour, English per barrel of 125 lbs 25 to 26	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Valparaiso 24 to 25	—	—	—	—	—	—
— Australian, per sack of 250 lbs 33 to 34	—	—	—	—	—	—

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Feb. 17 to Feb. 21, 1845, (both inclusive).

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	8974	4691	3084	1604	841
Scotch	—	2185	8793	—	—
Irish	—	—	3273	—	—
Foreign	1344	471	965	1685	—

FRIDAY, Feb. 28.—Only moderate supplies of all descriptions of Grain have arrived to this market since Monday. Every branch of the trade continues in a very inactive state. In Wheat both English and Foreign the sales are insignificant, and of the former considerable quantities are still on hand. The finest milling Barley fetches late prices to a limited extent, but inferior sorts are difficult to quit even at a reduction. In Oats the sales are small, holders being unwilling to submit to any further decline, without which the dealers are not inclined to purchase. There was no alteration in the duties yesterday.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 23rd of February to the 27th of February, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	6510	—	—	—	—
Scotch	—	3760	—	—	—
Irish	—	2470	7350	—	—
Foreign	—	—	—	—	870

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
18th Jan.	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35
21st "	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35
1st Feb.	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35
8th "	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35
15th "	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35
22nd "	4.45	7.34	7.21	4.31	4.35

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 6d.; Barley, 35s. 4d.; Oats, 21s. 6d.; Rye, 30s. 11d.; Beans, 35s. 5d.; Peas, 35s. 6d.

Wheat, 45s. 6d.; Barley, 35s. 4d.; Oats, 21s. 6d.; Rye, 30s. 11d.; Beans, 35s. 5d.; Peas, 35s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Jan. 3, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	133112	—	23154	—	2050	1817	52146
Unit. King.	302160	2404	74483	—	13444	7304	243891

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

## BANKRUPTS.

W. DALB, London-wall, boot and shoe maker. [Pryer, Pavement, Finchbury-square.  
L. D. DOLBELL, Ravenbury Mill, Lower Mitcham, dyer. [Beart, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.  
J. CRABBE, Great Tey, Essex, bricklayer. [Bell, Bedford-row.  
C. RANSFORD, Stoneley, South Tottenham, grocer. [Keppeler, Kennington-lane.  
A. WYATT, Bagnage-hew, Well-street, St. James's, victualler. [Taylor, South-place, Finchbury-square.  
L. GEORGE, Downham-road, Kingsland-road, shawl warehouseman. [Young and Co., St. Mildred's-court.  
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 made only by M. and B. (which cannot be distinguished from sterling silver  
 except by the mark), 2s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 15s.; carvers, per pair,  
 6s. 6d. All marked "RIPON and BURTON," and warranted.  
 Ripon and Burton's, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street, from  
 Wells-street, where the largest stock of Ironmongery Articles in the world is  
 constantly on sale. The money returned for every article not approved of.  
 Detailed catalogue, with engravings, sent (per post) free. Established 1820.

**LUXURY IN SHAVING.**  
**JOHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL**  
**SHAVING CREAM** (Patented by Prince Albert). This invalu-  
 able Groom possesses all the good qualities of the finest Naples Soap,  
 without the disagreeable smell inseparable from that article in a genuine  
 state. It is of a white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather,  
 which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the delightful fragrance of  
 the almond.  
 In Pots, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c.  
 Performers to Her Majesty, 15, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London.  
 Manufacturers of Candles and Brushes of the best quality, and on the most  
 approved principles.

**ROWLAND'S UNIQUE PREPARATIONS.**  
 Under the Patronage of the several Sovereigns and Courts of Europe,  
 and universally preferred.

**ROWLAND'S MACASSAI OIL, for the Growth,**  
 Preservation, and for Beautifying the HUMAN HAIR. Price  
 1s. 6d. (7s.) Family Bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that  
 size 21s. per bottle.  
**ROWLAND'S KALIDON,** for Improving and Beautifying the SKIN and  
**COMPLEXION.** Price 6d. and 1s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.  
**ROWLAND'S OUDON, or FRANK DENTIFRICE,** for the TEETH  
 and GUMS. Price 2s. 6d. per box, duty included.

**CAUTION.**  
 Spurious Compounds are frequently offered for sale, under the same  
 names (some under the implied sanction of Royalty), the labels, bills, and  
 advertisements of the original articles are copied, and other a fictitious  
 name, or the word "Genuine," is used in the place of "Rowland's." It is  
 therefore imperative on purchasers to see that the word "ROWLAND'S" is  
 on the wrapper of each article. For the protection of the Public from fraud  
 and imposition, the Monarch's Commissioners of Stamps have directed the  
 Proprietors' signatures to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus:—  
 A. ROWLAND and SON, 10, HATTON GARDEN,  
 which is affixed on the Labels and Quillets.  
 Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.  
 "All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS!"

## TO CAPITALISTS, BUILDERS, JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES, &c.

**NEW HOTEL or DORMITORY.—WANTED**  
 much, in a healthy and central part of the west end of London, a very  
 commodious, and well-managed HOTEL, with a properly regulated Coffee  
 Room; due regard being paid in its structure to the quietude of the sleep-  
 ing apartments, and where the Proprietor shall chiefly have for his object  
 the supplying a portion of the very large number of gentlemen daily arriving  
 in the Metropolis with comfortable Beds and Breakfast, Wine and Spirit.  
 The attention of persons well qualified for Housekeeping is likewise par-  
 ticularly directed to this advertisement, as it offers a suggestion whereby  
 there is no doubt such persons may realise a handsome fortune.  
 Apply for further information, daily, at this different London Railway  
 Stations.

**NEW CHRISTMAS GROUP.—Madame TUSSAUD**  
 and SONS' greatest effort, which may challenge Europe. The  
 House of Brunswick at one view:—George I., George II., George III.,  
 George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, Princess Char-  
 lotte Coburg, the Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. The  
 Robes of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath,  
 Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Group. Mr. Cobden and Bishop  
 of Exeter. "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—The  
 Times. Open from Eleven to Four, and from Seven till Ten. Admis-  
 sion, 1s.; Napoleon's Room, 6d.—Bazaar, Baker-street, Portman-square.

**TANYARD, &c.,** Two Miles from the Manchester Ex-  
 change. To be SOLD or LET, with convenience for doing as ex-  
 tensive business, and nearly new. Apply to Isaac Wood, Radford Tanyard,  
 Manchester.

**HEAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING,** containing a  
 full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasers are  
 enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to make a good set of bed-  
 ding. Sent free, by post, on application to their establishment, the largest  
 in London, exclusively for the manufacture and sale of bedding (on bedsteads  
 or other furniture being kept). HEAL and SON, Feather Dressers and  
 Bedding Manufacturers, 198, opposite the chapel, Tottenham-court-road.

**STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CON-  
 TRACTION of the CHEST** are entirely prevented, and gently  
 and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the oc-  
 casional use of the PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER,  
 which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or inwardly, without  
 bands beneath the arms, uncomfortable restraint, or impediment to exer-  
 cise. Sent per post, by Mr. A. BIXON, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, Lon-  
 don; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

**VAL DE PENAS,** of excellent quality, £18 the  
 Quarter Cask; or in Bottle, 36s. per Dozen. MARSHALL WINE,  
 first imported, 21s. and 27s. per Dozen; or in Wood, 41s. and 41s.  
 Quarter Pipe. Fine old crueted PORTS, and Pale and Brown SHERRIES,  
 80s., 42s., 48s. per Dozen. HOCKS, CLAMNETS, and CHAMPAGNE,  
 60s., 72s., and 84s.  
 CRAWFORD and CO., 129, Regent-street.

**BETTS'S PATENT BRANDY CAPSULED.**  
 Consumers of Brandy are respectfully informed, that J. T. Betts,  
 Jun., and Co., will not be responsible for any bottled Brandy that is not  
 protected against fraudulent substitution by the Patent Metallic Capsule,  
 embossed with the words, "Betts's Patent Brandy, 7, Smithfield-lane."  
 Sold by the most respectable wine and spirit merchants in town and  
 country, at 3s. 6d. per bottle, the bottle included. Betts's Patent Brandy  
 is used, in preference to foreign, at Guy's, St. George's, and the other  
 principal hospitals, &c., throughout the Kingdom. Attention is especially  
 requested to the security afforded by the Patent Metallic Capsule.  
 Country dealers are advertised in the provincial journals, and lists of  
 London dealers may be obtained at the Distillery, where quantities of notice  
 than two gallons may be supplied, in bulk, at 18s. per gallon, and in bot-  
 tles, cases and bottles included, at 20s. per gallon.—7, SMITHFIELD-LANE.

**BARTLE and JARVIS, 206, Strand,** supply a  
 splendid FROCK COAT, with silk linings, for 60s.; Dress Coat,  
 same quality, for 65s. Fit warranted, being cut upon a peculiar plan us-  
 ually their own, calculated to fit every shape and size without difficulty.  
 Observe the address, 206, Strand, opposite the entrance of St. Cle-  
 ment's Church.

**OUTRITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the**  
**COLONIES.**—Parties leaving England will find it greatly to their  
 advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'S, 113, Pa-  
 church-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery,  
 Gauxe, Merino Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as  
 well as for the Voyage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far  
 more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles.  
 Bedding, Military Accoutrements, Cabin and Camp Furniture of every  
 description.—Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

## A WALK IN A THAW.

When the cold winds of winter begin to withdraw,  
 'Tis very unpleasant to walk in a thaw.  
 Though you would wish to tread, you are certain to meet  
 With puddles of water that deluge the street.  
 And if you should chance to be rather too prompt,  
 Your gaiters, your feet, and your trousers are swamped.  
 Then, then is the time that the water creeps in,  
 And drenches the stocking, and drenches the skin;  
 While often a drop from the cold melting snow  
 Falls down from the housetop, and plops on your nose.  
 Or settles (unless it is met with a check)  
 On a sensitive part of the body—the neck.  
 Under these "disagreeable" what's to be done?  
 Why, take the advice of E. MOSER and SON,  
 And buy a warm coat, without bluish or faw,  
 Which saves you from all the mishaps of a thaw;  
 The puddles may splash, and the water may drip,  
 But you've no cause to fear them if thus you equip.  
 The warm coats of MOSER are sure to keep off  
 A cold in the limbs, or a troublesome cough;  
 And thousands will own, when the winter is o'er,  
 That their health was preserved by E. MOSER and SON.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
 A new work, entitled "The Commercial Phenomenon," with full de-  
 tails for self-instruction, on application, will be forwarded post free.

**BEAUTY MADE.**

Beaver Taglioulis ..	..	..	from 1 10 0
Ditto Chesterfields ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto Coddingtons ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto Pembroke, Athols, Peltoes, and every description of Winter	..	..	.. 1 10 0
Coats, handsomely trimmed ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
Boys' Winter Coats, in every style ..	..	..	from 0 4 0
Warm Winter Trousers, lined ..	..	..	.. 0 4 0
Ditto Dooshin ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
Dress Coats, edged, &c. ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
Prock ditto, ditto ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
Rolling Collar Vest ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0
Double-breasted ditto ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0
Boys' Russian Suits ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto Tunic, neatly braided ..	..	..	.. 0 10 0

**MADE TO MEASURE.**

Black Gotha Coats, velvet collar and cuffs ..	from 1 10 0
Winter Coats, in every style and shape, handsomely trimmed ..	.. 0 10 0
Milled Tweed Wrappers ..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto, ditto, Trousers ..	.. 0 10 0
Burkshin ditto ..	.. 0 10 0
Dooshin ditto, any pattern ..	.. 0 10 0
Best, or Dress Trousers ..	.. 0 10 0
Cachmere Vest ..	.. 0 10 0
Winter ditto, in ladies patterns ..	.. 0 10 0
Dress Coat ..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured ..	.. 0 10 0
Prock Coat ..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto, the best manufactured ..	.. 0 10 0
Boys' Russian Suit ..	.. 0 10 0
Ditto Tunic ..	.. 0 10 0

Mourning to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following  
 prices:—  
 Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. from 1 10 0  
 Ditto, Jacket, vest, and trousers .. from 0 10 0  
 Mourning.—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, is  
 changed, or the money returned.  
 Upperman, E. MOSER and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail War-  
 leaders, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 114, Mile-end, and 114,  
 Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.  
 Caution.—E. MOSER and SON are obliged to guard the public against  
 impostors, having learned that the unscrupulous trade of boot-  
 connected with them, or it's the same persons, has been observed to be  
 many instances, and for obvious reasons. They have no connection with  
 over with any other establishment in or out of London, and those who  
 are genuine Cheap Clothing should (to prevent disappointment, &c.) call  
 or send to 114, Mile-end, or 114, Aldgate, opposite the Church.  
 N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from sunset on Friday  
 till sunset on Saturday, when business is resumed till twelve o'clock.

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 Middlesex, on the 1st day of March, 1846.



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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 76.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newell's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dabrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Gooch, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council.

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE UTOPIANISM OF FREE-TRADERS.

"One often finds people," says *Tait*, "sincerely but moderately attached to the Free-Trade cause, who shake their heads at what they call the extravagant and 'Utopian' expectations of the Free-Traders as to the amount of practical social good to be anticipated from the success of their agitation;" for which shake of the head our northern friend shows extremely little respect. He holds the moderate men to be decidedly mistaken, and even doubts whether the Free-Traders themselves have, generally speaking, at all adequately realized to their minds the sum of social and moral good implied in the eventual success of their work.

The writer might have added, for the further consideration of the men of moderate views and little faith, that the "Utopianism" so glibly alleged against the Free-Traders is found to exist most largely in quarters usually the least accessible to extravagance of hope or enthusiasm of feeling. It is remarkable that the strongest, most sanguine, most Utopian-seeming anticipations of the benefits to be realized by the legislative adoption of Free-Trade principles have been expressed by men as far as possible removed, both by position and character, from the influences that ordinarily produce exaggeration of sentiment and opinion. The Utopianism of Free-Traders has not merely reason and science on its side, but that which, with the moderate men, goes somewhat further—official authority. Not by philosophers dreaming in their closets, nor by League men declaiming in Free-Trade halls and metropolitan theatres—but by official men—men of facts and figures, practical and earnest men—men whose predictions have been enunciated, of the results to be expected from commercial and industrial freedom, which, for boldness and amplitude of promise, lie next open to the charge of Utopian extravagance.

It was no raw League lecturer, but Mr. JAMES DEACON HUME—a man who had spent a lifetime in the Customs and at the Board of Trade, and "whose loss" Sir Robert "is sure we must all sincerely deplore"—who, in the forty-ninth year of his official experience, told the Import Duties Committee of 1840 that, "if trade in this country were perfectly free, and we were enabled to obtain in the cheapest markets, upon even terms, all the commodities we want, he could see no reason why this should not be one of the cheapest countries to live in that any civilized populous country can be."

It was no selfish and sanguine manufacturing capitalist, but Mr. G. R. PORTER, the head of the Statistical Department in the Board of Trade, who assured the same committee that "he had no doubt that the removal of protective duties generally would extend commerce and improve the condition of the people in this country to a degree of which the world has hitherto seen no example." To a question as to any possible evil effects arising from their sudden removal his reply was, "Certainly not."

And it was not one of the volunteer, unofficial financiers whom Sir Robert Peel holds so cheap, but Mr. JOHN MACGREGOR, likewise of the Board of Trade, who handed in to the same committee a plan of a new tariff, which, though by no means perfect in its author's eyes, contained so much of Free Trade as would, according to his belief (besides adding six millions to the revenue), "give full employment to every healthy individual among the labouring classes, and, in a great measure, except among the sick and disabled, destroy the call for the poor-rates altogether."

When the future historian compares the date of this evidence with that of the act of Parliament for the repeal of the Corn Law he will suspect some strange blunder in our chronology. It will seem past belief that any sane people or Government should have let the facts and principles brought out by the committee of 1840 stand over for some seven years without statutory recognition.

The doctrines of commerce and common justice certainly do not need the imprimatur of official authority to give them legitimacy. Yet it is a great fact for the Free-Trader that the heartiest condemnations of the system of monopoly come from the lips of the men best acquainted with it, and officially employed in administering it, and that the most sanguine and unhesitating predictions of the good to ensue on its abolition are uttered by men to whom position, occupation, and official responsibility concur in teaching lessons of caution and moderation. After this it is perfectly ludicrous to hear your judicious and sober people, in Parliament and elsewhere, advise one to beware of "expecting too much" from Free Trade—for Free Trade will not bring the millennium, will not be a panacea for all national and human ills, &c. &c. For our own part we expect, and shall persist in expecting, fully as much from Free Trade as Mr. Deacon Hume, Mr. G. R. Porter, and Mr. John Macgregor. We do not pretend to be more moderate and sober in our views than the eminently practical and well-informed gentlemen of the Board of Trade.

There is not the least need of Free-Traders troubling themselves to eschew extravagance and Utopianism of expectation. It must be an immense and altogether incalculable good to bring the statute-book of an empire into conformity with the legislation of nature and Providence. England, a cheap—that means, an easy—country to live in; work in plenty for every willing worker, and pauperism extinguished; commerce extended, and the condition of the people improved to a degree of which the world has seen no example;—here is a reward for which the toils, the sacrifices, and the patient waiting of years are not too high a price to pay. Here is everything on the largest scale which a well-meaning but blind and impotent philanthropy is vainly seeking on the smallest, in scheme after scheme, which must be futile so long as it takes no account of those laws of production and exchange which are as divine as the law of day and night. "Improvement of the Dwellings of the Poor," "Improvement of the Condition of the Labourer," "Relief of Metropolitan Destitution," "Relief of Distressed Needlewomen" and the like; play and schooling for the young, leisure for the adult, and rest for the old—all would be found contained, by implication, more or less direct, in that one simple and comprehensive act of justice which should give industry its full reward.

## THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND THE FARM-LABOURERS.

On Tuesday the Duke of Richmond is reported to have undertaken a very exhibition in the "Hos-

pital of Incurables," as Lord Chesterfield rather irreverently denominated the Upper House of Parliament, which would qualify him to take a high place in the Mohammedan calendar, where folly is regarded as evidence of sanctity. Professing to advocate the cause of the labouring classes, he declared that "Free Trade would be the ruin of the country." Now, "Free Trade," meaning nothing more than the free interchange of the products of labour, every restriction on trade is a disadvantage imposed on labour, and consequently a direct wrong and injury to the labourer. But the Duke of Richmond is one of the chief supporters of the Corn Laws, which are confessedly designed to raise artificially the price of bread, and yet he pretends to be the friend of the labourer, whom he mulets of a considerable portion of his earnings every time that labour is exchanged for food. The nature of the tax thus covertly and fraudulently levied on the agricultural labourers would be better understood if the proportion between the increase in the rate of wages and the rise in the price of food had received more attention. We have prepared a table illustrating this disproportion, to which we beg leave to direct the attention of our readers:—

Years.	Price of Bread.	Value of the £1 sterling in quarters of wheat.	Average money wages of the agricultural labourer.	Bread wages, in quarters of wheat.
1687	3d.	80	6s.	24
1776	6d.	37	8	15
1785	6	40	8	46
1792	7	34	9	15
1803	10	24	10	12
1811	12	20	12	12
1812	20	12	15	9
1845	6d.	37	7	13

If the money-rate of wages was advanced in direct proportion to the rise in the price of corn, there would be some pretext for saying that an artificial raising of price inflicted no injury on the agricultural labourer; but there has been no proportion between the two advances: in fact, the labouring classes were never so badly off as in the year of 1812, for though their wages were then nominally high, they were inadequate to purchase the necessaries of life at the exorbitant prices to which they were then raised. In fact, a high price of corn renders labour disproportionately cheap, when the price of that labour is measured by the cost of the article for which it must ultimately be exchanged.

Comparing the years 1811 and 1812, we have another proof to adduce that the dear year was one of great suffering to the poor. In the former year the amount of the poor-rates was a little under six millions; in the latter year the poor-rates reached a much more enormous amount. The Duke of Richmond says, "If all articles of agricultural produce were to be allowed to come into the country the labourer would be ruined." He forgets to tell us how. The very contrary would obviously be the case, for the labourer would then be able to exchange his labour for a larger supply of food. The evil under which the peasant suffers is want of employment; and the "Report on the Occupations of the People," recently published by her Majesty's Government, shows that under the system of the Corn Laws the amount of population to which employment is given by agriculture has been fearfully diminished, not only proportionately to the whole population, but in its absolute numbers. Does the Duke of Richmond mean seriously to assert that sufficient food would aggravate the evil of insufficient employment? This is what his words mean, and one would have thought that the absurdity was too palpable not to be perceptible even to his intellect.

It is within the range of possibility that the Duke of Richmond may be self-deceived on the subject of the Corn Laws; but there is another monopoly in which the warping influence of self-interest cannot be so direct, and which will serve to test the professions of patronage to the labouring classes of which the lord of Goodwood has recently been so lavish. We shall soon see which lies nearer his heart—the distress of the labourer, which is patent and flagrant; or the distress of the West India proprietors, as manifested in the establishments of the Gladstones and the Goulbourns. No one can be ignorant of the great improvements that cheap sugar would introduce into the domestic economy of the poorer classes. Let us hear from the Duke of Richmond why they are to be deprived of this nutriment as well as stunted in their bread. When we are told that monopolies are to be maintained for the protection of the labouring classes, and inquire what they are to be protected from, the answer, stripped of its verbiage, is that they must be



saved from an abundance of food, or rather from a sufficiency of sustenance. This is the kind of protector which the Duke of Richmond professes to be: his vocation is to protect paupers from a plethora, and labourers from overloaded stomachs; his morality is artificial famine, and his summit of virtue is sheer starvation. The present condition of the Sussex labourer is not far from the state of perfection advocated in the dual system of policy; but we doubt whether the country would be ruined if larger loaves were found in the peasant's cottage, or more abundant food in the labourer's shed. We say that the condition of the agricultural labourer is not what it should be; we say that his wages are too low and his provisions too dear; we know that his meals are neither nutritive in quality, nor adequate in solid amount; and we wish to save him from the protection of such guardians as the Duke of Richmond, the beginning and end of whose policy is to increase the labour of his hands and stint the supply to his stomach.

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING IN MARYLEBONE

On Wednesday last the members of the Registration Committee of the borough of Marylebone had a public dinner to celebrate the union of Free Trade with the business of registration. Hitherto the committee has had some difficulty in defining the exact purpose for which citizens are requested to claim the electoral franchise; for the old distinctions of political party have been so long becoming "small by degrees and beautifully less," that there was a large and increasing portion of the community to whom the differences between Whig and Tory appeared so trifling and unimportant that they were unwilling to give themselves any trouble to mark their preference for one or the other. Under these circumstances, the Registration Committee of Marylebone has very judiciously passed by those nice shades and gradations which it is no longer easy for men of ordinary perceptive powers to distinguish, and the minuteness of which frequently furnished excuses for abandonment of principle to "unkind deserters" in that borough, and have directed their efforts to advance the great question of Free Trade, being that in which the country is most interested, and that which affords the strongest and most tangible bond of union to the electors of that important borough. The emancipation of industry from the fetters imposed upon it by the short-sighted selfishness of the monopolists would give the middle classes more trade, the operatives more employment, and the poor more food. It is a cause in which there is no room for jealousy of classes, because the interest of all classes are identical; and hence the jam which once dismantled the independent electoral body in Marylebone, and caused it for a season to be misrepresented by Lord Teignmouth, have sunk into oblivion. We all know that "union is strength," but we sometimes forget the practical working out of this principle; we sometimes ask for union without making clear and intelligible the grounds on which we are to be united. Free Trade is not only the cause of justice and of sound policy, but it has the further advantage that all except the wilfully blind perceive at a glance its equity and its expediency. We trust that the example set by the spirited and sensible electors of Marylebone will be enthusiastically followed in the rest of the metropolitan boroughs. London is the place for practical life and business, not for idealisms and abstractions; Free Trade in the abstract, with restricted trade in the reality, is just as absurd as to promise a shopkeeper "good trade in the abstract, and then turn away all customers from his door." We know that the constituencies feel this truth, but it is of importance that they should ever keep it forcibly impressed on the mind of their representatives. The monopolists feel that the hour of a decisive struggle cannot be far distant; the Free-Traders should not only have the same conviction, but should act upon it by keeping themselves in constant preparation. Cromwell's advice to his soldiers was, "Put your trust in God, but sleep on your matchlocks to keep your powder dry;" and we say to the Free-Traders, "Put your trust in the goodness of your cause, but neglect not any one of the means necessary to ensure its speedy and final success."

#### THE BAZAAR.

"The Flack, Ravensglass, Feb. 24.  
"My DEAR SIR, Absence from home in the first place, and a wish to give the matter of the approaching Bazaar my best consideration in the second place, have been the reasons why I have delayed replying to your favours of Dec. 23 and Feb. 13.  
"Even now I can only reply as an individual, for in consequence of bad health I have been ordered to abstain as much as possible from public meetings. I do not think there will be many contributions of articles to the Bazaar from this district, as manufacturers do not prevail here, but I think our money contributions will be more than those of last year.  
"In addition to my money contribution (which will be £40 this year), I hope to send you specimens of the linen manufacture of Great Britain in the year 1845, showing the great progress that has been made in this branch of manufacture since the linen trade has been

freed from the protection formerly extended to it in the north of Ireland.

"I am my dear Sir, most truly yours,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "THOMAS AINSWORTH."

"The Limes, Peckham, Feb. 25.  
"DEAR SIR,—Sir Robert Peel, when proposing to lower the duty on glass, assured the country of his belief that the knowledge of its uses in manufacture is yet in its infancy.

"Doubtless there are free-trading glass-factors who read the LEAGUE, to whom I would suggest that it might be made a beautiful substitute for plate. Would you not agree with me, that tea-trays of ground or plate glass would be very elegant? I should think they might have some Free-Trade device on them. I imagine, also, that a set of dinner covers, made of ground glass, so that the meat might not be seen through them, or they be dimmed by steam, would give a table a really elegant appearance. Surely these articles would suit your tremendous Bazaar, if some one wishing the glorious cause every possible success would either order or manufacture them. My sisters and I have seen your circulars, and are preparing our mites to contribute to the grand Bazaar. Earnestly wishing you the most complete success,  
"I remain, &c. &c.,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq." "ELIZA ARGENT."

"Wintaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 1.  
"DEAR SIR,—I feel anxious to contribute my mite to the League Bazaar, but am somewhat at a loss to find anything coming up to my idea of what should be sent to a Bazaar. I have an opinion that the articles generally should be such as cannot be bought everywhere in the regular way of business, but should be as far as possible rare and curious. I therefore think of sending a few specimens of fossil vegetable impressions from the Durham Coal Field, found in collieries adjoining an estate and royalty I have lately purchased, and at a depth of from five to six hundred feet below the present surface.

"If you think these will be acceptable to the Committee, I will forward a box, free, as you may direct.  
"I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,  
"G. Wilson, Esq." "JOSEPH LAYCOCK."

"Southampton, Feb. 27.  
"SIR,—I see by the LEAGUE newspaper, which I take regularly, that you do not refuse the smallest contributions which are offered to the approaching Bazaar. I shall feel proud to contribute my mite in the shape of two dozen pots of oriental cream for nourishing and improving the appearance of the hair, which will no doubt fetch 1s. 6d. or 2s. per pot if they are worth your acceptance. I will get them up very tastefully and forward them in good time. My wife will also send some fancy articles.  
"Wishing you every success in the righteous cause in which you are engaged,  
"I remain, &c. &c.,  
"S. W. CURTIS."

Cockermouth.  
A correspondent writing from this town informs us that many ladies are actively engaged for the Bazaar, and that considerable contributions will be forwarded at the proper time.

"Bloomfield-terrace, Ranelagh-road, Pimlico, March 1.  
"SIR,—Thousands of persons who have never allowed themselves to examine into the merits or demerits of the Corn Laws will probably be attracted to the Covent Garden League Bazaar from curiosity, and are likely to be very greatly astonished at the wonderful exertions of others, and therefore would feel very anxious of knowing facts relating to the Corn Laws; some may feel ashamed at the small exertions they had made compared to others, and would gladly seize on a present opportunity of making up for the past. Now, both these classes of persons would be materially assisted in their good resolutions by the League having, large well-assorted and arranged parcels of their pamphlets (with a concise, conspicuous appeal to purchase at the marked prices), for self-information, and distribution at the Bazaar.

"I am, Sirs,  
"A WELL-WISHER.  
"To the League Bazaar Committee."

"Redditch, March 3.  
"GENTLEMEN,—We beg most respectfully to inform you that it is our intention to prepare for the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar, one hundred thousand of best cast steel drilled-eyed needles.

"We have the honour to be, gentlemen,  
"Your obedient servants,  
"READING and TURNER.  
"To the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League."

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Mr. THORNELY: I wish to repeat the question which I put yesterday to the right hon. gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury. I yesterday stated that a quantity of sugar had reached this country from the United States, which was notoriously the produce of slave labour. The question which I then put has become of more importance, because to-day I find that samples have arrived of cargoes of two or three shipments from New Orleans. The question I wish to put is this, whether this sugar, the produce of Louisiana, and therefore the produce of slave labour, will be admitted at the same rate of duty as sugar from China, Java, and Manila, which is considered the produce of free labour?

SIR ROBERT PEEL: There are certain countries—the United States being one of them—where sugar is produced by the labour of slaves. The United States, and one or two other countries, have concluded reciprocity treaties with this country, which treaties stipulate that the produce of such countries shall be admitted into this country on the footing of the most favoured nation. That, I apprehend, is the state of the case. But, up to this hour, there has been no official information received by her Majesty's Government, from the Custom-house, with respect to the arrival of this shipment, nor has any communication been made to the Treasury Board upon the subject, nor any application for an order in Council which would be necessary before the sugar could be admitted. At present I apprehend that the sugar could not be admissible, for no order in Council has been issued for its admission from the United States. At the same time, I have no hesitation in saying that my construction of the treaty is, that sugar from the United States would, under the reciprocity treaties, be admissible on the same terms and footing as sugar from Java, Manila, and China. (Loud cheers from the Opposition benches.)

Mr. THORNELY had heard the answer of the right hon. gentleman with great satisfaction. He begged simply to state that the produce of sugar in Louisiana was such as would give great profit on its exportation to this country, and that there was every reason to believe the new trade would be carried on to a very considerable extent.

Mr. EWART said there was another question connected with this subject, which he was anxious to have answered. He wished to know whether the right hon. baronet was aware that all the sugar coming from Louisiana was brown muscovado sugar, and, therefore, would come into this country at the duty of 23s., and not at 28s.? So that, in fact, this slave-grown sugar of the United States would be imported at a lower duty than the free-labour sugar of Java, Siam, and Manila.

SIR R. PEEL declined entering into any argument upon the subject at present.

For several days, the "notice paper" of the House of Commons (that is, the document daily printed, containing the list of "orders of the day," and other business to be transacted) presented the following somewhat mysterious announcement:—

"Mr. Wodehouse.—To put a question to Mr. Cobden relative to a motion which stands first on the orders of the day for the 13th of March."

Edmond Wodehouse is a cousin of Lord Wodehouse and Earl Cowley; he sits for East Norfolk, and is a deputy-lieutenant of the county; he is a hale, comfortable-looking gentleman, who has been in Parliament for many years. His question was put on Wednesday; and was to the following effect:—

PROTECTIVE DUTIES.  
Mr. WODEHOUSE rose to ask a question of the honourable member for Stockport. That honourable member had given notice of a motion for the 13th of March, to inquire into the operation of protective duties on imports upon the interests of tenant farmers and farm-labourers. Now, what he (Mr. Wodehouse) wished to ask the hon. gentleman was, whether he had any objection to defer his motion till after Easter? His (Mr. Wodehouse's) reason for asking this was, that very many members were desirous of attending the quarter sessions and the adjourned sessions, all those honourable gentlemen would be much obliged to him.

Mr. COBDEN replied that he was placed in a somewhat difficult position by the question just put to him. It was well known that if he were to postpone his motion from the 13th, he should not be able to claim precedence on any subsequent day. He in the first instance gave a fortnight's warning to the House that he intended to give notice of this motion; when this fortnight expired he then gave another fortnight's notice of his motion, and he afterwards postponed that notice for a week. Thus full five weeks' notice had been given to honourable gentlemen of his intended motion; he hoped that would be considered sufficient time to enable them to determine whether they would concur in his motion or not.

Mr. WODEHOUSE had not the slightest intention of concurring in the motion of the honourable member; at the same time he begged to state he had no reason to complain of the course which the honourable gentleman had pursued.

The bill for continuing the property and income tax for three years longer was debated on Wednesday; but so strong is the feeling which is growing up in favour of DIRECT TAXATION, as the instrument by which we are to carry out the principles of FREE TRADE, that not even all the inequalities of the income department of the tax could induce more than twenty-three members to vote against the bill. In fact, Sir Robert Peel is so well aware of this, that he chucklingly refused to give any pledge as to its termination, because the House and the country might be so enamoured of the tax at the end of three years as to refuse to let him take it off?

The only other matter requiring notice is the re-introduction of Mr. Cowper's bill for promoting the acquisition of allotments,—a kindly-meant measure, but one not likely to pass in its present shape. Free Trade would render pottering unnecessary.

ADVANCE OF WAGES.—Last week, Messrs. Fielden, cotton manufacturers, Todmorden, advanced the wages of most of their hands from 6d. to 8d. per week each.





"come forth and live!" You animate it and bid it go on with power and strength, and make itself the agency, not of party spirit, but of national grandeur and prosperity. (Cheers.) Well, during that period too the enemy has not been idle. There has been the Anti-League beating up its recruits, accomplishing its regeneration, meeting not in a hall like this, but assembling on the first-floor of a house, No. 17, in New Bond-street. (Great laughter.) They had a very fine annual meeting there, it is said; several chairs in the drawing-room might be left unoccupied, but still altogether it was a good gathering; and yet even in that assembly there were tenant-farmers found to read a lecture to the ducal farmers' friends, and to tell them something of their mind as to the promises which had been made to them for a time, and the halting performance which had followed those promises. (Cheers.) Well, their leaders told them to be as quiet as possible. They selected a land-agent to speak for the tenant-farmers, and proposed as to other matters they should have a dinner, and at that dinner they should drink the labourers' health, but not in water only. (Loud cheers and laughter.) There they have concocted their pamphlets, made their beautifully correct quotations from Adam Smith, settled their proceedings for a campaign, in which, after having gone through exertions of this kind, after presiding at sundry meetings of this kind, after having presided at various meetings in the country, after having gathered together 500 labourers in clean smock frocks, and with green ribbons round their hats, to shout before the Queen and impress her with the comfort of the peasantry; after all this, the Duke of Buckingham and the Duke of Richmond each feels he can lay his hand upon his heart and say, "Have I not done all that I can as a man and a monopolist?" (Cheers and laughter.) However, although they still murmur among themselves, and still tell the country that they must needs have protection on account of their peculiar burdens, we perceive no great eagerness to come forward and distinctly prove to the world what these burdens are. They like the force—it answers a purpose; but, as to going into particulars, and making out the case, that is quite another thing. They are of opinion with the sentimental lady in the play of "The Stranger":

"I have a silent sorrow—a grief I'll ne'er impart;  
It breathes no sigh, it sheds no tear,  
But it consumes my heart."

(Roars of laughter, and much cheering.) Such is their secret burden; they will tell nobody of it (cheers); but, whether it consumes their hearts or not, it seems, at any rate, not hitherto to have consumed their pockets. (Cheers and laughter.) No; I do not mean to deny that the land has peculiar burdens; and I should say that, first and foremost, the land of this country is burdened with the most exorbitant proprietary of any country in the world. (Cheers.) England has been rightly named the paradise of landowners. There is no country in Europe where so small a proportion of the general taxation of the country is borne by the land as in Great Britain. (Cheers.) There is no country in Europe where the proprietors of the land have the opportunity, by means of political power which their possessions confer, to put their hands into the pockets of other people, and where they use that power with so unparagoning and unmerciful a prodigality. (Cheers.) That is the first great and peculiar burden of the land in England.

The rent is double now what it was some forty or fifty years ago;—more than double generally, throughout the country. The burden has thus been increased, is increased enormously, and every well-wisher to the land will feel that it ought to be diminished. (Loud applause.) Another burden of the land is the weight of misery which it bears upon its bosom. It is like a fainting mother, with a child which it cannot nourish; mourning and groans are continually heard, and the unhappy beings who are willing and ready to till the soil for a very scanty portion of its produce, go here and there begging for leave to till the soil, too seldom getting it, and when they do get it, upon most starvation terms, they continually feel themselves in a dilemma between the workhouse and the solitude of destitution. (Cheers.) Now, this is the burden of the land; and if the poet, in the exercise of his imaginative faculties, were to conceive the earth as endowed with reason and feeling, he would imagine it to bring forth bitter remonstrances. The free air would say, "I flow for all; I yield the measure which I can give of life and well-being to every organized existence." The sun would say, "I shine for all; my light gladdens the pauper in his hovel as well as the noble in his palace." But whilst the air breathes for all, and sun and stars shine for all, the earth does not bear its fruits for all: they are made artificially scarce, dear, and inaccessible to a large proportion of those by whose labour they are produced. And then a seeming curse is laid upon the earth from which the other elements may claim exemption. (Cheers.) Yes, the land has to bear the burden of an unnatural complicity in crime and wretchedness; for it is made the pretext for all these. There are those who support a monopolist system, who undertake to feed the country and fail in the attempt, and yet endeavour to exclude the foreign nations, and set up the vain plea of independence, as if any nation could be independent of others—as if it did not render them the less independent of us; yet they say it is all for the sake of the land. They keep down the peasantry; they make the farmer pay rent out of his capital, opening only before him the melancholy prospect of declining resources, crippling his energies, stopping his enterprise; and they say it is all for the sake of the land. They fix barriers to trade and limit the markets for commerce; they press heavily upon manufacturing industry; they alienate this country from other countries; and they say it is all for the sake of the land, the innocent land, which abhors it all, it is for their own sordid sakes. It is the work of the Government over which they tyrannize; it is no ordinance of Nature; it is Peel, and not Providence. (Cheers.) Another topic which has arisen into importance during the last fifteen months, is that which has been so fully and amply adverted to by your Chairman in his opening address—I mean the Bazaar, which is soon to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, and which partakes of that simplicity, breadth, and grandeur which has characterized the proceedings of the Anti-Corn Law League. (Cheers.) It is of itself an argument—it will be a most imposing argument to the senses—this exhibition of the products of the national industry, this display of what manufacturing power and skill and taste can achieve in the variety and in the magnificence which will there be exhibited.

(Cheers.) But where will space be found for the exhibition? Why, Covent-garden Theatre—scarcely London itself would suffice for the full display of such an exhibition of the labours, of the products of manufacturing industry, as one would wish to see accumulated on that occasion. (Applause.) And even then, how imperfect it would be! Show the deeds of industry, of British industry—arrange its trophies—why, not all the space of London would suffice for anything of that sort. Nor would you have it be such gauds as can be carted, or waggoned, or boated to the metropolis; why, to exhibit British industry in its whole magnificence, you should remove Manchester bodily to London. (Applause.) We should have up your long lines, your palaces, of buildings; we should have up your ample factories; we should have up your capacious warehouses; we should have from other places their docks, their shipping; we should gather together all that has been done by the power that raises temples, towers, and palaces, furnishing them with all the adornments of luxury, and with all the splendour of grandeur. Bring all these together, and then let Industry point to them, and say—"These are my works: how long shall legislation interfere with my recompense?" (Cheers.) Oh that we could have, not only the products, but the men that made the products too! (Applause.) Our great industrial army, the noblest army ever raised—(applause)—the most varied, the most magnificent in its bloodless triumphs, the most glorious of armies,—would that we could have it there, with all their ensigns of industry, with all their trophies of success! (Cheers.) Why, no processions of royal and titled personages, with all their crowns and coronets, their sceptres, robes, and helmets—no military march of battalions that have won the bloodiest fields, with their resounding music and their flaunting banners, could possibly compete in moral grandeur with that stupendous procession—that exhibition of the might with which man is enriched through his intelligence and his vigour, acting for the noblest results, and ruling effectually over the very elements of nature for the benefit of humanity. (Loud and repeated cheers.) I am certain monopoly could never compete with that exhibition; no, not though there were borne in procession coffers filled with all the wealth the bread-tax ever realized (cheers)—not though nobles were there, not only with their insignia of state, but with the attendants who grace their amusements also—not though there were Corn-Law dukes and peers with their huntsmen and whippers-in (laughter), with their very hounds (great laughter)—not though all the game they had slaughtered could be raised from the dead, and they could proceed in stately march, every man heading what he had destroyed in a battue—his hundred hares and his two hundred pheasants. (Great laughter.) The very paltriness in comparison would sweep them away into utter insignificance; it would render more striking the grandeur and the glory of British industry—that industry to which the ancients, in their idolatrous enthusiasm, would have raised temples, to which they would have built altars, offered sacrifices, with the songs of the poet, and the exhibitions of the drama,—and for which, in our Christian times, we seek no such homage, but merely demand appreciation, merely cry out for bare justice, merely say—"Here we are, the representatives of industry; we have done all this; and do we not deserve—not titles or honours—but the bread and salt which we earn by the sweat of our brow?" (Loud cheers.) But it may be said, and is said, that we are better off than we were, that the season has been favourable, that here and elsewhere there is a considerable revival of trade, and that with this we should be content. I scarcely think the time is come to be contented yet. (Applause.) There have been concessions, no doubt. The late alteration in the tariff has made a good many; but still nothing must be multiplied a vast number of times before it amounts to anything substantial. (Cheers and laughter.) In the goods exonerated from duty there is the article of "greaves," which I am told are the clippings of skin, useful for feeding dogs. (Hear, hear.) Now, if the food of dogs is to be imported free of duty, what a shame is it that that of labouring men is yet to be so heavily taxed! (Cheers.) The little obstacles are giving way to Free-Trade principles; we want to see the great ones giving way also. (Cheers.) In this variety of movements with the smallest items of the list, there is an encouragement to push the argument for consistency yet more strenuously with those who hold the reins of power. (Cheers.) Sir Robert Peel professes Free-Trade principles; repeatedly and distinctly has he professed them. We cannot then let him off with any such minute application as he is making in all these operations. (Applause.) We cannot allow him to boast of it much, to come pompously forward and say what he is doing for the country. The littleness of the doings will warrant no boast, whilst there is so serious a deficiency in the carrying out of those very principles. (Cheers.) This magniloquence only reminds one of that late facetious character, of theatrical notoriety, Robert Elliston. When he was the manager of Drury-lane Theatre, some great tragedian exceedingly pleased him by his performance one night. Elliston, in his pompous way, marched into the green-room when the play was over; there, amid the assembled company, he called the successful tragedian before him; he made a sounding speech to him, telling him how gratified he had been by the able personation of that evening, how it drew tears and excited clamours of applause, and wound up by saying it had so impressed him that he could not feel he had discharged his duty without showing his appreciation by presenting him with a small piece of plate, and accordingly he handed to the flattered tragedian—a silver tooth-pick! (Peals of laughter.) Now, Sir R. Peel's Free-Trade performances are very much like this small piece of plate; they amount to but very little; and our answer to them all is, that we take them as pledges of principle, and not as satisfaction of our demands (applause); we thank him for the little tooth-pick, but we are determined to have the dinner also. (Loud cheers and laughter.) In the prosperity which there has been for a time in manufactures, whilst there is so much reason for rejoicing, I find also ample warrant for saying this does not satisfy us. For look, after all, at the limitations of the prosperity. It has been comparative, it is not absolute—it may be as much as the present system will allow—it is not so much as the interests of the country or the claims of humanity require. (Cheers.) Why, in this prosperity of ours, what does Sir James Graham tell us? That, last year, 1,500,000 persons received more or less relief from the poor-rates. (Hear, hear, hear.) One person out of every fifteen in a state of prosperity, as it is called, receiving relief; two hundred

millions of pounds expended on the poor, since the conclusion of a general peace! Why, we might ask, did one not know how these matters were effected—one might ask, if this be prosperity, in the name of Heaven, what is our adversity and calamity? (Hear, hear.) We still hear, too, of deaths by destitution; many cases have I noticed lately of suicide from destitution. And so long as any reports of this kind, or any facts of this description, exist in the country, you cannot say that there is such prosperity as any heart can be satisfied with that is not deadened in its whole feeling of what humanity is entitled to from the possessors of our common nature. (Applause.) Prosperity or adversity, it is our business to see that these things shall not be, whilst there is any further opening for the spread of trade and commerce by which these persons may earn their bread, instead of receiving it in charity, and instead of dying in destitution, may live on by their own exertions, or those of their connexions who had been enabled to render their kindly assistance. Towards this we should ever direct our view; be content with nothing but the entire establishment of the claims of justice and of humanity. (Applause.) And the reason for not being satisfied with this degree of prosperity is, that the way in which it has been attained shows us the path to get a great deal more. (Applause.) Let Sir Robert Peel take what credit he will for the alterations of the tariff—if that modicum of Free Trade has done so much, what will not the broad and universal application of the principle effect? (Loud cheers.) He calculates that he has given us of trade enough to enable us to pay the income-tax; we want a little more, in order to enable us to rise above the apprehension of change, and see the interests and the prosperity of the country moving forward in an accelerated ratio. (Cheers.) We are content to bear whatever burdens are needful for the state, willing to be taxed for Queen and country—(applause)—for the administration of law, for army and navy, for the interest of the national debt; but very unwilling to be taxed for the timber-merchants, the sugar-dealers, or the landlords. (Cheers.) We hold that to be quite another thing. We do not feel bound to support them, either in grandeur, or in any state short of that of absolute pauperism; and if they claim the privileges of paupers, they must submit to ask them in paupers' language. (Cheers.) Especially do we demur to our own best feelings, our own noblest exertions, being turned against us for the purposes of class taxation. I mean, in the way in which the philanthropy of the country, its generous, its noble zeal for negro emancipation, has been made to recoil upon it, and serve as a reason for a monopoly in sugar—(hear, hear, hear)—as if we were thus to be screwed down because it was found that we felt for the unhappy negro. This is a most mean and ungenerous use of the feeling that was exhibited by the people of this country on that subject. (Applause.) Did they not cheerfully pay their twenty millions, and was not the burden then complete? Why should we now pay, not for the good of the negro, for that is not in question,—but simply for the interest of the West India proprietor. (Hear, hear.) The negro does not want our interposition; the complaint of the monopolist papers is that the negro is too well off. A paper in their interest, the *Morning Herald*, says that the state of things cannot be good until the wages of labour of the freed negro is reduced—(hear, hear)—brought down to what it calls "the wholesome European standard." (Applause.) The same paper says that it advocated free labour, but it never meant free idleness. Now, if the emancipated black can afford to be idle now that he is free,—if in that genial climate he can realize all that he deems necessary for his subsistence and his comfort, which has been complained of by some of these newspapers,—if he is even in the way to get so much for his labour as to aggrandize himself, and to become a proprietor of the lands he was once flogged to till, why should we not wish him godspeed? (Cheers.) We have struggled, we have paid for his emancipation; and if emancipation bring him wealth, in the name of Heaven let him possess the enjoyment of that wealth and all the luxuries it can realize. (Applause.) "No," says the mock philanthropy of the day, "you must enable us to compete with slave labour; you must pay us further;" and thus they make your good feeling the instrument of subserving their sordid interests. (Applause.) The philanthropy of our modern West India proprietors reminds me of a story of Barrington, the noted pickpocket, some years ago, whose memoirs were at the time as popular as the stories of Dick Turpin and Jack Sheppard at the present day. He was transported at last; but at Botany Bay he amassed property and became a magistrate—one of the "great unpaid"—no doubt he took care to pay himself. (Applause and laughter.) Well, Barrington one day went to a watchmaker in London, in the city, and gave him directions to make a very delicate instrument, of a very peculiar construction, which he was to call for. It was made, and made to his satisfaction. He praised it much; he paid the man a £10 note for the job, and was going away, when the maker of the instrument preferred the request that he might know the use for which it was intended. "I shall not tell you its use," said Barrington; "afterwards, perhaps, you may discover." As soon as he was gone, the man found the instrument had been already used to draw the £10 note out of his pocket. (Great laughter.) And so you have manufactured a beautiful philanthropy, a genuine one: the West India interest, like Barrington, is using your philanthropy to interest, like Barrington, is using your philanthropy to draw money out of the public pocket; and thus, afterwards, you may discover what the objects were with which this philanthropy passed so readily into the ranks of those who had always been the most determined enemies of negro emancipation. (Loud cheers.) He not satisfied, I say, with present prosperity, with all its appearances; for whilst obstructions to the importation of corn and the exportation of goods remain, not only to limit the operations of commerce, but to spread uncertainty over prices, and everything connected with such transactions. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Why, if one or two bad harvests were to come, where would our prosperity be? (Applause.) The change which came in with low prices would go out with high prices; the same fearful round would have to be trod, from which we have but just emerged; there would be the same outcry, the same want and destitution, the same heart-sickening scenes that but a few years ago produced an impression that can never be obliterated. (Hear, hear.) For there is no security, until the simple and direct application of Free-Trade principles shall be made to all the arrangements of this great commercial country. (Applause.) It is as if the powers of disorder

were ever beneath our feet. For a short time a stimulus is given and we rejoice therein. You find it not a motive for relaxation, but to work on; and while there is no better security than we yet possess, what is the result of prosperity but eventually to enrich those who hold the ultimate screw, and who endeavour to turn every aggrandisement of the country and augmentation of its wealth to their own account. (Cheers.) We should never forget what has been witnessed, and what, when it returns, will return in a yet more awful form; for these crises grow continually darker and deeper as they recur. The powers are undiminished in their force and energy by which the last great seasons of distress were occasioned; they are ready, the moment they are let loose, to work again the like disastrous consequences. (Hear, hear.) It is but as the condition of those who live on the side of Vesuvius or Etna: we may grow careless. The field and the mountain side may be rich; the vineyards may be laden with grapes; the wealthy may be careless; pretty cottages and stately mansions may rise here and there; the peasantry may be dancing night and day. But the principles that are at work in the bowels of the earth still keep on with their chemical combinations; the great laboratory never ceases; and in the midst of all this peacefulness and rejoicing, another combination of those elements produces explosion, shakes the solid mountain itself; the burning lava-stream rushes down scattering all before it; the scene changes from one of peacefulness and joy, to one of dreary, wide, and lasting desolation. (Applause.) And if a blind persistence in the cause of monopoly should survive the present time of comparative quiet and prosperity—should hold us until failing harvests, and famine prices, and sinking trade again excite the public mind, and stimulate to madness the feelings of the destitute,—who can say what is too old, too venerable, too sacred, not to be shaken in that convulsion, or give way before that tremendous tempest? (Loud cheers.) We should not wait till the storm arrive, when it will be impossible to rectify that which, with great care, may be harmoniously arranged during the season of calm and sunshine. (Applause.) Therefore now, with might and main, urge on your great work; continue with that peaceful and untiring energy that has hitherto been manifested, and make good your steps in the course which leads to assured success. (Applause.) Men of Manchester, with whom it began, I know you cannot and will not relax. (Cheers.) You did not when alone, before your spirit had spread itself over the whole face of the country, before you had elicited the response of the metropolis; then you were decided and determined, and you cannot cease to be so now. (Cheers.) The resistance of moral nature is at least as great as that of physical nature. There is the security of enlightened determination—a security as great as that of cause and effect in the material creation. The sun and moon once stood still to accommodate array; Cobden and Bright will not stand still to accommodate a government. (Tremendous cheering.) Onward, onward, is their word, whether it be in this mode of action or in that. (Applause.) You will hold your meetings, you will register your voters, you will circulate your tracts, you will send out your lecturers. (Cheers.) Whether you petition Parliament or abstain from petitioning—whether you cultivate the constituencies of counties or of boroughs—whether you subscribe your money or whether you exhibit manufacturing produce—still your tendency is the same, it is a working out towards the great and blessed end—a working out with a power like that of the mighty elements of nature—creating, invisible, or visible—welcome or unwelcome to mortals—judged rightly or wrongly—still they form their combinations, still they go on, the sun shining by day and the moon and stars by night, maturing the richness of varied seasons; and, like them, your moral energy will do its work; a great power of nature, also of our inward and spiritual being, which shall combine with all the elemental influences of heaven and earth to declare the glory of God, and to ensure the well-being of humanity. (The most enthusiastic cheering followed the delivery of this eloquent address.)

George Thompson, Esq., was next called on, and received with loud and prolonged applause. He spoke as follows:—Mr. Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I feel impelled to commence my address this evening with the language of fervent congratulation that eloquence has been self-consecrated to the cause of freedom in the largest sense of the word, embracing that freedom which you and your coadjutors in this town, and the members of those vast organizations whose business it is to transact, are seeking to achieve for the trade and commerce of this country. (Hear, hear, hear.) Sir, had I been on the opposite side of the question, I for one, should have been met with feelings of profound admiration, how much that feeling might have mingled with that of regret at the misapplication of talents so great; but I listen to eloquence like that of the gentleman who has gone before me, in the cause of human freedom, and I feel deeply grateful to him who has bestowed such noble gifts, and with those gifts themselves the power to employ them on behalf of the best interests of the human race. (Cheers.) It is a noble sight to see a man consecrating his substance to the good of the world, dealing his bread to the hungry, and bringing the outcast poor into his house. (Applause.) But to me it is a still more precious sight to see talents that might obtain for their possessor pre-eminence in any of the departments of usefulness, and distinction among the intellectual of the age,—to see such a man refusing to be a man of talent, and identifying himself closely and sympathetically with those who are in bondage, sharing their lot, and willing to bear any amount of reproach if it be the instrument of leading them into that which is the design of our Creator that all men should be free. (Applause.) Honour then, Sir, to him who has done this to-night—(loud cheers)—who has done this to the people for the people's good, and not alone in this place, but in every part of the country, and in every other way, is unceasingly employed

in striving to elevate the humblest inhabitants of this country to a station of equality, in mind and self-respect at least, with the proudest and the noblest in our country. (Applause.) I have, Sir, to congratulate my friends about me on the progress which this great cause has made since I was last upon this platform, some twelve months ago. I had then to congratulate you upon the progress you had been making during the previous two years; and a progress as great as any made during a preceding period has marked your history during the last twelve months. (Applause.) There seems to be almost universally, at the present time, a conviction in the minds of men,—however they may hang to particular systems of protection for their own sake, and the sake of the class to which they belong,—that our circumstances do imperatively call for the application, in a very wide degree, of the great principles of Free Trade. (Applause.) They cannot look at our ever-increasing population, they cannot compute our redundant capital, they cannot look upon our augmenting productive energy, they cannot contemplate the expansive and expanding enterprise, without feeling convinced that larger spheres of action, that wider markets, that a freer exchange with the nations of the earth, that, in fact, unrestricted commerce is absolutely necessary for us above all nations on the face of the earth, in order that we may maintain our position, and put the necessities of life within the reach of all our fellow-subjects. (Loud applause.) And if this be the general conviction, I think we may fairly say that it is owing to the unexampled exertions which have been made by the Anti-Corn-Law League to enlighten the public mind, and to give to the people a right understanding, both of their necessities, and of the rights to which they are entitled as members of this great society. (Applause.) One thought has occurred to me to-night, and it is this:—It is a strange fact that the great impediments which we are called upon by a society, and as the people of this country, to remove—the great impediments that lie in our way to prosperity, to wealth, to stability as a nation, and to pre-eminence amongst the nations of the world, are not of a natural kind, but are self-created. (Hear, hear.) They are created by law—(applause);—for it is strange that an assembly of men, intrusted with the power of making laws for this country, who are responsible for the use they make of that power, and under the most solemn obligations to use it for the best interests of their fellow-subjects—that these men are the men who have exerted that power for the purpose of throwing impediments in the way of a nation's welfare, when the knowledge, the ingenuity, the perseverance, and the enterprise of that nation had removed all other impediments out of the way. (Cheers.) There are extensive markets in the world, where all our people's manufactures might find a ready and profitable sale. We know where these markets are; we have the means of reaching them; those who carry to them our goods meet with no molestation on the shores of these distant countries; they are welcomed there; and there is an abundance of produce with which to freight their ships upon the homeward voyage. We want not men to man our vessels; we are not afraid of the winds or the weather; we have triumphed over the elements to a great extent; we reckon now by minutes and not by miles—by hours and not by degrees of latitude and longitude. (Hear, hear.)

—The keels of our merchant ships are cutting all waters; and all nations of the earth might be rendered, by the productions of their varied soils, tributary to our comfort and to our wealth. (Applause.) The difficulty we have to contend with is home-born (hear, hear, hear); it has originated among those who ought to be, of all other men in the world, foremost in removing impediments out of the way. (Applause.) The nation has done all for itself that is necessary, and now only asks that its own Government and its own so-called representatives will not prevent the people from reaping the advantages which they might reap from the various wants of mankind, from the diversified riches of the earth, and from the free exchange of benefits which would be, to the greatest possible extent, advantageous to mankind at large. (Applause.) I say, Sir, it is a reproach to our country that this should be so. (Cheers.) It is to the dishonour of our Legislature that this should be so. (Loud applause.) And it is, above all, reproachful to them and to us that it should be so, for the simple purpose of advancing the interests of particular classes in society. (Applause.) What is it with which we are contending? What is called the principle of protection? I have said before in this town that I know not a word in the English language more abused than that. (Hear, hear.) The party ostensibly sought to be protected are not protected. (Applause.) I have recently been in India; I know what the word "protection" means there. (Hear, hear.) We have never "protected" a prince whom we have not dethroned—(applause)—we have never "protected" a people whom we have not deprived of their liberty, whose institutions we have not annihilated, whose every acre of land we have not grasped, and whom we have not "protected" with a land-tax which taken from them 45 per cent. of their produce. (Applause.) This is "protection" in India; and "protection" in England means the general and universal oppression and plunder of the people. (Cheers.) We understand at our firesides, the word "protection" to mean the doing of good to others, and not the enriching of ourselves. We don't so protect the stranger and the outcast that come to our doors. (Applause.) We don't so protect the poor that cast themselves upon our benevolence and generosity; but those who undertake to protect us, and to protect us before they are asked to do so (applause), turn out to be only protectors of themselves at our expense. (Cheers.) And, consequently, it is established, I think, beyond all doubt, that there has been a grand mistake in bestowing upon this system the name that it bears, and that it ought to be called by that plain name which Col. Thompson has given it,—“Robbery.” (Loud applause.) Many events have transpired since we met together in this place; and one of the most interesting of these events has been the announcement by Sir Robert Peel, in the House of Commons, of his intention to make very considerable alterations in the tariff of the country. I for one, cannot be disposed to think that at present, he is entitled to much more of our gratitude than that which has been described by the eloquent gentleman who has gone before me. It seems no very sublime height of virtue to have attained in the way of practice, to make the nation a present of duties amounting to some three millions and a half; while at the same time he takes, in another way, five millions out of their pockets. (Cheers.)

I do not know how he could have done less than he has done, with such a surplus revenue as that which he has obtained by means of an income and property tax. (Hear, hear.) Something he was obliged to do; and he has found out a way of absorbing it all. (Applause.) He wants more than a million for the purpose of augmenting the navy, and he is asking for some addition, I believe, to the army; and he makes us a present of the rest, by which the duty is taken off 430 articles. Still, we are not here to quarrel with Sir Robert Peel for what he has done; but we have to quarrel with him on account of what he has not done. (Applause.) Sir, I think we may look very hopefully, however, to the present state of things; and it is right that we should do justice to the Prime Minister of this country. I think much credit is due to him, under the circumstances; and I think he would do much more for us, if all who call themselves Liberals and Free-Traders in the abstract, were so in reality, both in the House of Commons and out of it. (Cheers.) I think we have no right to wonder that so little is done, considering the class of men by whom the Minister is surrounded: if you look at the circumstances under which he was brought into power—if you look at the threats that have been held out to him—ay, if you read the last speech of the Duke of Buckingham, when he took the chair at the dinner to celebrate the return of Mr. Towers for the county, you will find that in every thing that Sir Robert Peel does, in the way of diminishing the restrictions upon our trade, he flies directly in the face of these mighty dukes, and of those who sympathise with them in upholding the present protection of the Corn Law. (Hear, hear.) Now, I think we have much more reason to complain of the men on the opposite side of the House, who declare protection to be the bane of agriculture one night, and come down and ask protection for the West India body the next night (applause); who absent themselves when a motion going to the root of the matter is before the House, who then leave the benches empty, and come back again only to bid for the support of the West India body, by promising them protection to which they are not entitled, a protection which, but a few evenings before, was denounced by themselves as the bane of agriculture. (Cheers.) I cannot look at the history of Sir Robert Peel during the last two or three years, without coming to this conclusion, that he has made his election,—that he has determined upon what he will base his fame,—that he has chosen “for better or worse,”—to stand or fall in a great effort to be the liberator of the commerce of this country. (Applause.) I speak not now of Sir Robert Peel as a man: I may entertain but small respect for his character as a man; I speak of him as a statesman, as an ambitious man, as a sagacious man, as a man who reads the signs of the times, as a man who knows where strength abides, upon whom he may best depend for support, and who have the best means of supporting him (applause)—as a man who knows the wants of this country, as a man not forgetting the rock from whence he was taken (loud applause)—who has something like commercial blood in his veins, who has no lineage that he can trace back to the Normans (hear, hear), but who stands closely identified by his inheritance, by his descent, with the commercial and trading classes of the community. (Applause.) And I cannot look at what he has said, and the little he has done, without coming to this conclusion, that he has determined hereafter, if he enjoys fame at all, to enjoy that fame as the emancipator of the commerce and manufactures of this country. (Applause.) And when those who are now influenced only by factious motives, and the many others who are hanging on to the tails of their skirts, in the hope—growing less and less day by day—that those whom they follow so obsequiously may one day place them in office,—I say, when these men shall be convinced that they are but the impotent representatives of a once extensive and respectable, but now powerless, and defunct party—(applause)—and when they have a near prospect of certain questions being put to them on the hustings—they will come round to the views so honestly maintained by your champions in the House of Commons, by those who entered in such close connexion with this Anti-Corn-Law League; and when that shall come to pass,—when, with or without political power or place, these men shall give an honest opinion, and an honest vote in the House of Commons,—I rather think Sir Robert Peel will then go a great deal further than he has gone, and will not only allow arsenic to come in duty free, but corn and sugar also. (Cheers.) Looking at the materials with which he has had to work, I think he has done much (applause); and looking at what was said to him by the farmers—I beg pardon, “the farmers’ friends”—I think the wonder is that he has been able to accomplish the little that he has accomplished. (Applause.) At a great meeting recently held in Covent-garden Theatre, Mr. Bright, in the course of an admirable speech, read a passage from one of the works of Leigh Hunt—a paper in the *Indicator*—intended to set forth the position of Sir Robert Peel and his followers, in which Sir Robert was described as heading a parcel of unruly and by no means intelligent fellows, that might be likened to pigs on their way to Smithfield. (Applause and laughter.) Now, Sir, I find in the *Times* newspaper of this very day, a very similar passage in reference to the feeling entertained by this class in regard to Sir Robert Peel. The *Times* says:—“The persevering confidence of the agriculturists must now and then inflict a pang even in the remorseless bosom of the Premier. That their confidence must be retained, and must also be abused, is, to say the least, an unpleasant necessity. Fondly credulous, they not only believe what is said, and that in the largest sense, but they even construe silence into the language of hope. They will not be undeceived. They condemn themselves, body and soul, substance and expectations, to the butcher who triumphs in their ruin. The more he has seduced and denied them, the more do they yield to his arts, and bring on themselves fresh repudiation. They must catch it from their cattle. The poor things bleat, and low, and express all kinds of inarticulate annoyance, and try first this lane, then that, but eventually find their way to the slaughterer, to the slaughterer, or wherever else fate may lead them. It must be so. How else shall the lords of the creation be fed and clothed? Still, in one’s hungriest and nakedest mood, one relents a little at the sight of their misplaced confidence and ill-requited affection. If the human agriculturist were only an ignorant and unsuspicious of the future as the animal—if he would only consent to be happy till the very blow, or its



gloomy preliminaries, we should not need to be so much distressed on his account.

"The lamb thy riot dooms to bleed to-day,  
Had he thy reason, would he skip and play?"

But, unfortunately, they will not skip and play. They complain very lustily. Nevertheless, their confidence is unabated. Sir Robert is still their master. They still come to him for food and protection, still lick his hand, and suffer him to stroke down their allies. Long may that confidence remain undisturbed. The dominion of Sir Robert over the landowner we hold to be as important just now as that of man over the brute. Still it is not without circumstances to excite one's pity. There we have the condition of what is called the landed aristocracy of the country,—valiant out of doors, but mute in the House of Commons,—vowing what they will do when they gather round the dinner table at the Freemasons' Tavern, but making no sturdy stand against the inroads of Sir Robert Peel in the House of Commons. (Applause.) Well, now, with such a body of men, having already considerably annoyed them in the matter of cattle and the Canadian Corn Bill, can we wonder that he has not gone much further than he has gone, looking at the conduct and the language of monopoly held by those who sit on the opposite side of the House? (Applause.) I say, Sir, in meetings like these we should express our sentiments honestly. (Applause.) If those who are professing to be Liberals, and to denounce all kinds of protection in the abstract, are found to be bidding still for the support of men whose support they cannot obtain, unless in practice they concede the principle, and sustain and uphold the monopolies which we denounce—(applause)—why, here, on this very question of sugar, we find Sir Robert Peel is left without an alternative. He is not likely, with the wisdom he possesses, to risk a defeat; and when he finds the leader of the Liberal party coming forward to tell the West Indians, in so many words, that he considers they have a right to protection, and that he intends to give it to them—how can we expect Sir Robert Peel to do more than he has done? (Applause.) With regard to the argument by which they seek to vindicate their discriminating duties, I have only this to say, that it excites my most unmingled disgust. (Applause.) I agree with the eloquent gentleman who has gone before me, that they are taking advantage of the philanthropy of the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) I think it is of all spectacles the most revolting, to see men who, when slavery existed, were its firm supporters, and who went to considerable expense to defeat the efforts that were made twelve or thirteen years ago,—to see these men now claiming for themselves an astonishing amount of sympathy with slaves, and robbing the people of this country to the amount of £2,500,000 a year, upon the plea of monopoly, the extinction of the foreign slave trade, and the slavery of the American states and colonies, is a most deplorable and revolting sight. Why, here you have an astounding fact: almost every man who now votes for an equalization of the duties on sugar, is a man who represents an anti-slavery constituency. And many of these men would never have been in the House of Commons had they not given a direct and unequivocal answer to the question put to them in Manchester, in Sheffield, and elsewhere. Have Manchester and Sheffield changed their opinions? No. Have those men changed their opinions? No. But, by the very same rule according to

which they indeed that the negro had a right to freedom, they arrive at this conclusion also: that every man in this country, and throughout the world, has a right to carry the result of his labour to the best market, and to have no impediment placed in his way in the shape of fiscal regulations to fetter the exchange of the productions of his industry for the articles that are presented to him in the open market of the world. (Loud applause.) Sir, the inconsistency of the present Government has been admirably exhibited in a speech of extraordinary ability, which was delivered by the Hon. Mr. Macaulay in the House of Commons—a speech I should recommend to the attentive perusal of all who wish to understand this great question, namely—whether our Government, whether any Government, has a right, upon such a plea as that which is put forward by Sir Robert Peel and his supporters, to tax the people of this country, and to deprive them of their right to Free Trade. I stand not here, nor anywhere else, as the apologist of slavery. (Hear, hear.) I think I shall not be accused of loving the slavery of the United States, the slavery of Brazil, or the slavery of any other part of the world. (Applause.) But I cannot consent to purchase even the abolition of slavery, to interfere with negro slavery, by the sacrifice of the liberty of my fellow-subjects and fellow-countrymen. (Applause.) I hold that the negro has a right to be personally free. (Hear, hear.) I hold it to be an equally sacred principle that every individual in this great community should be free to carry his industry to the best market. (Applause.) And I deny the right of Government to undertake to settle that question of morality—whether I, by purchasing Brazilian sugar in the market, or Carolina rice, or Virginia tobacco, or the cotton of Alabama, become of necessity a participant in the crime of the man-stealer of the coast of Africa, or the slaveholder in any other part of the world. I deny that the Government is instituted for any such purpose as to legislate for the consciences of men. (Applause.) Submit the question to the bench of bishops; ask them to give their reasons and their opinions; and there will be as many opinions as bishops on that bench. (Applause.) Submit it to any six men or six women in this country, and they would most likely frankly tell you, "We cannot settle the question." They would, perhaps, know what they ought to do as individuals, but would say they could not decide for others. (Applause.) And this is the reason why the question should not be interfered in by the Legislature. But for men who would not even vote for the abolition of the practice of flogging women, who stood by the slavery of our own colonies when their votes could have annihilated it years ago, and who kept up that system to the last, to make this a plea for protection of free labour is sheer hypocrisy. (Cheers.) Mr. Thompson concluded by congratulating the meeting on the progress which Free-Trade principles had made since last they met, and were making, and on the prospects of the Bazaar, and sat down amidst great cheering.

JOHN HUDGINS, Esq., in moving a vote of thanks to the speakers, spoke briefly in reference to the proposed sugar duties, and said that the arrangement intended to be carried out respecting clayed and muscovado sugars

could never be worked. A similar system had been tried in tea, but it could not be carried out.

The motion having been seconded by Alderman WALKER, was carried; and the meeting then gave three cheers for Free Trade, and separated.

#### MEETINGS OF THE WILTSHIRE LABOURERS.

Our readers will probably remember that, some months ago, we reported several meetings of agricultural labourers in Wiltshire, to make known their privations, and seek some redress for their grievances. During the winter the sufferings of the Wiltshire peasantry have been most severe, and they are again assembling in large numbers to remonstrate with the Legislature, and claim attention to their miserable and degraded condition. It is an example worthy of imitation in other counties. It is by such means only that public opinion can be awakened to the fearful state of the agricultural districts. It is the want of organization among the agricultural labourers that has led to their deep and almost hopeless degradation. Public meetings are the only effectual means of resistance to wrong or oppression; and the peaceable exercise of this right by the peasantry of other counties would soon arouse public sympathy to an effort for the amelioration of their condition. We beg to call the attention of our readers to the following report, and more especially to the plain and homely narrative of wretchedness contained in the letter of Isaac Hart. It is a picture of privation and suffering common to thousands in every strictly rural district of the country; and the "Lords of Protection" would do well to read the "signs of the times" exhibited in these spontaneous meetings of the Wiltshire peasantry.

AVEBURY.

(From the *Wiltshire Independent*.)

The labouring classes of this place and its neighbourhood have not been exempt from the distress which has long existed in other parts of this county, and which the severity of the past winter has not a little increased. Under these circumstances they are led to ponder on the causes which have produced, and are still producing, scarcity of employment and lowness of wages; and, having before them the example of many other districts in this county, they have met spontaneously, and in large numbers, to make known their distress and to petition Parliament to inquire into its cause.

Their meeting was announced for Monday evening last, at the large room of the Red Lion Inn, Avebury; and at the hour appointed (seven o'clock) the large club-room was crowded, while hundreds were outside striving in vain for admission. It was evident that the meeting could not be held in doors; and then ensued a scene of excitement which is past description, arising from the endeavours of those who had obtained places in the room to get out, and the eager efforts of those outside to obtain admission. At length, it became understood that the intention was to hold the meeting in the open air, upon which quiet was restored. In a few minutes chairs were placed in front of the house for the speakers, and before them, spite of the bitter cold, upwards of 1500 people, almost entirely of the labouring class, were gathered together; not, be it re-

membered, to hear any distinguished orator, but to listen to the addresses of working men, like themselves, and, some of them, in their own plain but touching and truthful language publicly to make known their condition.

GEORGE ROYCE, of Marlborough, was called to the chair, and opened the business of the meeting by calling on

GEORGE AWDRY, a shoemaker, residing at Marlborough, who moved the first resolution; and in a straightforward and honest manner, drew a picture of the condition of the poor, the truth of which was borne witness to by the exclamations and by the hearty assent of all who heard him.

WILLIAM MAIDMENT seconded the resolution; and from his own experience confirmed the statements of the preceding speaker as to the destitution of the labouring classes.

Several agricultural labourers then came forward, and, in simple language, told tales of distress, deprivation, and suffering, which could not fail to move the coldest heart; distress which, if one might judge from the kind of running commentary kept up, during the detail, by the multitude, was the lot not only of those who thus publicly stated it, but of the majority of those who were present.

The second resolution was moved by J. WESTALL, of Marlborough, who endeavoured to impress upon the labourers the necessity of publicly and peaceably investigating their own grievances, and pointed out the benefits to be derived from such meetings as the present.

WILLIAM EDWARDS seconded the resolution, and entered fully and clearly into a history of the corn and other restrictive laws, showing their injustice, and the injury they inflicted on the working classes, in a way which did credit to his head and to his heart, and which elicited frequent applause.

The third resolution was briefly moved by J. BOND, and seconded by W. ARMSTRONG, baker; after which a petition (which appears below) was read and adopted by acclamation. The greatest earnestness prevailed both on the part of speakers and hearers. The multitude quietly dispersed about 10 o'clock.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1st.—Moved by GEO. AWDRY, and seconded by H. MAIDMENT, "That this meeting is fully convinced, from the numerous proofs in its own neighbourhood, from evidence it has received from other quarters, and from the general information furnished through the medium of the press, that distress of the most alarming character every where prevails, and that misery so universal demands from the Legislature an immediate inquiry."

2nd.—Moved by J. WESTALL, seconded by W. EDWARDS, "That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the corn and other restrictive laws passed by the Legislature, under the idea that they would benefit the country, have had a directly opposite effect, and are the primary cause of the distress and misery now experienced by the labouring poor, especially those of the rural districts."

3rd.—Moved by J. BOND, seconded by W. ARMSTRONG, "That this meeting views with admiration the praiseworthy exertions of Mr. Cobden, the member for

Stockport, and are resolved to support that gentleman by a petition to the House of Commons, praying that House to agree to the motion about to be submitted to them, for inquiry into the state of the agricultural classes, as the only means to extricate the farmer from his embarrassment, and permanently to benefit the labourer."

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled;

The Petition of the undersigned labourers and others, residing at Avebury and the neighbourhood, in the county of Wilts, in public meeting assembled;

Showeth,—That your petitioners have been told that the Corn and Provision Laws were passed for their benefit, and that the total and immediate repeal of those laws is resisted by the Government and by the landed aristocracy, on the ground that, by their repeal, the labourers of England would be reduced to a state of destitution and misery.

That your petitioners are, and long have been, in the greatest poverty and want, the employment furnished, and the wages given (now that they are under the protection of those laws) being totally insufficient to maintain them and their families in comfort, in decency, or even in health.

That your petitioners, therefore, are not afraid that the repeal of the Corn Laws would prove injurious to them, their condition being already far worse than that of felons in gaol, or even of paupers in the workhouse.

They, therefore, humbly pray your Honourable House to agree to the motion of the honourable member for Stockport for inquiry into the state of the agricultural classes, being convinced that, whatever the Corn Laws may have done towards keeping up rents, they have neither benefited the labourer, nor his employer, the farmer; and fully believing that inquiry would bring to light such a state of things in the rural districts as would induce the Legislature to renounce the idea that Corn Laws are necessary to the welfare of the labouring classes in England.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,

By the Chairman, GEO. ROYCE.

A correspondent sends us the following case, illustrative of the condition of the peasantry of Wiltshire:—

"I have enclosed a letter addressed by a poor old woman, an agricultural labourer to a friend, touching the condition of his daughter and her family. I need not make any remarks on the letter; it is simple and eloquent, and speaks for itself. The first paragraph I could not cut off, but even that shows that the writer is a worthy man, and proves that he is anxious to pay a small debt. The writer, Isaac Hart, is a thoroughly respectable old man, of good moral character. His age is 75, or thereabouts; and his ability to work being gone, he is supported by the Corn Union. As to the case mentioned in the letter, that of the Franklins, it is by no means a solitary one; indeed it is a fair sample of the condition of the labouring population of North Wilts, excepting from them carters, shepherds, and those few among them who receive rather higher wages than are commonly paid, and have some sort of perquisites. To be in the condition of the Franklins is the rule, and not the exception, among the peasantry of Wiltshire. Poor old Hart wrote to the guardians of the

Calne Union respecting his daughter's case, and two of the guardians called on him, and told him 'the hard would not do anything for the family because his daughter was a bad manager.' How they can manage to do ought but starve with such means passes my comprehension. It is too bad to taunt the poor with being bad managers. I should like to see Mr. Banks, or Mr. John Benett, lay their plans for the lodging, feeding, clothing, and warming of a family of seven persons for a week, and only 7s. to do it with."

Hillmarston, January 10, 1845.

"MY DEAR FRIEND,—I hope it is well with you and well with your Mother and your unkel. I have been expecting for some time to see you to pay you for the things that I received; but I do expect I shall see you sooner or later. With respect to myself, I am much the same as when I saw you last. Thomas Hart, and his wife and family, and your Master, Mr. and Mrs. Archerd, are all well.

"but I have a grievance to state to you a bout my Daughter, Jane Frankling. Thomas Frankling's wife she is now confined with her fifth child, and they only six shillings a week to support herself and a wife nearly confined, and five children—that is, seven in family. It is true his wages is seven Shilling a week; but his Master, altho one of the guardians, takes one shilling a week out of the poor man's seven for house-rent; another shilling is needed for fireing, and another is needed for garment and shoes, and a few needy things; this will deduct his seven shillings down to four shillings a week, to support himself, a hard labouring man, and a wife nearly confined, and five children; no more than one penny a day each. I went to see them myself, and I found them thus: four poor children below stairs, crying in hunger and cold, and not one bit of bread in the house to give them; the poor woman up stairs, and a very aged woman with her: my daughter was in labour in childbirth, and in great distress. I went to a neighbour house and bought a loaf of bread to give the poor children, and that saved their crying. No one was provided, that is, no nurse was provided for to attend to the poor woman, therefore I provided for to attend to the poor woman, and to do the best she could for her, and I would pay her myself out of my small income.

"now, my Dear friend, this is a truth that can be brought forward if needed; and I should be glad for you to publish the same, only I beg you to keep my name out of it, except it was needed to be brought to light, and then, if needed, I would come forward without fear. What I mean is, you know, that they would take any advantage of me if they could."

ISAAC HART.

#### THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MANCHESTER, AND MR. HIRLEY.

TRIUMPH OF THE LEAGUE.

The special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers, to consider the propriety of expressing their opinion on the exclusion from office of one of the directors, on the alleged ground of having acted as a shareholder of an election committee, was held on Tuesday, at the Town-hall, at eleven o'clock, when there was one of

the most numerous assemblages of this body ever yet known. Among the gentlemen present, in addition to Thomas Bazley, Esq., jun. (president), were the following:—Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and John Bright, Esq., M.P. (who were loudly cheered on entering the room), R. P. Livingstone, Malcolm Ross, John Hyde, Thos. Bright, Lewis Williams, Jas. Atherton, Wm. Bickham, M. Curtis, H. Grounds, John Harding, Geo. Peel, G. Paton, John Shawcross, S. Fletcher, D. Ainsworth, E. Armitage, W. L. Kelsall, Wm. Harvey, Nathan Lees, J. Turner, T. Roberts, W. Gibb, Ald. Hopkins, W. B. Watkins, Henry Ashworth, George Wilson, W. Evans, E. Ashworth, J. Garnett, S. Walker, S. Lees, W. McCall, John Potter, R. Pownall, — Royle, J. Simpson, S. Seed, J. Macvicar, Ald. Shuttleworth, P. Lucas, W. Rawson, John Cheatham, Ald. Murray, W. R. Callender, Ald. Kershaw, H. Houldsworth, Ald. Burd, John Brooks, T. P. Potter, E. Shawcross, R. Barbour, John Herford, J. Swindell, W. Morris, T. H. Williams, J. C. Harter, J. W. Fraser, Thomas Cooke, J. P. Westhead, Thomas Woolley, S. L. Behrens, J. Swanwick, John Chippendale, Edward Tootal, J. B. Wanklyn, Ald. Willert, John McClure, John Sharp, J. H. Wanklyn, Smith Philip Robinson, Ald. Neild, &c. The following is a copy of the requisition upon which the meeting was called:—

"We, the undersigned, being at least one-fourth in number of the members of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, do hereby request you to call a special general meeting of the chamber, to consider the propriety of expressing its opinions on the exclusion from office, at the recent annual meeting, of one of the directors for the last year, recommended for re-election by the board, on the alleged ground of his having acted as chairman of an election committee."

After some proceedings on a point of order, Mr. HENRY HOULDSWORTH moved—"That this meeting regrets the decision of the last annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, whereby an active member of the board of directors was excluded from the board on the ground of his having taken an active part in securing the election of a member of Parliament having views on the question of Free Trade not in accordance with the declared opinions of a majority of the chamber; and conceiving that the principle urged in favour of such a course is at variance with the constitution of the chamber, and calculated to lessen its weight and usefulness, hereby declares its opinion that to exclude any member from the direction on the ground of his political opinion or conduct, or for the part which he may think proper to take in the election of members of Parliament, is to give the chamber a character of exclusiveness at variance with its original constitution, and injurious to the leading objects of such an institution."

J. A. TURNER, Esq., seconded the motion.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Alderman SHUTTLEWORTH, seconded by Mr. T. H. WILLIAMS, that the meeting do adjourn. On the division, the numbers were—

For the adjournment .. .. .	101
Against it .. .. .	82

Majority .. .. . 19

The result therefore is, that the attempt to censure the Chamber of Commerce, which was interpreted to mean an attack on the Anti-Corn-Law League, has completely failed. A full meeting of the Chamber has been held, and instead of a "great majority," which the *Manchester Guardian* anticipated, there were only 82 members out of the 300 to vote against the proceedings of the meeting which selected Mr. Barnes in preference to Mr. Bailey.

#### FREE-TRADE MEETING AT COVENTRY.

(Abridged from the *Coventry Herald*.)

Notwithstanding Mr. Newdegate's taunt at a recent meeting of the "Protection Society" in London, that the League had "retired from the field" in this county, the Free-Traders last Tuesday evening made one of the best "demonstrations" in this city which has ever taken place. The announcement of the well-known and weighty names of Colonel Thompson, George Thompson, Esq., and Robert R. Moore, Esq., drew together at St. Mary's Hall a thronged attendance of the labouring, trading, and manufacturing classes, including a good portion of ladies, who occupied the front benches. The Mayor of Coventry presided.

Colonel THOMPSON, on being introduced, was received with loud cheers. His speech was well received, and many of his illustrations told with effect. Speaking of the Coventry silk trade, he said:—"He had heard that an idea was cherished that there were some peculiarities in the Coventry trade, the ribbon trade for instance, which ought to make it exempt from the application of Free-Trade principles. But how was this notion to be refuted? If Coventry and the ribbon trade could get re-emption or protection in its own favour and keep it to itself, it might be all very well; but it so happened that other trades and places asserted their claim to similar exemptions, and what they called protection became public robbery. The putting restrictions on trade was in fact encouraging one trade to rob another, and the amount of which they thus robbed each other was just as much wasted as if it were thrown into the sea."

Mr. ROBERT R. MOORE followed in an eloquent speech, in which he showed that the peculiar branch of manufacture in which Coventry was engaged, proved more strongly than any other he could select, the disadvantage of monopoly, and the advantage of Free Trade. He also gave a brief view of many other branches of the subject.

Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON, who had come specially from London, next addressed the meeting, and made many telling hits against the proposed Government measures, as far as they are hostile to Free Trade; and exposed with great power the feeble grounds on which a distinction is assumed in favour of slave-grown cotton, but against slave-grown sugar, by Sir R. Peel and his supporters.

On the motion of the Rev. J. GORDON, seconded by Mr. JOSEPH CASH, a vote of thanks was given to Colonel Thompson, Robert R. Moore, Esq., and G. Thompson, for their kindness in attending and addressing the meeting.

#### MEETING IN BRISTOL.

ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.  
(Abridged from the *Bristol Gazette*.)  
In pursuance of the notice contained in our last, a tea meeting of those attached to the principles of Free Trade

was held at the Public Rooms, Broadmead, on Monday evening. The more immediate object of the meeting was to bring under the notice of those present, and of friends elsewhere, the Bazaar proposed to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in May next, in aid of the funds of that great League, which, with such dauntless and persevering efforts, continues to assail the remaining bulwarks of monopoly. From the respectability and numbers of those who attended the meeting, as well as from the interest taken in the subject by many ladies, we anticipate that the stall to be allotted to Bristol will present such a display as will be worthy of its position, and worthy of the interest which it takes in the great cause.

The doors were opened at five o'clock, and by six the spacious room was nearly filled. The arrangements for the tea, &c., were on the same scale of comfort and liberality which has given so much satisfaction on former occasions. Among the strangers present we noticed James Adam Gordon, Esq., of Nash-house; and Thom, the weaver poet. In the lamented absence of Earl Ducie, occasioned by renewed indisposition, the chair, at the conclusion of tea, was taken by

GEORGE THOMAS, Esq., who proceeded to address the meeting. Having expressed his regret that he should have to take the chair in the absence of Earl Ducie, he read the following letter:—

"DEAR MR. THOMAS,—I am sorry to say that I am again in bed, my knee having given way on my first attempt to ride after five months' interval of doctoring."

"There is, I fear, not the slightest chance of my being able to move for some days, so pray, therefore, make my excuses at Bristol, on Monday."

"Yours faithfully, Ducie."

The Chairman then explained the object of the meeting, namely, to solicit their assistance in order that Bristol might be well represented at the Covent-garden Bazaar. He next addressed the meeting at much length on the general question of Free Trade, elucidating his views by cogent arguments and apt illustrations. The Chairman, in conclusion, again reverted to the Bazaar; he said:—

"I have not stated one thing, but which I ought to have done before, viz.:—that we do not come here to make a collection. Still, in order to carry out the objects of the Bazaar, I hope that Bristol will maintain her position, so that when we go to Covent-garden we shall not find the old city in the shade. (Cheers.) In order to do so, some of us must advance money to help those who are willing to work, but who have not the means to pay for the raw material. Many of our female friends give their labour, and ought not under any circumstances to be called on to do more; but there are many mechanics and other skilful persons to whom it would be an advantage if we could enable them to get materials wherewith they could manufacture many articles which would be worth showing. I should be very glad to see the ingenuity of the citizens of Bristol employed in this way; I mean those who have not the means of giving their time or money towards the furtherance of our objects. (Hear.) I hope many who are here this evening will be induced to furnish the means to those who are willing to work. A gentlemen's committee and a ladies' committee have been formed, so that two of the points alluded to in the general address are settled. I hope that some of the manufacturers of Bristol will show some performances of skill in the various arts; and now that the duty has been taken off, I hope we shall have the pleasure of witnessing some of the beautiful productions of the glass manufacture. I shall be glad to receive contributions to the Bazaar in any way that may be agreeable to the donor."

The Chairman then concluded amidst loud cheers by calling on G. Thompson, Esq., to address the meeting.

Mr. G. THOMPSON, on rising, was received with loud cheers. In an eloquent speech he reviewed the progress of the Free-Trade question in Bristol, the difficulties they had overcome, and those which still stood in their way to final success. He denounced the injustice of that legislation which prevented the people from availing themselves of the great advantages they might otherwise derive from their enterprise, industry, skill, and capital. He was not afraid to discuss the question on the ground of expediency, for that which was right was ever expedient; and if it was proved to be just to abolish the Corn Laws, that was enough to establish its expediency. The eloquent speaker then reviewed the several points involved in the new tariff, and ridiculed, with happy effect, many of its details; he asserted protection to be an evil, and that its total abolition would promote the welfare of all classes of the community. Apart from all lower considerations, the Free-Traders claimed free and unrestricted trade as the right of every man,—a right which could not be denied him without positive injustice.

Colonel THOMPSON was received with loud and repeated cheering. The colonel commenced by a graphic portraiture of the Premier, and, his prototype, an eminent historical character:—

"I certainly feel great obligation, if I may be permitted to do such a thing, to the present director of England's fortunes, for what he has done, according to his opportunities, for the benefit of the country over which he presides. (Cheers.) It was ever my opinion, that want of knowledge was not that Minister's defect; and every step he takes has shown it, and will show it still. (Hear, hear.) Depend upon it he knows all about it, as well as either you or I do. (Cheers and laughter.) Why should not he? (Continued cheers and laughter.) Has he not commercial blood in him as we have? He is no Norman, no aristocrat. (Cheers.) He came from cotton-spinning (laughter), and in plenty of cotton-spinning he will end. (Continued laughter.) His position, it is clear, is difficult. We perhaps could find nobody to do so well for us if put into his place. See now if he does not turn out the greatest man in his line, that has appeared in the world since Duke Maurice of Saxony. (Cheers.) That eminent individual was born a Protestant, and was a Protestant at heart,—living during the grand struggle for the Reformation on the Continent. But he had no taste for martyrdom; his talents did not lie in that direction. (Laughter.) He temporized; he kept clear of the stake; he did more, he kept his dukedom. (Laughter.) He did what perhaps to you or me would have been exceedingly painful—he went with the stream (laughter); he offered no resistance where resistance would have been in vain; he took care not to diminish his usefulness. Is not that the phrase? (Laughter and cheers.) When invited by others to assist them—no, not at all. He passed for an enemy with many; to a certain extent he was so; but the hour arrived when the weakness of the oppressive power of that age came upon it, and then Duke Maurice of Saxony was in his place. (Great cheers.) Something like that will be the end of the present eventful history. He will make no sacrifice of self without a purpose. When the time comes, he will go to his followers and say, 'Office is not my desire; if, gentlemen, you have anybody that can do better for you than I, why don't you take him?' (Cheers and laughter.) In the meantime he, like the mouse that liberated the lion in the fable, will be gnawing away one mesh after another of the bonds which hold down his country's industry. Depend on it that man, by virtue of the blood from which he sprang, has entertained the idea of being the liberator of his country's commerce; and he will be so, and laugh at nobility. (Great cheering.) I speak of snakes; was

it three, or was it four hundred and thirty, that he has gnawed just now? (Cheers.) No one of them in itself, perhaps, of any great importance; all of them together making a considerable large hole towards our escape." (Cheers.)

The veteran speaker put a few more finishing touches to complete the picture.

"After the intelligence he has displayed on that other crabbed subject of the currency, do you think there can be a hole or cranny in the question of the Corn Laws with which he is not familiar? He assured that lack of knowledge never was his weakness. (Laughter.) Nor will he show weakness of any other kind when the time shall come. I do not present him as practising any deceit upon his followers. I bargain for his doing the best he can for them, and that they shall tell him so. But the time is not far off when he will say to his own party, 'Gentlemen, is it your desire to have the amputation performed by a friendly surgeon or by an unfriendly?' " (Loud cheers.)

The monopolists' cry-out against "foreign trade" is thus pithily met:—

"Foreign trade! foreign trade! I would put down all foreign trade by act of Parliament—teach people to trade with the country they live in." It a man had blurted out this, you would have been everywhere ready with the answer. You would not have found an apprentice boy but would have been ready to tell him, that foreign trade is advantageous because it brings in a greater quantity of good things than would be got by trading at home;—that the only reason why a man should wish to hinder it is, that he may be able to make us carry on a bad trade with him at home, instead of a good one abroad. What is all this monopoly in favour of a bad home trade, or a bad colonial trade, but a demand that men shall be encouraged in such an operation as making boots and cutting them into shoes?" (Laughter.)

Those who look for wisdom in their legislators have an excellent hint given them in the following pithy sentences:—

"The country, you know, is the origin of the House of Commons, and not the House of Commons of the country; it is reasonable, therefore, that we should expect to find wisdom in the original sooner than in the copy. (Cheering and laughter.)

If we turned to the records of the abolition of slavery, should we not find Bristol foremost in the struggle? (Hear, hear.) Black slavery is an evil; white slavery is so no less; and of all kinds of slavery I know none more bitter than the slavery of the bread-basket. (Cheering and laughter.) You have had sad experience enough to know that there is no safety or comfort for any class so long as the national channels of industry are closed and kept down. It is just as if the inhabitants of some petty island were shut up to starve. The thing is as foolish in the grove as in the small. It cannot be long before the wise men get the better of the fools." (Cheers and laughter.)

He concluded by an appeal on behalf of the Bazaar:—

"Let us see if you cannot make the exhibition in London a source of wonder to foreigners at the extent and variety of English manufactures. Let all send something. Let those who have much send of their much, and those who have little send of their little. Your town has never been behind-hand in the cause of humanity; let it not now lose its reputation, but send our foraging party something with which we may make a triumphant appearance as the bringers." [The gallant colonel concluded his speech amidst great and reiterated cheering.]

The CHAIRMAN now stated that the business of the meeting had concluded, and after hearty votes of thanks had been carried by acclamation to the deputation and to the chairman, the meeting broke up about nine o'clock.

#### WHAT FREE TRADE IS DOING.

(From *Mona's Herald*.)

For the last few years we have every winter had imposed upon us the painful task of calling public attention to the distressed condition of our artisans and labourers, and the means of devising temporary measures for their relief; our trade and commerce were in stagnation, bankruptcies were common, property was unsaleable, rents low, and indifferently paid, shops and houses were empty in all directions, the infamous license monopoly ground the people to the earth, while it afforded a rich field of patronage and favouritism for the enrichment of the fortune few. In this state of things, could it be matter of surprise that stranger visitors were leaving us daily, and that our position and prospects were every year becoming more and more deplorable? This is no coloured picture of imagination. It is matter of public notoriety that considerable efforts were required, and an earnest appeal to individual benevolence, to avert absolute starvation among large numbers of the industrious inhabitants of this town. Need we allude to the circumstances under which our streets were cleaned and paved, and our doors numbered, only twelve months since? We need not refer to what is so well known to every one in this island, and, generally, throughout the united kingdom; we mean the recent fiscal bill, by which a grinding and unjust monopoly has been abrogated, and a large measure of Free Trade secured to the inhabitants of this island. The state of things which we have briefly described was denominated by the *Sun*, the organ of the *Keys* and the *clique*, as the "golden era," and the slightest change was to be attended with the most direful results! Respectable residents were to leave us *en masse*; trade and commerce were to be paralysed; property was to become worthless; half of the town would be advertised "to let;" the people were to be hurled from their "high and palmy estate" to that of absolute wretchedness—in short, the island was to be ruined! We long foresaw and predicted a very different result; and already, when the new act has been in operation little more than six months, we are enabled triumphantly to point out what Free Trade has done for us, and to demonstrate to the world that our fondest anticipations have been more than realized.

During the present season our people have been fully employed, at better wages than they ever received before; rich and poor have now the opportunity of purchasing on the same terms; the necessaries, and many of the luxuries, of life have been reduced in price nearly one half; property is daily advancing in value; where there were ten houses and shops "to let" a year ago, there is not one at present; respectable visitors are expending capital, and about to fix their permanent residence among us; and everything betokens unwonted prosperity. Was this not worth struggling for?

This is what Free Trade has done, and is doing, for us. Let our antiquated and absurd legislative constitution be reformed—let our legislators be elected by, and made accountable to, the people; let our laws be made conformable to the advanced progress of society and the altered state of the times, and our prosperity will yet be augmented more and more.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, March 5, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

*Hulcock, Walton, Cabin-end, near Blackburn ..	21 0 0
*Southwell, Joseph, Bridgworth ..	2 0 0
*Turtel, Thomas, Regent-road, Salford ..	2 0 0
*Owen, H., Darwen, near Blackburn ..	1 1 0
*Noton, Thos., Percival-street, C.-on-M., Manchester ..	1 1 0
*Taylor, Rev. J. J., York-pl., Oxford-st., do. ..	1 1 0
*Hyder, Wm., Brighton-place, Oxford-st., C.-on-M. ..	1 1 0
*Kelley, Mr., High-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Gill, Robert, Galashells, N.B. ..	1 1 0
*Sikes, David, Marsh, near Huddersfield ..	1 1 0
*Holt, Robert, Wood-road, near Bury, Lancashire ..	1 1 0
*Pettit, David, John, High-street, Montrose ..	1 1 0
*Fletcher, George, St. Peter-street, Derby ..	1 1 0
*Beard, Wm., farmer, Wentworth, nr. Rotherham ..	1 1 0
*Parker, Joseph, Milton Iron Works, near Sheffield ..	1 1 0
*Hammond, Joseph, 8, St. David's-street, Dumfries ..	1 1 0
*Knowles, Andrew, Leaver, near Bolton ..	1 1 0
*Knowles, James, Bagley bank, near do. ..	1 1 0
*Hawthorn, Dr., Wood-street, Great do. ..	1 1 0
*Monks, John, The Wash, Latchford, near Warrington ..	1 1 0
*Shaw, Hugh, Oldham, Great Jackson-street, Hulme, Manchester ..	1 1 0
*Evans, Thos., Stretford New road, Hulme, do. ..	1 1 0
*Jaquet, Henry, do. ..	1 1 0
*Leach, Thomas, Urnston, near do. ..	1 1 0
*Burnley, Jacob, 4, Piccadilly-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Scholtes, Joseph, Hollinwood, near do. ..	1 1 0
*Scholtes, Joseph, do. ..	1 1 0
*White, J. R., Radnor-street, Hulme, do. ..	1 1 0
*White, John, Richardson, jun., do. do. ..	1 1 0
*Smyth, James, 20, David-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Boyd, John D., 28, Clarendon-st., C.-on-M., do. ..	1 1 0
*Smith, John, do. ..	1 1 0
*Crage, John, 139, Oxford-street, C.-on-M., do. ..	1 1 0
*Booth, James, 47, George-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Aubrey, Geo. B., South, near Swansea ..	1 1 0
*Forster, John, Strawberry-lane, Blackburn ..	1 1 0
*Bashby, John, Penny-street, do. ..	1 1 0
*Jones, John, Ironmonger, Gawestry ..	1 1 0
*Tomkinson, G. D., Rumsden, near Huddersfield ..	1 1 0
*Stretches, John, Booth, The Rev., 11, King-st., Salford ..	1 1 0
*Stannfield, Abraham, York ..	1 1 0
*Johnson, J. G., Lawton terrace, Hall-st., Stockport ..	1 1 0
*Southwell, Henry F., Bridgworth ..	1 1 0
*Minister of Cross-lane Chapel, Hobden-bridge, near Rochdale ..	0 5 0
*Jolly, Thomas, Great Mount, Manchester ..	0 5 0
*Small, sub-tenant, South, near Swansea ..	0 4 0
*Mitchell, Mrs. W., 41, Chancery-lane, Higher Ardwick, Manchester ..	0 2 6
*Barney, Michael, 17, Oldham-street, do. ..	0 2 6
*Jackson, Henry, Charlotte-street ..	1 0 0
*Bolton and Co., Market-street ..	1 0 0
*Spencer, John, and Son, Pea-croft ..	1 0 0
*Chesterman, James, Ecclesall-road ..	1 0 0
*Smith, Thomas, 48, Shepherd-street ..	1 0 0
*Firth, Jos., Cash Tree ..	1 0 0
*Acton, John, drug-st., 28, Union-street ..	1 0 0
*Mappin, Joseph, Norfolk-street ..	1 0 0
*Roberts and Mettman, Barker-pool ..	1 0 0
*Parker, Hanger, and Co., Charles-street ..	1 0 0
*Firth, P., and Co., Arundel-street ..	1 0 0
*Butterworth, Mr., Black Swan, Far-gate ..	1 0 0
*Hall, Jonathan, 31, High-street ..	1 0 0
*Fulton, George, surgeon, Townhead-street ..	1 0 0
*Hoyland, Edward, Church-street ..	1 0 0
*Mr. Mappin's Men, per W. Martin, additional ..	0 0 0
*Banks, Rivers, Heaton Norris ..	0 5 0
*Goulden, Thomas, Windmill-street ..	1 0 0
*Johnson, Henry, Millgate ..	1 0 0
*Robinson, Charles, do. ..	1 0 0
*Woolley, Mrs., Market-place ..	1 0 0
*Wakenfield, Hiram, Heaton-lane ..	1 0 0
*Tomkinson, Edward, Little Underbank ..	1 0 0
*Shawcross, James, Princess-street ..	1 0 0
*Oakes, James, Shaw-leath ..	0 5 0
*Hallen, Ephraim, do. ..	1 0 0
*McDonald, D. and J., 78, Queen-street ..	1 1 0
*Thompson, Wm., 31, Glasgow-street ..	1 1 0
*Gray, Andrew, 13, South Portland-street ..	1 1 0
*Gould, Wm., 91, High-street ..	1 1 0
*Malham, Wm., 79, Queen-street ..	1 1 0
*Wilson, Thos., 115, Ingram-street ..	1 1 0
*Wilson, David, 115, do. ..	1 1 0
*Callaway, John, 10, George-street ..	1 1 0
*Ponder, Wm., Clough, Bleachfield ..	1 1 0
*Park, Lewis and Charles, Exchange-square ..	1 1 0
*Allen, Robert, and Son, 169, Eglington-street ..	1 1 0
*McLaren, Peter, 93, Candleriggs ..	1 1 0
*Rack, John and Charles, 9, Cochrane-street ..	1 1 0
*Lambert, Anthony, and Co., Exchange-court ..	1 1 0
*Thompson, Wm., 18, East Campbell-street ..	1 1 0
*The Workers of Field and Higginbotham's spinning factory, Springfield ..	4 4 6
*Payne, John, 28, Falkner-street ..	1 0 0
*Moule, W. F., Sackett-street ..	1 1 0
*Jones, E. David, 57, Duke-street ..	1 1 0
*J. H. ..	2 0 0
*Howe, Charles, 134, Scotland-road ..	1 0 0
*Scott, Thomas, Exhilston, near ..	1 0 0
*Rhodes, Daniel, do. ..	1 0 0
*Charles, John and Henry, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hartley, Timothy, do. ..	0 10 0
*Whithead, Charles, Thornhill Lees ..	1 0 0
*Greaves, John, Heath cottage, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hale, Matthew ..	1 0 0
*Clay, Benjamin ..	1 0 0
*Clay, Richard ..	1 0 0
*Clay, Joseph ..	1 0 0
*Clay, James ..	1 0 0
*Field, Thomas ..	1 0 0
*North, William ..	1 0 0
*Crawshaw, Simon ..	1 0 0
*Ward, Richard ..	1 0 0
*Henderson, Edward ..	1 0 0
*Stephenson, Charles ..	1 0 0
*Forbes, Dr. ..	1 0 0
*Hudson, C. R. ..	1 0 0
*Buckley, William ..	1 0 0
*Smith, Samuel, Batly Carr, near ..	1 0 0
*Day, Mark, do. ..	1 0 0
*Gomerall, Thos., and Son ..	1 0 0
*J. H. ..	1 0 0
*Thompson, A. ..	1 0 0
*Horton, Edward, Highgate ..	1 0 0
*Hudson, E. and Son, tailors and drapers ..	3 3 0
*Hudson, J. and E., tea dealers ..	1 0 0
*Hitching, William ..	1 0 0

*Aitken, Andrew ..	21 0 0
*Andrews, D. R., Portland-street ..	1 0 0
*Watt, John, Cheap-side ..	1 0 0
*Cairns, Rev. Peter, Stewarton, near ..	1 0 0
*Muir, William, do. ..	1 0 0
*Black, William, do. ..	1 0 0
*Paten, John, and Son, manufacturers ..	5 0 0
*McDowall, Rev. P. ..	1 0 0
*Wright, John Milvine ..	1 0 0
*Dawson, Andrew, Mar-street ..	1 0 0
*Workmen at Kilncraigs ..	0 10 0
*Black, Andrew ..	0 2 6
*Aitken, George ..	0 2 6
*McVicar, James ..	0 2 6
*A Friend ..	0 2 6
*Galbraith, William, 359, Argyle-street ..	1 0 0
*Gemmell, William, 115, Candleriggs ..	1 0 0
*Hamilton, John, Fairholm, Larkhall ..	1 0 0
*France, Henry, 4, Gaingad-road ..	1 0 0
*Ingles George A., manufacturer, Dunfermline ..	1 0 0
*Fletcher and Walker, Kirkcaldy ..	1 0 0
*Mathieson, K., Mungoswells, by Haddington ..	1 1 0
*Rodger, W., jun., 14, Warriston-crescent ..	1 1 0
*Wilkins, Job, 45, Moor-street ..	1 0 0
*Short, Thomas, Friday-street ..	1 0 0
*Jones, T. P., 13, Cecil-street ..	1 0 0
*Lindsay, G., Snow-hill ..	1 0 0
*McDowall, Rev. J. ..	1 0 0
*Wheldon, William ..	1 0 0
*Martin, Christopher ..	1 0 0
*Laidler, John ..	1 0 0
*Whalley, John ..	1 0 0
*Itomyn, P. ..	1 0 0
*Longson, Joseph, Back Water-street ..	1 0 0
*Hurst, John, Mill-lane ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, Saml. Smith, 122, Wellington-road South ..	1 0 0
*Atkinson, Moses, flax spinner ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, John, Bentinck-street ..	1 0 0
*Newton, Joseph, Green Mount-pl., Holbeck ..	1 0 0
*Barnardall, John S., Bridlesmith-gate ..	1 0 0
*Copeland and Son ..	1 0 0
*Wilson, J. J. and S. ..	1 1 0
*Hollins, S. ..	1 0 0
*Cunnington, John ..	1 0 0
*Rowe, Lawrence ..	1 0 0
*Rowe, Thos. Berry ..	1 0 0
*Reed, G., Hanwell ..	2 2 0
*Norton, H., Carmarthen-brewery, Carmarthen ..	2 0 0
*Littlejohn, David, Aberdeen ..	1 5 0
*Dustan, William, 17, Aldermanbury ..	1 1 0
*Bilbrough, W. H., Bradford, Yorkshire ..	1 1 0
*Learman, A. V., 89, John-street, Tottenham-ct.-rd. ..	1 1 0
*Sheffield, H. and E., timber merchants, Church-lane, Whitechapel ..	1 1 0
*Adams, N., surgeon, Lymington ..	1 1 0
*Davy, Edward, Park, Crediton ..	1 1 0
*Hendry, James, 13, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde-park ..	1 1 0
*Edwards, G. H., 29, Littleworth, Gloucester ..	1 0 0
*Brackenbury, John, at Mr. Watson's, Swan and Salmon Inn, Grantham ..	1 0 0
*White, Thomas Weir, Tolbooth-wynd, Leith ..	1 0 0
*Sander, Thos. W., Church-street, Whitby ..	1 0 0
*Christian, John, Gilling, near Richmond, Yorkshire ..	1 0 0
*Cotton, Thos., farmer, Shepherd's-bush, Hammersmith ..	1 0 0
*Acton, Robert James, Acton, Middlesex ..	1 0 0
*Billington, William, do. ..	1 0 0
*Reddrop, Thomas, Bishopstrow, near Warminster ..	1 0 0
*Waring, Elijah, 6, Spa-villa, Gloucester ..	1 0 0
*Bruce, Robert, do. ..	1 0 0
*Steele, James, Ayton, Berwickshire ..	1 0 0
*Hancock, W., jun., Market-place, Wiveliscombe, Somerset ..	1 0 0
*Andrews, W., Maybole, Ayrshire ..	1 0 0
*McKenzie, Andrew, Kelso ..	1 0 0
*Scott, Thomas, Earlston by Melrose ..	1 0 0
*Conan, Patrick, banker, Ayr ..	1 0 0
*Dickle, William, Dumfries ..	1 0 0
*Dobson, Henry, Whitehaven ..	1 0 0
*Thornley, T. J., Burton-on-Trent ..	1 0 0
*Danks, Samuel, Wednesbury ..	1 0 0
*Scard, Thomas, East-end, Warminster ..	1 0 0
*Robertson, Robert, draper, Bridge-st., Dunfermline ..	1 0 0
*Coulson, John, jun., Penzance ..	1 0 0
*Eyton, Robert, Flint ..	1 0 0
*Miller, John, merchant, Leith ..	1 0 0
*Holt, Rich. R., Hazel-bank, Turton, near Bolton ..	1 0 0
*Butcher, James, 65, Turnmill-street, Clerkenwell ..	1 0 0
*Brown, Richard, Crow Marsh-mill, Wallingford ..	1 0 0
*Wilkinson, Conrad, Dunstall-farm, Shoreham, Kent ..	1 0 0
*M. A. H., Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	1 0 0
*Buckley, John Francis, Walwen-cottage, near Holywell ..	1 0 0
*Litch, Thos. C., solicitor, North Shields ..	1 0 0
*Browne, H., Lewes ..	1 0 0
*Hughes, Robert, High Wycombe ..	1 0 0
*Davies, Dr., Gloucester ..	1 0 0
*Holdsworth, Joseph Edwd., 12, North-pl., Kingsland ..	1 0 0
*Webb, George Jones, Llanelly Colliery, South Wales ..	1 0 0
*May, Richard, 145, Kingsland-road ..	0 2 6
*Small subscriptions ..	0 2 6

## Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Reed, G., Hanwell .. 3 3 0  
J. S., Duke-street, Hulme, Manchester .. 0 10 6

## ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 75, the following sum was acknowledged as a "Contribution to the Bazaar," but ought to have appeared as a "Contribution to the £100,000 Fund":—  
Walker, Benjamin, flax spinner, Leeds .. 5 0 0  
In LEAGUE No. 75, for Hamilton, John, Yafforth-lodge, Northallerton, read Atkinson, John, for Gyle, John, London-road, Wigan, read Manchester; for Francis, John, Tufbury-street, Wigan, read Manchester; and amongst "Contributions to the Bazaar," for Thomson, Edmund P., read Thomson, Mrs. K. P.

GAZE LAW COMMITTEE.—On Monday evening next, Mr. Bright proposes to nominate the following members as the Select Committee on the Gaze Laws:—Mr. Bright, Mr. G. Cavendish, Mr. Etwell, Mr. Burroughes, Mr. Bramston, Mr. C. Villiers, Mr. Trelawny, Lord Marham, Mr. H. Johnston, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Banks, Mr. G. Berkeley, Mr. M. Sutton, Mr. Bouverie, and Lord Clive.

THE ARCHIMEDIAN RAILWAY.—Mr. Isaac Farrell, of Dublin, has taken out a patent for an ingenious invention, by which he proposes to apply the principle of the Archimedian screw as a substitute for the locomotive engine on railways.—*Irish Railway Gazette.*

## VICTIMS OF PROTECTION.—LETTERS TO INDIVIDUAL SUFFERERS.

## FIRST LETTER.

To my old Master, Mr. W. T.,—a particular Victim.

SIR,—Though you are not so rich as you once were, you are not dishonoured. Your money credit may be gone, but your moral credit remains. You struggled with a bad bargain, and only yielded in the struggle when you had paid away all your farming capital and private fortune in rent; capital derived by inheritance, and not accumulated by any former profits from the farm. Some persons have said you were foolish to do so; but, at the least, they must admit you were honest. In truth you could not help yourself. With a large family to provide for, with no alternative if you left the farm; but without the power to leave it, you being bound by a lease, what could you do?

Some have said you were imprudent to have taken such a lease at such a rent; and, perhaps, you were so. But your imprudence was comprised in this, that you did not think it necessary to inquire into and understand that delusive Corn Law which promised to do so much and which did so little, save to transfer your capital to the pocket of the Laird of Thurston, your landlord.

That you should have taken the farm upon a fixed money rental was, perhaps, indiscreet. You would not now do so. Nor would any of your friends. But when you took your lease corn-rents were not so common in your county as now; and, I believe, had not been then introduced upon the Thurston estate at all. However, I am not perfectly informed on that point; but I do know this, that when Brauxton was sold out of your family you were desirous to retain it even as a farm. You had a love for it; it was natural you should. You knew nothing about the Corn Law; it was natural you should not. The education of young gentlemen, such as you then were, did not comprise a knowledge of the causes which affect the value of property; which make corn dear at one time and cheap at another time; which show that high prices are not always profitable, nor moderate prices always a loss.

The attempt to raise corn to an exorbitant price, and keep it up when it was up, had, through the failure of the East Lothian Bank,—that instrument by which wheat was never to be allowed to fall below 90s. a quarter in East Lothian,—the attempt to secure such a price by such an instrument, resulted in the downfall of the projector, and shareholders of the bank, who included some of your nearest relations. This led to the farm of Brauxton going out of your family as an estate, and still it brought no instruction to you on that pernicious Corn Law which first made you a tenant instead of a proprietor, and then ruined you as a tenant.

But even to this day the farmers, your late neighbours, are not taught by what they have seen and should have studied. I am told that many of them still cling to this agricultural "protection," as the Corn Law is most absurdly called. Some of them may know better, yet fear to go against the landlords who uphold it, and the landlords' deputies—the factors. But I believe the greater part of the farmers do not know which is the right side and which the wrong of this question.

I have seen most parts of England since I left you, and have paid close attention to both sides of the Corn Laws—the agricultural side, and the commercial side—and I therefore place before myself the task of helping the farmers to a perfect knowledge of this all-important question. It is not so difficult to explain principles as it is to get those most concerned in them to listen to the explanations. It is not so difficult to bring facts together, and place them before a farmer's eyes, as it is to get him to open his eyes and look at them. "One man may take a horse to the water," we used to say, "but twenty men will not make him drink;" that is, if the horse is not inclined to drink. So, one man may put the whole history and mystery of the different Corn Laws—their delusive promises and their disastrous effects—before a farmer, clear as the looking-glass in which he looks to see if he be clean shaven; and he may be shown by that one man in that glass how the Corn Law has shaven him; but twenty men will not make the farmer look into the glass if he be resolved not to look.

The only way I know of accomplishing this desirable end is to go to some of them singly, and tell them that they bleed—that in the dark they have been wounded; and then, being addressed individually, they may open their eyes and behold each his own suffering and disfigurement, before any factor or agent can come and tell them not to look, not to read, not to understand.

To such as you, Mr. T., I need not say you are hurt. You know that too well. But, if I am not much misinformed, you do not yet see clearly how you have been hurt. You will say by too high a rent; but why did you contract to pay too high a rent? It was not, as some say, that you were not a proper judge of the value of land—it is easy to say this after you have lost your all upon it—Job's comforters are always ready with their sayings; but the real cause of your contracting to pay £3 per acre for Brauxton was, that the Corn Law promised you a price which would have got you a profit at that rent; but the Corn Law deceived you—it cheated you, and you have lost your capital, your patrimony, your farm, and your family's bread.

At one of the contested elections for the county, which occurred after you became a tenant of the Laird of

Thurston, when much popular interest was excited in behalf of one of the candidates, you were asked by one of your workmen if you would not vote for that candidate. You replied,—and your reply was, like all your actions, straightforward and honest,—you said you knew no difference between the merits of the one candidate and the other; that the one was a Whig and the other a Tory; that both were alike to you save that the Tory was your landlord's candidate, and that he would be yours; that it was safest to keep on the landlord's side, "because," you continued, "what is for the landlord's interest must be for my interest, and the interest of all of us on his estate."

In this you spoke as it is common for a tenant to speak; in this you voted as it is common for a tenant to vote. I blame you not for seeing no difference in the candidates. If Toryism be Conservatism—the principle of conserving the British nation as it now exists, and of extending and elevating its greatness and glory—then I am as much a Tory, though I do not like the name, as your landlord was who swayed your vote to the Tory side. If your landlord be a Conservative, so am I, though totally opposed to him on the subject of the Corn Law. Indeed, the Free-Traders are the most thorough Conservatives of any party. Were the maintenance of the Corn Law a part of Conservatism—Conservatism being the preservation of the national power, prosperity, and integrity—then it would be to uphold the national power, prosperity, and integrity, that you were made to pay to the Laird of Thurston every penny of the fortune you inherited out of Branxton estate, and were at last driven from your farm with a helpless family.

It is rank deceit to mix up the preservation of the Corn Law with the patriotic principle of Conservatism. The one is personal, the other is national; the one aims at the meanest of objects, the other at the highest.

You have lived to prove, unhappily, that the interest of your landlord was not your interest, and that of your men. By his parliamentary power you expected he would procure you such a price for your corn as would enable you to pay him £3 per acre and provide for your family. You entered into a bond that you would pay that rent every year, for a certain term of years; the landlord gave no bond that he would not take all the money you promised him if you did not get all the price he promised you. On whose side was the best of the bargain? You knew the best of the bargain was on his side. Hence your reasons for the vote you gave.

But did that satisfy him? Did he not exact his bond—his "pound of flesh"? He did; and he got it too, and the blood with it. After you had paid him all your profit, all your capital, and every penny you possessed, and begged for time to pay the rest, you were only saved from being sold out even to the last wheelbarrow,—even to the

pillow upon which you laid your head in that house which had once been your father's mansion, and which had descended from that to be what it now was to you and your helpless family, by the landlord and the landlord's Corn Law, and these alone,—you were only saved from losing the last stick and the last pillow, to satisfy that landlord whose interest you said was your interest, by the intervention of two friends—family friends—not "farmers' friends."

I do not say that all landlords would have done as yours did; far from it. I do not say that yours would have done the same to every other tenant; and yet there is no reason to suppose he was harder upon you than he would have been upon others who might have had as bad a bargain as you. But he proved in your case, against your own words, that a landlord's interest may not be always a tenant's interest. So long as the Corn Law exists, or legislative protection to agriculture exists in any shape, the interests of landlords, tenants, and labourers cannot be identical, unless a landlord acts towards them in a spirit the very opposite of the spirit of the Corn Law, which is personal and selfish, coerced for private ends by those who have had the power to enact it.

But here I may remark that the landlords have even injured themselves by it. See how many estates have been driven away from their former owners by these owners' indulging on excessive rents, indulging in expenses they could not support. See how many estates are mortgaged, and all but the name of the property taken from the once independent owners. Extensive as the Laird of Thurston's estate is, it is not clear of embarrassments. He has had an expensive family to provide for; and though he had the support of your votes, and the votes of his numerous tenants, to procure them admission where none are admitted without high influence, still that was not enough for them. To support his family he wrung from you the last penny which should have supported yours.

He is now no more; and I hope, for the credit of his memory, it was necessity on his part, and not greediness, that made him take your money from you which never belonged to the farm as such. But, whatever the actuating cause was, he took it. He never could have done so but for the delusion of high prices promised by the Corn Law, which the Corn Law could not fulfil, put you in his power.

I shall resume the subject in another letter. Meanwhile I am your old cowherd, stable-groom, ploughboy,

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

## SECOND LETTER.

To my old Master,—a particular Victim of the Corn Laws.

SIR,—The time that has elapsed since I was in your service has worked a great change in both of us. The change has been to your disadvantage, I grieve to say; but it has been rather favourable to me. Whether there be any person, situated as I am now, who could look back upon such a service and such a master, and not grieve for your misfortunes, I know not. I am not that person.

Neither am I one who, separated from the farm-fields where I once toiled in summer and harvest days with scythe and reaping-hook, with bended back and sweaty brow; in winter days clearing out the watery ditches with feet immersed, or picking the frozen turnips to the snow-bedded sheep,—I am not one who looks back to despise those times and those employments. With much toil there was much satisfaction. There were the merry days of spring when we whistled along at harrow and at plough, committing the seed once more to the earth, and our hopes once more to God for a succeeding harvest. Then there was the annual winter supper when harvest was over, when every man, woman, and child gathered around you,—the young with more joy than they could contain, the old joyous as if they were young again; when my venerable father, being the oldest there, said grace, thanked Heaven for the harvest we had had, and prayed for another as good; and then, old as he was, solemn as was the piety of his life, danced among the dancers, and sung some of the merriest songs, the songs of his young days, among the singers.

Then there were the long winter evenings around your kitchen fire, on which the piled up logs and the coals that made them fierce drove us back, as they blazed and reddened, into a wider and a wider circle,—into the circle where one would mend his shoes or his horse harness; where another would stitch her new apron or knit her stocking; where one would nod in the snooty heat, while another would sing or tell a story; where I would sit and listen for the sound of your horse's feet to meet you at the door with the stable lantern ready lighted; where, on returning from the stable after grooming up your horse for the night, I would perchance find you, if it was market night, warming yourself for a brief period before you went to your parlour, asking the men what had been done while you were away, and telling them what was to be done to-morrow,—whether the threshing-mill was to be going or not, and whether the markets were in such a state as to make it desirable that the threshing-mill should be set a-going. At this kitchen fireside I was a member of the circle; and on such occasions have been referred to, to say whether there was

straw enough to last the cattle in the close, the cows in the byre, and the horses in the different stables over Sunday; and if there was, then perhaps you did not thresh until next week. And so the work which the men and horses were to go to next day was decided upon; frost and thaw being the only doubtful questions.

And think you I have had no pride in sending you out in style to market or to a distant dinner? If field work took me out, which it often did, before the stable work was completed; and some one came and called me, as often was the case, by the message, "The master wants his horse!" have I not been in the stable and stripped to the shirt before the echoes of the voice that called me had well died away? And there have I brushed and wiped, and wiped down, and combed the mane, and sponged the hoofs and brightened them; and have saddled and bridled, and have drawn the girths tighter, and have wiped the reins and the martingal once more, and the stirrups and the bit; and have sent you away with a curb-chain shining. And when you have gone, and I have watched you through the trees cantering beyond the holly bushes, and have seen you fairly into the public road with nothing but your hat visible bobbing above the hedge of the upper Butterlaw-park, I have shut the stable door, have thrown a fork over my shoulder, and my jacket over the fork, preparatory to going to another job, and have sung or whistled on my way to the other job from pure pleasure and satisfaction that there would be no stirrups, or bridle-bits, or curb-chains on the road to market that day brighter than yours were.

And you to have had at that period an independent fortune of several thousand pounds, besides all your working capital invested in farm stock; and to have lost all,—to have been deluded by the Corn Law, to transfer all to the pocket of your laird in whom you reposed as in a "farmers' friend!" it is, indeed, grievous.

There are those in the world, and there may be some of them concerned in the land on and around Branxton now, who look upon an enemy of the Corn Law as their enemy. There may be many farmers in that district of country who will read this, I know there will be some, and who will think that some lurking recollection of them, or fretful dislike to agriculture, prompts me to contend against the thing called *protection*, and thus bring the argument to their own doors by reference to the farm of Branxton.

If such there be they will do me wrong. I have paid close and widely-extended attention to this momentous subject, and am convinced, beyond the slightest possible doubt, that it is not more clear that commerce will be benefited by Free Trade, than it is that agriculture has been wronged by monopoly, by the delusion of the Corn Laws being a benefit to the farmers.

I have no dislike to agriculture: my interests and sympathies are with it. I have no disagreeable feelings towards any of those concerned in it whom I knew in my youth; I have kindly recollections of every one of them. I have a constitutional veneration for agriculture, strengthened by my connexion with it in early life, even though then I was not a master in it, but a servant, and one of the very humblest. But it does not follow that, loving agriculture, I should love the Corn Law. On the contrary, every circumstance of past days which memory and history supply me with, and every observation of the present day which travel and business-transactions afford me the means of making, unite in dissociating the welfare of agriculture and the existence of the Corn Law. In England the pernicious influence of "protection" is more apparent than in Scotland. Yet in Scotland protection has done its work of mischief, as we see by your own case. Let me bring to your recollection some facts.

The first harvests I have any distinct knowledge of were those of 1816 and 1817; and I remember them more by their results than their realities. I was then a child, and you were a young man. It was in one of those years I first saw you to know you from your brothers. And a very trifling event it was that made me distinguish and remember you—a trifling event in itself, yet not to me; and destined to be fixed in my mind until nails are fixed in my coffin. It was intimately connected with the famine-stricken harvests of the two years just named, and with that Corn Law which has robbed you of your farm, and all your patrimony.

The crops of those years were great failures. In 1817, which I remember most distinctly, the whole crop of the Horse-hill, which was peas and beans,—and which you know grows as good wheat and beans as any on the farm,—the whole crop of that very good field was carted home for the cattle to trample into manure—it never went to the stackyard; it was absolute *muck*. Barley was that year growing in the large field south of the Horse-hill. Though earliest ripe, much of that barley was never even threshed; it was lost by the continued dark wet weather. I have no recollection of where the other crops grew, though, in after years, I heard the crops of that year often talked of; no recollection save of the potatoes, which were at the west side of the Pond-park: they were small, few in number, and bad in quality.

Yet corn was so excessively dear, this being a second bad harvest, that my father's and brother's wages did not go far enough to procure us half—not more than half—the usual supply of oatmeal for porridge, and barleymeal for bread; and, moreover, what we did get was bad, very bad. The bread was black, wet, and clammy. Foreseeing the failure of the potato-crop, my father kept no pig in the sty; we had, therefore, no pork. There were either nine or ten of us almost dependent on what the wages of two could procure. So dear was everything, we could not even afford salt herrings at every time we ate the miserable diet of small watery potatoes. When brose was made of the oatmeal, we could neither afford butter, nor lard to our brose, but were only too happy to get brose in any shape, made of water and oatmeal only.

As a matter of course, we could get no new clothing. The previous year had been a famine year, and parents such as mine hoped that the next (this of which I now write) would enable them by its plenty and cheapness to restore the clothing of themselves and children. They were disappointed. This year was worse than the last; two famine years were worse than one. We decayed into rags, and almost to barefootedness, in the depth of winter. The nightly upstirring of my mother (who is still a living witness of that dreadful time) to mend and remend, to set patch on patch, contending as she did for nine of us against the united attacks of winter, nakedness, and famine—against all these, and the Corn Law, and the East Lothian Bank—the Corn Law being to keep foreign grain out of the country, and the Lothian Bank to keep home-grown corn out of market until it had reached the highest possible price at the longest possible period to which the farmers could hold it and not sell;—my mother, I say, sitting up night after night during that dreary winter to stitch and stitch, patch and patch, our clothes when we were in bed—she contending for nine of us—one woman for nine of us, against the united hostility of winter, nakedness, famine, Corn Law, and the farmers' combination bank—one woman against all these—the task was unequal. She could not mend as fast as our *clads* decayed. They went to pieces, and she could not help them.

I am now at the point where I first saw you to know you. At that time my chief garment was a pinafore. The famine years had reduced me to one, and even that one was made up of the best parts of several that had fallen to pieces. I had only that single one, and it was ingeniously shaped and extended in size to hide the poverty of the clothing beneath it. When it was washed I had to stay within doors; and I never went out without being charged to keep that garment clean and untorn. I was careful of it; for, young as I was, the unequal contest which my mother held with famine and decaying clothes was bitterly felt by me. But I was out one day playing on that green knoll where the whinbush grew in front of the barnyard gate, and you and some other young gentlemen came along with your greyhounds. The dogs were playful. Perhaps they were kind; but, whatever their humour, they leaped upon me, pulled me



down, one behind and one before, rolled me down the steep declivity, and did not leave off until that beat garment of mine was equal to the worst. I ran home in the bitterest distress. I could not tell in the fear of the moment how it had happened; but a neighbour, who had seen the wreck and its cause, said it was done by "Master William's dogs." My mother took the rags, one by one, and looked at them; and knowing she could not go to a draper's shop to buy calicoes to replace them, she mingled tears of despair with my tears of childish fear, and sat down and asked in anguish, "What was she to do?"

Ay, what was she to do, indeed, with such a confederacy of famine-making seasons and famine-making men against her? My father was in full work at full wages; so was my eldest brother. One or two of the younger ones earned something; and even my mother went out and worked at the threshing-mill, and in the fields rooting and "shaving" turnips amid wet and snow in those winter days, the nights of which were partly spent in sleepless toil to mend our clothes which she could not replace. And all who worked at anything were working on the farm, and yet could not earn enough to get enough of mere food of the coarsest and meanest quality, to say nothing of clothing.

And what was the value of the exorbitant prices to those who received them? They had less to sell, and, therefore, it will be argued it was proper they should have the highest possible price. Look at the result.

For nearly three years my mother did not go to the shop of Mr. McIntyre, in Dunbar, which was the one and the only one she dealt in for cloth goods. You will remember Mr. McIntyre's shop. And here I may remark, that at that very time, so I have been told, Mr. Duncan McLaren, of Edinburgh, the highly talented enemy of Corn-Law famine, was an apprentice with Mr. McIntyre. See, therefore, how early the Edinburgh champion of Free Trade must have observed the evil influence of the Corn Law!

We did not for nearly three years give custom to the draper's shop, and very, very little to the grocer's shop. The hinds of Lothian, who have a corn payment, would be in better circumstances. They have a similar advantage over fluctuating markets that the farmers have who pay corn rents. But the hinds in receipt of corn payments are but the merest fraction to the whole working population of the kingdom. Even in Lothian one-half, at least, of working persons were at that time in receipt of money wages; all in a similar state to our family.

And what was the consequence throughout the kingdom? The shopkeepers could not sell, consequently they could not buy from the wholesale merchants. The merchants could not buy from the manufacturers. The latter stopped their works. Every one, from the shopkeeper upwards, dispensed with some of their domestic servants; with clerks and workmen. These again could not buy grocery goods and clothes. Tailors and shoemakers, and every one employed in making and providing the materials for things that should have been made, were wholly or partly stopped. Carriers inland had less to carry, and ships were laid up idly in the docks. Sail-makers, riggers, and shipbuilders were thrown out in their turn. So were sailors. In thickly peopled districts mobs met and rioted. Soldiers were called out to disperse them. Men were hungry and clamorous, and demanded political changes. Demagogues found them ready to listen to and act upon the wildest suggestions. They essayed to overturn the Government, and blood was spilt. The Habeas Corpus was suspended, and the gibbets were loaded.

And while the mobs of unemployed working men were thus starving, and plotting and threatening because they were unemployed and did starve, mercantile men were cracking to pieces, their bills dishonoured, credit broken, and all enterprise stagnant—a panic sweeping them into a backward gulf as a receding wave sweeps back the broken seaweed.

And all these, comprising millions of individuals, had to retrench their family expenses. Millions had, like my father's family, to live on less than enough of the worst of food. The farmers got high prices for the little they had to sell; but the people were famine-struck, and the nation was shaken to its centre.

And what came of the farmers? The succeeding years brought better harvests. But the population was now too poor to pay for what the farmers had to sell, and markets fell far below what they would have been had the general population been fully employed. The farmers had thus to pay the high rents, calculated upon a continuance of dear years, out of low prices. In England they were worse off than in Scotland; and in some parts of Scotland they were worse off than in Lothian; but even in Lothian they were so badly off that they could not meet their engagements in 1816 and 1819. The combination broke, and it broke some of the most substantial men in the county with it.

I have much more to say in illustration of the pernicious effect of monopoly; but this letter is already too long. Meantime I am your sincere friend and old servant,

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

The block-printers at St. John are begun to be very busy. A factory is so much wanted in the village, that a gentleman has offered to give land for the erection of one; also water, by which a great power may be obtained.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the EDITOR of the LEAGUE.

SIR,—I wish to offer an observation or two on some matters often discussed in your paper, deserving, as it appears to me, of your consideration, and of that of your agricultural readers.

1. *On Leases.*—I am myself a landed proprietor, and have always been friendly to leases; but it is manifest, and I think it will at once strike Mr. Hope, Mr. Latimore, and others such, that for the benefit of the public, as well as the advantage of the landlord, something more is wanted than that the occupier should have secure possession. A lease of twenty-one years to an improving, active, intelligent tenant is, I conceive, good for all parties; but if he should be none of this, if he should be prejudiced, unwilling to admit modern improvements, or to avail himself of modern science, the lease becomes an impediment and a disadvantage. And amongst the tenant-farmers how small is the proportion who do not deserve this last character? I certainly believe that the repeal of the Corn Laws will greatly mitigate, if not entirely remove, this objection; that it would let loose for the cultivation of land a great quantity of capital and of intelligence and science; but that science and intelligence are very sparingly applied to that object now; so that, till this repeal shall have taken place, I can very well understand why many even of those most disposed to give every encouragement to an independent tenantry should object to leases. I hope intelligent tenant-farmers who wish for leases will see in this argument an additional reason for getting rid of the Corn Laws.

2. *On Rent.*—I perceive that it is a matter of dispute whether the rent is a material part of the payments made by the tenant. I maintain that it ought to be the last item to be considered after every other matter has been examined into and calculated. Rent is the sum paid to the owner of the land by the occupier for the use of it; and it should, therefore, be the net sum remaining to the occupier after all expenses paid; in which expenses should be included not only labour, keep of horses, &c., but interest of capital, replacement of capital expended on improvements, and remuneration for trouble. An intelligent and calculating tenant ought to make an estimate of these and all other expenses (such as rates, &c.), and then of the value of the probable produce; and the excess of the value of the produce over and above the sum total of expenses is the proper rent. So that, in truth, it ought to be a matter of no concern whatever to the tenant whether the rent be £100 or £500.

The truth is, that in these matters we begin at the wrong end. The landlord says, I want so much rent, and the tenant agrees to give it; and then has to make it out as well as he can; if he has made a bad bargain, either by encroaching on his capital, or screwing down his labourers, or neglecting the proper cultivation of his land; and then at rent-day he comes, cap in hand, and says, "Live and let live," give me an allowance, or I shall not be able to live. Whereas "live and let live" is what the landlord ought to say to the tenant. In the natural order of things it would be so. The owner is, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, a poor creature, totally unable to help himself, or to gain his own livelihood; at all events, by the cultivation of his land. The tenant is an active man, who knows how to work himself, and to direct the works of others, but does not possess the instrument to work upon. Which of them is the most independent, the best able to do without the other? Assuredly the latter. It may be said that they are mutually dependent: the owner can do nothing without the cultivator, nor the latter without the use of the land. Be it so; but let them meet on equal terms, each negotiating and making as good a bargain for himself as he can; both independent; neither under any obligation to the other. If farmers would but pluck up courage and act on such sentiments and with such feelings, they would soon perceive their power, and raise themselves from the poor dependent state in which they (nine out of every ten of them) are now.

3. But the beginning of every advantage they can hope and expect to gain must be the acquisition of knowledge and of science—of science by which they may know how to carry on their business as agriculturists with the most advantage and of general knowledge by which they may form an estimate of the different circumstances likely to affect their dealings. Why is it that large fortunes have not been made in agricultural pursuits (*adieu* the trade and business of farming), as well as in mercantile and manufacturing? Is it that it is a more uncertain business? Quite the reverse. It depends not on winds or waves, which so often materially affect the merchant; it depends not on tastes and fashions, which the manufacturers are so often obliged to consult and humour; it depends not on the caprices of ministers or legislatures, which may prohibit or encourage. It has a sure and certain demand and market for its wares in the daily wants and necessities of all mankind. Its principal machine and instrument is always at hand, and never ungrateful or refusing to respond to care of cultivation. Why then, I say, do we not see farmers grow rich as our Cobdens or our Brownes? Merely because general knowledge and science are scarcely ever applied to this pursuit. Farmers have been heretofore content to walk in the ways of their fathers. Happily a new light seems to be breaking in upon them. Let them not avert their eyes, and whether the light comes from the manufactory of Mr. Smith, of Deanton, or the shop of Mr. Mechi, of Lendenhall-street, or the laboratory of Mr. Faraday, let them avail themselves of it. A LANDOWNER.

*PETITIONS AGAINST THE GAME LAWS.*—The Alnwick petition for the repeal of the game laws, containing 729 signatures, and the Alnmouth petition for the same object, with 78 signatures, were this week sent to Mr. Bright for presentation.—*Newcastle Advertiser.*

A petition from the inhabitants of Pershore, praying for the total repeal of the game laws, has this week been forwarded to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons. The petition received the signatures of upwards of four hundred individuals, mostly inhabitant householders.—*Worcester Chronicle.*

## WAYS AND MEANS—SUGAR DUTIES.

MONDAY, Feb. 21.—Motion made and question proposed, "That the order of the day for the Committee of Ways and Means be now read."—(Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.)—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "no arrangement of the sugar duties will be satisfactory and permanent, which does not involve an equalisation of duty on foreign and colonial sugar"—(Mr. Milner Gibson)—instead thereof:—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question?"—The House divided: Ayes, 211, Noes, 81.

## AYES.

A'Court, Captain	Flower, Sir J.	Masterman, J.
Adderley, C. B.	Forbes, W.	Maxwell, Hon. J.
Ainsworth, P.	Fox, S. L.	Meynell, Captain
Alford, Lord	Freemantle, Sir T.	Miles, P.
Allix, J. P.	Fuller, A. E.	Miles, W.
Antrobus, E.	Gladstone, W.	Milnes, L.
Arbuthnot, H.	Gladstone, Captain	Morgan, O.
Archdall, M.	Gordon, R.	Mundy, E.
Arkwright, G.	Goring, Captain	Newdegate, C.
Arundel, Karl	Goulburn, H.	Newport, Lord
Astell, W.	Graham, Sir J.	Newry, Lord
Bagot, Hon. W.	Granby, Marquis	Nicholl, J.
Bailey, J. J.	Greenall, P.	Northland, Lord
Baillie, Colonel	Greene, T.	O'Brien, A. S.
Baillie, H. J.	Gregory, W. H.	Owen, Sir J.
Baird, W.	Grogan, E.	Packe, C. W.
Barclay, D.	Hale, R. B.	Pakington, J. S.
Baring, F. T.	Halford, Sir H.	Patten, J. W.
Baring, J.	Hamilton, W. J.	Peel, Sir R.
Baskerville, T.	Hamilton, Lord C.	Peel, J.
Beckett, W.	Hannier, Sir J.	Pennant, Col.
Bentick, Lord G.	Harcourt, G. G.	Plumtree, J. P.
Berkeley, Hon. G.	Harris, Hon. Capt.	Polhill, F.
Blackstone, W.	Hayes, Sir E.	Præd, W. T.
Blackmore, R.	Heneage, G. H.	Pringle, A.
Bodkin, W. H.	Henley, J. W.	Reid, Sir J. R.
Boldero, H. G.	Hepburn, Sir T.	Repton, G.
Borthwick, P.	Herbert, S.	Round, J.
Botfield, B.	Hillborough, Earl of	Rous, Captain
Bowles, Admiral	Hinde, J. H.	Russell, Lord J.
Bramston, T. W.	Hobhouse, Sir J.	Russell, C.
Briscoe, M.	Hodgson, F.	Ryder, Hon. G.
Broadley, H.	Hogg, J. W.	Sanders, H.
Brownrigg, J. S.	Hope, Hon. C.	Sandon, Lord
Bruce, Lord E.	Hope, A.	Sibthorp, Col.
Buller, Sir J. Y.	Hope, G. W.	Smith, A.
Burroughes, H.	Hughes, W. B.	Smith, T. B. C.
Cardwell, E.	Hussey, T.	Smythe, Hon. G.
Charteris, Hon. F.	Ingestre, Lord	Somerset, Lord G.
Cholmondeley, Hon. H.	Irton, S.	Sotheron, T. H. S.
Clayton, R. R.	James, W.	Stanton, W. H.
Clerk, Sir G.	James, Sir W.	Stewart, J.
Clifton, J. T.	Jermyn, Earl	Stuart, H.
Clive, Lord	Jocelyn, Lord	Sutton, Hon. H.
Clive, Hon. R. H.	Johnstone, H.	Talbot, C. R. M.
Cockburn, Sir G.	Jones, Captain	Taylor, E.
Codrington, W.	Kemble, H.	Tennant, J. E.
Colquhoun, J. C.	Labouchere, H.	Thornhill, G.
Colville, C. R.	Lambton, H.	Tollmach, J.
Conolly, Colonel	Law, Hon. C. E.	Trench, Sir F.
Corry, H.	Lawson, A.	Trevor, Hon. G.
Courtenay, Lord	Legh, G. C.	Trollope, Sir J.
Cripps, W.	Lennox, Lord A.	Trotter, J.
Darby, G.	Leslie, G. P.	Tyrell, Sir J. T.
Denison, R. B.	Lincoln, Earl of	Vane, Lord H.
Dickinson, F. H.	Lockhart, W.	Waddington, H.
Doid, G.	Lowther, Sir J.	Walsh, Sir J. B.
Douglas, Sir H.	Lowther, Colonel	Wellington, Lord C.
Douglas, J. D. S.	Lygon, Hon. Gen.	Widdowson, Lord
Drummond, H.	McGeachy, E. A.	Wodehouse, E.
Dugdale, W. S.	Mackenzie, T.	Wood, Col.
Duncombe, O.	Mackenzie, W.	Wood, Col. T.
East, J. B.	Macnamara, W.	Wortley, Hon. J. S.
Egerton, W. T.	McNeill, D.	Wortley, Hon. J. S.
Egerton, Sir P.	Mainwaring, T.	Wyndham, C.
Emlyn, Lord	Manners, Lord C.	Yorke, Hon. R. T.
Entwistle, W.	Manners, Lord J.	
Farnham, E. B.	Marsden, Lord	
Fitzmaurice, W.	Martin, C. W.	
Fitzroy, Hon. H.	Martin, T. B.	

## NOES.

*Aglionby, H. A.	*Ellis, W.	*Osborne, R.
*Aldam, W.	*Evans, W.	*Paget, Colonel
*Barnard, E. G.	*Kwart, W.	*Pattison, J.
*Berkeley, H. F.	*Fitzroy, Lord C.	*Phillips, M.
*Blowitt, R. J.	*Fox, C. R.	*Plumridge, J.
*Bowring, Dr.	*Gill, T.	*Pogsonby, C. F.
*Bright, J.	*Gisborne, T.	*Pulford, R.
*Brotherton, J.	*Gore, Hon. R.	*Ricardo, J. L.
*Buller, C.	*Guest, Sir J.	*Robuck, J. A.
*Buller, E.	*Hawes, B.	*Ross, D. R.
*Busfield, W.	*Hayter, W. G.	*Russell, Lord E.
*Cobden, R.	*Hindley, C.	*Somererville, W.
*Colborne, W.	*Holland, R.	*Stansfeld, W.
*Cobden, Sir T. E.	*Horan, E.	*Stuart, W. V.
*Collett, J.	*Howard, E. G.	*Strickland, Sir G.
*Craig, W. G.	*Howick, Lord	*Strutt, E.
*Crawford, W. S.	*Humphrey, Aht.	*Thornely, T.
*Currie, R.	*Langston, J. H.	*Trelawney, J. S.
*Dalmeida, Lord	*Leveson, Lord	*Furber, E.
*Denistoun, J.	*Macaulay, T. B.	*Villiers, Hon. C.
*Duke, Sir J.	*Marshall, W.	*Walker, R.
*Duncan, Lord	*Martin, J.	*Warburton, H.
*Duncan, G.	*Mitealle, H.	*Ward, H. G.
*Dunnealon, Lord	*Mitchell, T.	*Watson, W. H.
*Duncombe, T.	*Morris, D.	*Wawn, J. T.
*Dundas, F.	*Morison, General	
*Dundas, G.	*Napier, Sir G.	
*Easthope, Sir J.	*O'Connell, M. J.	
*Ebrington, Lord	*Ord, W.	

Voted for Mr. Ewart's amendment, 1811.—Absent 1815.

Archibald, Robert  
Berkeley, Hon. C.  
Clive, E. B.  
Dashwood, G. H.  
Dunnealon, Lord  
Elphinstone, Howard  
Fielden, J.  
Graham, T. C.  
Johnson, General  
Lander, J. T.  
Marshall, H.  
Murray, A.  
O'Connor, Don  
Pechell, Captain  
Rice, E. R.  
Scholfield, J. (dead)  
Stock, Mr. S. Sept.  
Stuart, Sir J. H.  
Stowe, G. P.  
Wallace, R.  
York, H. H.

Voted against Mr. Ewart's amendment, 1814; and in favour of Mr. Gibson's motion, 1815.

Barnard, E. G.  
Bulmer, C.  
Cobden, Sir T. R.  
Dundas, D.  
Howard, Hon. E. G.  
Paget, Colonel  
Stuart, W. V.  
Those marked with an asterisk did not vote for Mr. Ewart's amendment last year.

*GLoucester Farmers' Club.*—This club was virtually broken up on Saturday evening. Circumstances arising out of the refusal to drink Earl Ducie's health on a recent occasion, and some expressions deemed insulting by the farmers, made use of towards them in a letter published a few weeks ago by Mr. Baker, of Hardwick court, are the causes which led to the catastrophe.—*Hereford Journal.*

### A FARMER'S OPINIONS, AND ADVICE TO HIS BROTHER FARMERS.

We take the following letter from the *Devizes Gazette*, an ultra-protectionist journal: it contains many sound views, and much judicious advice to farmers, from a practical farmer, who is thoroughly acquainted with their condition, and whose enlightened opinions must carry with them the weight of authority:—

To the Editor of the *Devizes Gazette*.

Now that the advocates of protection to agriculture have had their meeting in London, and their interview with the Prime Minister, I solicit your insertion of another letter, and I press my opinions a second time on the notice of my brother farmers, because they must now be satisfied that protection, either by the repeal of the Corn Law or other legislative measures, cannot be repaired, and that they have no chance of success in their business but by adopting those means which will enable them to compete with the untaxed cultivators of America, and the untaxed graziers of cattle on the Continent. As a farmer and owner of land, I do not complain of the position in which we are placed—on the contrary, I rejoice that, with the certainty of low prices rendering wholesome food accessible to all, we have the means, if we are wise, of meeting our altered circumstances rather by a reliance on our own unfettered industry and resources, than on the deceptive principle of protection. What course, then, must the tenant-farmers take, and in what course should they be aided by those occupiers of their own estates, who have hitherto taken a leading part in the Wilts Protection Society?

On this question I must necessarily refer to other matters than those treated of in my first letter, but I will promise to do so in the shortest possible way.

1st. An appeal must be made to the landlords for a reduction of rent, based on the honest principle—that rents undertaken to be paid with wheat at 56s. a quarter, ought not to be exacted with wheat at 46s.

2nd. A call must be made for the erection of those buildings and conveniences, without which no man can make the most of his corn, or keep his cattle in healthy condition.

3rd. All wet lands must be drained, either by the landlords or by the tenants, on such an understanding as to expense as may be agreed on.

4th. Leases should be required, in which the tenants should be released from all those absurd restrictive clauses usually applied to arable lands, framed by lawyers and land-surveyors who have no practical knowledge, the main condition as to cultivation being this—that a green crop to be consumed on the farm shall always precede a white-straw crop, and that two white-straw crops shall never be grown in succession, unless they shall have been preceded by two previous successive green crops, consumed on the land or in the yards.

5th. The game should be kept within reasonable bounds.

6th. A resolute determination should be formed to get rid of the malt-tax, on the ground that wholesome beer is as necessary to the hard-working man as bread, meat, and cheese; that this tax curtails the sale of one of the most important articles of farming produce, prevents altogether that useful interchange of good-will between the farmer and his workmen which a fair allowance of beer produces, interferes most mischievously with the application of barley as cattle food, and is, in its absurd excise regulations, prejudicial and troublesome in every way.

It is no part of my business to find a substitute for this tax; but I say, without hesitation, that the property-tax (not the income-tax) may well be continued, even at an increased amount, in the place of it, and that I shall have no faith in any farmers' friend who will maintain the one for the purpose of effectually resisting the other.

With reasonable rents—with fair farming conveniences—with dry healthy land—with freedom from restraint in cultivation—no damage from game—and with a free trade in corn and all kinds of cattle food, I assert that farming in England will be maintained; not as a money-making business—for competition for land will always prevent that—but as a business by which a steady prudent man will obtain a fair and respectable living. And here I must say, that I think a respectful and proper appeal to the landlords will not be made in vain. Although there are some scrubbed ones, as a class they are considerate and just, and have the true feelings of English gentlemen.

My farming friends will, I dare say, agree with all my previous propositions—the last as to Free Trade excepted, in my opinion the most honest and important of all: but, with their dislike of Free Trade, they will, I hope, bear in mind, that I am not dealing with the old Corn Law, but with that law which, in connexion with the Canada Bill, has in fair harvests reduced protection to 3s. a sack of wheat, and with that tariff which admits at all times salted meat at a low duty, and fat oxen at £1 per head.

At the risk, then, of being charged with a repetition of my former letters, I refer to the first as containing a fair calculation as to the expenses and returns of a light farm, with protection and without protection, supposing corn-farming to be followed in the latter case. And, notwithstanding all that has been said as to my calculations being speculative and hypothetical, I must remind you that no practical farmer has yet stated that £800 cannot be made in sheep, wool, and cattle from 200 acres of green crop, 500 sacks of beans, and the produce of 200 acres of straw and fodder, or that the crops mentioned by me cannot be grown on land farmed in the way set forth in my letter. I argue then again—

1st. That the occupiers of grass lands, whether for dairy or grazing purposes, must be benefited by cheap corn, because they are purchasers for their cattle, sheep, and pigs, and grow none; and because the less our working people have to pay for their bread, the more they will have to lay out in meat, cheese, and butter.

The grazier at the present time is ruined by the high prices of all cattle food.

2nd. That, with wheat at present prices, a good crop must be grown to pay expenses; that such crop cannot be grown on light land without high farming; and that, as the occupiers of light soils cannot grow either beans, peas, or oats to advantage, and a supply of beans and peas for all light soils could not be obtained from our own produce, they will benefit by getting those articles at Free-Trade prices, resting satisfied with the growth of green crops for feed, and wheat and barley for sale. The very fact has been that the light soils would go out of cultivation without protection. My object has been

to show that with Free-Trade prices, and high farming, the light soils can be profitably cultivated.

3rd. That, with present prices, high farming on the best strong arable soils will be necessary. That on such soils, where beans and peas can be grown, not more than about the fifth or sixth part of a farm can advantageously be sown with such corn. That with high farming a far greater quantity than the produce of a fifth or sixth part ought to be consumed by horses, cattle, and sheep. That such extra quantity would be beneficially bought at Free-Trade prices; and that it is absurd to suppose that the best lands in the country really need or ought to have any further protection, than that which is afforded by the freight, insurance, and shipping charges on foreign corn.

I will now add a few observations on the tariff, and the best way of meeting the competition arising from it.

The foreigner has the advantage of purchasing poor stock at far lower prices than the English grazier. He has the great advantage of cheap corn and oil cake for fattening purposes. His drawbacks are the risk of loss by accidents, freight, and the duty of £1 per head. This tariff is gradually and quietly working its way. Importations to Hull and London are increasing and will increase. The Smithfield butchers, on entering the market, soon ascertain the number of beasts on sale. They know the average number required, and the circumstance of there being in the market 200 or 300 beasts more than are wanted disheartens the salesmen. They know that beasts take infinite damage by being put back for another week. The butchers are shy of purchasing, and the salesmen make enormous sacrifices in sales. I can myself speak feelingly on this subject. Although an annual importation of 5000 or 6000 beasts may appear small, compared with the general consumption of the country, yet such a number, coming at the rate of 200 weekly, may have a very depressing influence on the Smithfield sales. How then, I say, can this state of things be met? We cannot and ought not to hope for a repeal of the tariff, but we have a right to be placed as near as may be on a footing with the foreigner, by having all kinds of cattle food at the cheapest possible rate. I can see no way of meeting foreigners but by putting ourselves in a position to fatten beasts and sheep as cheaply as they can, and by increasing the ability of the working people to purchase, by increased trade and employment.

At greater length than I at first intended, I have again enforced my views. At the present time, all that the farmer has to sell is cheap: all that he has of necessity to buy in the shape of cattle food is, very much owing to legislation, excessively dear. From the want of food, sacrifices of stock to an enormous amount are daily made. There is, I really believe, no way of remedying this state of things, but that of doing away with protection altogether, and leaving everything to find its own level.

I am, &c., NATN. ATHERTON.  
Kington, Feb. 14, 1845.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—During the lecture which Doctor John Ryan has been giving, this week, on Mechanical Power, he has taken the opportunity to advert to an invention connected with mechanical science as applicable to the alleviation of human suffering. Our readers may remember that a few days ago a notice appeared in a morning journal, referring to an invention lately exhibited in Paris, by which a man who had been deprived of both his arms was enabled, by means of artificial limbs provided with springs, &c., attached to the remaining stumps of the natural arms, to perform a variety of offices. The French invention appears to be most ingenious; but that to which the learned doctor adverted is equally worthy of humbler approbation. He introduced to his auditors a man whose arm had been amputated just below the elbow. To the remaining stump of the arm was affixed an apparatus, consisting of springs and bands, terminating in an artificial hand, by which means the man was enabled to lay hold of any thing, and convey it to his mouth, to tie and untie shoes, and to do many other things for which the human hand is used. This admirable contrivance is the invention of Sir George Cayley, Bart., chairman of the Royal Polytechnic Institution, a gentleman well known for his practical knowledge of mechanism.

FIRST ARRIVAL OF SUGAR FROM THE UNITED STATES.—On Sunday last the American ship *Franconia* arrived in this port, bringing, as part of her cargo, 12 hogsheads of Louisiana sugar. This is the first arrival of American-grown sugar in this country, but we suspect that it is only the beginning of a trade which will, in a few years, become a very considerable one, if the new sugar duties of Sir R. Peel should pass in their present form. According to the provisions of the proposed bill, the sugars of the United States are to be admitted without dispute or difficulty, on the same footing as the free-labour sugars of Java and Manilla; the Minister, indeed, having no power, under existing treaties with the United States, to admit the one and exclude the other, and as the sugars of the nations, not possessing such treaties, in which slavery exists, are not to have this advantage, the sugar-planters of the United States will have a superiority over the planters of Cuba and Brazil, which will secure them pretty nearly a monopoly of slave-grown sugar in the English market. This will doubtless be a great advantage to American planters as well as to American shipping. The sugars received by the *Franconia* must necessarily have been shipped before anything was known or suspected of the reduction of duties now proposed, and must therefore have been sent here for the purpose of ascertaining whether they could be imported with profit at a duty of 36s. per cwt., so that, if there was any chance whatever of their succeeding under such a duty, they cannot fail to pay handsomely, now that the duty is reduced to 24s. per cwt. We feel no doubt that they will pay if they are at all well selected, for on Saturday last we saw samples of two other expected lots of American sugar, both of which had been examined by a sugar-broker, who states that they will leave a handsome profit—at least 10 per cent.—in this country, even if the price of sugar should fall to the full extent of the duty repealed; the prices, therefore, are no obstacle, and what renders it still more likely that this trade will become considerable is, that the sugar crop in Louisiana was last year much the largest ever known, and the price so moderate that a gentleman who was on one of the sugar plantations between New Orleans and Belize, about three months ago, was offered any quantity of sugar at the rate of 8½ cents, that is, at less than 2d. per lb.—*Liverpool Times*.

### REVIEW.

*History of the United States of America.* By George Bancroft. Edinburgh and London: Fullarton and Co.

The publishers of this volume have done good service to the cause of standard literature and sound principle by presenting Bancroft's admirable history of the colonization of the United States, and of their condition while British colonies, in a cheap and accessible form, to the English public. In no department of politics have the lessons of experience been more completely thrown away than in everything connected with colonization: every page of colonial history proves that colonies succeed best when left to individual enterprise and independent resources; but that, when coddled and pampered by a system of protection, they become miserable themselves, and a burden to the parent state. Spanish America was colonized under the direct superintendence of the Spanish Government: every department of colonial administration—everything connected with exports or imports, or with transit from one colony to another—every action of public life, and not a few of those that belong to the domestic and family existence, had been arranged and tabulated in strict formularies to which no exception would be tolerated. Spanish manufactures were protected in the colonies, and colonial produce was protected in Spain; the commercial system which floats indistinctly before the turbid vision of the writers in the *Morning Post*, was established with a completeness and stringency that could not be exceeded: the result was, that Spain was impoverished, while the colonies were not enriched; and the colonies were rendered miserable without any profit accruing to the parent state.

Far different was the course pursued in the New England colonies, and far different has been the result. The Pilgrim Fathers, denied the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of their conscience, sought freedom in the wilds of America; they sought no protection save from Divine Providence; they asked for no assistance to their own stalwart arms: they cleared the forest, they bridged the torrent, they quayed the harbour, and they protected themselves from the savage with their own swords. They grew up the healthy children of a healthy people; they earned for Britain the title of the Cybele of nations—the mother of countless sons, and every son a god. Spain, the South American colonies, and protection, stand on one side; Britain, the New England states, and commercial freedom, on the other:—there are the two systems tested by their results; and yet it is debated in this age and nation which is the system of most salutary policy.

The Spanish system, like our West India monopoly, not only sanctioned but encouraged an absentee proprietary; we find Mr. Gladstone absolutely pleading for the continuance of differential duties for the mere sake of this absenteeism. It is no new discovery of the right honourable gentleman: when an attempt was made to establish absentee influence in Virginia, the House of Assembly at once saw that this would necessarily be associated with a fettered commerce and restrictive monopoly. Accordingly, in their memorable protest, dated April 3, 1642, they boldly declared "FREEDOM OF TRADE IS THE BLOOD AND LIFE OF A COMMONWEALTH." Nor was this a republican cry: the Virginians were zealous adherents of the royal cause; they clung to it with desperate fidelity after Charles I. had fallen on the scaffold, and Charles II. had fled into what seemed hopeless exile. But, when compelled to submit to the naval armament sent against them by Cromwell, they still maintained their principle, and made it an express stipulation in the act of surrender that "the people of Virginia should have as free trade as the people of England." This article was not a mere form: in March, 1636, the Virginian House of Assembly invited "the Dutch and all foreigners to trade with them, on payment of no higher duty than that which was levied on such English vessels as were trading to their ports;" and in 1660 a special statute of the Virginian Legislature extended to every Christian nation in unity with England a promise of liberty to trade, and equal justice. No wonder that, during the interval between the English and American revolutions, Virginia was described as "the best poor man's country in the world."

The spirit of Free Trade, thus broadly asserted beyond the Atlantic, was soon felt in England. A monopoly of fisheries had been granted to a company by royal patent; a bill was brought into Parliament to give confirmation to the royal grant; the aged Sir Edward Coke, expiating in his latter years the sins of early ambition by his devotion to the interests of the people, thus addressed George, the advocate of the patentees, from the Speaker's chair: "Your patent contains many particulars contrary to the laws and privileges of the subject: it is a monopoly, and the ends of private gain are concealed under colour of planting a colony." Had he lived in our day he might with equal force and truth have addressed Messrs. Gladstone and Goulburn on



their proposed system of sugar duties:—"It is a monopoly, and the ends of private gain are concealed under colour of sustaining a colony."

Bancroft has ably shown that the alienation of the American colonies from the parent state was not the mere result of the Stamp Act, or the import-duty imposed upon tea; these were the crowning acts of an unjust system, which he has exposed with great clearness and brevity:—

"The activity of the shipping of New England, which should only have excited admiration, excited envy in the minds of the English merchants. The produce of the plantations of the southern colonies was brought to New England, as a result of the little colonial exchanges. To the extravagant taste of mercantile avarice, New England was become a staple. (Chalmers, 262. See Hutch. Coll. 422.) Parliament (25 Car. II., c. vii.) therefore, resolved to exclude New England merchants from competing with the English, in the markets of the southern plantations; the liberty of free traffic between the colonies was accordingly taken away; and any of the enumerated commodities exported from one colony to another were subject to a duty equivalent to the duty on the consumption of these commodities in England.

"By degrees the avarice of English shopkeepers became holder; and America was forbidden, by act of Parliament, not merely to manufacture those articles which might compete with the English in foreign markets, but even to supply herself, by her own industry, with those articles which her position enabled her to manufacture with success for her own wants. (For example, 5 Geo. II., c. xlii., § 7; and 23 Geo. II., c. xxi.)

"Thus was the policy of Great Britain, with respect to her colonies, a system of monopoly, adopted after the example of Spain, and, for more than a century, inflexibly pursued, in no less than twenty-nine acts of Parliament. The colonists were allowed to sell to foreigners only what England would not take; that so they might gain means to pay for the articles forced upon them by England. The commercial liberties of rising states were shackled by paper chains, and the principles of natural justice subjected to the fears and to the covetousness of English shopkeepers. (Burke.)

"The effects of this system were baleful to the colonies. They could buy European and all foreign commodities only at the shops of the metropolis; and thus the merchant of the mother country could sell his goods for a little more than they were worth. England gained at the expense of America. The profit of the one was balanced by the loss of the other.

"In the sale of their products the colonists were equally injured. The English, being the sole purchasers, could obtain those products at a little less than their fair value. The merchant of Bristol or London was made richer; the planter of Virginia or Maryland was made poorer. No new value was created; one lost what the other gained; and both parties had equal claims to the benevolence of the Legislature. (Say, II., 288, 289.)

"Thus the colonists were wronged, both in their purchases and in their sales; the law cut them with a double edge. The English consumer gained nothing; for the surplus colonial produce was re-exported to other nations. The English merchant, and not the English people, profited by the injustice. The English people were sufferers. Not that the undue employment of wealth in the colonial trade occasioned an injurious scarcity in other branches of industry; for the increased productiveness of capital soon yielded a larger supply than ever for all kinds of business; just as a fortune doubles rapidly at a high rate of interest. But the navigation act involved the foreign policy of England in contradictions; she was herself a monopolist of her own colonial trade, and yet steadily aimed at enfranchising the trade of the Spanish settlement. Hence arose a set of relations which we shall find pregnant with consequences.

"In the domestic policy of England, the act increased the tendency to unequal legislation. The English merchant having become the sole factor for American colonies, and the manufacturer claiming to supply colonial wants, the English landholder consented to uphold the artificial system only by sharing its emoluments; and Corn Laws began to be enacted, in order to secure the profits of capital, applied to agriculture, against the dangers of foreign competition. Thus the system which impoverished the Virginia planter, by lowering the price of his tobacco crop, oppressed the English labourer, by raising the price of his bread (22 Car. II., c. xvi.); till at last a Whig ministry (William and Mary) could offer a bounty on the exportation of corn.

"The law was still more injurious to England, from its influence on the connexion between the colonies and the metropolis. Durable relations in society are correlative, and reciprocally beneficial. In this case the statute was made by one party to bind the other, and was made on iniquitous principles. Established as the law of the strongest, it could endure no longer than the superiority in force. It converted commerce, which should be the bond of peace, into a source of ranking hostility, and scattered the certain seeds of a civil war. The navigation act contained a pledge of the ultimate independence of America.

"To the colonists, the navigation act was, at the time, an unmitigated evil; for the prohibition (12 Car. II., c. xxi.) of planting in New England and Ireland was a useless mockery.

"As a mode of taxing the colonies, the monopoly was a failure; the contribution was made to the pocket of the merchant, not to the treasury of the metropolis.

"The usual excuse for colonial restrictions is founded on the principle that colonies were established at the cost of the mother country for that very purpose. (Montesquieu, I., xvi., c. xvi.) In the case of the American colonies, the apology cannot be urged. The state founded none of them. The colonists escaped from the mother country, and had, at their own cost and by their own toil, made for themselves dwellings in the New World. Virginia was founded by a private company; New England was the home of the exiles. England first thrust them out; and she owned them as her children only to oppress them!

"Again, it was said that the commercial losses of the colonists were compensated by protection. But the connexion with Europe was fraught only with danger; for the rivalry of European nations did but transfer the scenes of their bloody feuds to the wilds of America."

Before taking leave of this volume, we must express the great delight and satisfaction we have derived from Bancroft's manly defence of William Penn. Stendly bearing in view that Divine law regulates our relations to the Deity, civil law our relations to the state, and moral law our relations to society, he carefully segregated these elements, which later writers have jumbled together, and consistently maintained that neither the state nor society have a right to intervene in the relations between man and his Creator. Many of the Protestant Dissenters of his day insisted that Romanists should be excepted from this rule; and it was because Penn maintained its universality that he lost much of his popularity after the Revolution.

The Messrs. Fullarton have published "Botta's History of the American Revolution" as a companion work to Bancroft: it is worthy of such an association—and the two together should form a part of every Englishman's library who feels an interest in the genuine honour of his country and the advancement of his kind.

**ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURES IN SUSSEX.**—A public lecture on the evils of the Corn Laws was delivered in the large room at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Midhurst, by Mr. Falvey, on Thursday evening, the 27th ult. The room was excessively crowded with an agricultural audience, who took the greatest interest in the proceedings. Had Mr. John Ellman been present, and heard the labourers cheering for Free Trade at the very top of their voices, he would never mention the *horse-pond* argument again. T. Bowles, Esq., was called to the chair, and made a short but forcible speech in favour of Free Trade. At the close of Mr. Falvey's lecture, a Free-Trade resolution was carried unanimously, and three cheers given for Free Trade and the Anti-Corn Law League. Mr. Falvey delivered two lectures on the Corn and Colonial restrictions at the Richmond Arms Hotel, Horsham, on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday last. Mr. Agate took the chair on each occasion, and impressed upon his friends and fellow-townsmen the necessity of carrying out Free-Trade principles in the legislation of the country. Mr. Falvey took the Corn monopoly on the first evening, and Sugar on the second; and was listened to with deep attention by a numerous and respectable audience, including many ladies. On the motion of the Rev. Mr. Ashdown, a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to Mr. Falvey, and the Council of the League, for their exertions in the cause of commercial freedom. Mr. Falvey is to lecture in the Town-hall, Brighton, on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday next.

**BREAD MONOPOLY.**—Tuesday evening upwards of 150 master bakers held a meeting at the Green Dragon, Fleet-street, for the purpose of inducing millers or flour factors not to supply any baker with flour who sells his bread under a stipulated trade price, and pledging themselves individually and collectively not to support or deal with any miller so transgressing. A committee was appointed to see their resolutions carried into effect. Probably the public may think it right to ascertain the names of these 150 master bakers, and refuse to buy bread of them at their trade or monopoly prices. —*Globe.*

**THE PRICE OF BREAD IN FRANCE.**—The *Moniteur* publishes the prices of wheat in the different markets of France in February last, from which it appears that the hectolitre sold on an average for 19f. 50c. at Toulouse, Gray, Lyons, and Marseilles; 19f. 10c. at Marais and Bordeaux; 17f. 64c. at St. Laurent and Le Grand Lemp; 17f. 64c. at Mulhausen and Strasbourg; 15f. 79c. at Bergues, Arras, Roye, Soissons, Paris, and Rouen; 17f. 17c. at Saumur and Nantes; 13f. 70c. at Metz, Verdun, and Charleville; 17f. 33c. at St. Lo, Paimpol, Quimper, Hennebont. The price of bread has experienced a slight rise in Paris. The *Moniteur* announces that the price of the 14r. loaf, first quality, is fixed for the first 15 days of the present month at 60 centimes, or 6d. The *National* observes, that "it appears to be impossible to induce the Prefect of Police to put an end to the jobbing which is practised at the Corn-market for the purpose of raising the price of bread. Nothing announced that the price of bread would be changed for the first 15 days of March, but the day on which the assize was to be struck, a few bakers, in collusion with some factors, made fictitious sales of 1200 quintals of flour at 2f. higher than what had been fairly sold to the trade. This fact has caused both surprise and indignation, particularly as at the moment of those fictitious sales the price of wheat had fallen 1f. the quintal."

**BURTON LIBERAL REGISTRATION ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of this association was held on Thursday evening, at the Public-rooms, Broadmead, G. Thomas, Esq., treasurer, in the chair. The Chairman said the meeting had been deferred till a later period of the year than usual, it being thought desirable to see what measures would be brought forward by Sir Robert Peel, at the opening of Parliament. He then referred to the various measures proposed by the Government, as set forth in Sir Robert Peel's speech in the budget, and concluded by enforcing the importance of attending diligently to the registration, and quoted from the *LEAGUE* newspaper to show what might be done towards throwing open the county representations.—T. Mills, Esq., read the annual report, an ably-written document, from which it appeared that the debt of the association had been liquidated, and that the aggregate gain of the Liberals upon the last registration was no less than 240. The report was adopted, and the usual resolutions of thanks to the committee, &c., having been passed, the meeting separated.

The monopolists of corn, and the monopolists of sugar, treat the consumers of both articles as two roguish lawyers, did a pair of booby squires; and the arguments of thread-vendors of the West India interest, which were all addressed to the supporters of the Corn Laws, were fairly expressed in the letter sent by one of the pettifoggers to his compeer:—

"There are two boobies in the west  
That are well-feathered in their nest;  
Do you pluck one, I'll pluck the other,  
So fare you well, my loving brother."

—*Hirmingham Journal.*

## AGRICULTURE.

### THE GAME LAWS' COMMITTEE.

The recent appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the game laws forms, undoubtedly, an epoch in the history of British agriculture. It is the first tenant-farmers' committee. It is an inquiry which tenant-farmers to a man desire should be full, searching, and complete; and it is one which nine landholders out of ten, taking the country through, would have resisted if they had dared, and will, if they can, render as imperfect and inconclusive as possible. For the first time in British history have the farmers made their own, their real, voices heard in the Legislature. There have been select committees without number to inquire into agricultural distress, but they have only been intended to ascertain how reductions of rent could be avoided without making the farmers their own masters. The agricultural committee of 1836 disclosed the fact that all the legislation by which for two-and-twenty years landlords had professed to benefit at the expense of the tenant's capital. From that moment the political landlords became the most energetic opponents of all inquiries into the existence and causes of agricultural distress. It was, therefore, with something like surprise that the concession of a committee to inquire into the game laws was received by the public.

Writing as a farmer to farmers, we shall not waste a line on the supererogatory task of showing that the game laws constitute one of the greatest and most hopeless burdens by which, amongst many others, the tenant-farmers are oppressed. That is an agricultural axiom. Nobody denies it, except such madcap reasoners as Mr. Grantley Berkeley, who unconsciously demonstrate just the contrary of that they wish to prove, having all the value of most unwilling witnesses. There is no doubt that the inquiry will be an effective one. But we ask the tenantry of Great Britain how this has been brought about? Has it originated with the "Central Society for the Protection of British Agriculture?" Is it due to the indomitable perseverance of Mr. William Miles or Mr. George Bankes? Does it result from influence, the *disinterested* influence of the Duke of Richmond at the Treasury? Has the Duke of Buckingham at length proved himself in deed as well as in name the "farmers' friend?" To each of these queries every farmer must say no! no! There is not a man amongst the active protectionists, the self-designated "farmers' friends," who would not have shirked or burked the inquiry if he could. Fancy the faces of the eighty squirearchical members of the House of Commons

who assembled at Sir Robert Peel's on the morning of the day when the committee was agreed to! Imagine what they must have felt when plainly told by the Prime Minister, doubtless in the blindest terms, that an inquiry into game laws and game-preserving was inevitable! How, then, has all this been brought about? Hares, pheasants, and rabbits might have devoured the substance and impoverished the family of every tenant-farmer in the kingdom, so long as rent could have been levied out of his capital, before the landowners would have moved in furtherance of such an inquiry. Who, then, has proved to be the "farmers' friend?" No other than John Bright, one of the dreaded champions of the League. The efforts of the League throughout the country, and the tact, eloquence, and intellectual power of a few Free-Traders in Parliament, have obtained this first instalment of justice for the tenant-farmers. They, whose very names have been used by the monopolist landowners to scare the tenantry from all investigation of the causes of agricultural depression, have been the only public men who have ever obtained a public measure unquestionably advantageous to the class of tenant-farmers. His Grace of Richmond made apparently a great stir for the sake of the farmers, but it all ended in a seat at the Treasury for his own brother. Buckingham's devotion to the cause of the suffering agriculturists has procured him a blue ribbon and a diamond bauble for himself. While Miles and Bankes are talking of making sham motions,—at the very mention of which even the landowning House of Commons laughs outright, and by which they know they can get nothing but a minority of about seventy or eighty of the most imbecile members in the House,—Bright the Leaguer obtains a committee on the Game Laws with the approval of those who, by that inquiry, will be put upon their trial.

Farmers, who are your friends? Are those who delude you with false promises and illusory expectations, or are those who, telling you some home truths, go at once to a practical examination of your admitted grievances, your real friends?

The most rabid monopolists begin to note this as a sign of the times. Thus the *New Farmer's Journal* says:—

"We sincerely rejoice in the appointment of the committee, and, although by no means disposed to deny Mr. Bright his full share of credit for having obtained it, we may perhaps be pardoned for expressing our regret that

the matter was not first taken up by some agricultural representative. ARE WE ALSO TO BE INDEBTED TO A FREE-TRADER FOR A COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES OF THE PRESENT DISTRESSED STATE OF AGRICULTURE?"

As surely as the game-law inquiry was obtained by the exertions of the Free-Traders, so certainly will any effective inquiry into the "distressed state of agriculture" be procured by means of the League. So the *Morning Post* :—

"In districts where the rural peasantry are suffering from want of employment and destitution, it is mere madness to suppose that the game-preserving system can be kept up by severity of law. If men be idle and hungry they certainly will attempt to catch the wild animals on which they may feed. Let proprietors, therefore, look carefully to the condition of the people on their estates, and try to give them something better to do than poaching."

And what makes men idle in the rural districts, but the slovenly cultivation induced by the Corn Laws and Game Laws, and the consequent vassalage of yearly tenant-farmers?

The great object of farmers now must be to make the inquiry as complete as possible, and the best mode of doing so will be for those farmers who have had opportunities of noticing the evils caused by game-preserving and the game laws—and what farmer has not had far, far too many such?—to communicate to Mr. Bright, as chairman of the committee, the substance of the evidence they can give. Witnesses summoned by the committee will have their expenses paid; so that, by the devotion of a few hours to this most important question, farmers may help to remove the most cruel remnant of feudal barbarism by which they and their labourers are oppressed and degraded. Farmers should come prepared to show the whole bearings of the game laws, for already are there indications that the squires think of giving up their special law as regards hares and rabbits, and retaining it for the preservation of pheasants and partridges. But this will never do. Hares and rabbits are at present more complained of than pheasants and partridges, because they are a degree, and only a degree, less destructive. The minor is sunk in the major. But what is the fact? We know that overwhelming evidence of the vast injury done to grain crops, in every stage from seed time to harvest, by pheasants in particular, will be offered to the committee; and we know also that farmers and their men will be subject to espionage and entrapment by gamekeepers as much for the sake of winged as of four-footed game. The abolition of the game laws must be entire, and if the farmers who give

evidence will state all the facts within their knowledge the result of the inquiry must be the TOTAL REPEAL OF ALL GAME LAWS. Now is an occasion when farmers' clubs should be rendered realities by the introduction of this topic, and by deputed some one of their body to give evidence before the committee. Farmers must begin to think and act for themselves. They should form societies to discuss their real grievances, and they should support each other in firm and business-like demands for their removal. There is no other body of capitalists who would submit to be devoured in detail as the farmers have been by the rent-loving landlords; and nothing but a combined action on the part of tenant-farmers is necessary to emancipate them once and for ever.

The landowners could never resist any real pressure on the part of the farmers. Not one in fifty—be his rental what it may—could find capital to stock and manage a thousand acres without extreme inconvenience, and not one in a thousand, having stocked it, could continue its cultivation without a yearly loss far beyond his whole rent. It is only because tenant-farmers do not co-operate with each other that they have been one by one ground down to the dust by the landowners. Let this game-law committee be made the occasion for the commencement of such co-operation by tenant-farmers for their own protection.

#### GREAT CRY AND LITTLE WOOL.

We all recollect the outcry there was a few weeks ago amongst a certain clique of monopolist squires and land-agents for repealing the malt-tax, and the solemn pretences put forth that farmers would then make great gains by feeding cattle with malt! We believe it was even pronounced by the Duke of Richmond's deputation to Sir Robert Peel. How the right honourable baronet, who knows pretty well the depth of solemn humbug, must have laughed in his sleeve at the impudence of those who asked the Government to take off a very productive duty on malt to enable them to feed their cattle, while they compel the Government to retain a very unproductive duty on grain, which keeps out more cattle food by a hundred-fold than all the malt consumed in the country. However, the assertion having been made, it became the duty of the "Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture" to seek for some evidence to support it; and accordingly we find Mr. Stafford O'Brien, the chairman of the publication committee of that society—the Adam Smith-garbling committee—thus addressing the *Mark-lane Express* for information :—

"At the Northampton Agricultural Protection So-

ciety's dinner, on the 22nd of January last, I mentioned in my speech that it would be very desirable to obtain from Government some arrangement whereby the agriculturist could malt barley (or could obtain malt) for his cattle free from the impositions of the existing malt-tax. Since then I have received several communications on this subject, suggesting methods, whether by drawbacks, certificates, chemically colouring the grain, &c., by which this could be accomplished. But my object in writing to you is to obtain from some practical farmer a statement as to the efficacy of malt in feeding cattle, and also of its efficacy as compared with oil-cake. The subject was mentioned to Sir Robert Peel at our interview with him to-day, and, if we are able to make out a case to the Government, I have little doubt they will concede this to us. But I have not, as yet, met with any one who can speak of its advantages from experience."

It is difficult to imagine any thing more ludicrous than this advertisement for facts to "make out a case," after the Minister has been seriously told that the agriculturists are to be relieved in that way. And although the malt-tax repealers are daily associates of Mr. O'Brien at the "room in Bond-street," yet he has "never met with any one who can speak of its advantages from experience." What, is Mr. Baker and his crew silent on this point! Mr. O'Brien certainly took the right course in addressing himself to the *Mark-lane Express*, the columns of which are the great receptacle for the effusions of the malt-tax repealers; and our readers shall see the mighty results.

Mr. Charles Poppy says :—

"All that is known respecting the nutritious quality of malt for feeding, except from a single case or two, is, that whilst the duty on malt was but 6d. per bushel, small portions of malt mixed with bran or chaff used to be given to cows when brought to a weak state by calving, and to other cattle and horses after severe illness or bad accidents; a practice recommended by old farriers and cowleeches. I have seen beasts so fed recover their strength very fast. I have no doubt of the superior fattening quality of malting corn, and pulse too, given in proper quantities with other food; but should be sorry if the farmers were allowed to use doctored malt for feeding cattle, whilst the farm-labourers were debarred its use. This would increase dissatisfaction and disaffection. But the mode proposed is not practicable; as beasts would not touch scented malt, and its being stained with innoxious ingredients would not prevent its being used for brewing."

This is very sensible, and pretty well knocks on the head Mr. O'Brien's "case." So Mr. Thomas Ellman :—

"It is difficult to mention advantages from experience in feeding with malt, inasmuch as little confidence can be placed in trials on a limited scale; and the expense attending it interferes seriously with extensive practice in this matter; however, I can furnish Mr. O'Brien with the names of farmers (with their permission) who have used malt in the feeding of cattle with very great success. There are certain reasons why their names are not here stated.—[Running the duty, hey?] I understand from old farmers, that malt was frequently used for cattle when the duty was only 4s. a quarter. Malt should never be used in a dry state for cattle."

Mr. Ellman, however, thinks that if malt for cattle-feeding should alone be exempted from duty it would excite ill-will and jealousy amongst the labourers, who know that malt makes beer. We could extract many more passages from various other sources, but they are all much to the same effect; feeding cattle on malt has never practically been tried, and all that has been said about it by monopolist repealers has no other foundation than their own inventive powers. Mr. Ellman suggests :—

"That some other than a tenant-farmer should give this experiment a fair trial. An article upon which is charged so heavy a duty, is only within the reach of an amateur farmer; many of which class, I have no doubt, will take up the subject."

The fact is, that if the malt duty should be either partially or wholly repealed without making the trade in foreign barley absolutely free, all the revenue lost by the State would go into the pockets of the land-lords. The consumers of malt would not be benefited one farthing, while they would be injured by having to pay a part of any other tax which might be substituted for the malt-tax. And whatever may be the relative value of malt for feeding purposes as compared with pulse, oil-cake, &c., the grazier would gain nothing by the alteration until the demand for meat shall become larger by unfettering the national industry, and shaking off monopoly in every form.

#### SQUIREARCHAL INSOLENCES.

"ONGAR LABOURERS' FRIEND SOCIETY.—We understand that Sir Edward Bowyer Smyth, Bart., of Hill-hall, patron of the above society, has expressed his intention to the Rev. Philip Ray, secretary, to present at the next ensuing annual public meeting a silver cup, value ten guineas, to the renting farmer who shall have expended the greatest amount in agricultural labour for one year."—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

There, farmers of Essex, is a prize for you! Sir Edward Bowyer Smyth, Bart., of Hill-hall, the patron of the Labourers' Friend Society, graciously offers you a bit of a pipkin to encourage you to employ the labourers! We wonder whether Sir Edward Bowyer Smyth, Bart., of Hill-hall, ever associated, out of his own class and clique, with any but lackeys and stable-boys; for surely the pipkin prize is adapted rather to the tone of the servants' hall than to that of a body of tenant-farmers.

Perhaps it would be difficult to find a more complete illustration of the utter ignorance in which landlords live of the farmers who surround them, than the offer of such a pitiful and insulting prize to the Essex farmers.

#### WEARING ROUND.

The day is not far distant when the most passionate opponents of Free Trade will be convinced of the necessity of getting speedily over the present transitional state, and removing altogether protective duties. The following passage from the *Bankers' Circular*, a violent monopolist journal, seems to indicate that what has happened with respect to the Game Laws will occur as to the Corn Laws: viz., that their last blow will be received at the hands of the Free-Traders, with the hearty co-operation of the industrious agriculturists :—

"The pretext of 56s. for the quarter of wheat did not deceive us, we knew its delusive fallacy, and did all in our power to prevent the agricultural class from being deceived by it. However, there is obviously no strength in Parliament to counteract the operation of causes, which must inevitably produce such evil consequences; and, seeing that it is a hopeless effort to discuss these subjects, we shall be glad to see the principle of Free Trade have its range at once; because we are convinced that nothing but the experience of its effects can convince either the Government or the legislative bodies of the revolution in the value of property which it would produce. The agricultural representatives seem to us to act in a suicidal manner, by rejecting Mr. Cobden's invitation to unite with him in demanding an impartial committee of investigation. It is that proceeding which they ought themselves to demand. We believe Mr. Cobden would consent to a fair committee, and that he would agree that the investigation should be searching, unrestricted, and complete—comprising all matters that bear permanently on the prices of agricultural produce, and the condition of farmers and their labourers."

#### LANDLORD BENEFICENCE.

"The tenants of the Duke of Buckingham have just had distributed among them one hundred tons of oil-cake, in order to afford food for their cattle, and to compensate them for the great deficiency in their hay crops during the past unprofitable season. An additional sixty tons have also been ordered by his grace to be delivered to his tenantry before the first of next month. It may be remarked that the average price of oil-cake is now from £10. 15s. to £11. 5s. per ton."—*Morning Post*.

The above paragraph affords a very apt illustration of landowning beneficence. The duke's dairy farmers are not men of capital, and, therefore, are unable to feed their cattle with purchased food. But if their cattle were now brought to market, lean and half-starved as they are, they would scarcely fetch enough to pay the duke's arrears of rent. Hence his grace's paragraphed generosity. Had the trade in grain been free, the deficiency of provender would have been supplied, in a great measure, by importation.

The following has been exhibited as a placard in many of the shop windows in London :—

#### CITIZENS OF LONDON, SIR ROBERT PEELE

Proposes to hand over more than  
TWO MILLIONS  
THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS  
Out of the Tax raised on Sugar to the  
OWNERS OF LAND IN THE COLONIES,  
WHO KEEP HIM IN OFFICE IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN  
THEIR MONOPOLY.

Now, this is equal in amount to the  
WHOLE OF THE TAXES  
RAISED UPON  
SOAP AND BRICKS  
AND  
WINDOWS.

IT IS EQUAL TO THE WHOLE OF THE  
INCOME TAX  
UPON

TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

It is greater than the Sum paid for the Queen's Civil List, together with all Annuities and Pensions for Civil, Military, and Judicial services; all Salaries and Allowances; all Diplomatic Salaries and Pensions, and also the entire Expenses of

ALL OUR COURTS OF JUSTICE!!!

FARM TENANTS AND THE GAME LAWS.—Colonel Oakes, chief constable of the Norfolk police, hired Easton Lodge of Thomas French Berney, Esq., and conditioned not to encourage the production of hares and rabbits thereon. Notwithstanding this engagement, 10,000 rabbits and 400 hares were killed during the last season, and the damage done to the tenants occupying the adjoining farms has been valued by Mr. Thomas Edwards, Hapton-hall, and found to amount to upwards of £280, which sum Colonel Oakes paid to Mr. Berney's agent (Mr. Noye) on Saturday last. —*Norfolk News*.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—A fire most lamentably destructive in its effects, and which is proved beyond doubt to be the work of an incendiary, broke out about twelve o'clock on Tuesday night on the premises of Mr. Ganner, an extensive farmer residing in Kingston-lane, Teddington. Before the fire was got under the valuable ricks and the numerous sheds surrounding the yard were destroyed. The horses, cows, pigs, &c. &c., were removed to a place of safety; the house was also saved. A wheat rick, containing the produce of 50 acres, a second nearly as large, a stack of rye, one of barley, and two ricks of hay, were wholly consumed. The damage done to the premises, and amount of property destroyed, it is said will be little short of £3000. There seems to be no doubt that the fire was wilful. This is the second calamity that has occurred to Mr. Ganner; two years since he had the entire contents of his farm at Hampton-common destroyed by fire, and under circumstances similar to the present.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. H., Islington-green."—Being jointly rated at 2s will be sufficient for either to vote under the Local Act, as either might be distrained upon for payment of the whole amount of the assessment.

"Anonymous."—The Rev. S. Godolphin Osborne's address is Blandford, Dorset.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

**TRADE and NAVIGATION.**—To the SUBSCRIBERS to the ECONOMIST.—With the *Economist* of Saturday next, the 17th of March, will be presented a Supplement (gratis) containing an official account of the Imports, Exports, and Consumption of each article in the year 1818; and a statement of the Exports of the leading articles of Manufacture given in quantities, and distinguishing the Countries to which they have been exported, this year compared with former years. These accounts will be continued monthly (gratis) to all subscribers. This Supplement has been postponed from this week in consequence of delay at the Custom-house.

**RUSSIAN MARKET.**—Also, next week, will be given an elaborate Review of the State of the Russian Market of the whole World, 6, Wellington-street, Strand, and all News-men.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 8, 1845.

The income-tax has been whimsically but justly baptized "bitter extract of sugar," for the necessity of its continuance has solely arisen from the Premier's determination to maintain the unjust monopoly of the West India proprietors. But the additional principle of classification has been introduced to render this bitterness literal as well as metaphorical, for the more nutritive and saccharine sugar is, the higher is the tax to be imposed on its importation. In plain terms the Cabinet proposes to make the supply of wholesome sustenance penal, and to offer a premium for the adulteration of food. Mr. John Gladstone, the father of the late and paulo-post-future Minister, is of opinion that the penalty on pure sugars is insufficient, and that the reward for adulteration is too small; and he has addressed a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the "serious and alarming" results that are likely to follow if the people of England are allowed to have wholesome food. These Gladstones have a strange love for patronizing poison: one justified the Chinese for poisoning the wells; the other calls for a law to compel the producers of Java and Manila to adulterate their sugar. We did not suppose that Brinvilliers would have had such avowed disciples in the nineteenth century. It is a singular proof of the influence possessed by the Gladstone clique that Sir Robert Peel, after having apparently yielded to Mr. Hogg's arguments against the proposed classification, should after the interval of a week be again fixed to the principle of discrimination, though he fully recognised that this discrimination will compel a large class of producers to lower the quality of their produce, and to patronize the arts of adulteration rather than those of improvement. We in effect say to the sugar-producing countries, "You shall not send us the best article you can produce, because people would purchase it in preference to the far inferior article grown on the estates of the Gladstones in Demerara; but you must find out some artificial means of rendering your sugars as bad as those of the Gladstones." It has what the *Times* calls "an ugly look" for the greatest of civilized nations to tell the less advanced members of the human family, that in its legislation improvement is visited with a heavy penalty, and that sugar, in order to find favour, must be stripped of its wholesome and nutritious qualities.

Now, we hold that this proposed sliding scale in sugars is iniquitous as it regards consumers, and utterly barbarous in its relations to the general progress of civilization. We deem it unjust that the people of England should be compelled to use the impure sugars of Demerara because they happen to be grown on the estates of the Gladstones, in preference to the more wholesome sugars of the eastern seas; and we deem it no small move in the direction of barbarism when men are told that, if they take advantage of the bounties of nature, and produce the best article which can be grown on their soil, they must pay a heavy penalty.

But there is another point on which we greatly deprecate some information. We wish to know on what principle the divisional marks of the new sliding scale have been graduated, for the purpose of establishing one clear and uniform system of fixing the duties on eight different classes of sugar in all the ports of the United Kingdom. Are the Custom-house officers to decide by the taste, the smell, or the colour? Or is the Polytechnic Institution to be allied to the Custom-house, and its able chemical lecturer induced to apply his clever tests of poison to determine the amount of adulteration which will enfeeble sugars to the honour of being consumed by British mouths and digested in British stomachs? The chemical department of the Custom-house will be a novelty in the history of science, and the analysis of the "white clays" in

saccharine culture will involve more controversy than all that Davy, Liebig, or Playfair has written on the "heavy clays" in agriculture. "This sugar is too good for John Bull," will be the exclamation of one landing-waiter, whose perception of sweetness has been sharpened by his draught of early purl; "It is as bad as if it had been grown by the Gladstones in Demerara," will be the reply of his compeer, whose taste has been dulled by the lozenges which he has taken to cure his cold.

"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?"

But while the matter rests in dispute, owners, consignees, and importers will be left in the utmost perplexity: the amount of saccharine consistency, like the amount of ministerial consistency, will be kept in discussion to the injury of trade, until the question is referred to the Lords of the Treasury, who may be supposed qualified to judge of the sweets of sugar from their keen relish for the sweets of office.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the estimates met on Monday to discuss the question of the conversion of the Five per Cents. into Four-and-a-Half per Cents., when it was decided almost unanimously that the measure should be carried into execution during the present session. It was not expected, however, that it would pass the Chamber of Peers this year.

For some days past there has been an active embarkation of troops at Toulon for Algeria, in order that the army may be complete by the 1st of April, which has been fixed for the commencement of the spring campaign.

**SPAIN.**—Circular orders have been sent to the Captains-General of the provinces, not to carry, in future, into execution the sentences of death pronounced by courts-martial, without referring to the Government.

**PORTUGAL.**—The Cortes resumed their sittings on Friday, the 21st ult. The Peers took up the adjourned discussion on the project for the repression of the contraband introduction of grain. The first article is to the following effect:—"That foreign grain introduced into the kingdom is considered contraband, and, as such, subject to the penalty of forfeiture, together with that of the means of its transport. The contrabandist incurs imprisonment of a month the first time of capture, three the second, nine the third, and so on progressively, and shall be fined the triple value of the capture and transport. And when the fine is not paid, it will be substituted by confinement at hard labour at public works, at the rate of half a milree per day, until the full amount of the fine be completed."

After some discussion and skirmishing of a rather personal nature, the bill passed in its "generality," and proceeded to its "particularity" (equivalent to our second reading). The Chamber soon after adjourned, appointing the continuation of the discussion for the order of the day in the following session.

**SWITZERLAND.**—The debate in the Diet on the question of the Jesuits was commenced on the 27th ult., when a petition for their expulsion, signed by 120,000 persons, was taken into consideration. The discussion was proceeding when the last advices left. The German translation of the Earl of Aberdeen's note to Dr. R. Morier, Esq., British Minister at Bern, has appeared in the papers. His lordship expresses the deep regret of her Majesty's Government at the receipt of Mr. Morier's despatch respecting the recent disturbances, but announces that it does not feel called upon to pronounce an opinion with regard to the causes which may have produced the events narrated by him. Respect for the nationality and independence of the canton would deter her Majesty's Government from any interference in the internal affairs of Switzerland; but the continuance of the present disorders might (it is hinted) lead to consequences which Swiss patriotism would naturally object to. His lordship concludes his note by empowering Mr. Morier to lay it before the President of the Helvetic Confederation.

The *Amsterdamsche Courant* announces the death of the Nestor of the country, Henricus Keuper, of Doesborgh, in his 110th year. In his 46th year he married a young woman of 22, who survives him; in his 100th he worked still in the fields, and in his 103rd, walked with his wife a distance of three leagues and a half. He was presented to his Majesty a short time ago.

The Rev. Dr. Wolff.—Captain Grover has received a letter from Dr. Wolff, dated from Erzeroum, Jan. 17, in which among other interesting particulars, he states that the following persons have been put to death at various times by the King of Bokhara:—Lieutenant Wyburd, of the Indian Navy; Lieutenant-Colonel Stoddart; Captain Conolly; one whom they call Freshaw; H. Cavaliere Nacelli; a German; five Englishmen, outside Teheer-Joo; a Turcoman who came to Bokhara to attempt the escape of Colonel Stoddart; Ephraim, a Jew, from Meshed, who was sent to Bokhara to make inquiries about Captain Conolly; and a Turkish Officer.

**HAYTI.**—A letter from Port-au-Prince (Hayti), of Jan. 23, states that the yellow fever had broken out in the Thetis frigate, one of the French vessels on that station. Twelve of the crew died of the disease between the 6th and 12th of January.—*Galignani.*

**CAPTURE OF A SLAYER.**—On the African station, off Lagos, on the 16th of November last, the Wasp, whilst under the temporary command of the first lieutenant, C. L. Hockin, captured a small schooner of about 40 tons burden, having on board 179 slaves, viz., 70 men, 44 boys, 30 women, and 35 girls.

**TEXAS.**—The *Southern*, from Charleston, brings accounts from Texas. The citizens of Fort Bend county had held a meeting to consider the question of annexation, and had declared, that "it now behoves us, as a nation mindful of our own dignity, to urge the question no further, but distinctly to make it known to the people of the United States, who have a far greater interest at stake upon its final issue than we can have, that the measure is one altogether acceptable to us upon equal terms, but for which Texas ought not to beg." The meeting repudiated all discouraging and "despairing" expressions touching the well-established ability of Texas to maintain her national independence. The *Galveston Citizen* says,—"It is the impression of well-informed men that the tariff will remain as at present."

**INDIA.**—Despatches in anticipation of the Overland Mail, bring intelligence from India to the 1st of February. According to the accounts from Bombay, the insurrection in Kolapore is not yet subdued, though 10,000 soldiers have been employed to repress it. Three British officers have unhappily fallen—Captain Taynton, 8th Madras N. I., Lieutenant Campbell, and Ensign Faure, of the 2nd Bombay Europeans. Sickness prevailed in Upper Scinde, where the European soldiers had suffered considerably. Her Majesty's 78th Highlanders are now at Hyderabad; they are on their way to the seacoast for the recovery of their health. Every man is either now sick or has recently been in hospital. There have died since the 1st of September, 402 men, 35 women, and 120 children—or 557 in all belonging to the regiment. The deaths continue at the rate of from 4 to 8 per diem, and the corps, unless removed, threatens speedily to become extinct. A fresh revolution has occurred at Lahore. Heera Singh, the vuzer, his chief adviser, Pundit Jella, with two other sirdars of note, have been slain. Property to the amount of £10,000, chiefly in gold and silver, was found in the house of the deceased Minister, and was confiscated and made over to the public treasury. The entire power is in the hands of the troops, who pull down and set up governments at pleasure.

The Runnymede and Briton transports, the one from Australia and the other from England, with troops for Calcutta, have made their appearance after having for a long while been missing. They were believed to have gone down at sea, but turned out to have been wrecked side by side, on the Andaman islands, in the bay of Bengal—no lives lost.

Intelligence from China is to the 18th Dec., it is of comparatively little interest.

## DOMESTIC.

It is rumoured that Mr. Gladstone will return to the Cabinet and hold an office in the administration yet higher than that from which he recently receded. He has, it seems, reconsidered the subject of the increased grant to Maynooth, and has intimated that he is prepared to support both that grant and the other projected educational institution of a liberal constitution in Ireland.

At Dover, on Monday, while it was blowing a strong gale from the S.E. and about eleven a.m., the Spanish schooner, *Ignatius*, from London for St. Sebastian and Bilbao, with a valuable cargo, came on shore to the westward of the South Pier. Two vessels, with the assistance of several boats, were employed to get her off the rocks, but without avail. At three p.m. the gale increased, with heavy snow squalls, and finding the vessel was fast filling with water, she was obliged to be abandoned by the crew, and she became a total wreck.

The freight of coals from the Tyne to London has suffered an extraordinary fall during the past week, to 6s. 6d. and 7s. per ton. The freight from the port of Sunderland has ranged from 8s. to 8s. 6d.—*Newcastle paper.*

On Monday a very numerous meeting of delegates from the factory districts of Lancashire was held at the Temperance Hotel, Bolton, to "consider the best means of forwarding the Ten Hours' Bill in the present session of Parliament." There were about 28 delegates present from the various manufacturing towns of Lancashire. Resolutions in favour of the Ten Hours' Bill, and adopting means to promote it, were unanimously agreed to.

Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Esq., of Frampton, Dorset, has been elected for Shaftesbury, which was vacant by the elevation of Lord Howard to the earldom of Effingham. In politics Mr. Sheridan is a Whig, but opposed to the repeal of the Corn Laws.

Numerous attended meetings of the Peace Society have been held in Manchester and Birmingham, to adopt petitions to Parliament against the proposed increase in the navy estimates.

The General Committee of Elections have fixed next Tuesday, the 11th instant, for the appointment of a select tribunal of seven members, to try the merits of the petition presented by Mr. Moffatt against the return of Mr. Joseph Somes, M.P., for Dartmouth.

The coroner's jury on the body of Delarue have found a verdict of "wilful murder" against Tho. Henry Hecker. The case has been several times under examination before Mr. Rawlinson, and stands over till Tuesday next.

On Monday, Mr. W. Carter held an inquest, adjourned from the previous Wednesday, at the Rose and Crown, Commercial-road, Lambeth, on the bodies of Rebecca Richardson, aged 33, and her illegitimate child Joseph, aged 14 months, whose deaths occurred under distressing circumstances. It was proved on the evidence of two medical men, that both of the deceased had suffered extremely from want of the common necessities of life. The father of the child was also in extreme want, and begged about the streets. After hearing further evidence, the jury returned the following verdicts:—"That the deceased, Joseph Richardson, died a natural death from congestion of the brain and lungs, arising from exposure to the cold;" and "that the deceased, Rebecca Richardson, died from debility and exhaustion, arising from the previous want of food and sufficient nourishment."

The Right Hon. William Draper Beaz, Lord Wynford, died on Monday, March 3, at his seat, Leasowes, Kent, in the eighty-second year of his age.

The Rev. Mr. Ward, author of the "Ideal Church," in consequence of an announcement which has gone the round of the papers, that he is about to be married, has published a letter, the object of which is to explain that there is no inconsistency between the alleged statement and his advocacy of celibacy in the work in question. "Both friends and foes have, in innumerable instances, conceived that there is some inconsistency between the statements made in my work and the announcement that has been recently made." "How any one can imagine that I have ever professed a vocation to a high ascetic life, I am utterly at a loss to conceive."

Shortly before eight o'clock, on Sunday evening, a fire, involving it is said the destruction of property to the amount of from £10,000 to £20,000, occurred on the extensive premises belonging to Messrs. E. H. and G. Enderby, patent rope, twine, and canvas manufacturers, East Greenwich.

At the Middlesex sessions, last week, a gentleman of highly respectable appearance (whose name we could supply) claimed exemption from serving on the jury on the ground of having been convicted of felony, and tendered documentary evidence to that effect amidst roars of laughter. Mr. Sergeant Adams held the objection good, but observed he was only surprised that any person should

disgrace himself by pleading such an unenviable privilege.—*Globe*.

On Friday, the 23rd ult., between the hours of three and four o'clock in the afternoon, a fire broke out in the private dwelling-house belonging to Mr. John Franklin, situate at No. 5, Garden-street, Vauxhall-bridge-road. It was occasioned by a child playing with lucifer matches. The child was so injured by the flames that it died in a few hours afterwards. Part of the furniture was also burned.

On Monday William Deedes, Esq., of Sandling Park, was elected, without opposition, member for East Kent, in the room of Sir E. Knatchbull.

Sir John Gurney, one of the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, died on Saturday last at his residence in Lincoln's-inn-fields.

Revolting details of the state of Spaffords Burial-ground have for the last few weeks occupied the police reports of the newspapers. Witnesses have sworn that the ground, which does not comprise a space of more than two acres, is literally saturated with dead bodies; notwithstanding which, interments, occasionally to the number of 30 in a day, continue to take place. A former gravedigger has sworn that he and another kept count of the number interred in one year, and that it reached 2017! To make room for fresh arrivals, bodies half decomposed are exhumed, and, with the coffins, burned. Inhabitants of the neighbourhood stated that the effluvia was horrible, and that frequent illness was the consequence: in some cases death was alleged to have resulted from putrid fever caught from the malarial. The affair has come under the cognizance of the Home Secretary, who, it is expected, will interfere to abate this frightful nuisance.

The Repeal Association met on Monday at the Conciliation-hall, Dublin. Mr. O'Connell commenced the business of the day by handing in a variety of subscriptions; among which were £65 from the clergy of the diocese of Elphin, and £126 from the clergy of the archdiocese of Tuam, by the hands of Dr. M'Hale. Mr. O'Connell moved that the resolution adopted at the last meeting, relative to monastic institutions, be changed to a petition to Parliament, praying that Mr. Watson's bill may pass. That bill would effectually remove the disabilities under which the regular clergy lay. If the Government gave that bill their support, the Irish people would accept it as a boon; and he called on the Ministry, if they wished to make good their promises to this country, to do so. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion, which passed with acclamation. The other business and speeches contained nothing novel or important. The rent for the week amounted to £586.

An accident occurred at the Royal Canal, Dublin, by which seven persons lost their lives. It arose from the passengers, who were numerous, having rushed to one side to speak to their friends as the boat was about to leave, when the boat lurched, the water rushed in at the cabin windows, and seven persons were suffocated.

On Sunday last eight persons were drowned on the lake nearly opposite Hare Island, Athlone, by the sinking of a ferry-boat, in which they were crossing. Three others, two women and a man, were saved.

At the meeting of the Protestant Operatives' Association on Thursday, a letter was read from Sir R. H. Inglis, relating to a petition to the House of Commons for the impeachment of Sir Robert Peel. A similar letter was received from Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. W. B. Ferrand has been enrolled a member of the confederacy, and certainly he is every way qualified.—*Dublin Evening Post*.

Shortly after 10 o'clock, on Wednesday morning, a locomotive boiler, used by the Messrs. Samuda for the heating of their factory at Blackwall, exploded in their yard, killing three labourers on the spot and severely wounding eight others. The whole of the engine-house was levelled to the ground, and nearly 1000 panes of glass in a large glasshouse adjoining the premises, as also several windows in the neighbourhood, were shattered to pieces. The corpse of one man was thrown up into the air at an elevation of 100 feet, and was afterwards picked up on the opposite side of the river at a place called Bow Creek. The boiler was rent into three distinct pieces, one portion of which, weighing about 7 cwt., was blown over the houses, and fell into Orchard-street, distant about 300 yards, striking in its descent the door-post and wall belonging to Messrs. Turner, tar-manufacturers. The second portion, weighing about 5 cwt., was likewise blown over the houses, and fell in an adjoining field, at a distance of about 100 feet. The third portion of the boiler, containing the tubular pipes, remains in the yard of Messrs. Samuda.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.**—It is with feelings of pleasure that we again refer to this noble project. A committee of gentlemen is now formed, and meets almost daily at the Committee Rooms, in Carlisle-street, to promote the object of the Bazaar. We are also happy to state that the fair sex of our town are coming forward to assist in the laudable design; and that a ladies' committee has been formed. Numbers of ladies are already at work, and others are daily signifying their intention of doing so. We have before suggested the propriety of sending a ship freighted from the Tyne. Coal is one of the principal commodities of this district; let those coal-owners then, favourable to Free Trade, contribute towards the working classes to render their assistance and future interest.—*Tyne Mercury*.

**THE DUKE'S GAME CART.**—During the past week, the Duke of Buckingham's game cart has been very busy at Aylesbury, and, in addition to the freeholders of the county, party receiving a hare each, some of the borough members were also presented with one each this year. This is a new and what we cannot understand, unless the Duke's intention to destroy all the hares about Aylesbury is no such luck.—*Bucks Gazette*.

**MR. BRIGHT'S MOTION.**—It were idle to waste a word on a palpable fact, that it is to the exertions of the Duke of Grafton, and all parties in Suffolk alive to the importance of this matter, will be prepared with full information for the committee; because, if Mr. Bright's motion be not followed up with vigour, we shall have all the abominations of the game laws perpetuated. Alas! poor Sydney Smith, who first aroused public attention to the evils of the game laws, is now no more!—*Ipswich Express*.

**MECHANICS' INSTITUTIONS.**—A gentleman in Liverpool has offered to contribute the sum of £100 to the funds of the Mechanics' Institution, in Dublin, on condition that the sum of £200 be raised in that city within two months.

**THE GAME LAW COMMITTEE.**—We trust that the Duke of Grafton, and all parties in Suffolk alive to the importance of this matter, will be prepared with full information for the committee; because, if Mr. Bright's motion be not followed up with vigour, we shall have all the abominations of the game laws perpetuated. Alas! poor Sydney Smith, who first aroused public attention to the evils of the game laws, is now no more!—*Ipswich Express*.

**MORE HORRORS OF NORTHLEACH.**—At the Cheltenham Board of Guardians on Thursday last, Mr. Hollis reported that William Smart, gunmaker, had died in the house from the effects of his incarceration in Northleach prison, whither he was sent for an offence against the game laws!—*Worcester Chronicle*.

**BASE COIN.**—The circulation of base coin in the metropolis is now practised to a great extent, particularly of shillings and sixpences. The spurious coin are manufactured in a superior style, being double-plated, and the sound excellent, and are supposed to be made in Birmingham. The detection can, however, be made by weighing them against real coin.—*Globe*.

**THE GAME LAWS.**—At the Buckingham petty sessions, held a few days since before the Rev. Adam Baynes (who was in the chair), the Rev. W. Eyre, and the Rev. W. Andrews, a man named Grantham was committed to prison under the following circumstances:—It appeared that some time since the man was taken before the magistrates charged with killing game without being duly licensed. For this offence he was convicted and fined. The fine and costs were paid. He was subsequently recharged for not taking out a game certificate, but not being able to pay the amount demanded (between £7 and £8) his furniture was sold; and the assets not being sufficient to liquidate the claim made upon him, he was committed to Buckingham gaol until he can raise the required amount. The man lived at Gawcott, in the immediate vicinity of the town of Buckingham.

#### THE FUNDS.

	Mar. 1	Mar. 3	Mar. 4	Mar. 5	Mar. 6	Mar. 7
Banknotes	213	213	213	213	213	213
5 per Ct. Red. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	99	99	99	99	99	99
10 per Ct. Red. Ann.	103	103	103	103	103	103
Long. An. Ex. 1840	12	12	12	12	12	12
Cons. for Acct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Exc. Bills, 1000	62	62	62	62	62	62
Ind. Bds. and 1000	72	72	72	72	72	72
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transit Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colomb. Ex. Vene.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	99	99	99	99	99	99
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63	63	63	63	63	63
Mexican	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. Govt.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	24	24	24	24	24	24
Do. 3 per Cent.	41	41	41	41	41	41

#### MARKETS.

##### CORN MARKET.

**MARK LANE, Monday, March 3.**—The supply of Wheat from Kent this morning was short, but there was a fair quantity from Kent; the best samples were readily taken off at last week's rates, but other descriptions met a very slow sale, and the stands were not quite cleared at the close of the market. The barley trade remains in exactly the same state as last week. Beans and Peas barely supported former rates. The supply of Irish Oats is again considerable; this and the very limited demand made the trade exceedingly heavy, and sales to any extent could not be effected without submitting to a decline of 6d. to 1s. from this day week.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 48 to 54	
— Ditto New — 42 — 48 — 44 — 51	
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old — 42 — 48 — 44 — 50	
— Scotch — 42 — 48 — 44 — 48	
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed — 23 — 26	
— Ditto ditto Polands — 23 — 26	
— Scotch Feed — 23 — 24 Potato 25 — 27	
— Limerick — 22 — 23	
— Ditto — 22 — 23	
— Cork — 21 6 — 22 6	
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black — 21 — 22	
— Sligo — 21 6 — 22 6	
— Galway — 20 6 — 21 6	
Barley	
— Beans, Mazagan Old 34 — 35 New — 32 — 33	
— Harrow do. 38 — 41 do. — 34 — 35	
— Small do. — 42 — 44	
Peas, White, New — 42 — 44	
— Grey — 31 to 32 Maple — 23 — 25	
Flour, Town-made — per sack of 280 lbs — 24 — 25	
— Norfolk and Suffolk — 24 — 25	

	Per Imperial Quarter.	Per 100 lbs.
Wheat, Dantzic, high mixed	48 to 56	
— Rostock — 47 — 54		
— Stettin — 44 — 52		
— Hamburg — 42 — 48		
— Odessa — 42 — 48		
— Ditto Polish — 47 — 50		
— Russian soft — 42 — 46		
— Ditto hard — 40 — 44		
— Spanish Red — 45 — 49		
— Ditto White — 50 — 54		
— Australian — 55 — 58		
Barley, Grinding — 25 — 28		
— Distilling — 20 — 21		
Oats, Archangel — 22 — 23 18 — 17		
— Stralsund — 23 — 24		
— Dutch Brew — 24 — 25 18 — 19		
— Polands — 19 — 20		
Beans, Egyptian — 32 — 34 25 — 27		
Peas, White — 35 — 36		
— Ditto Bollers — 35 — 36		
Flour, Canada — 35 — 36		
— United States — 35 — 36		
— Buxile — 35 — 36 18 — 20		
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs — 33 — 35		

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from Feb. 24 to March 1, 1845, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	8755	5418	4153	1254	554
Scotch	13	391	3708	—	—
Irish	—	—	22506	—	—
Foreign	—	—	870	207	—

Flour, 7623 sacks, — bars.

**FRIDAY, March 7.**—There is a large supply of Wheat from Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, direct to the millers, but not much from the home counties. The stands are not yet cleared of last Monday's supply of Kentish Wheat, though it is offered at a decline from the prices of last week. The trade in all descriptions of English and Foreign is exceedingly slow at Monday's rates. There is no alteration in the value of Barley, of which the supply is moderate. The arrivals of Irish Oats are scanty, but there is a good supply of English and Scotch. There is no animation in the trade, but we cannot quote any further decline in prices. Beans and Peas remain as on Monday. There was no alteration in the duties yesterday.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 4th of March to the 6th of March, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	7310	—	—
Barley	4020	—	—
Oats	6830	1430	—

Flour, 7623 sacks.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
25th Jan.	45	7.34	2.21	3.32	11.35	4.36
1st Feb.	45	5.33	10.21	6.31	3.35	8.35
8th "	45	5.33	0.21	6.30	1.35	1.35
15th "	45	4.32	3.21	7.29	6.35	0.35
22nd "	45	2.32	4.21	7.30	2.35	0.35
1st March	45	0.32	3.21	7.32	6.34	9.35

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 4d.; Barley, 33s. 0d.; Oats, 21s. 6d.; Rye, 31s. 1d.; Beans, 35s. 2d.; Peas, 35s. 6d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 5s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

**LONDON AVERAGES for the week ending Mar. 1, 1845.**

	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	7832	48s. 2d.	Rye	94 30s. 10d.
Barley	6582	33s. 0d.	Beans	1800 33s. 0d.
Oats	21082	22s. 2d.	Peas	1027 34s. 9d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Jan. 3, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	133112	—	23154	—	2050	1517	53144
Unit. King.	362150	2464	74483	—	13442	7304	362601

#### THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

CROWN-OFFICE, FEBRUARY 27.

MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

County of Tipperary.—Richard Albert Fitzgerald, Esq. Borough of Thetford.—William Bingham Harding, Esq.

**BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENTED.**

R. ELDRIDGE, Bletchingley, Surrey, innkeeper.

J. P. WILLIAMS, East Stoneham, Devonshire, draper.

**BANKRUPT.**

J. WELCH, Ring-cross, Holloway, licensed victualler. [Wol-

len, Bucklersbury.

J. GREEN and C. GREEN, Borough-road, Southwark, cab

masters. [Smith, Barnard's-inn.

J. B. GORDON and R. GORDON, Poplar, cooper. [Stevens,

Wilkinson, and Hatchell, Queen-street, Cheap-side.

W. DEES, J. DEES, and J. HOGG, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,

builders. [Williamson and Hill, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-

inn; Bates and Dees, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

M. RAWLINGS and F. J. RAWLINGS, Cheltenham, cabinet

makers. [Brooke and Farmer, Tewkesbury and Cheltenham,

Peters and Abbot, Bristol; Tatton, Kidderminster.

J. RALPH, Weston, Somersetshire, innkeeper. [Gray, Bristol,

and Commercial-rooms, Bath.

J. DALTON, Salford, Lancashire, joiner. [Woodliffe, Man-

chester; Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

E. BAYLEY, Chesham, Bucks, apothecary. [Hammond,

Furnival's-inn; Brown, Wm; Hodgson, Birmingham.

**DIVIDENDS.**

March 25. L. Williams, Oxford, woollen draper.—March 26.

B. Sayle and T. Booth, Sheffield, iron masters.—April 2. J. Her-

wick, Wind-hill, Yorkshire.—March 22. S. Peach, Nottingham,

grocer.—March 22. S. Bateman, Birmingham, factor.

**CERTIFICATES.**

March 25. J. Walker and C. White, Jewry-street, Aldgate,

builders.—March 31. J. Simpson, jun., Balne-lane, Yorkshire,

alkali manufacturer.—March 24. R. J. Chapman, Bradford,

Yorkshire, civil engineer.—March 28. G. Holroyd and J. Waller,

Sheffield, stone masons.—March 28. S. J. Cartwright, Worksop,

Nottinghamshire, grocer.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**

R. RAMSAY, Glasgow, boiler.—W. STEWART, Tullylumb,

near Perth, farmer.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4.**

CROWN-OFFICE, MARCH 4.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

County of Kent, Eastern Division.—William Deedes, Esq.

**BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENTED.**

H. HIGGINS, Leeds, merchant.

**BANKRUPT.**

L. J. NICOLAY, Woolwich, Kent, draper. [Ashurst, Cheap-

side.

T. MITCHELL, Southampton, plumber. [Hindmarsh and Son,

Jewin-crescent, Cripplegate, City.

J. HART, Greenwich, Kent, builder. [Yates, Dury-street, St.

Mary-axe

W. HARDWICK, Holborn, draper. [Scales and Turner, Alder-

manbury.

R. CLARK, jun., late of Montagu-cloze, Southwark, but now of

Paradise-row, Rotherhithe, wharfinger. [Young and Han-

cock, Tokenhouse-yard.

K. W. CHOWTHILL, Scammonden, Yorkshire, woollen cloth

manufacturer. [Meggison and Co., Bedford-row; Messrs.

Sykes, Huddersfield.

**DIVIDENDS.**

March 25. R. Graves, Edward-street, Portman-square, sad-

dler.—March 28. T. H. Ford, Rochford, Essex, victualler.

March 25. W. Wood, T. and R. Smith, and J. Stein, Work-

ington, Cumberland, bankers.—April 4. W. Roberts, jun., Farley,

Yorkshire, merchant.—March 29. W. Schofield, Oldham, Lan-

cashire, machine maker.—April 5. W. Walker, Birmingham,

hatter.—April 5. J. Wilson, sen., W. Newton, J. Wilson, jun.,

H. Newton, and G. Wilson, Derby, colour manufacturers.—

April 5. G. Harvey, Handsacre, Staffordshire, spirit merchant.

—April 5. M. Cooley, Spalding, Lincolnshire, tailor.—April 5.

R. R. Timbrell, Birmingham, grocer.—March 18. R. Thelwell,

Manchester, silversmith.—March 25. C. D. Broughton and J. J.

Garnett, Nantwich, Cheshire, bankers.

**CERTIFICATES.**

March 25. A. N. Armani, Scott's-yard, Rush-lane, City, mer-

chant.—March 26.





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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 77.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, 15, N. street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE BAZAAR.

Hitherto we have scarcely felt it necessary to give this subject that first place in our columns to which its real importance entitles it. The ready and active zeal with which, in most parts of the country, our friends have from the beginning taken up the suggestion of a great metropolitan manifestation of British industry against the laws that obstruct and plunder it, has seemed to leave us little more to do than to point out the means and organize the machinery by which that zeal may work to the best advantage. But as time wears on, and the hour approaches after which it will be too late to make efforts that would require any considerable variation or extension of arrangements already matured, we feel less than ever able to satisfy ourselves with any measure of success, however splendid, short of the very utmost that may be attainable. Of the success—the substantial and entire success—of our work, there is not, there never has been, a doubt. Yet we should not do justice to our friends, to ourselves, or to their and our common cause, were we to leave any means untried by which that success may be rendered more brilliant and decisive. The prompt and enthusiastic exertions which have everywhere responded to the appeals of the League deputations that have visited many of our towns, and the unnumbered spontaneous proffers of aid from individuals and committees in various parts of the country, lay a responsibility upon us, which we cheerfully accept, while there is yet time, to the completeness of our

It would be a pleasant task (though none of the least) to sum up what has been already done, and to congratulate our readers on results of which they may now hold themselves assured. That thirty men have undertaken to furnish each a stall, with

the best specimens of its peculiar industry, is, of itself, success enough to justify our first anticipation. But we cannot content ourselves to deem anything done, while anything remains to be done. There will be ample time for congratulation some ten weeks hence: now is the time for work. We confess we know not why there should not be—in addition to all the thousandfold varieties of natural curiosity, tasteful handiwork, antiquarian relics, &c., contributed by individual liberality—at least twice thirty stalls, each exhibiting the most perfect products of the industry characteristic of the town or district whose name it bears. It is not, however, our purpose now to go into details as to the particular modes of action most advisable. These have already been given, to some extent, in the circular issued by the Council,\* and any requisite amount of suggestion or information suited to particular localities will be promptly supplied on application, by letter or otherwise, either here or in Manchester. Our object in writing now is to do that, once for all, for the whole kingdom, which has been done in many of our towns and cities by special deputations from the Council. We would stir up into instant and vigorous action feelings which we well know everywhere exist, but which, unless they immediately take the form of action, will be as unavailing as though they were non-existent. Let there be no waiting anywhere for deputations. It is impracticable for deputations to visit one-half of the places that are ready to give them a welcome. For what remains to be done we must now rely on spontaneous action. In every town and village, large or small, where there are willing workers or cheerful givers, let committees of ladies and committees of gentlemen be formed without delay; or, where materials for a committee may not exist, every one can be his or her own committee: let them immediately place themselves in correspondence with the League, state as fully as possible the nature and extent of their resources, and the best attention of the Council will be given to every point on which information or suggestion may be desired, whether as to modes of contribution or facilities of transmission. There is time enough yet for plenty of good work: but there is certainly none for waste.

After all that has been so well said and done about this matter, we doubt whether its true magnitude and significance are more than half comprehended by any of us. The longer we look at it the more its importance grows upon us. Let every Free-Trader in Great Britain rest assured—rather let him work assured—that by helping forward the League Bazaar he is striking a blow at monopoly scarcely second, in value and power, to the purchase of a county qualification, and the registration of a county vote. A good stall at Covent Garden will be worth more to the cause than would a seat at Westminster for a duke's borough. We speak not merely, nor chiefly, with reference to the pecuniary results of the Bazaar—great beyond example as these will be—but of the impulse—the strong and enduring impulse—which it will give to the public mind. We are perfectly convinced that it will do more to bring and keep the Free-Trade question before the country, prominently, conspicuously, and permanently, than anything that has been yet done in this agitation. There will be no possibility of the public overlooking it while it lasts, or forgetting it when it is over. It will be a spectacle, not to the metropolis only, but to the empire; and not to the empire only, but to Europe and America. That their Graces of Buckingham and Richmond will condescend to look in on this exhibition of the choicest products of that "native industry" which they make it the boast and business of their lives to "protect," is indeed more than we can venture to predict: as they never manifested any partiality for

\* As this may be read by some who have not seen the circular alluded to, we subjoin an extract:—

"It now only remains for the Council to observe, that any article which the taste of the donor may suggest, or his ability dictate, will be most cheerfully and gratefully accepted; although the following classification specifies the articles most suitable for such an occasion:—

1. Articles usually contributed to Bazaars.
2. Articles of Manufacture, British and Foreign.
3. Models of Mechanism, &c.
4. Designs, Architectural and Fancy.
5. Specimens of Colours, Minerals, Birds, Insects, &c.
6. Books and other Publications from Authors, with Autograph.
7. Autograph Letters from celebrated Men and Members of the present and former times.
8. Portraits, Pictures, and Illustrations.
9. Philosophical Instruments.
10. Music.
11. Original Poetry and Tales.
12. Pecuniary Contributions.

Covent-garden oratory, it may be more than doubted whether they will dare to face that rebuke—more effective, in its silent eloquence, than the most terrible invective that a righteous indignation ever uttered within those walls—which the genius of British industry will there pass on the tyrant monopoly that chains and starves it. But it is a safe prophecy that there will not be an intelligent foreigner in or near London during the month of May next, of whatever rank or from whatever country, of the old world or the new, who will not deem himself privileged in the opportunity of witnessing that magnificent aggregation of the noblest material products of the industrial mind of England; or who will not, on returning to his own shores, help to strengthen the public opinion of nations against the principles of a legislation that holds the first people of workers in the world in slavery to titled and rapacious idlers.

Altogether, this Bazaar will fill a larger space in the public mind, it will live longer in men's thoughts, it will be a more significant and enduring symbol of the Free-Trade principle, than anything which our agitation has yet shown. Every man, woman, and child who makes anything for it, or gives anything to it, or sees anything in the process of making; every one who is at any expense or trouble about it; every one who attends it as a spectator; every one of the hundreds that sell, and of the tens of thousands that buy, and of the hundreds of thousands that will see some one or other of the numberless products of numberless kinds of industry which will be sent from it all over the country, and of the millions that will read or hear of a spectacle unprecedented in the history of spectacles—all will be drawn, more or less, within the influence of the Free-Trade movement—all will, more or less, be called to think, feel, and speak about the Free-Trade question. Our Covent-garden Bazaar will be an impulse to the public mind, at once wide-spread and enduring. Months ago it began, months and years hence it will continue: that, as a cheering recollection, and ultimately as a venerable tradition, of which the outward and visible signs will be precious heirlooms to the children whose fathers and mothers shall have helped to untax their bread and untie their hands.

To the women of Great Britain we need not now renew our appeal in favour of an undertaking which originated with themselves, and to whose furtherance their liberal and judicious zeal has so largely contributed. Ever the truest and most efficient helpers in works of charity and religion, they have here shown how well they understand the nature and obligation of each, by adopting as their own a cause which partakes of both—a cause whose grand and simple justice is at once the most comprehensive of charities, and the essence of the holiest and most catholic of religions. Honour to the strong, true hearts that recognise, in the liberation of industry from the landlord yoke, and of bread from the landlord tax, woman's mission and woman's work. This is a woman's question. Most broadly and palpably is it such. It is a question of home. It is a question not merely of the peace and plenty, the comfort and cheerfulness of home—but, in tens of thousands of instances, of the very existence of a home at all. Monopoly makes fearful havoc of the homes of England. Monopoly is a most pitiless breaker-up of families—divides, knocks to pieces, and scatters households without mercy. Monopoly pauperises the labourer, and then lodges husband and wife at the two furthest extremities of a union workhouse. Monopoly makes a bankrupt of the merchant; and his daughters must earn a painful and precarious living, by teaching for hire the accomplishments that once graced a happy and affectionate home. Monopoly sends out growing girls from under the mother's eye, to slave at millinery and dressmaking—for when bread is dear and trade bad, fathers must economise, or go into the Gazette. Rents for the duke, and portions for the duke's daughters—for the tradesman's daughters, deformity, blindness, cough, and the grave. Monopoly sends off sons and brothers to Canada and Australia, who might have remained to be the stay of their mothers and the protectors of their sisters. When food is not enough for all, some must go; and who should go but the strongest? The mothers have always the union-house to look to; and for the sisters there is needlework and a Needlewomen's Protection Society. The part which monopoly has in making these miseries is as plain as the part which the sun has in making the daylight. The parliamentary returns—which show 33,000 emigrants in 1842, 118,000 in 1841, 123,000 in 1842, and 67,000 in

1843—mark with frightful accuracy the ascending and descending movements of that sliding scale on which monopoly thus cruelly sports with the happiness of our English homes.

Women of England! this is your question. Your co-operation is as true to principle as it is generous in feeling. In taking it for your own, you have but proved how well you understand the duties of that "appropriate and peculiar sphere" to which man assumes to restrict you. Whose should this question be, more than yours? The more completely your thoughts and affections centre in home, the more concentrated must be your abhorrence of the power which invades even that sanctuary, sunders that which it is yours to unite, despoils and devastates your own peculiar creation.

### THE INCOME-TAX.

"The bitter extract of sugar," which the political chemistry of Sir Robert Peel has produced in the shape of an income-tax is to be administered to the country without the compensating bit of sweetness immortalized by *Punch*. Sir Robert Peel indulges in the hope that the nation will become enamoured of inquisitorial vexation, just as Eloisa fell in love with Abelard, from the skilfulness with which he laid on the scourge while giving her lessons in grammar. Similar chastisement is to be inflicted on the nation while it goes through the process of learning the Premier's novel elements of political economy; and it must be confessed that the income-tax is as admirably calculated to sharpen the wits and whet the intelligence as the whips employed by Solomon, or the improvement on them in the shape of scorpions suggested by Rehoboam. During the debate on the sugar duties, our patriotic Premier assigned as one reason for establishing a classification of sugars, that the progress of improvement might probably lead to the discovery of new processes which would raise the amount of saccharine and nutritive matter in some of the classes far above others, and then argued the necessity for making improvement penal by attaching to it a higher discriminating duty. It is quite consistent with this principle that the income-tax should be the means of supplying the deficiency arising from the Ministerial concessions to West India monopoly: a barbarous tax is fitly applied to the perpetuation of barbarism.

We have always contended that the results of monopoly and protection were, like the hug of the bear, fatal to that which they were designed to cherish. We have frequently shown that, when men are taught to rely on protection instead of their skill, their industry, and their moral energies, the progress of improvement is checked, the incentive to invention removed, and the branch of industry thus placed in artificial restriction is doomed to stand still while all around us is in progress. We believed that such a result was an unmitigated evil; we thought that a slovenly and wasteful mode of cultivating corn or sugar was just what the Legislature should most discourage, and that it would be of national advantage to have wheat with the greatest amount of farinaceous substance, and sugar with the greatest amount of saccharine matter. But the Premier has adopted the new principle of affixing a penalty on improvement and granting a prize to barbarism, with the addition of an inquisitorial income-tax to sharpen our faculties into a proper appreciation of his novel system.

It was said of the Excise, that "it gave powers to the dipping rule which should be denied to the sceptre;" but the Commissioners of the Income-tax claim a power more inquisitorial than the Inquisition, more despotic than the worst despots of the worst age, and more torturing than that of the sworn torturers of the Venetian oligarchy. The merchant, the banker, and the tradesman conceal the sources of their income with a jealousy and caution which cannot be relaxed without the most perilous risks; their transactions involve secrets which could not safely be intrusted to the wives of their bosoms or the children of their affections; yet they are commanded by our wizard Premier to lay open the whole to the inspection of the prying commissioner, or to pay a tax upon income which they do not possess, and a proportion of supposed profits out of real losses.

Take the case of a solicitor. His books contain not only the secrets of his own business, but the more important secrets of his clients and employers. In the same manner the records of the business of the medical practitioner involve the most delicate particulars of his patients and their families. How are these men to act when asked to produce their books for the inspection of commissioners? They must either be guilty of a breach of professional confidence—one of the most sacred trusts that can be reposed in man—or they must pay a heavy penalty for their adherence to good faith.

But bad, vexatious, and inquisitorial as this tax is, it might be borne with some patience if its continuance were necessary to carry into effect some sound and wise principles of commercial reform. This, indeed, is the pretext made by the Premier for its continuance, and a more hollow, hypocritical,

and fallacious pretext could hardly have been devised. The amount raised by the income-tax is money obtained under false pretences. So far is it from being a tax levied to facilitate commercial reform, that it is maintained solely from the Premier's obstinate determination to maintain monopoly. Abolish the differential scale of duties conceded to the clamour of the West India monopolists, and there would be a revenue from sugar fully equal to the amount of the tax raised by Schedule D on the income from offices, trades, and professions. In the debate on Monday night Sir Robert Peel is reported to have said, that "he would not revive the subject of the sugar duties." We know not how that could be revived which can never be said to have had life; Sir Robert Peel has not even yet discussed the sugar duties: he has not to this hour stated what is to be the cost of the protection he proposes to grant to the West India proprietors, nor the claims which the lords of the sugar hogshead have to tax the people of England. The principle of taxing the colonies for the benefit of the parent-state has been abandoned since the day that Benjamin Franklin put on his old coat to sign the treaty of Paris—the coat which he had carefully preserved from the day that Wedderburne had poured upon the colonists some of the vituperation which it was the fashion with the monopolists to vent against the Free-Traders; but the taxation of the mother-country for the pretended benefit of the colonies is a principle still more monstrous, and Sir Robert Peel had better tax his ingenuity to find some more cogent argument in its support than the mere existence of a parliamentary majority.

If it were true that the income-tax were necessary to facilitate the removal of restrictions on our manufacturing industry, then its continuance might be palliated; but this is not the case: it is maintained merely for the purpose of bolstering up those monopolies which impose the worst restrictions on our manufactures by shutting us out from the whole of the markets of the New World:—from those of Brazil to gratify the monopolists of sugar; from those of the United States to gratify the monopolists of food. These monopolies have placed us in chains, and the income-tax is imposed to defray the expense of our gyves and fetters. We are told that there are no petitions against this inquisitorial tax; there have also been none for the repeal of the Corn Laws; but the silence is not contented acquiescence, and this the Premier will some day learn to his cost. The sanctity that has hitherto invested sugar is fast fading away; the deformity of the idol cannot long be concealed; the income-tax is a shrewd schoolmaster; its lessons will reach the most obstinate elector: when monopoly comes to investigate his secrets, inspect his books, scrutinize his accounts, and pry into his affairs, he will have a pretty clear conception of monopoly's results, and candidates will do well to inquire,

"Was ever voter in this humour woo'd?  
Was ever voter in this humour won?"

### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Sixth Week, ending Saturday, March 15.

There was a very lively and spirited debate on the sugar duties on the night of Friday week. On the question for going into committee of ways and means,

Mr. COBDEN rose, and in a short speech, taking the data of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that we will consume 230,000 tons of colonial and 20,000 of foreign sugar, affirmed that the differential duties would raise the natural price of sugar by ten guineas the ton, and that, therefore, the community would be taxed to the extent of £2,415,000. This surplus would enable the Government to repeal or abate other taxes, as the window-tax, the soap-tax, and so forth. Was his calculation right? and if it were, what were the reasons for granting this sum to the colonial proprietors out of the pockets of the people?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer tried to evade the question, by intimating that the House wished to go into committee. The matter, however, was not allowed to be shelved. Lord Howick, in his prompt and straightforward way, said that Mr. Cobden's question was really of great importance; it was plain and intelligible, and ought to have a direct answer. On this

Sir Robert Peel, in a way that showed he was conscious of trying to escape by a mystification, threw out, as a diversion, the idea of the corn duties. There were 3000 quarters of foreign wheat thrown into the market, last week, which had paid a duty of 20s. Did this raise the price of all grain by that amount? Taking our home produce consumed at nineteen millions of quarters, and that we added a million of foreign, if that million of quarters paid 20s. duty, would it raise the price of the other nineteen millions of quarters by £19,000,000?

Mr. Labouchere pointed out that in the corn trade, under the sliding scale, transactions were frequently occurring, in which not only no profit was expected, but which were carried on in the face of known heavy loss as certain to arise. A trade thus situated could be made no

criterion of others. From this point the debate went on for a main portion of the night, the question of Mr. Cobden remaining to the end unanswered.

Ministers have got their sugar-duties resolutions passed, and embodied in the shape of a bill, now passing through the House. As other debates will arise on it, we shall defer further notice till next week.

On Monday night a vigorous effort was made to place the income-tax in its true light, as connected with reduction of indirect taxation. The question was raised by

Mr. CHARLES BULLER, who, in a speech full of wit, pleasantry, and point, criticised the whole measures of the Government.

"There was," he said, "a feeling growing up in favour of direct taxation; but having to raise an annual revenue of £50,000,000, our main reliance must be on indirect taxation. We should keep the property and income tax for extraordinary occasions; as an instrument in reserve with which to convince the nations of our latent power. But, though willing to keep it for a state of war, he admitted that there were other occasions on which it might be imposed. Such an occasion might be found in a great fiscal experiment, where a large surplus enabled a Minister to deal with great articles of taxation. There was the rare fact of a large surplus; and yet the golden opportunity it afforded, Sir Robert Peel had thrown away. British sugar in bond was 34s., which, with the 14s. duty, made 48s.; and Brazilian in bond was only 21s. Our taxes, also, on tea multiplied its value four times; coffee and malt were doubled; all the leading articles of consumption—sugar, tea, coffee, soap, tobacco, spirits—were either limited in demand, or exposed to adulteration and fraud. Yet, while sundry articles of medicine and alum for bread were admitted, the budget was called the poor man's budget! Tobacco and foreign spirits were undoubtedly legitimate sources of taxation; but our absurd system not merely deprived us of income, but converted them into the cause of nearly all the crime which arose out of smuggling and other offences against the revenue. He had looked into the reductions to be effected by the abolition of the cotton duty, and found that the poor man would be benefited in fustian by three half-pence, and the poor woman on calico for her gowns to a similar amount, making the entire benefit to them three-pence annually. Let the poor, therefore, be truly grateful! True, there were other articles in the budget—as furniture woods—the reduction on which would be a compensation for the income-tax, if all England were composed of new married couples, with a thousand a year and upwards. He warned the Free-Trade side of the House that the reductions on glass and other articles amounted to nothing short of abandoning—at least of weakening—their warfare against all protective duties whatever; and ridiculed the idea that the House would be left, three years hence, at 'unfettered liberty' to deal with the income-tax, when the duties on all articles from which a surplus was reasonably to be anticipated were swept away. No preparation was made for the possibility of years of bad harvests and commercial distress. Urging that the property and income tax, in its practical operation, fully justified his allegation that it was inquisitorial and oppressive, he concluded by proposing his amendment, which was to the following effect:—

"That the circumstances under which the renewal of the income-tax is at present proposed are such as to render it exceedingly improbable that Parliament will have the power of dispensing with its continuance at the end of three years; and that it is, therefore, the duty of this House to take care that the tax be imposed in a form in which its operation shall be less unequal and inquisitorial than it now is."

The debate which followed was maintained with great spirit; but we can only advert to the two speeches of Mr. COBDEN and Mr. VILLIERS, as placing the Free-Trade view of the income-tax in the clearest light. First came Mr. COBDEN:—

Mr. COBDEN said that there was a very good reason why there had been no petitions and no public meetings against the income-tax. It was because the income-tax had been mixed up with various commercial projects. (Hear, hear.) There was, for instance, the sugar duty; and up to this time the people did not know what they were doing with the sugar duty. (Hear, hear, hear.) The people, however, would soon find out what was their plan of a sugar duty. They would soon learn that it was as bad and bitter as the income-tax. When the country understood that, their feelings would be very different from what they were at present. They did not understand it now, and they would not understand it this week or the next. At the end of the year the public would be able to calculate what was the cost of their monopoly sugar. (Hear, hear.) He could say that a very great misapprehension existed as to the feeling about the income-tax. There was a very quiet and a very honest indignation as to Schedule D. He was not one who thought that there was generally an evasion of the income-tax. As far as the north of England was concerned, he believed that there was a great deal more paid than ought to be paid. He alluded now to Birmingham, and for the edification of the honourable member for that town he would read an extract of a letter he had received from it. In this letter the writer stated that he knew of four individuals who were made to pay the income-tax who were all industrious and solvent at the time. They went from time to time and endeavoured to get it off. The answer they always got was that it must be paid. The same writer stated that he believed there were thousands who had paid rather than expose their affairs, and that not more than one in five dared stand the test of an examination of his books, for fear of his credit being ruined. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cobden ventured to say, that if the members of this and the other House had to go through the scrutiny to which traders were exposed, the income-tax would not last a month. (Hear, hear.) At the same time that he said this, he also said that, if they would take a fair tax upon trades and professions to something like a fair proportion, it was not the middle classes who would object to bear their share of taxation; but then they in that House totally deceived themselves if they supposed the sense of the people of this country was with them in their present proposition, or that they would quickly submit to this imposition. (Hear, hear.) Let them go into any house in the City, let a messenger go there with

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the authority of the right hon. baronet, and call upon any wholesale dealer or banker to submit to scrutiny his last year's balance sheet. Why, the dealer would hardly let his wife know what it was. (Laughter.) He would scarcely let his son know it. Then, if the messenger said to the trader, if he did not submit his books to inspection, he must pay a fine, the trader would reply that he would pay the fine cheerfully. They thus forced the trader to submit to a double penalty. They might depend upon it—and he called upon them to mark his words—that though there was now no great outcry against the income-tax, still they would find at the hustings, that for neither Whig nor Tory would the people submit to the income-tax. (Hear, hear.) But, why did they not now hear an outcry about it? For this very reason, the tax was so obnoxious that it prevented people from consulting respecting it. The tradesman did not like to consult his neighbour about it; he did not like to expose his affairs; but, he could assure the House, they felt the oppression, nevertheless. (Hear.) In London, he believed, there had been very little of surcharges. They had heard what occurred in Birmingham. He knew that in the north of England surcharges were almost invariably the rule. There was there, too, the habit of bullying honest and respectable men. He knew the case of a surgeon who had been surcharged, and, amongst other questions, he was asked how much was his profit on rhubarb? He had also two gigs, for professional purposes, and he was asked if his wife did not sometimes ride in one of the gigs? had he not also a saddle-horse, and did not his wife occasionally use a saddle-horse? (Hear.) Amongst other cases was that of a hair-dresser. (Laughter.) Honourable gentlemen might laugh, but hair-dressers had influence; he could tell them that hair-dressers had votes. (Hear, hear.) The hair-dresser called for an exemption for a room used for the purposes of business. This man was asked how many persons' hair he cut, what he was paid for each; that if it were a shilling he must have ten pence profit from it. He was then asked if the females of his family did not sometimes use it as a sitting-room? These were the questions that were put to persons called upon to pay the income-tax. Then if a man were surcharged, and he was going to appeal, an intimation was sent to him from the commissioners that he should state what was the trade or profession in which he was engaged; where it was carried on; who were his partners; to state the capital which was employed in each concern, with the distinct amount of the burdens to which each was subject; the amount of interest on his banker's account; the profits for the last three years. (Hear, hear.) This was a bludgeon held up in the face of the trader. (Hear, hear.) It was telling him not to come and appeal at all. In this way, men who were in a large business staid away, and did not appeal at all. He knew the case of a gentleman, who was surcharged £5000 profit. He consulted a member of that House, and finding he must bring all his books and papers, his friend advised him to pay the income-tax on the £5000. That, he said, was not an extraordinary case. He really believed that in Lancashire they paid more than what they honestly ought to be called on to return on the income-tax. This was not a matter to make a joke of. It was not for the right honourable gentleman to make a mockery of it, and to say that the people would be so enamoured of it, that they would insist on retaining it. If honourable gentlemen would mix with their constituents, before the elections came on, they would find how strong was the feeling against the income tax. The Free-Traders did not think it necessary for the measures that were proposed; and, as far as the right honourable gentleman's measures went, he utterly repudiated them. (Cheers and laughter.) As a Free-Trader he repudiated them. The Free-Traders did not think the income-tax necessary to carry out the other measures. It might be necessary for the purposes of delusion—for the purposes which honourable gentlemen on opposite had to carry out. The Free-Traders did not want it, though it might do for the work of monopoly. The right honourable gentleman opposite professed to act sometimes on the opinions of Mr. Deacon Hume. The other night the right hon. gentleman had grounded himself on the authority of Mr. Deacon Hume. Now, he was surprised to find his hon. friend (Mr. Hume) so far forget his own committee as to praise the right honourable gentleman's measures. Mr. Deacon Hume laid it down as a rule that the way to serve the country was to abolish restrictions on trade—not restrictions on divi divi, but their restrictions on corn. (Cheers.) He was quoting Mr. Deacon Hume's authority, and it was to be observed that Mr. Deacon Hume did not mention direct taxation; but he said that they ought to remove all those duties that protected monopolies, and then there would be such an increase to their wealth, and such an expansion to their commerce, that the result would be a full and sufficient revenue; but that, if these monopolies remained, then they must look forward to a fall in the revenue. Mr. McGregor said in his evidence, that if they wanted more revenue they could get it from sugar. Since Friday last, he had asked one well acquainted with the subject, how much would be the revenue from sugar, if the duty proposed was put upon all sugars. He was told six millions sterling. He believed that, if they put a duty on foreign and colonial sugar of 23s. per cwt., they would get more than six millions, and the people would have the sugar as cheap as the Government now proposed to give it to them. But indirectly they would by such a plan gain more, in the opening the channels for their trade, the value of which it would be impossible to calculate. As a good deal had been said about the right hon. gentleman's measures having a tendency to Free Trade, he (Mr. Cobden) said of them, that, so far from their opening new markets to this country, they were shutting it out from the two greatest markets—North and South America. The right hon. gentleman had imposed a duty upon the corn of the one, which was equal to a prohibition against it; and as to the other, he shut them out in the most unattractive manner from Brazil. (Hear.) How the Government had done that, hampered as they were with those who sat behind them, and how, at the same time, they set themselves up for having a character as Free-Traders, passed his comprehension. (Cheers.)

Afterwards came Mr. C. Villiers, who said he would shortly state the case which would induce him to give his vote in favour of the motion of his hon. and learned friend the member for Liskeard—that ground being one which had not been much referred to in the course of the present debate—certainly not touched on by the right honourable baronet (Mr. Peel), and not contemplated, he believed, by his

noble friend the member for London: viz., that this income-tax was likely to remain and be permanent. He (Mr. C. Villiers) confidently expected that the tax would be permanent, and for that reason, and chiefly for that reason, he thought the House ought to bind themselves, as his honourable friend the member for Liskeard proposed, to see that it should be just and equal in its operation, and at the same time as little odious to the people as possible. He did not object to the tax because it was a direct tax; on the contrary, he thought one of its chief recommendations was, that it was to be imposed for other taxes that were indirect. He preferred direct to indirect taxation; for so far he agreed with his honourable friend the member for Kendal, that direct taxation, by taking the money directly from the pockets of the people, made them more jealous of taxation, while it interfered less with the commerce, industry, and enterprise of the country. He, then, did not object to the income-tax because it was a direct tax, but he agreed with what he believed to be the opinion out of doors. The people of this country were not opposed to the imposition of necessary taxes; they were not averse to bearing their fair share of the national burden, nor were they anxious to risk the national credit; but what they desired to be satisfied of was, that the taxes imposed upon them were necessary and just; and they were disposed to be satisfied with the continuance of the property-tax, because they believed it was a tax imposed as a substitute for others which affected commerce and manufactures, and fettered the industry of the country. The people, however, required to know that the surplus obtained from this tax was properly applied, and that they derived all the advantage from it. That was not, as he thought, now the case. The recent discussion on the sugar duties showed that it was not, and that the people were submitting to an inconvenient and odious tax, while they had to share the advantage with others whom they did not know, and who had no claim to it. If the surplus were properly applied in removing other duties that bore upon commerce and manufactures, there would no longer be any objection to the income-tax. The decline of the revenue during the latter years of the official existence of the late Government was, no doubt, owing to bad harvests and the Corn Laws. That, he believed, was a settled conviction on the public mind; and no greater imposition had ever been attempted than when it was said that the deficiency arose from the policy of the late Ministry, and that the present Government were entitled to the credit of having, by their acts, restored the revenue to a healthy state. This could not too frequently be impressed upon the attention of honourable members opposite—they must be reminded that they were the cause of this additional taxation. The income-tax, it should be remembered, had been imposed, in the first instance, in addition to all others. Those who supported the Corn Laws, as they were responsible for the imposition, so they were responsible for the continuance of this tax. This would be proved in 1848, by which time it was probable we should have a recurrence of bad harvests, and then they would have to answer to the country for continuing this income-tax. His honourable friend (Mr. Cobden) had referred to the evidence of Mr. Deacon Hume, who said that the best way to increase the revenue was to increase the power of consumption. He would trouble the House with a few figures, to show what was really the cause of their difficulties in bad harvests, and of the improvement in the revenue when the people's power of consumption was restored by low prices. The net produce of the customs and excise duties, which formed 75 per cent. of the whole revenue, was, in 1836, £36,392,472; in 1810, it was £35,535,469; being a reduction of more than a million from 1836 to 1810, though the population during that same period had increased from 26,158,524 to 27,599,968, a difference of 1,400,000; and an increase of five per cent. had been imposed on all those duties. Now, what was the difference of the amount paid for food during those several years? Cost of wheat, calculating the consumption at 16 millions of quarters annually, at the average price of each year, was

The cheap years.		The dear years.	
1834	.. .. £36,933,333	1837	.. .. £44,666,666
1835	.. .. 31,400,000	1838	.. .. 51,666,666
1836	.. .. 31,800,000	1839	.. .. 56,533,333

£100,133,333      £152,866,665  
Here was nearly £50,000,000 more paid in the three years of plenty for the chief necessary of life than in the three preceding years, when the harvests were bad and prices were high. Then, had the people not a right to ask what was the reason that they were taxed first on the necessities of life, and then, when the effect of this tax upon the revenue was seen, that they were to be further taxed to make up the deficiency so occasioned? (Hear, hear.) And certainly, after the speech of the right honourable baronet, they would be right in asking what he meant by persevering in those unjust laws? He could understand if the hon. members for Somerset and Dorsetshire were at the head of affairs, looking at their speeches at the Agricultural Protection Society, that they would persevere in the system; but when he heard such a speech as that of the right hon. baronet, almost like Mr. Cobden's own Free-Trade speeches (hear, hear), what excuse the right hon. baronet could have for not dealing with those other more important articles, which in his present scheme he did not touch, he was at a loss to conceive. He could scarcely believe his ears when the right honourable gentleman talked of the effect of the repeal of the wool duty, and he really thought to hear that we might expect the same results from the abolition of the duty on corn. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The same results would follow from the same course in regard to corn as in regard to wool, though to a much greater extent. Yet when he (Mr. Villiers) brought forward his motion to repeal the corn duties this year, which he should do on the earliest opportunity, he should be met by the right honourable gentleman with the statement that there were special reasons or something or other which would prevent his adopting the same principles in regard to corn which he had so extolled in reference to wool. (Hear.) He hoped the people would read the speech of the right hon. baronet, which was as good an argument in favour of Free Trade as he had ever heard. Seeing no possibility of getting rid of the Corn Laws at present, and being quite aware that the income-tax must be perpetual as long as those laws existed, he thought it was their duty to make it as little odious and as just as possible in its application, therefore he should vote for the amendment.

The income-tax, without modification, was affirmed by 240 to 112; and the bill, which was read a third time, and passed, on Wednesday, is now in the House of Lords.

On Thursday night Mr. Cobden brought on his motion for an inquiry into the causes of AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS, and the effects of Legislative Protection on the interests of the agricultural tenantry. The speech with which the debate was opened was worthy of the importance of the cause; the manner of the speaker was as telling and as effective as ever; his points as poignant and as novel as if the subject were entirely fresh, and brought under consideration for the first time; and the undivided attention of a full House manifested the homage which is ever paid to intellectual vigour, tact, and perspicacity. It is true that there was not the same intensity of interest as was excited last year when a similar motion was brought forward. At that time the mere novelty of the discussion was in itself a powerfully impelling cause of anxious curiosity. It was felt to be at once a bold and a happy thought to transfer the operations of the war to the homestead of the agricultural interest; and under the conviction that such a motion would go far to dispel for ever the delusion which would keep up a distinction between "farmers' enemies" and "farmers' friends," the county members were painfully in earnest to learn the course which Mr. Cobden would pursue. This year the uncertainty did not exist, because the general outline of the subject had been sketched by Mr. Cobden himself, when he warned the agricultural members that if they did not move for an inquiry into the causes of agricultural distress, he would. Nevertheless, the existence of that distress, as proclaimed and lamented over by the "farmers' friends," gave to the discussion of Thursday night a far deeper interest than any that could result from mere curiosity, or even anxiety. The attendance of the agricultural members, who came to listen as well as to vote, testified to the reality of the business in hand; and there were various circumstances elicited during the discussion which manifested the moral and mental progress of the question, not alone out of doors, but in that which was described as the agricultural mind, and on which Mr. Villiers remarked, with much good-humoured and happy pleasantry.

The speech of Mr. Cobden, which we give entire, will amply repay the most attentive and deliberate perusal. Every body who listened to it felt at once its ability and its importance; and occasional involuntary exclamations broke out from both friends and opponents—"This is really an admirable speech!" The agricultural members exhibited unequivocal symptoms of appreciation; and it is one of the most cheering signals of progress to see the question no longer treated as one for the exhibition of virulent personalities, but on which the House of Commons may be enlightened, and the county members instructed. In truth, the attention paid to Mr. Cobden was not only flattering to himself, but creditable to the Legislature. "Here is a man," combined members seemed to say, "who, whatever may be the character of his opinions, has mastered our question, and is capable of teaching us." And as attentive pupils in a lecture-room did the county members listen, while Mr. Cobden expounded the effects of protection on prices and improvement; the paucity of capital in a pursuit which ought to be one of the most attractive for investment; the want of leases, and the want of intelligence and common sense in such leases as were granted; the ruinous effects of protective duties on the interests of farmers, by disabling them from profitably rearing stock; and the miserable state of the agricultural population. "Give me," he exclaimed, and agricultural members winced at the demand, "give me this committee; place on it a majority of members in the interest of protection; it is a committee to inquire into that distress of which you complain, and the sufferings of that labouring population over which you lament—give me this committee of inquiry, and I will undertake to—EXPLODE THE WHOLE DELUSION OF AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION!" There was a mainly resonance in this demand which caused the idea it contained to ring through the House, and tingle in the ears of the "agricultural interest."

Mr. Cobden's motion was in this shape:—

"Mr. Cobden.—Select committee, to inquire into the causes and extent of the alleged existing agricultural distress, and into the effects of legislative protection upon the interests of landowners, tenant-farmers, and farm-labourers."

On this, as it stood on the notice paper, there appeared two amendments: one by Mr. Wodehouse, the member for East Norfolk, which was somewhat lengthy, and not very intelligible; the other by Mr. Stafford O'Brien, one of the members for Northamptonshire, which had the merit of shortness and explicitness. The amendment of Mr. Wodehouse was to the following effect:—

"Mr. Wodehouse.—To move, as an amendment on Mr. Cobden's motion, that the proposed inquiry, through the medium of a select committee, respecting the operation of protective duties on imports, as regards the several classes of the landed interest, will prove illusory, as far as that particular interest is concerned; and that no inquiry respecting the general effects of taxation ought at any time to be entered upon, unless it be distinctly laid down as a principle that it was intended to comprehend the interests of all the other classes of society under the influence of the various circumstances in which the country may be hereafter placed."

Mr. Stafford O'Brien stood thus:—

"Mr. Stafford O'Brien.—To move, as an amendment





from year to year. You know that it is impossible to farm your estates properly unless a tenant has an investment for more than one year. A man ought to be able to begin a farm with at least eight years before him, before he expects to see a return for the outlay of his money. You are therefore keeping your tenants at will at a yearly kind of cultivation, and you are preventing them carrying on their cultivation in a proper way. Not only do you prevent the laying out of capital upon your land, and disable the farmers from cultivating it, but your policy tends to make them servile and dependent, so that they are actually disinclined to improvement, afraid to let you see that they can improve, because they are apprehensive that you will pounce upon them for an increase of rent. (Hear.) I see the honourable member for Lincolnshire opposite, and he rather smiled at the expression when I said that the state of dependence of the farmers was such that they were actually afraid to appear to be improving their land. (Hear, hear.) Now, that honourable gentleman the member for Lincolnshire (Mr. Christopher), upon my honourable friend's (the member for Manchester, Mr. Milner Gibson) motion upon agricultural statistics last year, made the following statement:—

"It was most desirable for the farmer to know the actual quantity of corn grown in this country, as such knowledge would ensure steadiness of prices, which was infinitely more valuable to the agriculturist than fluctuating prices. But to ascertain this there was extreme difficulty. They could not leave it to the farmer to make a return of the quantity which he produced, for it was not for his interest to do so. If in any one or two years he produced four quarters per acre on land which had previously grown but three, he might fear lest his landlord would say, 'Your land is more productive than I imagined, and I must therefore raise your rent.' The interest of the farmers, therefore, would be to understate, and to furnish low returns."

Now, here is a little evidence of the same kind, which I find at a meeting of the South Devonshire Agricultural Association. The Rev. C. Johnson said:—

"He knew it had been thought that landlords were ready to avail themselves of such associations, on account of the opportunity it afforded them for diving into their tenants' affairs, and opening their eyes. (Hear.) An instance of this occurred to him at a recent ploughing-match, where he met a respectable agriculturist whom he well knew, and asked him if he was going to it. He said, 'No.' 'Why?' Because he did not approve of such things. This *why* produced another *why*, and the man gave a reason *why*. Suppose he sent a plough and man, with two superior horses, the landlord at once would say, 'This man is doing too well on my estate, and increase the rent.'"

Now, I ask honourable gentlemen here—the landed gentry of England—what a state of things is that when, upon their own testimony respecting the farming capitalists in this country, the farmers dare not appear to have a good horse—they dare not appear to be growing more than four quarters instead of three? ("Hear, hear," and cheers from Mr. Christopher.) The honourable member cheers, but I am quoting from his own authority. I say, this condition of things, indicated by those two quotations, brings the tenant-farmers—if they are such as these gentlemen describe them to be—it brings them down to a very low point of servility. In Egypt the landlords take the utmost gain of their

tenants, who bury it beneath their hearths of stone in their cottages, and will suffer the bastinado rather than they will tell how much corn they grow. Our tenants are not afraid of the bastinado, but they are terrified at a rise of rent. (Cheers.) This is the state of things amongst the tenant-farmers farming without leases. That I take to be the condition of a great portion of the tenant-farmers in this country. In England leases are the exception, and not the rule. (Hear, hear.) But even when you have leases in England—where you have leases or agreements—I doubt whether they are not in many cases worse tenures than where there is no lease at all; the clauses being of such an obsolete and preposterous character as to defy any man to carry on the business of farming under them profitably. I do not know whether the hon. member for Cheshire is here, but if so I will read him a passage from an actual Cheshire lease, showing what kind of covenants farmers are called on to perform:—

"To pay the landlord £20 for every statute acre of ground, and so in proportion for a less quantity, that shall be converted into tillage, or used contrary to the appointment before made; and £5 for every owt. of hay, thrave of straw, load of potatoes, or cartload of manure, that shall be sold or taken from the premises during the term; and £10 for every tree felled, cut down, or destroyed, cropped, lopped, or topped, or willingly suffered so to be; and £20 for any servant or other person so hired or admitted as to gain a settlement in the township; and £10 per statute acre, and so in proportion for a less quantity, of the said land, which the tenant shall let off or underlet. ('Hear, hear,' from the Ministerial side.) Such sums to be paid on demand after every breach, and in default of payment to be considered as reserved rent, and levied by distress and sale as rent in arrear may be levied and raised. And to do six days' boon team work whenever called upon; and to keep for the landlord one dog, and one cock or hen; and to make no malapropos which the landlord's consent first obtained in writing, under which the same is to be properly filled in; nor to allow any inmate to remain on the premises after six days' notice; nor to keep or feed any sheep except such as are used for the consumption of the family."

Now, what is such an instrument as that? I will tell you. It is a trap for the unwary man, it is a barrier against men of intelligence and capital, and it is a fetter to the mind of any free man. No man could farm under such a lease as that, or under any other lease as it contains. (Hear, hear.) I perceive that the hon. member for the rape of Bramber (Shoreham) is here. I will by-and-by allude to one of the hon. member's own leases. (Hear, hear.) You will find in your lease and lease and dogs, and probably team work, and agreement you have. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) What are those leases? Why, they are generally some old antediluvian dusty remains, which some lawyer's clerk takes out of a pigeon-hole, and merely reads out for every fresh incoming tenant:—a thing which seems to have been in existence for a hundred years. You tie them down by the most absurd restric-

tions: you do not give men credit for being able to discover any improvement next year and the year after, but you go upon the assumption that men are not able to improve, and you do your best to prevent them doing so. (Hear.) Now, I do not know why we should not in this country have leases for land upon similar terms to the leases of manufactories, or any "plant" or premises. I do not think that farming will ever be carried on as it ought to be until you have leases drawn in the same way as a man takes a manufactory, and pays perhaps £1000 a year for it. I know people who pay £4000 a year for manufactory to carry on their business, and at fair rents. There is an hon. gentleman near me who pays more than £4000 a year for the rent of his manufactory. What covenants do you think he has in his lease? What would he think if it stated how many revolutions there should be in a minute of the spindles, or if they prescribed the construction of the straps or the gearing of his machinery. Why, he takes his manufactory with a schedule of its present state—bricks, mortar, and machinery—and when the lease is over, he must leave it in the same state, or else pay a compensation for the dilapidation. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer cheers that statement. I want to ask his opinion respecting a similar lease for a farm. I am rather disposed to think that the Anti-Corn-Law Leaguers will very likely form a joint-stock association, and have none but Free-Traders in the body, that we may purchase a joint-stock estate, and have a model farm ("hear, hear," and laughter); taking care that it shall be in one of the rural counties, one of the most purely agricultural parts of the country, where we think there is the greatest need of improvement,—perhaps in Buckinghamshire (laughter); and there shall be a model farm, homestead, and cottages; and I may tell the noble lord the member for Newark, that we shall have a model garden, and we will not make any boast or outcry about it. But the great object will be to have a model lease. (Cheers and laughter.) We will have as the farmer a man of intelligence and capital. I am not so unreasonable as to tell you that you ought to let your land to men who have not a competent capital, or are not sufficiently intelligent; but I say, select such a man as that; let him know his business and have sufficient capital, and you cannot give him too wide a scope. We will find such a man and will let him our farm; there shall be a lease precisely such as that upon which my hon. friend takes his factory. There shall be no single clause inserted in it to dictate to him how he shall cultivate his farm; he shall do what he likes with the old pasture. If he can make more by ploughing it up he shall do so; if he can grow white crops every year—which I know there are people doing at this moment in more places than one in this country (hear, hear)—or if he can make any other improvement or discovery, he shall be free to do so. We will let him the land, with a schedule of the state of tillage and the condition of the homestead, and all we will bind him to will be this, "You shall leave the land as good as when you entered upon it. ('Hear, hear,' from both sides of the House.) If it is in an inferior state it shall be valued again, and you shall compensate us; but if it is in an improved state it shall be valued, and we, the landlords, shall compensate you." (Hear, hear.) You think there must be something very difficult about this, and that it will be impossible to be done; but it is not. We will give possession of everything upon the land, whether

it be wild or tame animals; he shall have the absolute control. There shall be no game, and no one to sport over his property. Take as stringent precautions as you please to compel the punctual payment of the rent; take the right of re-entry as summarily as you please if the rent is not duly paid; but let the payment of rent duly be the sole test as to the well-doing of the tenant; and so long as he can pay the rent, and do it promptly, that is the only test you need have that the farmer is doing well; and if he is a man of capital, you have the strongest possible security that he will not waste your property while he has possession of it. (Hear.) I have sometimes heard hon. gentlemen opposite say, "It is all very well for you to preach up leases, but there are many farmers who do not want them. We have asked them, and they will not take them." ("Hear, hear," from an hon. member.) The hon. gentleman cheers that remark; but what does it argue? That by that process which my hon. friend the member for Lincolnshire has described—that degrading process by which you have rendered those tenants servile, hopeless, and dejected, so that they have not the spirit of men when they are carrying on their business. Now, hear what Professor Low states, he being, as you are aware, a professor of agriculture. He says:—

"The argument has again and again been used against an extension of leases, that the tenants themselves set no value upon them; but to how different a conclusion ought the existence of such a feeling amongst the tenantry of a country to conduct us! The fact itself shows that the absence of leases may render a tenantry ignorant of the means of employing their own capital with advantage, indisposed to the exertions which improvements demand; and better contented with an easy rent and dependent condition, than with the prospect of an independence to be earned by increased exertion."

Whilst you have a tenantry in the state described or pictured by the hon. member for Lincolnshire, what must be the state of the population? Your labourers can never be prosperous when the tenants are depressed. Go through the length and breadth of the land, and you will find that where capital is in the greatest abundance, and capitalists are most intelligent, there you will invariably find the working classes most prosperous and happy; and on the other hand, show me an impoverished and enfeebled tenantry,—go to the north of Devonshire, for instance, and show me a tenantry like that,—and there you will find a peasantry sunk into the most hopeless and degraded condition. (Hear.) Now, Sir, I have mentioned a deficiency of capital as being the primary want amongst farmers. I have stated the want of security in leases as the cause of the want of capital; but you may still say, "You have not connected this with the Corn Laws and the protective system." I will, therefore, read the opinion of an hon. gentleman who sits, I believe, upon this side of the House, and I wish he may give us an opinion upon the subject in this debate; it is in a published letter of Mr. Hayter, who, I know, is himself an ardent supporter of agriculture. He says:—

"The more I see of and practice agriculture, the more firmly am I convinced that the whole unemployed labour of the country could, under a better system of husbandry, be advantageously put into operation; and moreover, that

the Corn Laws have been one of the principal causes of the present system of bad farming, and consequent pauperism. Nothing short of their entire removal will ever induce the average farmer to rely upon any thing else than the Legislature for the payment of his rent: his belief being that all rent is paid by corn, and nothing else than corn; and that the Legislature can, by enacting Corn Laws, create a price which will make his rent easy. The day of their (the Corn Laws) entire abolition ought to be a day of jubilee and rejoicing to every man interested in land."

Now, Sir, I do not stop to connect the cause and effect in this matter, and inquire whether your Corn Laws or your protective system have caused the want of leases and capital. I do not stop to make good my proof, and for this reason, that you have adopted a system of legislation in this House by which you profess to make the farming trade prosperous. I show you, after 30 years' trial, what is the condition of the agriculturists; I prove to you what is the state of farmers and also of the labourers, and you will not contest any one of those propositions. I say it is enough, having had 30 years' trial of your specific, for me to ask you to go into committee to see if something better cannot be devised. (Cheers.) I am going to contend, independent of protection and Corn Law, that free trade in corn would be more advantageous to farmers—and with them I include labourers—than restriction; to oblige the hon. member for Norfolk, I will take with them also the landlords; and I contend that free trade in corn and grain of every kind would be more beneficial to them than to any other class of the community. I should have contended the same before the passing of the late tariff; but now I am prepared to do so with tenfold more force. (Hear.) What has the right hon. baronet done? He has passed a law to admit fat cattle at a nominal duty. Some foreign fat cattle were selling in Smithfield the other day at about £15 or £16 per head, paying only about seven and a half per cent. duty; but he has not admitted the raw material out of which these fat cattle are made. Mr. Huskisson did not act in this manner when he commenced his plan of Free Trade. (Hear.) He began by admitting the raw material before he permitted the manufactured article; but in your case you have commenced at precisely the opposite end, and have allowed free trade in cattle instead of that upon which they are fattened. I say, give free trade in that grain which goes to make the cattle. (Hear.) I contend, that by this protective system the farmers throughout the country are more injured than any other class in the community. I would take, for instance, the article of seeds, beginning with clover-seed. The hon. member for North Northamptonshire put a question the other night to the right hon. baronet at the head of the Government. He looked so exceedingly alarmed, that I wondered what the subject was which created the apprehension. He asked the right hon. baronet whether he was going to admit clover-seed into this country? I believe clover-seed is to be excluded from the schedule of free importation. Now, I ask for whose benefit is this exception made? I ask the hon. gentleman the member for North Northamptonshire, whether those whom he represents, the farmers of that district of the county, are, in the large majority of instances, the great sellers of clover-seed? (Hear, hear.) I will undertake to say they are not. How many counties in England are there which are benefited by the protection of clover-seed? (Hear.) I will take the whole of Scotland. If there be any Scotch members present, I ask them whether they do not in their country import the clover-seed from England? They do not grow it. I undertake to say that there are not ten counties in the United Kingdom which are interested in the exportation of clover-seed out of their own borders. (Hear.) Neither have they any of this article in Ireland. But yet we have clover-seed excluded from the farmers, although they are not interested as a body in its protection at all. Again, take the article of beans. There are lands in Essex where they can grow them *alternately*. I find that beans come from that district to Mark-lane, and I believe also that in some parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire they do the same; but how is it with the poor lands of Surrey or the poor down land of Wiltshire? Take the whole of the counties. How many of them are there which are exporters of beans, or send them to market? You are taxing the whole of the farmers who do not sell their beans for the pretended benefit of a few counties or districts of counties where they do. (Hear.) Mark you, where they can grow beans on the stronger and better soils, it is not in one case out of ten that they grow them for the market. They may grow them for their own use; but where they do not cultivate beans, send them to market, and turn them into money, those farmers can have no interest whatever in keeping up the money price of that which they never sell. (Hear.) Take the article of oats. How many farmers are there who ever have oats down on the credit side of their books as an item upon which they rely for the payment of their rents? (Hear.) The farmers may, and do generally, grow oats for feeding their own horses; but it is an exception to the rule—and a rare exception too—where the farmer depends upon the sale of his oats to meet his expenses. (Hear.) Take the article of hops. You have a protection upon them for the benefit of the growers in Kent, Sussex, and Surrey; but yet the cultivators of hops have no protection in articles which they do not themselves produce. (Hear.) Take the article of cheese. Not one farmer in ten in the country makes his own cheese, and yet they and their servants are large consumers of it. But what are the counties which have the protection in this article? Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, part of Derbyshire, and Leicestershire. Here are some four or five dairy counties having an interest in the protection of cheese; but recollect that those counties are peculiarly hardly taxed in beans and oats, because in those counties where they are chiefly dairy farms—where they are most in want of artificial food for their cattle—there are the whole of the hilly districts; and I hope my honourable friend the member for Nottingham is here, because he has a special grievance in this matter: he lives in Derbyshire, and very commendably employs himself in rearing good cattle upon the hills; but he is taxed for your protection for his oats, Indian corn, and any thing which he wants for feeding them. (Hear.) He told me only the other day that he should like nothing better than to give up the protection on cattle, if they would only let him buy a thousand quarters of black oats for the consumption of his stock. (Hear, hear.) Take the whole of the hilly districts, and the down county

of Wiltshire; the whole of that expanse of downs in the south of England; take the Cheviots, where the flock-masters reside, or the Grampians in Scotland; and take the whole of Wales without exception,—they are not benefited in the slightest degree by the protection on these articles; but, on the contrary, you are taxing the very things they want. They require provender as abundantly and cheaply as they can get it. (Hear.) Allowing a free importation of food for cattle is the only way in which those counties can improve the breed of thin stocks, and the only manner in which they can ever bring their land up to anything like a decent state of fertility. I will go farther and say, that farms with thin soil,—I mean the stock farmers, which you will find in Hertfordshire and Surrey, farmers with large capitals, arable farmers,—I say, those men are deeply interested in having a free importation of food for their cattle, because they have thin poor land. The land of its own self does not contain the means of its over-increased fertility; and the only way is the bringing in an additional quantity of food from elsewhere, that they can bring up their farms to a proper state of cultivation. I have been favoured with an estimate made by a very experienced clever farmer in Wiltshire—probably honourable gentlemen will bear me out, when I say a man of great intelligence and skill, and entitled to every consideration in this House. I refer to Mr. Nathaniel Atherton, Kingston, Wilts. That gentleman estimates that upon 400 acres of land he could increase his profits to the amount of £280, paying the same rent as at present, provided there was a free importation of foreign grain of all kinds. He would buy 500 quarters of oats at 15s., or the same amount in beans or peas at 11s. or 15s. a sack, to be fed on the land or in the yard; by which he would grow additional 160 quarters of wheat, and 230 quarters barley, and gain an increased profit of £300 upon his sheep and cattle. His plan embraces the employment of an additional capital of £1000; and he would pay £150 a year more for labour. I had an opportunity, the other day, of speaking to a very intelligent farmer in Hertfordshire—Mr. Lattimore, of Wheathampstead. (Hear.) Very likely there are hon. gentlemen here to whom he is known. I do not know whether the noble lord the member for Hertford is present, because if so he will, no doubt, know that Mr. Lattimore stands as high in Hertford market as a skilful farmer and a man of abundant capital as any man in the county. (Hear.) He is a gentleman of most unquestionable intelligence; and what does he say? He told me that last year he paid £230 enhanced price on his beans and other provender which he bought for his cattle;—£230 of enhanced price in consequence of that restriction upon the trade in foreign grain, amounting to 14s. a quarter on all the wheat he sold upon his farm. Now, I undertake to say, in the names of Mr. Atherton, of Wiltshire, and Mr. Lattimore, of Hertfordshire, that they are as decided advocates for free trade in grain of every kind as I am. (Hear.) I am not now quoting merely solitary cases. I told hon. gentlemen once before that I have probably as large an acquaintance among farmers as any one in the House. I think I could give you from every county the names of some of the first-rate farmers who are ardent Free-Traders as I am. (Hear.) I requested the secretary of this much-dreaded Anti Corn-Law League to make me out a list of the farmers who are subscribers to that association, and I find there are upwards of 100 in England and Scotland who subscribe to the League Fund, comprising, I hesitate not to say, the most intelligent men to be found in this kingdom. (Cheers.) I, myself, went into the Lothians, at the invitation of 22 farmers there, several of whom were paying upwards of £1000 a year rent. I spent two or three days among them, and I never found a body of more intelligent, liberal-minded men in my life. Those are men who do not want restrictions upon the importation of corn. (Hear.) They desire nothing but fair play. They say, "Let us have our Indian corn, Egyptian beans, and Polish oats as freely as we have our linseed cake, and we can bear competition with any corn-growers in the world." (Hear.) But by excluding the provender for cattle, and at the same time admitting the cattle almost duty free, I think you are giving an example of one of the greatest absurdities and perversions of nature and common sense which ever was seen. We have heard of great absurdities in legislation in commercial matters of late. We know that there has been such a case as sending coffee from Cuba to the Cape of Good Hope in order to bring it back to England under the law; but I venture to say, that in less than ten years from this time people will look back with more amazement in their minds at the fact that, while you are sending ships to Ichaboe to bring back the guano, you are passing a law to exclude Indian corn, beans, oats, peas, and everything else that gives nourishment to your cattle, which would give you a thousand times more production than all the guano of Ichaboe. (Loud cheers.) Upon the last occasion when I spoke upon this subject, I was answered by the right hon. gentlemen the President of the Board of Trade. He talked about throwing poor lands out of cultivation, and converting arable lands into pasture. I hope that we men of the Anti Corn-Law League may not be reproached again with seeking to cause any such disasters. My belief is—and the conviction is founded upon a most extensive inquiry among the most intelligent farmers, without stint of trouble and pains—that the course you are pursuing tends every hour to throw land out of cultivation, and make poor lands unproductive. (Hear.) Do not let us be told again that we desire to draw the labourers from the land in order that we may reduce the wages of the workpeople employed in factories. I tell you that, if you bestow capital on the soil, and cultivate it with the same skill as manufacturers bestow upon their business, you have not population enough in the rural districts for the purpose. (Hear.) I yesterday received a letter from Lord Dufferin, in which he gives precisely the same opinion. He says, if we had the land properly cultivated there are not sufficient labourers to till it. What is the fact? You are chasing your labourers from village to village, passing laws to compel people to support paupers, devising every means to smuggle them abroad to the antipodes; if you can get them there, why, you would have to chase after them, and bring them back again, if you had your land properly cultivated. I tell you honestly my conviction, that it is by these means and these only that you can avert very great and serious troubles and disasters in your agricultural districts. Sir, I remember, on the last occasion when this subject was discussed, there was a great deal said about disturbing an interest. It was said that this inquiry would not be gone into because we were disturbing and

unsettling a great interest. I have no desire to undervalue the agricultural interest. I have heard it said that they are the greatest consumers of manufactured goods in this country; that they are such large consumers of our goods that we had better look after the home trade and not think of destroying it. But what sort of consumers of manufactures think you the labourers can be with the wages they are now getting in agricultural districts? Understand me: I am arguing for a principle that I solemnly believe would raise the wages of the labourers in the agricultural districts. I believe you would have no men starving upon 7s. a week if you had abundant capital and competent skill employed upon the soil; but I ask what is this consumption of manufactured goods that we have heard so much about? I have taken some pains, and made large inquiries as to the amount laid out in the average of cases by agricultural labourers and their families for clothing; I probably may startle you by telling you that we have exported in one year more goods of our manufactures to Brazil than have been consumed in a similar period by the whole of your agricultural peasantry and their families. You have 960,000 agricultural labourers in England and Wales, according to the last census: I undertake to say they do not expend on an average 30s. a year on their families, supposing every one of them to be in employ. I say manufactured goods, excluding shoes. I assert that the whole of the agricultural peasantry and their families in England and Wales do not spend a million and a half per annum for manufactured goods, in clothing and bedding. And, with regard to your exciseable and duty-paying articles, what can the poor wretch lay out upon them, who out of 8s. or 9s. a week has a wife and family to support? (Hear.) I undertake to prove to your satisfaction,—and you may do it yourselves if you will but dare to look the figures in the face (loud cheers),—I will undertake to prove to you that they do not pay upon an average each family 15s. per annum, that the whole of their contributions to the revenue do not amount to £700,000. Now, is not this a mighty interest to be disturbed? I would keep that interest as justly as though it were one of the most important; but I say, when you have by your present system brought down your agricultural peasantry to that state, have you anything to offer for bettering their condition, or at all events to justify resisting an inquiry? (Hear.) On the last occasion when I addressed this House I recollect stating some facts to show that you had no reasonable ground to fear foreign competition; those facts I do not intend to reiterate, because they have never been contradicted. (Hear, hear.) But there are still attempts made to frighten people by telling them, "If you open the ports to foreign corn you will have corn let in here for nothing." One of the favourite fallacies which is now put forth is this: "Look at the price of corn in England, and see what it is abroad: you have prices low here, and yet you have corn coming in from abroad. Now, if you had not 20s. duty to pay, what a quantity of corn you would have brought in, and how low the price would be!" This statement arises from a fallacy—I hope not dishonestly put forth in not understanding the difference between the real and the nominal price of corn. The price of corn at Dantzic now is nominal; the price of corn when it is coming in regularly is a regular price—that is the real price. Now, go back to 1838: in January of that year the price of wheat at Dantzic was nominal; there was no demand for England; there were no purchasers except for speculation, with the chance, probably, of having to throw the wheat into the sea; but in the months of July and August, when apprehensions arose of a failure of our harvest, then the price of corn in Dantzic rose instantly, sympathizing with the markets in England; and at the end of the year, in December, the price of wheat at Dantzic had doubled the amount at which it had been in January; and during the three following years, when you had a regular importation of corn from Dantzic, during all that time, by the averages laid upon the table of this House, wheat at Dantzic averaged 40s. Wheat at Dantzic was at that price during the three years 1839, 1840, and 1841. (Hear.) Now, I mention this just to show the fact to honourable gentlemen, and to entreat them that they will not go and alarm their tenantry by this outcry of the danger of foreign competition. You ought to be pursuing a directly opposite course—you ought to be trying to stimulate them in every possible way—by showing that they can compete with foreigners, that what others can do in Poland they can do in England. I have an illustration of the fact with reference to a society of which the hon. member for Suffolk was chairman. We have lately seen a new light spreading amongst agricultural gentlemen. We are told the salvation of this country is to arise from the cultivation of flax. There is a National Flax Society, of which Lord Rendlesham is the president. This flax society state in their prospectus,—a copy of which I have here, purporting to be the first annual report of the National Flax Agricultural Improvement Association,—after talking of the Ministers holding out no hope from legislation, they avow their inability to meet the difficulty; and then the report goes on to state that upon these grounds the National Flax Society call upon the nation for its support, on the ground that they are going to remedy the distresses of the country. Now, I observe that Mr. Warner was paying a visit in Sussex. I take a lively interest in what is going on in that county. I observe Mr. Warner paid a visit to Sussex, and he attended an agricultural meeting at which the honourable baronet the member for Shoreham presided. After the usual loyal toasts, the honourable baronet proposed the toast of the evening, "Mr. Warner and the cultivation of flax." (Laughter.) The right hon. baronet was not aware, I dare say, that he was then furnishing a most deadly weapon to the lecturers of the Anti Corn-Law League. We are told you cannot compete with foreigners unless you have a high protective duty. You have a high protective duty on wheat, amounting at this moment to 20s. a quarter. A quarter of wheat at the present time is just worth the same as one cwt. of flax. On a quarter of wheat you have a protective duty against the Pole and Russian of 20s.; upon the one cwt. of flax you have a protective duty of 1d. (loud cheers); and yet I did not hear a murmur from hon. gentlemen opposite when the right hon. baronet proposed to take off that protective duty of 1d. totally and immediately. (Hear, and laughter.) But we are told that English agriculturists cannot compete with foreigners, and especially with that serf labour that is to be found somewhere up the Baltic. Well, but flax comes from the Baltic, and there is no protective duty. (Renewed cheers.) We are

told that you may admit some other things. Hon. gentlemen say we have no objection to raw materials where there is no labour connected with them; but we cannot contend against foreigners in wheat, because there is such an amount of labour in it. Why, there is twice as much labour in flax as there is in wheat (cheers); and yet the right hon. baronet favours the growth of flax in order to restore the country, which is sinking into this abject and hopeless state for want of agricultural protection. (Renewed cheers.) The right hon. baronet will forgive me—I am sure he will, he looks as if he would (laughter)—if I allude a little to the subject of leases. The hon. gentleman on that occasion, I believe, complained that it was a great pity that farmers did not grow more flax, and I saw it in a Brighton paper a week afterwards. I do not know whether it was true or not, that the right hon. baronet's leases to his own tenants forbade them to grow that article. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, it is quite as possible that the right hon. baronet does not exactly know what covenants or clauses there are in his leases. (Hear.) But I know that it is a very common case to preclude the growth of flax; and it just shows the kind of management by which the landed proprietors have carried on their affairs, that actually, I believe, the original source of the error that flax was very pernicious to the ground was derived from Virgil; I believe there is a passage in "Virgil" to that effect. From that classic authority, no doubt, some learned lawyer put this clause into the lease, and there it has remained ever since. (Laughter.) Now, I have alluded to the condition of the labourers at the present time; but I am bound to say, that while the farmers at the present moment are in a worse condition than they have been for the last ten years, I believe the agricultural labourers have passed over the winter with less suffering and distress, although it has been a five months' winter, and a severer one, too, than they endured in the previous year. ("Hear, hear," from the Ministerial benches.) I am glad to find that corroborated by hon. gentlemen opposite, because it bears out, in a remarkable degree, the opinion that we who are in connexion with the Free-Trade question entertain. We maintain that a low price of food is beneficial to the labouring classes. We assert, and we can prove it, at least in the manufacturing districts, that whenever provisions are dear wages are low, and whenever food is cheap wages invariably rise. We have had a strike in almost every business in Lancashire since the price of wheat has been down to something like 50s.; and I am glad to be corroborated when I state that the agricultural labourers have been in a better condition during the last winter than they were in the previous one. But does not that show that, even in your case, though your labourers have in a general way only just as much as will find them a subsistence, they are benefited by a great abundance of the first necessaries of life? Although their wages may rise and fall with the price of food,—although they may go up with the advance in the price of corn and fall when it is lowered,—still, I maintain that it does not rise in the same proportion as the price of food rises, nor fall to the extent to which food falls. Therefore, in all cases the agricultural labourers are in a better state when food is low than when it is high. (Hear, hear.) Now, I am bound to say that, whatever may be the condition of the agricultural labourer, I hold that the farmer is not responsible for that condition while he is placed in the situation in which he now is by the present system. I have seen during the last autumn and winter a great many exhortations made to the farmers, that they should employ more labourers. I think that is very unfair towards the farmer; I believe he is the man who is suffering most; he stands between you and your impoverished, suffering peasantry; and it is rather too bad to point to the farmer as the man who should relieve them. (Cheers.) I have an extract from Lord Hardwick's address to the labourers of Haddenham. He says,

"Conciliate your employers, and, if they do not perform their duty to you and themselves, address yourselves to the landlords; and I assure you that you will find us ready to urge our own tenants to the proper cultivation of their farms, and consequently to the just employment of the labourer."

Now, I hold that this duty begins nearer home, and that the landed proprietors are the parties who are responsible if the labourers have not employment. (Hear.) You have absolute power; there is no doubt about that. You can, if you please, legislate for your labourers or yourselves. Whatever you may have done besides, your legislation has been adverse to the labourer, and you have no right to call upon the farmers to remedy the evil which you have caused. (Cheers.) I have a very curious proof with regard to what is done for the agricultural labourers by the landlords, which I will read to you. It is a labourer's certificate, seen at Stowupland, in Suffolk, in July, 1841, which was placed upon the mantel-piece of a peasant's cottage there:—

"West Suffolk Agricultural Association, established 1833, for the advancement of agriculture and the encouragement of industry and skill, and good conduct among labourers and servants in husbandry. President: The Duke of Grafton, Lord Lieutenant of the county. This is to certify that a prize of £2 was awarded to William Burch, aged 82, labourer, of the parish of Stowupland, in West Suffolk, September 25, 1840, for having brought up nine children without relief, except when their mother was very dear; and for having worked on the same farm twenty-eight years."

(Signed) "Rt. RUSHBROOK, Chairman."

(Cheers and laughter.) Now, I need not press that point. It is admitted by the hon. gentlemen opposite—and I am glad it is so—that after a very severe winter, in the last of great distress among farmers, when there have been a great many able-bodied men wanting employment, and there have been fewer in the streets and workhouses than there had been in the previous year. But the condition of the agricultural labourer is a bad case at the very best. (Hear.) You can look before you, and you have to foresee the means of giving employment to those men. I need not tell you that the late census shows that you cannot employ your own increasing population in the agricultural districts. But you say the farmers should employ them. How can they give employment to them? Will not this evil—if evil you call it—press on you more and more every year? What can you do to remedy the mischief? I only appear here now because you have proposed nothing. We all know your system of allotments, and we are all aware of its failure. What other remedy have

you? for many were allowed to be which they are—this increase maintain the country into your rights of to do now? To forward this to benefit the thing I have alleviate their capital is sinking state than ever to give confidence to be expected employment to I cannot believe political game benefit the agricultural election w county members prove that it is distressing state you. Do not quarrel with case: I have have you to do has been collected prohibition upon farming tenants a protection p condition of y now with you and proclaimed agricultural pop plan? I hope gene that has and that you ha There are poli an ambition—p of office. The continuous ser which they can office, and high expense of their size very well a acres for them tleman opposit but as the farmi tural interests. have heard the restore all the protection woul meaning? If a year conviction house, by follow lobby, and opp very men who politicians I h motion. But that, if you g will explode, th (Cheers.) I evidence, and giv of authority, th sent forth to the vehicles of info not live in the (Hear, hear.) I of protection ha tions. The cry but elect on, and and place by it; it that old tattere as it is already, for the benefit o honestly and fair I cannot believe more drumheads frith unmeaning elate voice of th N. You are co counties. You a fathers led our fa right way. But, care with this co it has not bene witting yourself dora, when the boys of mainly v fremont there. like the aristocr dented; nor were dourled into p You have not shi an call has bee It is the age of t movement, not t ne in a mercant world is poured shortage of co (Hear, hear); but I will identify the English peo your country as t "stone of you, I there is a deep ro all it, in your out it, and you sent of the age, means of finding if you are found raised to knit u pace by means o and fighting ag two breath and ourselves as obse at large has deca the gentry of Eng t like your place too in saying th position. There has tampering w



you? for mark you, that is worse than a plaything, if you were allowed to carry out your own views. (Hear.) Ay, it is well enough for some of you that there are wiser heads than your own to lead you, or you would be conducting yourselves into precisely the same condition in which they are in Ireland (hear); but with this difference—that there they do manage to maintain the rights of property by the aid of the English exchequer and 20,000 bayonets; but bring your own country into the same condition, and where would be your rights of property. (Cheers.) What do you propose to do now? That is the question. Nothing has been brought forward this year, which I have heard, having for its object to benefit the great mass of the English population; nothing I have heard suggested which has at all tended to alleviate their condition. You admit that the farmer's capital is sinking from under him, and that he is in a worse state than ever. Have you distinctly provided some plan to give confidence to the farmer, to cause an influx of capital to be expended upon his land, and so bring increased employment to the labourer? How is this to be met? I cannot believe that you are going to make this a political game. You must set up some specific object to benefit the agricultural interest. It is well said, that the last election was an agricultural triumph. There are 200 county members sitting behind the Prime Minister, who prove that it was so. What, then, is your plan for this distressing state of things? That is what I want to ask you. Do not, as you have done before, follow me, and quarrel with me, because I have imperfectly stated my case: I have done my best; and I again ask you what have you to do? I tell you that this "Protection," as it has been called, is a failure. It was so when you had the prohibition up to 80s. You know the state of your farming tenantry in 1821. It was a failure when you had a protection price of 60s.; and you know what was the condition of your farm tenantry in 1835. It is a failure now with your last amendment, for you have admitted and proclaimed it to us; and what is the condition of your agricultural population at this time? I ask, what is your plan? I hope this is not a pretence; a mere political game that has been played throughout the last election, and that you have not all come up here as mere politicians. There are politicians in the House; men who look with an ambition—probably a justifiable one—to the honours of office. There may be men who—with thirty years of continuous service, having been raised into a state from which they can neither escape nor retreat—may be holding office, and high office, maintained there, probably, at the expense of their present convictions, which do not harmonize very well with their early convictions. I make allowances for them; but the great body of the hon. gentlemen opposite came up to this House, not as politicians, but as the farmers' friends, and protectors of the agricultural interests. Well, what do you propose to do? You have heard the Prime Minister declare that, if he could restore all the protection which you have had, that protection would not benefit agriculturists. Is that your meaning? If so, why not submit to it; and if it is not your conviction you have falsified your mission in this House, by following the right hon. baronet out into the lobby, and opposing inquiry into the condition of the men who sent you here. (Cheers.) With mere politicians I have no right to expect to succeed in this position. But I have no hesitation in telling you, that if you give me a committee of this House, I will explode the delusion of agricultural protection. (Cheers.) I will bring forward such a mass of evidence, and give you such a preponderance of talent and authority, that when the blue book is published and sent forth to the world, as we can now send it, by our vehicles of information, your system of protection shall live in the public opinion for two years afterwards. (Hear, hear.) Politicians do not want that. This cry of protection has been a very convenient handle for politicians. The cry of protection carried the counties at the last election, and politicians gained honours, emoluments, and place by it; you cannot set up for any such. Now, that old tattered flag of protection, tarnished and torn, is already, to be kept hoisted still in the counties, for the benefit of politicians, or will you come forward honestly and fairly to inquire into this question? Why, cannot believe that the gentry of England will be made mere drumheads to be sounded upon by others to give forth unmeaning and empty sounds, and to have no articulate voice of their own. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) You are the gentry of England who represent the counties. You are the aristocracy of England. Your fathers led our fathers; you may lead us if you will go the right way. But, although you have retained your influence with this country longer than any other aristocracy, has not been by opposing popular opinion, or by fighting yourselves against the spirit of the age. In other words, when the battle and the hunting-fields were the scene of mainly vigour, why, your fathers were first and foremost there. The aristocracy of England were not the aristocracy of France, the mere minions of a court; nor were they like the hidalgos of Madrid, who would not show a want of courage and firmness when all has been made upon you. This is a new era. It is the age of improvement, it is the age of social advancement, not the age for war or for feudal sports. You are in a mercantile age, when the whole wealth of the world is poured into your lap. You cannot have the advantage of commercial rents and feudal privileges (hear, hear); but you may be what you always have been, you may identify yourselves with the spirit of the age. The English people look to the gentry and aristocracy of this country as their leaders. (Hear, hear.) I, who am one of you, have no hesitation in telling you, that I am in your favour in this country. But you never let it, and you will not keep it, by obstructing the way of finding employment for your own peasantry; and by found obstructing that advance which is calculated to knit nations more together in the bonds of peace and of commercial intercourse; if you are obstructing the way to the discoveries which have almost breathed life into material nature, and setting up large and obstructive of that which the community has decreed shall go on, why, then, you will be the gentry of England no longer, and others will be found to take your place. (Hear, hear.) And I have no hesitation in saying that you stand just now in a very critical position. There is a wide-spread suspicion that you have been tampering with the best feelings and with the honest

confidence of your own country in this cause. Everywhere you are doubted and suspected. Read your own organs, and you will see that this is the case. (Hear, hear.) Well, now this is the time to show that you are not the mere party politicians which you are said to be. I have said that we shall be opposed in this measure by politicians; they do not want inquiry. But I ask you to go into this committee with me. I will give you a majority of country members. You shall have a majority of the Central Society in that committee: I ask you only to go into a fair inquiry as to the causes of the distress of your own population. (Hear.) I only ask that this matter may be fairly examined. Whether you establish my principle or yours, good will come out of the inquiry; and I do, therefore, beg and entreat the honourable, independent country gentlemen of this House that they will not refuse, on this occasion, to go into a fair, a full, and an impartial inquiry.

The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst loud cheers.

#### GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT HULL.

On Wednesday the Free-Traders in this town assembled together in greater force, and manifested far more zeal for the cause, than on any previous occasion since the agitation commenced.

Although, from unavoidable causes, the announcement that addresses would be delivered by an influential deputation from the League was made but a very short time prior to the day of meeting, yet on the Wednesday our large Town-hall was filled with an audience of the most respectable inhabitants of the borough, deeply attentive to the powerful arguments of the eloquent speakers, Robert R. Moore, Esq., and Thomas Flint, Esq., and, as we have said, evincing far more enthusiasm in the cause of Free Trade than on any previous occasion.

In the evening a tea-meeting was held at the Victoria Rooms. The Rev. Mr. Aspinall and Mr. Moore spoke at great length, and were much applauded.

Active measures were taken to forward the local exertions in favour of the Great League Bazaar.

The pressure on our space prevents us giving further particulars, especially the eloquent speech of Mr. Aspinall, a full report of which has been forwarded to us by the *Hull Advertiser*. We shall endeavour to give it in our next.

#### THE INCIDENCE OF PROTECTIVE DUTIES.

(From the *Manchester Guardian*.)

The proceedings in the House of Commons on Friday evening were enlivened by a smart debate on the incidence of protective duties, arising out of some remarks made by Mr. Cobden on the sugar question. It will be seen from our parliamentary report, that, previously to the House going into committee on the sugar duties, the hon. member for Stockport called the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the fact, that "they were going to vote avowedly an amount of money to the colonial proprietors," which, according to his estimate, would not be less than £2,400,000; a sum which would suffice for the repeal of the window tax, the duty on soap, and various other duties which press severely on the labouring classes. By way of reply to this startling appeal, the Chancellor of the Exchequer merely remarked that "he did not acquiesce in the reasoning of the honourable gentleman;" upon which Lord Howick reiterated the statement of Mr. Cobden, and contended that a point of so much importance ought to be fairly settled before they proceeded any farther with the discussion of the sugar duties. This drew out Sir Robert Peel, who attempted to put an extinguisher on the debate, by the following characteristic specimen of sophistry:—

"In the course of the last week 3000 quarters of foreign corn were brought in at 20s. duty. The consumption of wheat in this country is estimated at not less than 20,000,000 of quarters a year; and, with the exception of about 1,000,000, the whole, or 19,000,000 quarters, are derived from domestic supply. Does the noble lord contend that, because 3000 quarters are brought into the market at a duty of 20s., therefore there is a tax of £19,000,000 levied on the British public, because 19,000,000 of quarters were the home supply consumed within the last year? And how does the noble lord reconcile the statement he now makes with the statement that was made the other night, that, if you were to remove the duty upon foreign corn, it does not follow that the price of corn in the British market would be diminished, because it was shown that in Guernsey and Jersey, where the trade in corn is free, the price of wheat is not lower at this moment than it is in this country? Does the noble lord, then, contend that there will be a tax levied to the amount of £19,000,000 upon the British public, because 3000 quarters of foreign corn were brought into the market in the last week?"

How can any fair parallel be drawn between the operation of a fixed duty on sugar and that of a fluctuating duty on corn, when the latter is varying nearly every week, while the former may remain for years without any alteration? In 1839 we imported 2,500,000 quarters of foreign wheat at an average duty of about 6s. per quarter. Are we, therefore, to infer that the tax which the landowners "levied on the British public" in that year, with wheat ranging from 70s. to 80s. per quarter, was only one-fourth of what it is now with wheat at 45s.? No one knows better than Sir Robert Peel that such is not the case; no one is more fully aware than he is, that the amount of protective duty levied under the operation of a sliding scale cannot furnish the slightest ground for estimating "the tax levied on the British public" by the food monopoly.

The *Standard* of Saturday, alluding to the discussion in the House of Commons, displays its wonted ignorance and presumption in the following passage:—

"If we were to write a library, we could not better answer Mr. Cobden's absurd proposition, that differential duties always cause a rise in price exactly to the amount of the duty levied, than it was answered by Sir Robt. Peel. We will therefore repeat the Premier's answer, changing merely the material. Mr. Cobden's printed cottons are protected by a differential duty of 30 per cent. Would Mr. Cobden sell his printed cottons thirty per cent., or nearly fourpence in the shilling, cheaper if the differential duty were repealed? If Mr. Cobden says no, where is his argument? If he says yes, he must be making a good thing of his trade, inasmuch as he has, by his own con-

fession, a clear profit of 30 per cent. from the differential duty, plus all other profits."

Before replying to the choice reasoning contained in this paragraph, we must say a few words as to that ignorance of the most generally-known facts which marks the *Standard*, and which is so disgraceful to a journal setting itself up as an organ of the Government. The tax on the importation of printed cottons is not 30 per cent., but, as everybody acquainted with the subject knows, and as the editor of the *Standard* may learn on reference to class 12 in the tariff of 1842, just one-third of that amount, or 10 per cent. So much for the *Standard's* facts; now for his argument.

Does the *Standard* require to be told that Great Britain exports annually upwards of £16,000,000 worth of manufactured cotton goods, the price of which, in the open market of the world, must rule the price of those sold in the home market? If he is aware of this fact, he must also know that a "differential duty of 30 per cent. on printed cottons" can have no more effect in increasing Mr. Cobden's profits, than a duty of 30s. per ton on the importation of foreign coal into the Tyne and the Wear could have in increasing the profits which the Marquis of Londonderry derives from his collieries. Raise the duty, in either case, to 30,000 per cent., and it will not put one farthing into the pocket either of the noble marquis or of Mr. Cobden. As regards sugar, the case is altogether different. Instead of producing double the quantity which Great Britain requires, the colonies cannot raise enough for our consumption, or why should the Chancellor of the Exchequer contemplate our purchasing 20,000 tons of foreign sugar, at an extra duty of 10 guineas per ton? As this extra supply is necessary to meet the demand for British consumption, it is quite clear that every shilling of additional tax laid upon it will raise the price of British colonial sugar.

But will the price be raised to the full extent of the protecting duty? Here, we think, Mr. Cobden's proposition requires some qualification. It is an unquestionable fact, as we have had occasion to show on former occasions in reference to a fixed duty on corn, that discriminating duties, by diminishing the demand for the higher taxed commodity, tend to lower its price abroad, and, to the extent of the depreciation, counteract their own effect upon internal prices. If Cuba sugars were admitted here on the same terms as colonial, the increased demand consequent upon the equalization would raise the price in Cuba,—very little, perhaps, but still something; and, if we would correctly estimate the effect of the present protecting duty on the price of colonial sugar, we must allow for the depreciation which it now causes in the price of foreign sugar. That depreciation is probably too small to be of any practical importance; but, in laying down principles and general rules in the House of Commons, it is well to state the qualifications to which they are liable.

#### A BUNDLE OF INCONSISTENCIES.

(From the *Leeds Mercury*.)

Sir Robert Peel has combined in his measures some of the most glaring inconsistencies that ever disfigured the policy of any Minister. The following specimens, arranged in parallel columns, illustrate the assertion:—

A Tariff, whose express object is declared to be to *cheapen the necessaries of life*.

Great concern professed to *relieve trade and commerce*, for the sake of which a *Property Tax* is imposed.

The Repeal of duties on *raw materials*.

*Total and Immediate Relief* to small taxes.

Taxes for the mere purpose of *Revenue*.

*Repeal of the Duty on Slave-Grown Cotton*.

*Encouragement of Brazilian Coffee and Cotton*.

*Admission of cheap Slave-Grown Sugar*, to be refined in England and supplied to the *Continental nations*.

*Encouragement of the United States Slave Trade*.

Corn and Provision Laws, whose sole object is to *make the chief necessaries of life dear*.

A still greater concern to uphold the *Rent of land*, for the sake of which trade and commerce are loaded with a *Bread Tax*.

The taxation of the greatest of all raw materials, namely, that of *labour*.

A *Sliding Scale* for the heaviest tax of all.

Taxes for the mere purpose of *Protection*.

*Prohibitory Duties on Slave-Grown Sugar*.

*Refusal of Brazilian Sugar*.

*Prohibition of the selfsame cheap Sugar to our own working people*.

*Discouragement of the Brazilian Slave Trade*.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURES IN SUSSEX.—Mr. Falvey lectured in the Town-hall, Brighton, on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday last. Mr. John Hilton was unanimously called to the chair, and introduced Mr. Falvey to the meeting. There was a good attendance of ladies, especially on the second evening. Mr. Falvey demonstrated the injustice and impolicy of the corn and colonial restrictions; and at the close of his second address the cheering of the meeting was kept up for a long time. When it had subsided, an intelligent-looking working man stood up, and said that he had been so much impressed with the truth of the statements brought forward by the lecturer, and such was his desire to forward—though in a small way—the glorious cause of Free Trade, that he intended to contribute some natural curiosities, which he had been a long time collecting, to the Anti-Corn Law Bazaar. His statement was received with loud cheers. Votes of thanks were then carried by acclamation to the chairman, lecturer, and Council of the Anti-Corn Law League.—Mr. Falvey lectured at Shoreham, on Wednesday evening, to an attentive and respectable audience.—A joint committee of ladies and gentlemen was formed at the Town-hall, Brighton, on Tuesday, to superintend the collecting and forwarding of contributions to the Anti-Corn Law Bazaar.

RAILWAY DEPOSITS.—The amount of deposits paid into the Bank of England by the various railway companies exceeds £1,500,000. The total sum paid into the Bank of Ireland is upwards of £200,000.—*Irish Railway Gazette*. Joseph Lind, a substantial farmer at Cockfield, Durham, being liable, by a change of owners, to expulsion from his farm, on which he had expended considerable sums, without compensation, committed suicide by hanging.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, March 12, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Ogden, Jas., and Son, Dukinfield, near Ashton-under-Lyne ..	£10 0 0
Berry, Mathew, 22, High-street, Manchester ..	5 0 0
Bewhurst, S. D., and Co., Adelphi, Salford ..	2 0 0
Artisans at Phoenix Iron Works, Stroud ..	1 8 0
Anderson, Edward, at Waterhouse, Hadfield, and Co.'s, Portobello-place, Sheffield ..	1 6 0
Robinson, Thomas, Angel-street, do. ..	1 5 0
Robinson, Frederick, G. Chester-street, Liverpool ..	1 1 0
Hobson, James, 177, Oxford-street, Manchester ..	1 1 0
Dean, John, Haslingden ..	1 1 0
Smith, Robert, Stirling, N.B. ..	1 1 0
Taylor, James, Brook Mill, Crompton, near Oldham ..	1 1 0
Helm, James, sen., Grey-street, Padham ..	1 1 0
Helm, James, Mill-street, do. ..	1 1 0
Helm, Henry, Grey-fold, do. ..	1 1 0
Robinson, Thomas, Lower-house, near do. ..	1 0 0
Whitnam, John, Burnley-road, do. ..	1 0 0
Fletcher, James, do. ..	1 0 0
Wilding, William, do. ..	1 0 0
Stubbs, Daniel, Denton ..	1 0 0
Warburton, Wm., 16, New Berry-road, Strangeways, Manchester ..	1 0 0
Husband, Richard, 4, St. Mary's do. ..	1 0 0
Ireland, John, 19, Clarendon-pl., Oxford-rd., do. ..	1 0 0
Burnett, John, Market-place, do. ..	1 0 0
Falkner, Brothers, Stephenson-square, do. ..	1 0 0
Walker, John, Stand, near do. ..	1 0 0
Day, John, Salvation Tavern, Chatham-st., C-on-M. ..	1 0 0
Thyer, Joseph, 99, Stratford New-road, do. ..	1 0 0
Hampson, James, 161, Great Ancoats-st., do. ..	1 0 0
Jones, John, and Co., Barton Mills, near do. ..	1 0 0
Fairweather, John, 10, King-street, Hulme, do. ..	1 0 0
Tattersall, William, Rawtenstall, near do. ..	1 0 0
Owen, Thomas, Medlock-street, Hulme, do. ..	1 0 0
Tatlow, Jeremiah, tape manufacturer, Warkworth, Northumberland ..	1 0 0
Crother, Henry, 5, Peru-street, Salford ..	1 0 0
Holmes Abraham, 37, St. Stephen's-street, do. ..	1 0 0
Rawthorn, Henry, Dearden-gate, Haslingden ..	1 0 0
Rawthorn, William, do. ..	1 0 0
Worsack, Thos., Keel's Mill, Musbury, near do. ..	1 0 0
Worsack, James, Flax Moss, near do. ..	1 0 0
Worsack, Thomas, Howden Wood, near do. ..	1 0 0
Hell, W. H., merchant, Hull ..	1 0 0
Burnley, John, Heckmondwike ..	1 0 0
Sykes, Wm., worsted manufacturer, do. ..	1 0 0
Armistage, Wm., carpet do. ..	1 0 0
Puritt, Benjamin, overlooker, do. ..	1 0 0
Whittaker, John, Waterford, near Rochdale ..	1 0 0
A Friend, Hareholme, near do. ..	1 0 0
Hood, Henry E., Green-lane Work, Sheffield ..	1 0 0
Thornhill, Samuel, & Sons, St. Thomas-st., do. ..	1 0 0
Roberts, J. B., Bank street, do. ..	1 0 0
Adair, T., mesmeric demonstration, West-st., do. ..	1 0 0
Cotter, William, 17, Park-street, Liverpool ..	1 0 0
Cowan, Joseph, Haydonburn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	1 0 0
Hall, Edward, 45, Pilgrim-street, do. ..	1 0 0
McCallin, Wm., Salford, do. ..	1 0 0
Dunnett, James, Congleton ..	1 0 0
Crone, John, 17, Deans-gate, Manchester ..	0 5 0
Young, Mark A., Ashton-street, do. ..	0 2 6
Geddes, John, jun., Govan Bank ..	1 0 0
Armour, Robert, 25, South Hanover-street ..	1 1 0
McNab, A. and J., 143, Ingram-street ..	2 2 0
Feeney, Alexander, 67, Wilson-street ..	1 1 0
Cairns, John, 67, do. ..	1 1 0
McKenzie, John, Dunlystan ..	1 1 0
Anderson, William, 33, Buchanan street ..	1 0 0
Kerr, John, jun., 14, Churchland-street ..	1 0 0
Muir, John, 82, Tron-gate ..	1 0 0
Forbes, J. D., Wear Mills ..	1 1 0
Bramall, George, Mill gate ..	1 0 0
Bramall, John, do. ..	1 0 0
McClure, Robert, Rower-house ..	1 0 0
Barton, John, Church-gate ..	1 0 0
Williamson, Wm., sen., Call green ..	1 1 0
Williamson, Wm., jun., Wellington-rd., North ..	1 1 0
Dale, John, Dockway-square ..	2 0 0
Walt, James, Milburn place ..	1 1 0
Phillipson, John, draper, Tyne-street ..	1 0 0
Coventry, Andrew, Bedford-street ..	1 0 0
Callie, Joseph, jun., Crompton-street ..	1 1 0
Forth, Robert, Cambden-street ..	1 1 0
Shotton, George ..	1 0 0
Neave, Josiah ..	1 0 0
Neave, Mrs. ..	1 0 0
Peden, Mrs. ..	1 0 0
Banks, John ..	1 0 0
Compton, Samuel ..	1 0 0
Collinson, John F. ..	1 0 0
McKillop, Jas., jun., St. Rollox Bottle Works ..	1 0 0
A Subscriber to State, but not to Class Taxes ..	1 0 0
With reason, William, 142, High-street ..	1 0 0
Hanbloom weavers in Mr. King's Factory, Ayrton court, per Mr. W. Dalgleish ..	1 5 0
Abmworth, George Morris, 18, Bury New-rd., Manchester ..	5 0 0
Even, Rev. John, Holbrook, Hawick ..	1 1 0
Pickford, Thomas, G. A. Tennyson ..	1 1 0
Orley, H. G., 4, Leckie's Buildings, Hackney ..	1 1 0
McLaughlin, M., Morning Advertiser office, Fleet-st. ..	1 1 0
Volekman, John, and Sons, Stratford ..	1 1 0
Emmott, David, and Son, Arbroath ..	1 1 0
Rippon, J. J., Eating common ..	1 1 0
Rayne, Robert, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	1 1 0
Cogan, Mrs., Upper-mall, Hammermith ..	1 1 0
Scott, David, skinner, Dalhousie, Dundee ..	1 1 0
Philips, Jos. Burcett, Paternoster-row ..	1 1 0
Watney, Mrs. Wm., Norwood-green ..	1 1 0
Roxworthy, Robt., Boxton, near Codford St. Peter ..	1 0 0
Duncan, John, writer, Stonebaven ..	1 0 0
McRae, William, Mitcham common ..	1 0 0
Wyles, Thomas, Gloucester ..	1 0 0
Taylor, James, 71, Summer-lane, Birmingham ..	1 0 0
Smithson, James, Bexley ..	1 0 0
Robson, George, Lough ..	1 0 0
Shore, John, Doncaster ..	1 0 0
Cox, Benjamin, 7, Swallow-place, Regent street ..	1 0 0
Walker, E. P., Dalby, near Doncaster ..	1 0 0
Mayne, Richard, Oxford-street, Bolton ..	1 0 0
Breeds, H., 21 and 48, Ludgate-hill, Birmingham ..	1 0 0
Warne, Henry, Pyleham Mills, near Scole, Norfolk ..	1 0 0
Jenkins, William, Pontreer Works, near Caerleon, Monmouth ..	1 0 0
King, Henry, Oakley, Haslingden ..	1 0 0
Lawson, Andrew, Arbroath ..	1 0 0
Rimney, Wm., collector, 8, Mulberry-st., Sheffield ..	1 0 0
Rosewall, James, Panton ..	1 0 0
Greene, Charles, Coleford ..	1 0 0

*Scott, Robert, Lauder ..	£1 0 0
*Brown, John, Calton, near Skipton ..	1 0 0
*Shackleton, John, Ayrton, near do. ..	1 0 0
*Balmforth, John, Northwam, near Halifax ..	1 0 0
*Ireland, George G., Russell Mill, Cupar, Fife ..	1 0 0
*Hilditch, George, 13, Ludgate-hill ..	1 0 0
*Hilditch, Richard, H., 13, do. ..	1 0 0
Hilditch, James, 13, do. ..	1 0 0
*The News Room, held at Mr. Saml. Pitt's, Stag's Head, Back-lane, Bowling, nr. Bradford, Yorkshire ..	1 0 0
*Muggrave, B., builder, Princess-street, Mason-st., Hull ..	1 0 0
*Jefford, John, Bridport ..	1 0 0
*Harting, W., St. John's Rectory, Chester ..	1 0 0
*Wilkinson, R., Cave-house School, Uxbridge ..	1 0 0
*Rowell, George, painter, Carlisle ..	1 0 0
*Oliver, J. C., Great Missenden ..	1 0 0
*Brown, George, Slateford, near Edinburgh ..	1 0 0
*Smith, Thomas, Chichester ..	1 0 0
*Gurteen, Daniel, jun., Haverhill, Suffolk ..	1 0 0
*McMillan, James, Moffat ..	1 0 0
*Child, T. S., Wotton-under Edge ..	1 0 0
*Priestman, Jonathan, jun., Summerhill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne ..	1 0 0
Wilkinson, J. J. G., Store-street, Bedford-square (2nd subscription) ..	0 10 0
Jones, William, 46, Rosoman-street, Clerkenwell ..	0 5 0
Dickins, George, 15, Wormwood-street, Bishopsgate ..	0 3 0
G. F. P. ..	0 2 6

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

## Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Milner, Robert, Doncaster ..	1 0 0
Mather, Miss Sarah, Toxteth-park, Liverpool ..	5 0 0
Owen, Thomas, Medlock-street, Hulme, Manchester ..	1 0 0

## ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

MANCHESTER LADIES' COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the Manchester Ladies' Committee, for forwarding the preparations for the Bazaar about to be held in Covent Garden Theatre, was held in the Council Room of the League, Newall's-buildings, on Tuesday morning, when upwards of sixty ladies were present. Mrs. Woolley took the chair. Mr. George Wilson addressed the committee, and explained at considerable length the arrangements already made by the Council. Mr. Leadbetter then presented £5 on behalf of Mrs. Leadbetter, who was unable to render personal services. Mrs. Woolley addressed the committee with the view of ascertaining their opinions on the best means of furnishing the Manchester stalls at the Bazaar, and suggested that the town should be divided into districts, and that the ladies of the committee should undertake to canvass for contributions to the Bazaar. Mrs. Massey and other ladies approved of the suggestion, which was ultimately adopted. Mr. Prentice addressed the committee, offering various suggestions to the ladies. He suggested the getting of contributions of other articles besides ladies' work,—such as models, minerals, old coins, fossils, and vegetable remains, &c. A conversation afterwards arose, in which the question was considered—“What was to be done with money donations?” The opinion came to was that on no account should such sums be spent in articles for furnishing the stalls, but that it should be kept entire and separate. Mrs. Woolley suggested the desirability of ladies giving their names who were willing to take the charge of stalls, and who were willing to be responsible for goods and articles to be forwarded. Several names were given which, of course, will be published in due time. Arrangements were then made for the canvass. Mrs. Cobden, Mrs. Woolley, and Mrs. Higgins being appointed for the Broughton district; Mrs. J. B. Smith, and other ladies, for Pendleton; Mrs. Armstrong and other ladies for Stocks, Cheetham; Mrs. Swindell, and other ladies, for Victoria-park and Long-sight; Mrs. Rawson, Mrs. Potter, and other ladies, for Ardwick and Stockport-road; and several ladies were named for other districts. Before the committee adjourned it was resolved that an advertisement should be inserted in the newspapers, announcing that a canvass was to be forthwith commenced.

THE BAZAAR.—The history of Bazaars and Fancy Fairs, albeit, patronized by rank, fashion, beauty, and wealth, affords no parallel to the great Free-Trade Bazaar. Never has there been, and never could there be, witnessed, but for the vastness of the object and the mighty interests involved in it, such a combination of the various products that the wealth of our merchants, and the endless resources of our national skill, industry, and research, are enabled to contribute, as will be concentrated into one focus in May next. It will be a truly national spectacle, and it will indeed be a marvel if its contemplation do not impress upon thousands of the countless numbers who will visit that scene the irresistible conviction that skill so varied, and industry so applied, need only be freed from the cruel trammels of a legislation, as unwise as it is unjust, to render England's sons as prosperous in the markets of the world as their consummate combination of skill, industry, enterprise, and perseverance entitle them to be. No one—not even the sternest protectionist breathing, can visit the Free-Trade Bazaar without arriving at the inward, though unwilling, conclusion, that England's commerce, once unfettered, could never suffer from the most unrestricted competition that the world could oppose. We are happy to find that Sussex adds its mite to the good work, and that contributions to the Bazaar will be forwarded from various parts of the county.—*Sussex Advertiser*.

LOUISIANA SUGAR.—Since our last, other specimens of this kind of sugar have been received in Liverpool, two of which were shown us by a gentleman connected with the sugar trade. He informed us that they were of excellent quality, and well suited for this market. Indeed they are samples of a lot shipped before the present change in the law, and which may be expected in Liverpool shortly. The last letters arrived from America estimate the present year's growth of cane sugar at 160,000 blds.—a quantity little short of half the present consumption of the united kingdom; and they state that this quantity is likely to be rather increased than diminished, sugar being at present a more profitable article of growth than cotton. The reduction of the duty on foreign molasses to 8s. 3d. per cwt. will also have the effect of bringing considerable quantities of that useful article from Louisiana.—*Liverpool Times*.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXIII.

## TO “THE UNTAXED FOREIGNER.”

GREAT UNKNOWN!—Who are you? Where are you? Why does the mere sound of your name frighten the British farmer? What is the mode of your existence, and the source of your terrors? How are you able to ruin “farmers' labourers and their families” in the receipt of only 7s. a week? Are you “raw head and bloody bones” dug up from the grave by the Protection Society? Amongst African monopolists is your name Mumbo Jumbo? In what dreadful form do you become visible? Is it that of a cargo of wheat, or a stave of beefwood? By what incantations are you raised from the infernal regions? Must we first sup on Richmond's salmon, then drink Richmond's whisky, and finally read Richmond's speeches, to see and feel your incubus presence? To evoke you, must we say the Lord's prayer backwards, especially the petition for daily bread? By what magic does the “coronetted fishmonger” and gin-spinner render you palpable and powerful, thus disproving the suspicion of his being no conjuror? Has “Granny” ever seen your awful presence? Can you be made a show of, for the benefit of distressed landlords, with a pole and a placard, and the duke to stir you up, as a creature “never to be tamed by the art of man?” “O answer me; let us not burst in ignorance;” I should rather say “starve in ignorance,” for while the panic of your name is so potent, there will be little bursting amongst the peasantry, save the bursting out of flames and curses.

I should like to ferret you out. May “the untaxed foreigner” be chased and caught, without infringing the game laws? Is there no poaching upon his grace's manors in using your name for any other purpose than that of terrifying the farmer and taxing the public? Do tell us where you live? Remember, we have some power of annoyance. Your letters shall be opened at the Post-office, and your untaxedness, which is a species of treason, reported to your own Government. The duke shall propose a heavy duty upon you, in his threatened emendation of the Tariff. Your position is perilous! To be “untaxed” is to be a monster in the world, which all legitimate tax-eaters, all lords of the Treasury, like one of the duke's brothers and one (in expectancy) of his sons, all functionaries of the Foreign-office, like another of the duke's sons, and all grooms of the Bedchamber, like another of the duke's brothers, should combine to extirpate, and, as Lord Bacon says, to “damn and send to hell for ever all facts and opinions tending to the support of the same.” And yet—that must not be. You are too valuable to be destroyed. You are as useful to the monopolists as “the Corsican,” whose name first income-taxed us, was to the Anti-Jacobins. You are “untaxed,” for our taxation. You must live for the life of the Corn Laws. The Central Protection Society will protect you over the world's circumference. Only come not here. The slave that touches British ground is free; but the foreigner that touches British ground is taxed.

There is not a country in Europe where the land does not bear a larger share of the burdens of the state than in Great Britain. At the commencement of the last century the proportion, here and abroad, was nearly equal. The land-tax then produced 38 per cent. of the total revenue of the country. Our Richmonds have worked it down to less than four per cent. Even in the United States the agricultural section of the people is at a disadvantage so long as their tariff lasts, in comparison with the manufacturing section. There our cotton-spinners are “the untaxed foreigner.” The loom is protected at the expense of the plough; and in relation to us, every foreigner who has ought to sell, is necessarily taxed by the cost of transit. A natural tax is upon him, and ocean levies its fiscal dues unrelentingly. You are only a chimera after all. “There's no such thing.” You are invented by the selfsame ingenuity that discovered or fabricated monopolist principles in Adam Smith's “Wealth of Nations.”

What the items are, in the 430 minima of impost, to the repeal of which exceptions will be taken, does not yet appear. They have to be sought for by the microscopic eye of class cupidity.

\* After the pledges he had given in that House, and which he intended to fulfil, he was bound, when the measure for remitting taxes came up to their lordships, to move to expunge all those clauses which were for the benefit of the untaxed foreigner and brought ruin upon farmers' labourers and their families.—*Speech of the Duke of Richmond in the House of Lords, March 4. (From the Times).*—Real Glenlivet Whisky. This celebrated and unequalled whisky, produced in Glenlivet, upon the estate of His Grace the Duke of Richmond, is now for the first time publicly introduced into London, under the patronage of His Grace.—Andrew Usher and Co. of Edinburgh, established there for 25 years, the sole consignors, beg to announce that they have established at 1, Northumberland street, Strand, a depot for the sale of the above unequalled whisky in its native purity and strength. By His Grace's permission the ducal arms on the seal and label will distinguish the real Glenlivet from all others.

Will that ought; for the dieted ex the propo duke's do labourer's and their vention. humanity.

If the their nerve “the dev they migh you can do It was a p paying pri it was at much mor taxed fore the trick o loudest. afford to b are no sim prosperous presents 1 that the m to be reliev stimulate would ten potatoes” thus make The farmer all the bet and richer Corn Law Richmond be only a b

When th was argue as to indu That pret petitioned worn out. and a half are told th trides are can be pro Richmond. And these under the p and his fa analysis, an It stares de But they asters.

as you have reated in worth is kn plank of M learn to lau the farmers. must come cultural ind longer. Ru will exclaim that, we sh reigner” as for Britons.

## VICTIMS

I To n Sim.—Last you, in which and as a farm “protection.” Labourer, and “Corn-Law far with a small a bare, while it deceived you; your confiden put its hand in took your pur the bank and rent of 23 per and again, alw unsating tern expected of it; uvin; that p against man, c po let fullest I do not w uo's diffiden being thus per of misant pri is formed of at of nature the explain a nat urialize. An he shall obl of my boyhood right to expose times if I can



Will that of greaves be amongst the number? It ought; for why should not British hounds be dieted exclusively on British produce? At present, the proposition stands for allowing you to feed the duke's dogs, although you are forbidden to feed the labourer's children. A nice distinction: the dogs and their families will not be ruined by your intervention. The free supply of food is only perilous to humanity.

If the farmers would but look at you steadily, their nerves would soon recover. A proverb says, "the devil is not so black as he is painted;" and they might find you not so very dark. The worst you can do is to perpetuate the present cheapness. It was a paying price fifty years ago, and would be a paying price again were rent to retrograde to what it was at that period. The untaxed landlord is much more formidable to the farmer than the "untaxed foreigner." All this abuse of you is simply the trick of the pilferer who cries "stop thief!" the loudest. You are the friend of all who cannot afford to buy as much food as they desire; and they are no small number even at this comparatively prosperous season, when the Duke of Richmond presents petitions against cheapness, and argues that the manufacturing population is doing too well to be relieved from taxation. Your supplies would stimulate trade and enlarge consumption. You would teach the millions who still "rejoice upon potatoes" to require wheaten bread. You would thus make customers for our home producers. The farmer and the farmer's labourer would be all the better for you: they would have an ampler and richer market, and no longer be indebted to Corn Laws for that support which the Duke of Richmond says they yield, but which, if it be so, can be only a beggarly and dishonest subsistence.

When the Corn Laws were originally proposed, it was argued that they would so stimulate production as to induce abundance and permanent cheapness. That pretext is finally abolished. Cheapness is now petitioned against and denounced. The mask is worn out. Another has replaced it. With a million and a half of persons helped by the poor-rates, we are told that provisions are too cheap. The merest trifles are not to be sold duty free, if such trifles can be produced on the property of his Grace of Richmond. He will "bear no rival near" the shop. And these dirty and odious pretensions are veiled under the pretext that you will damage the labourer and his family. The reasoning is too flimsy for analysis, and the hypocrisy too palpable for exposure. It stares detection out of countenance.

But they will work you awhile yet, these hardy asserters. You will be trotted out in the Commons, as you have been in the Lords. You will be traversed in tracts and reiterated in reports. Your worth is known, and you will be clung to as the last plank of Monopoly. The very factory children will learn to laugh at seeing how your shadow terrifies the farmers. And at length, for all such deceptions must come to an end, the game will be up by agricultural industry resolving to be humbugged no longer. Rubbing its eyes and raising its voice, it will exclaim, "Avaunt, thou Bugaboo!" After that, we shall hear no more of "the untaxed foreigner" as the demon who necessitates taxed bread for Britons.

#### A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

#### VICTIMS OF PROTECTION.—LETTERS TO INDIVIDUAL SUFFERERS.

##### THIRD LETTER.

To my old Master, Mr. W. T., of B.

Sir,—Last week I published two letters, addressed to you, in which I spoke of what you, as a landowner's son and as a farmer, have suffered from what is falsely called "protection." Also, upon what my father, as a farm-labourer, and his family suffered on your farm by that Corn-Law famine in the dear years, which pinched us with a small allowance of bad food, and made our backs bare, while it professed to protect you, and all the while deceived you; that protection which insinuated itself into your confidence by the plea of friendship, and secretly put its hand in your pocket and smiled in your face as it took your purse; that protection which bade you go to the bank and get a few more hundreds to make up the rent of £3 per acre; which whispered you to go again, and again, always telling you in the most bland and insinuating terms that the Corn Law would do the duty expected of it—that you would get all your money back again; that protection which so unnaturally sets man against man, class against class, by filling the rich man's pocket full when the working man's belly is empty.

I do not write these letters without reluctance and much diffidence. I feel the delicacy of personal affairs being thus written of. But all public affairs are composed of innumerable personal circumstances, just as the great globe is formed of atoms. To learn and elucidate the operations of nature the chemist must analyze; to understand and explain a nation's welfare or its woe, we must particularize. And have I no right to deal with this subject? He shall obliterate from my memory the famine years of my boyhood, and their consequences? And have I no right to expose to nakedness and shame the causes of such famine if I can?

But my present object is with what the farmers suffer, not the labourers alone. And first, of fluctuating prices.

To glance over a table of prices for fifty years we see the "ups and downs" of corn to be very frequent and very abrupt. An eminent publisher of maps in London has given to the world a map of the prices of wheat from 1790 to 1840. The map also contains the fluctuations of the public funds; and the amount of bank notes issued in each year; the revenue and expenditure of the Government; the value of the goods exported out of, and imported into, the United Kingdom; together with remarks of peace or war, or other circumstances causing fluctuations. The map was not published for or against the Corn Law; but it is nevertheless eminently useful as an assistant expositor of the national disasters arising from famine. I shall here endeavour to give you a view of it.

The lowest average of a year's prices of wheat between 1790 and 1810 is 40s. per quarter. This was the average of 1792 and of 1835. And that is taken as the base line divided into fifty parts: one part for each of the fifty years. From each year there rises a pyramid, or a small mound, or, as the case may be, a gigantic tower, shooting up abruptly from a deep valley, and the top of each elevation rises to the point to which the average prices of that year rose. The scale of ascent being by intervals of 5s. per quarter; each advance of 5s. measuring about the twelfth of an inch on paper.

All persons interested in securing equal prices, and in putting agriculture on a sure foundation, should study this map. The causes that affected prices before 1815 are not precisely the same as those after; but it was to perpetuate the high unequal prices that preceded 1815 that the Corn Law of that year was enacted.

And first, you must admit that equitable prices are of the greatest value to the farmer. To know in any given year what the price of his corn will be the next year, or that time five years, or that time ten or fifteen years, would be worth much more to him, as regards his rent, his plans for making a profit, and his plans of improving his land than any chance, however sure, that at some time or other, yet not knowing when, some year of high prices will occur.

Move with me in imagination over an uneven space of ground, and let us compare it with the passage of the farmers over the space of time between 1790 and 1845.

Let us suppose ourselves at the cove just above the seabeach, and that we have to journey westward to the sands at Thorntonlosh. There is a good, smooth, hard, level road, if we choose to turn into it. Common sense would suggest to us that our comfort and convenience, and even the safety of our lives, would decide us in favour of the even road, instead of going down among the rocks and precipices which lie on the other side of us.

It is pointed out to us that everything comes to a level at last, that all nature adjusts itself to an even scale in course of time, however much men in their folly may disarrange it; but another "friend" advises us to go the other way. We stand, as it were, upon the ground of 50s., the price of 1790, and we are going to the point of 45s. in 1845. There is not much difference in altitude between the two; and we would never have known there was any difference at all had we come by the even road.

But we submit to the guidance of our very kind friend. Our first movement is down. The year '91 gives us 45s.; the year '92 gives us but 40s. We next rise, and '93 gives us 45s. "Come on," says our friend, "the year '91 will give you more." And it does so; it gives us 50s. And now for a lift. All at once, in '95, we are up to 75s. How we love our friend, and shout for him and vote for him now! And the next year, '96, is the same. We may fancy ourselves secure, and sure for ever of 75s.; but we are only on one of those abutting precipices which lie in our road, as if some fairy had lifted us from the level and put us there. We are all at once dashed down to the level of the beach, and there we sprawl for two years, '97 and '98, at 50s. We sprawl only because we are bruised by the fall. Had we never been higher we would have known no fall, and had no bruises.

I have a shrewd suspicion our friend had his hand in our pockets while we were prostrated; but he befriends us again, and we rise in '99 to 65s. We begin to rejoice once more, and are so full of spirits that we rejoice to mount on the top of one of those fantastic pinnacles of rocks that have been erected on the line of our rough road in some great convulsion of nature. You have seen the pinnacles near Bilsdean shore. Well, we are on one of them in 1800, and its height is 110s. Five pounds ten shillings! How we shout now, and wave our hats, and dine, and drink, and dance, and hunt, and vote, and raise the price of corn. And next year, in 1801, we rise a step higher, and stand on the giddy pinnacle of 115s. The year 1802 is before us, and we cannot miss it. We got up; how are we to get down? The famine-stricken labourers—such as my father and his family—the hecatombs of famine victims gnash their teeth and cry in vain for bread. But, secure in our guide, we heed them not; when, all at once, we are in that gorge below, which is 50s. deep, though still 15s. above the point we first started from. Yet to leap from this wild turret of convulsed nature the whole depth of 50s. is a leap indeed. But down we must, and down we come. We plunge from 115s. to 65s.

Bruised and broken, we groan and cry of our distress. Our pockets are turned inside out while we lie there helpless. All our plans are frustrated. Our farms go to

weeds and wreck; not because sixty-five shillings would not pay, but because we have been hurled from one hundred and fifteen shillings, upon which we reared our lofty heads.

And now our bruised bodies are rolled into a deeper gully of the broken rocks in 1803. Here we once more sink to 55s.

Every penny that we got in our glory we have lost in our humiliation. We crawl to our feet, still holding by our guide, and we move a step. In 1804 we reach 60s. Our guide tells us to cheer up, he is always our friend; and we do cheer up, and reach the point of 85s. in 1805. Once more we rejoice; but once more we are rolled down. The fall, however, is more moderate: 75s. in 1806; 70s. in 1807; and 75s. in 1808. In 1809, we take a flight to 95s.; and in the following year, 1810, we get five above the even hundred. Five pounds five shillings the quarter is again the price; and we hope to go higher, but go the other way. Not so far, however, as we fell from some other precipices. We are caught on a ledge of the rocky point. We have only fallen in 1811 to the distance of 95s.

But here stands 1812 before us, the pinnacle of the temple. And Bonaparte or the Devil, or both together, with our particular friend, our guide, take us to the pinnacle of our glory, one hundred and twenty five shillings.

Now, thought the men of money, is the time to take farms and buy estates. Branxton was bought at this time. Consols, which were at 98 when wheat was 50s. in 1790, were now at 64; that is, the public debt or credit of the nation sunk to 64.

We fell, first to 105s. in 1813; and then, oh what a fall! to 70s. in 1814; and we writhed in our agony into 65s. in 1815.

It might have been supposed we had broken bones enough in this rough road, and that we would have been glad to get out of it. But no. Gambling has a mysterious charm in it, especially to those who have lost and have still something to lose. We got the Corn Law of that year to perpetuate what we had suffered in the previous twenty-five years, and in 1816 we reached 75s. This was the first bad harvest in my recollection; and that of the year following, 1817, was still worse. Wheat now rose to 95s.; and that it no rose for the last time, let us pray to God and give thanks.

Then, with this Corn Law we rolled down to 85s. in 1818; to 70s. in 1819; to 65s. in 1820; to 55s. in 1821; and to 45s. in 1822.

There we groaned and cried aloud; not complaining of the mad career we had pursued; but because we having gone aloft in our journey had to descend.

The year 1823 gives a slight rise, and things look up. The Legislature promises a rise, and rents are calculated accordingly. You believe, and contract to pay £3 per acre for Branxton, which is not worth more than £2 per acre. In any county of England south of Yorkshire, such a farm as Branxton would not be taken at more than 30s. per acre, including tithe and poor-rates. Such is the difference between Scotch contracts and English; between the value of land where security of tenure and equality of rent and prices are comparatively good, as in Scotland, and where they are bad, as in England. Rents paid by the prices of corn protect the Lothian farmers from excessive loss by fluctuations; and leases secure them in the profit of their improvements, and give to them an improving spirit. They accordingly pay rents from 50 to 100 per cent. higher than the same quality of land pays in England.

But you made the mistake of contracting to pay a fixed money rental, without regard to the prices of corn. I know you put faith in the promise of future high prices. You were deceived: 1824 gave a price of 60s.; 1825 gave 65s. But 1826 gave only 55s.; and 1827 the same. 1828 and 1829 gave respectively 60s. and 65s.; 1830 and 1831 continued the last amount. But 1832 and 1833 gave only 55s. each. 1834 saw you running to the bank to draw out your money to pay the laird his rent, because wheat was only 45s.; and the following year, 1835, with wheat at 40s., saw you do the same.

Now, bear in mind, you had the old Corn Law, which engaged that you should never have less than 64s. You had your guide, that farmers' friend, "protection." And it protected you in your rough road, by getting you down on your back, and rifling your pockets, and by compelling you to go to the bank with your deposit receipts to draw out your money to pay the high rent which protection induced you to promise.

But the impossibility of investing money in the cultivation of the soil was the greatest disadvantage. From 1835 prices rose to 60s. in 1836; to 65s. in 1837; to 60s. in 1838; to 70s. in 1839; and fell to 65s. in 1840. With varying changes we have wheat now at 45s., or from that to 50s.

We have arrived at the point I bade you look to. Would it not have been better to have travelled by the even road, instead of coming over the precipices so often raised up to be as often knocked down and robbed, and left with broken head and empty pockets?

The more extensive the space from which supplies to market are brought, the more equal will the supply of the market be.

And remember, the prices of food depend upon the ability of the consumers of food to buy it and pay for it, as well as upon the quantity supplied to market.

Whenever corn has fallen to a moderate price, the national trade has flourished and wages have advanced. So also has the revenue of the country. When people have not to pay all their money away for bread, they buy butchers' meat, and sugar and tea, and the various other things that make commerce profitable and the Government strong and rich.

The liberation and extension of commerce is the true conservatism of England, and the best protection to agriculture. I am your old servant, and

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### NOTES OF A TRAVELLER.—No. XVIII.

##### BERLIN EXPOSITION OF MANUFACTURES.

The lower saloon at the exhibition impressed me, as I said, with a conviction which the remaining apartments fully confirmed. It was impossible to deny that the Germans are as well able to devise and to execute machinery and all other objects of art as their neighbours. What impedes their efforts is, in most cases, the want of the raw or half-manufactured material. Is it not a serious drawback to the machinist, to the cutler, and every higher branch of industry depending on a supply of iron, that raw iron cannot be produced excepting under a protecting duty of £1 per ton, in addition to the cost of carriage from abroad, while bars and rods suitable to the manufacture of machinery are loaded with a duty of £3 per ton, and rolled wheel tires, so much in demand for railroad carriages, are subject to the same burden?

If we trace this evil to its root, it will be found so intimately interwoven with the social habits of the people, and even with the financial policy of the Government, that a rapid change cannot be deemed practicable. The Governments, however, have it in their power to facilitate and hasten the change; and such a policy, besides its useful influence on the habits and interests of the people, would improve the revenue far more rapidly than their present system. I have in former letters drawn attention to the bad economy in the distribution of the power employed in agriculture. The vast number of hands employed in raising food is what diminishes the supply of metals and of other raw materials, and renders it difficult to prepare them cheaply for the finishing branches of manufacture. Since there can be little doubt that Germany, even now, would annually consume double the quantity of iron, and of nearly every other product that is now in use there, if they were furnished at a moderate price, and in shapes suited to the wants of the people, it is clear that a great privation on the part of the consumers, and a serious loss to the revenue, result from the present system of excluding supplies from abroad that cannot be obtained at home. The most striking illustration of the truth of this assertion was given me some days back, in conversation, by an engineer, who was deputed by one of the larger states to examine and report upon the Dalkey and Dublin Railway. He declared that the only objection that he could find to the immediate adoption of the atmospheric pressure tube in his country was, the additional quantity of iron which accompanied it. "This," he added, "may do very well with your prices, but with ours it is out of the question." This gentleman, at least, felt the inconvenience attaching to the protective system, as it is called, but evidently wanted courage to submit it in that light to his Government.

That the root of the evil lies in the agricultural system has been pointed out by many German writers, and has of late formed a theme of declamation in the *Augsburg Gazette*, for the notorious Dr. Litz. The remedy proposed by this writer, who seems proud of standing alone in the opinions he puts forth, is, that under the wing of protection manufactures can be brought up that will afterwards bear the brunt of competition. It seems more natural to allow the industrious classes to choose their own way of proceeding, which would exactly invert the process of the protectionists, and, by admitting half-manufactured products at the lowest duty that the revenue can afford, would foster the artistic turn for which the nation is celebrated.

In the central compartment of the upper story, the earthenware manufacture was displayed. A remarkably beautiful vase from the Royal Atelier (it cannot be called a factory) at Berlin, six feet six inches in height, with gilt arabesques in relief, and richly covered with flowers painted on a purple ground, was the most conspicuous object. Two other vases, with battle scenes, and some imitations of Majolica, testified to the skill of the artists. Some of these objects, it was said, were intended as presents for England. The show, on the whole, although the Saxon factory at Meissen contributed, was anything but brilliant. The forms of cups and dessert services were rather ancient, and showed that the demand for such is very limited. The few earthenware services that were exhibited had still less to recommend them in point of shape, and in price betrayed the lulling influence of the prohibitive duties that are levied on these objects. The duty on white earthenware is 10s. per cwt., on coloured 30s. per cwt., or about 100 per cent. Hardtmuth and Co., of Vienna, exhibited tableware glazed without metallic ingredients. In glass the show was far less brilliant than might have been expected. Only one Bohemian manufactory sent specimens. The rest were from Steglitz's factory on the Bavarian side of the Bohemian Forest, and from Count Schöngers's factory in Silesia. This article furnishes the most striking proof of the artistic turn which

the German industry would take if not meddled with by the Legislature, which, however, by no means precludes the chance of rivalry in England, if our excise taxation were less absurd than it is. The white glass appeared to me to be all inferior to our own, which notoriously finds an extensive sale in Germany, the duty on uncut glass being but 9s. per cwt. Plate glass was exhibited in looking-glasses of all sizes; this is also a protected article, and is decidedly inferior to the plate glass of both France and England. For an article indispensable in this manufacture the English are tributary to the Germans: the foil used for covering the glass being produced in large quantities in the neighbourhood of Nuremberg, and exported from Hamburg; the sale of this article is, of course, impeded by the restrictions on the sale of the glass. In this apartment the ornaments in the newly-invented materials for decorating rooms, and for other architectural purposes, were displayed. Figures and bas-reliefs from antique designs, or compositions of the artists Rauch and Schinkel, were exhibited in carton pierre, and other compositions. M. Cantian, the royal statuary, exhibited a splendid pillar and plate of polished granite, made out of one of the bowlers that are frequent upon the plain of northern Germany. Marbles were also displayed from Limburg, in the duchy of Nassau, where a branch of industry followed in the prison at Dietz is cutting and polishing this stone. The prices are moderate for these ornamental works, handsome plates not exceeding half-a-crown per square foot. The new manufacture of polished agates, onyxes, &c., established near Creutznach, on the Rhine, exhibited stones prepared for intaglio and cameo cutting in the antique manner, by which the various veins were used to give greater effect to the sculpture. This art is almost lost for modern industry, but will probably be revived now that the materials are made accessible and abundant. Some attempts at galvanic plating and gilding on iron gave no high idea of the skill of the workman; nor were there any specimens shown that gave a notion of the progress which this branch of manufacture has made in Germany. Were the cheapness of hand labour any symptom of its superabundance, this description of manufacture, which requires manual application, would have the best field in these countries; but some experiments in this line would soon clear up the confused notions that prevail on this head in Germany, and that have even spread to England.

Amongst the musical instruments, pianofortes were most numerous exhibited; but in point of quality there was nothing that could rival the tones of the productions of Hertz and Broadwood. Instruments of middling quality are cheaper than in England; and plain grand pianos of fair tone were marked 250 to 400 dollars (£42 to £60). Cabinet and upright forms are less in use in Germany than the plain long grand shape. One organized piano of six octaves, with remarkably good organs, was played upon by the manufacturer. The price was moderate, £25; for it would have served instead of an organ in a middling-sized church.

In striking contrast, both in appearance and in price, to the architectural ornaments that I have mentioned, were the more useful implements required in fitting up houses, such as locks, hinges, bolts, and the thousand necessities that give an appearance of elegant finish to doors and windows. Only one house in Remscheid, near Solingen, had sent anything approaching to English patterns in this description of wares. Were the common run of these articles (that are excluded by the highest rate of duty) exposed at the British Museum, they would excite the wonder of an ironmonger from their primitive shapes and the waste of labour and of materials which they betray. "But," objected a friend, to whom I endeavoured to explain the pleasure it afforded to open a lock by means of a round handle that turned easily in the hand, "you would throw all our locksmiths out of work if these things were made in factories." This is the eternal argument of the advocates of restriction: they beg the whole question by assuming that the present is a sufficient supply.

The conflict between hand labour and machinery is most rife in Germany in those provinces where linen-weaving has for centuries been a constant occupation of the peasant population. It was a curious spectacle that the linen stalls presented, on which nearly the whole history of this branch of fabrication could be traced. The places which sent the most numerous specimens indicated the situation of the rich soils suited to the growth of flax. Silesia furnished mostly hand-spun linen, although samples of machine yarn were sent from three flax-spinneries: that at Landshut, near Leignitz; that of Patzschky, near Dels; and that of Frieberg, near Breslau. The second-named factory exhibited the numbers 30, 40, and 60. There was no lack of half-linen cloths; and in general, in fineness, the Westphalian linen had the advantage. I chatted with a dealer from Bielefeld, in Westphalia, who had some of the finest pieces shown. He was in great place, because two of the best had just been bought by the King in person, who was making a round of the exhibition at the time. The price given was 115 dollars for the piece of 50 ells, or 46 yards, being upwards of 8s. 6d. per yard. Notwithstanding the fineness of the thread, the cloth felt waxy and stiff; as the continental linens usually do. He had some good cloths for which he asked £3, and a piece of cambric that he wanted 40 dollars for (£6). He told me that the greatest attention was now paid by the landowners and peasants in his

neighbourhood to the growth and treatment of flax, which was managed in the Belgian fashion. He did not anticipate the speedy increase of machine-spinning, although a commencement has been made there; but acknowledged that his trade could only be carried on upon a small scale, as long as it depended upon hand-spinning. The coarse sorts of linens and drilles, of which so large a quantity is manufactured in Hanover for exportation, were not represented at the exhibition. The Saxon damask manufacturers, on the other hand, contributed richly to adorn it. Beautiful specimens of jacquard weaving in tablecloths and napkins, as well as in unbleached table-covers, were displayed upon the walls. In this field the handloom weaver has probably for a long time a sure refuge against the encroachments of machinery. Fine table-linen is a favourite object of luxury with the richer classes in Germany, and many of the noble families have cards with their arms pierced, lying at the factories, to be worked when they give orders. The Saxons have shown their usual ingenuity in being the first to appropriate this branch of industry, which, like all other fine fabrics, would receive an impulse from the cheapening of the half-manufactured material. In this case the interest of the German landowner combines with that of the manufacturer against the argument of Dr. Litz; but the views entertained on this subject are too indistinct on all sides to be pressed with energy on the Legislature of the Zollverein states.

The most melancholy object exhibited was yarn of inferior quality from several spinning-schools, for it is impossible not to anticipate suffering from the direction of hand industry to a competition with machinery.

Damasks of mixed linen and cotton were marked at low prices, £1. 10s. to £3 for table-cloth with set of twelve napkins, the former three yards long. Damask of pure cotton did not seem to be exhibited, although manufactured extensively and cheaply in Saxony.

That fine linens, and especially the rich products of the Jacquard loom, would not lose in value if the greatest facility was afforded to the trade in yarn, and in the lower qualities of linen cloths, is best proved by the experience that the increased consumption of cotton has afforded. In this exhibition the two rival products hang side by side, of which fifty years ago many wise men of Gotham no doubt prophesied that the rapidly increasing production of the one would drive the other from the market. There is now little doubt that, if the fine German linens and damasks find a limited sale, it is rather because cotton wares are not cheap enough, than because their cheapness interferes with the consumption of linen. It is a curious fact that, in Germany, the number of cotton and flax spinneries increase in a parallel ratio. The number of cotton-spinning establishments was, in

1837 ..	152 mills, with 125,972 spindles.
1840 ..	160 .. 153,497 ..

The flax-spinning mills numbered,

1837 ..	6 mills, with 14,546 spindles.
1840 ..	2 .. 15,844 ..

At the same time the increase of imports over exports on yarn and coarse linens was considerable. In the three years 1837, 1838, and 1839, the average was, as compared with the three following years, yarn,

	Plain.	Bleached and dyed.	Twist.	Unbleached linen.
1837-39..	7,413 ..	2600 ..	5127 ..	8,920 cwt.
1840-42..	12,657 ..	4888 ..	6506 ..	21,522 ..

The quantity of fine bleached and dyed linen exported exceeds the imports in the same periods, a result with which the country had the best reason to be satisfied:—

1837-39..	Excess of exports 81,137 cwt.
1840-42..	.. .. 76,693 ..

That the result has been an increased demand for cloths, which without a facility for obtaining yarn could not have been gratified, is evident from other returns than the list of exports. The number of handlooms worked for trade increased from 1837 to 1840 by 2091 in Prussia alone. Those worked as secondary to other occupations increased by 8147. The stocking looms for thread hose increased by 280. An addition to the handlooms for linen weaving is, perhaps, in the present state of machinery, unavoidable. If hand-weaving took, as in Saxony, a higher department, the hand-weavers would, in every branch of weaving, avoid the competition with machinery, which they cannot support. But the additions stated to have been made to the handlooms for weaving cotton of 9216, between 1837 and 1840, being an augmentation in the ratio of 100 to 121, cannot be viewed with the same satisfaction. When we hear that the greatest increase has been in the circles of Breslau and Liegnitz in Silesia, and in Westphalia, we are not at a loss to explain the distress that led to the riots of last summer. These figures and statements are taken from the recently published work of M. Diederich, the president of the statistical bureau at Berlin. I have gone somewhat at length into them from the supposition that the work will not so speedily reach England. It surpasses in interest the former volumes that emanated from this bureau, both in completeness of the details and in the candour which pervades all the statements. I had the pleasure of making the author's acquaintance during my stay at Berlin, and was delighted with the liberal views and statesmanlike bearing of a man called to one of the most important offices of the Government. The following notices are interesting respecting the progress of the cotton manufacture in the Zollverein

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The importation for consumption averaged in the three years annually,

	Raw Cotton.	Yarn.	Twist.	Cloths.
1837-39 ..	223,606..	359,306..	6759 ..	16,642 cwt.
1840-42 ..	306,691..	447,711..	6130..	15,581 ..

The exports were:—

	Raw Cotton.	Yarn.	Twist.	Cloths.
1837-39 ..	44,985..	31,020..	21,607..	90,535 cwt.
1840-42 ..	65,829..	31,378..	21,590..	85,791 ..

We see here the natural efforts making to appropriate an important branch of industry, while the circumstances are such that the price will not allow of exportation. The country is evidently better supplied than it was formerly with clothing, but the high price the consumer has to pay for the benefit is shown by the diminished exports to countries that can supply themselves on better terms.

The state of cotton-spinning is shown in the following list of spinning-machines now at work within the Zollverein. M. Diederici remarks that many of these machines are on a small scale, and are worked by hand. Steam and water power are only used in Silesia and Rhenish Prussia, at Ethlingen in Baden, and at Augsburg. The returns are only complete and official for Prussia:—

1837. Prussia ..	152 mills, with 125,972 spindles.
1840. Do. ..	160 .. 153,497 ..
Bavaria .. ..	.. .. 40,000 ..
Saxony .. ..	113 .. 370,805 ..
Wurtemberg ..	12 .. 33,000 ..
Hohenzattem ..	2 .. 11,000 ..
Sigmaringen } ..	.. .. 38,000 ..
Biden .. ..	6 .. 6,000 ..
Elect. Hesse ..	2 .. 56 ..
Gd. Duchy of Hesse	1 .. 3,300 ..
Gera .. ..	1 .. 2,700 ..
Luxemburg .. ..	1 .. ..

658,358 spindles.

The distribution of these mills has been chiefly fixed by the industrious habits of the people in the various localities where they are situated. Natural advantages have been overlooked in some of the largest, as, for instance, in Augsburg, where the severe winter prevents the use of water power for several months in the year, and no coals are found in the neighbourhood. The means of transport have nowhere been well calculated. Chemnitz, in Saxony, lies nearly a three months' voyage up the Elbe from Hamburg; Augsburg has 150 miles of land carriage from Mannheim, the nearest point of unloading on the Rhine. Ethlingen, and the Silesian mills, are somewhat better situated, and the latter are near the eastern markets. But all the establishments in central Germany are so disadvantageously placed that no English factory could subsist under the circumstances. The people, on the other hand, are too poor to be able to pay for these abuses, which have their source in the protecting system; and the result is nothing but loss to capitalists, and false inducement to journey men to embark their labour, which is their capital, in weaving at prices that leave them no profit.

The cotton manufacture of Germany was not brilliantly represented at the exhibition, but perhaps on that account the more fairly. The great printing establishments in Elberfeld, Augsburg, Silesia, and the Saxon mountainous districts, all sent specimens. The calicoes and ginghams were nearly all imitations of French patterns, which they equalled in neatness and brilliancy of the tints. In the shops in the streets newer patterns from Alsace certainly formed no favourable point of comparison; but by the spinning Leipzig and Frankfurt fairs these patterns will be domesticated in Germany. The French, like the German, printer is forced, by the difficulty he finds in obtaining the cloth on moderate terms, to work for a small market. The limited number of pieces that he prints off, in order to keep an *courant* with the fashion, necessarily increases his outlay in the designing department; for the finished product is, as the statistical returns prove, too dear for exportation. Instead of raising the limit of protection, which thus becomes necessary from year to year, it would be wiser policy to allow a free current of trade in the under regions, by which the printer would be enabled to compete with his neighbours, and to extend his sale.

The only novelty in the cotton manufacture was the introduction of panels of gold ground into a furniture piece exhibited by the old establishment, Schaepler and Hartmann, of Augsburg. A second specimen came from Beckmuhl and Co.'s factory at Elberfeld. The price of this article, which is understood not to be as yet in the market, was stated at 18l. 20s. for the Drabant ell, or about 2s. 10d. per yard. Furniture chintzes, of tasteful patterns, and of the French width (1½ yard), ranged from 4s. to 9d. per yard. Muslins (Jaconets) were marked at the same, which, as a wholesale price, just equals the sum to which the duty raises English prices. In general, I have found the objection to English prints lie in the pattern, for which the French are preferred, even at a higher price. The muslins exhibited on this occasion, however, allowed of no comparison, either for variety of texture or for beauty of colouring, with the products of the English loom in the season of 1844, when for the first time they had a decided advantage over the French. This I cannot but attribute to the difficulty which the French must feel in competing with our manufacturers, now that attention is drawn to the importance of taste in design. A bias given to the education of factory directors

and their assistants would allow our manufacturers to reap the full benefit, from the excellent organization which they have achieved in other respects.

O that branch of the cotton manufacture which employs 150 000 handlooms, and numberless diminutive dyeing and hand-printing establishments, in Germany, under the aegis of the protecting duties, there were no specimens exhibited. The last link to which village costume now holds in this lilliputian manufacture, in which the dyes of the neighbouring villages that custom has prescribed for head-gear and neckerchiefs, can be studied. The skill of the German dyers has opened them a market in the Levant; and brilliant specimens of Turkey red, both in cottons and woollens, distinguished some lots that were said to be destined for the Levant trade.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the EDITOR of the LEAGUE.

University Club, March 11.

SIR,—Strange as it may seem, the following passage is to be found in the last number of the "Westminster Review":—"The British duty upon foreign wool has been gratuitously given up at a moment when it might perhaps have been held more advantageously in reserve as a concession to be made for some equivalent; so that on this view we have thrown a benefit away." What benefit have we ever derived from a bad system, and what equivalent do we want for a good one? The principle here involved is that of economical restriction and retaliation. Bentham never lashed anything more posterous than what is here recommended by a Benthamite. "So long," says the same writer, "as no well-defined treaty of commercial reciprocity between the Zollverein and England exists, so long can the latter feel no security that the duties on British exports to the Zollverein states will not be still further augmented, unless we, on our part, show ourselves prepared to negotiate upon terms of a really liberal, comprehensive, and enlightened policy." If a butcher were to sign a reciprocity treaty with a baker, would it be an enlightened policy to any one but the lawyer who was paid for drawing up the contract? What is reciprocity but protection with another name? "If we will not do this," he adds, we have assuredly no right to make it a reproach to the Zollverein that it pursues its own course, without reference to our own interests," &c.; and he claims a sort of right to be put on the same footing with the most favoured nations, as if it were a crime in Prussia to neglect our interests, and no crime to neglect those of other nations; as if we could reasonably ask her to do to others the very thing we blame her for doing to us; or as if "self-love and social are the same," were not as true of communities as of individuals. We may thank fiscal philanthropy for this twaddle. Would it be believed that the first article in this number of the review contains an able and elaborate exposition of that system for which "Pigot and Say" contended in vain? We are told by this reviewer that the balance of trade is against Germany because she imports more than she exports, justifying the complaint so often made by German writers, that we would inundate them with goods without taking anything in return—a sort of generosity somewhat irreconcilable with the selfishness they impute to us. But this is not all. The reviewer declares that, if our overtures for a commercial treaty were rejected, we should be "justified in charging the Zollverein with systematic hostility to British commercial interests," and that an injustice has been inflicted on our iron-masters by the preference accorded to Belgian iron. Here we see the blunders of nations made the causes of universal enmity. If what is here asserted be true, of England in relation to Prussia, it must be true of every nation similarly situated. In other words, it must be true of all nations, for all governments are foolish enough to think that they can do business for their merchants better than the merchants themselves. If other countries grumble, they are enemies; if their own, they are rebels. This may be satisfactory doctrine with diplomats and soldiers, but it will hardly be relished by manufacturers, who are to pay for both these luxuries. After this—and there is plenty more of the same stuff—we need not be surprised that the editor should be a friend to the sugar duties. Humanity pleads for the sugar-grower, and the sugar-grower pleads for humanity. Utilitarians and Conservatives are at last reconciled to each other. "Class interests" are found to promote "the greatest happiness of the greatest number;" and Mr. Goulburn is as much the "labourer's friend" in Jamaica as Mr. Banks in Dorsetshire. The planter has a right to demand "facilities, yet withheld, of obtaining a needful supply of free labour, &c.—the rights of man have the right of precedence even of Free Trade." What equitable facilities have been denied? We have no more right to take part with capital against labour in our dependencies than with labour against capital at home. Rights of man, indeed! Why! this begs the whole question. The monopoly of the planter violates these rights. The immigration loan is doubly unjust. It is voted by those it benefits, and is paid by those it injures. It is a pity that Lord John Russell was misled by Mr. Goulburn's fallacy on this point. Colonial duties upon exports fall ultimately on the negro. They raise the price of imports, and lower the wages of labour. Thus he who is to suffer by competition is taxed to promote it. Our conduct is equally ridiculous and despicable. The humanity of our Custom-house is more absurd than the sumptuary laws of old; and the statute of wages was less iniquitous than the immigration project of our colonies.

I have the honour, &c., E. S. A.

#### SUGAR DUTIES.

Hall of Commerce, Feb. 24.

SIR,—I regret to see, by what passed in the House of Commons on Monday week, that Sir Robert Peel adheres to the high differential duties on sugars which he announced on bringing forward his financial statement. I was, with a great many others, in hopes that he had only thrown over the S. d. as a lure, which on more mature

consideration, or by strong pressure from without, he would have been prepared to reduce.

It is decidedly a move in the wrong direction from his proposition of last year, as 9s. 4d. to 14s. is a much greater protection than 10s. to 24s. If he had proposed that it should have been 7s.—say 14s. to 21s.—it would have been much more palatable.

Our possessions in what are called the West Indies may be classed in three divisions—Jamaica, Barbadoes and contiguous islands, Trinidad, and Demerara, &c. Jamaica has been in our possession for nearly two centuries; Barbadoes and most of the others for very long periods; but Trinidad and Demerara, where the Gladstones have large possessions, were conquered by us during the last war; and neither by the terms of their capitulation, nor from any other cause, are they entitled to levy "black mail" on the people of Great Britain.

The Mauritius was conquered by us about thirty-five years ago. Its trade was then, and had been for many years, at the very lowest ebb; and it continued in pretty much the same state until we thought proper, as an act of grace and charity, to equalize the duties on their sugar with that imported from our old colonies in the West Indies. From that time their produce has rapidly increased, from the average of five years preceding the reduction of about two thousand tons up to forty thousand tons which Sir R. Peel states we are to have from thence this year. During the twenty years since the reduction of duties we have imported from the Mauritius about 125 thousand tons of sugar, for which, in consequence of the monopoly, we paid at least £20 a ton more than we ought, making an aggregate amount of two millions and a half of money, or probably twice the value of the island.

As they can now obtain Hill Coolie labourers in any numbers, we may consider that the forty thousand tons with which we are threatened this year may be indefinitely increased, so that the discriminating duties, if they should be continued, will extract from the hard earnings of our own people about half a million per annum.

But it may be said, look at your exports; see what a portion of them is consumed in the Mauritius. Well, let us look at them, and what do we find? That in the last twenty years they amounted in round numbers to five millions sterling, which, at £20 per cent. profit, would give one million; but as the expenses of our military and other establishments, leaving out of consideration any proportion of our naval expenses, would amount in the same period to at least a million and a half, it seems that we are thus minus a half million in addition to the five millions that we have paid as an extorted price for their sugars. It may be very well to talk of "ships, colonies, and commerce," but such a colony as this under the protective system cannot but be a heavy drag upon our prosperity.

From its position on the highway from the Cape of Good Hope to India and America, and the excellence of its harbour, it may be of some value to us as a naval station, but we found it very troublesome to us in the last war; and we had better be at the expense of an occasional reconquest, than to be annually mulcted as we are and are likely to be.

If we are to continue the possession of it, we are fairly entitled to call on the Mauritians to defray all their internal expenses, whether civil or military, when they would probably find that many salaries and charges with which they are now burdened might be either dispensed with, or very considerably reduced.

I also see, by Sir Robert Peel's statement, that we are to expect 70 thousand tons of sugar from the East Indies. Up to the time of the assimilation of the duties, we used to import about 60 thousand cwt. We have thus increased the quantity to about 2½ times that amount, which, as they have free labour at the very lowest cost, ought to satisfy the planters without their exacting from us the additional £700,000 a year, that the differential duties will give to them.

I see with great pleasure that the planters are beginning to stir themselves in making improvements in the manufacture of sugar: I have no doubt that they will find it can be produced at a very considerable reduction of expense; and if some of those proprietors, such as the Earl of Harwood, the Duke of Buckingham, Lord St. Vincent, the Marquis of Sligo, &c. &c., would go out and live on their estates, it would no doubt add to the respectability of colonial society: we could very well spare them for a longer or shorter time from old England.

St. Pancras, Chichester, Sussex, Feb. 19.

SIR,—In order to give you some idea how petitions in favour of the existing Corn Laws are got up in the neighbourhood of Chichester, I will relate the inducements held out by a Mr. Carpenter, who is employed by the farmers in procuring signatures to them, to an industrious milkman named Thomas Scatterfield, and which can be verified on oath if required.

Carpenter.—"You are just the man I wanted to see. The farmers have now found out their men are not sufficiently paid, and cannot live on their wages. A labourer said to me the other day, 'I have only two pence per head to keep my family upon for six days, allowing nothing for Sundays.' The farmer says, 'How is this, John?' The man told him the number he had in family, and the amount of his earnings. The farmer replies, 'Bless my soul, you are right; this must be altered.' So we have got up this petition, and, as you cannot write, if you will let me put your name, something will be done for you."

These are the plain facts of the case, of which you can make any use you think proper.

I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

JAMES WILKINSON.

COMMON SENSE & PROTECTION.—The protectionists are fully satisfied that their days are numbered. *The Mark-lane Express* says:—"The Premier, in his financial statement, has corroborated our oft-repeated views of his determination to carry out the principles of 'common sense.'"

JEWISH DISABILITIES.—On Monday night, the Lord Chancellor moved, in the House of Lords, the second reading of a bill for removing the disabilities from members of the Jewish persuasion elected to municipal and corporate offices. There was no opposition to the measure, and several noble lords, including the Chancellor, bore warm testimony to the humanity and loyalty of the Jewish body generally. The bill will doubtless pass, and may be regarded as but a preliminary step to the final admission of Jews to the same civil rights and privileges possessed by other denominations of citizens.

## REVIEW.

*The Supplement to the "Penny Cyclopædia" of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. Article "Agriculture." London: Charles Knight.*

The "Penny Cyclopædia," so called from the original form of its publication, is a truly national work, equally creditable to the enterprise of those by whom it was undertaken, the age in which it has been produced, and the zeal by which it has been supported. There is no need of pronouncing any eulogy upon a work which is known and valued wherever the English language is spoken, but as the publication of a supplement may lead some to suppose that it was required in consequence of some deficiency in the original work, we think it desirable to have it known that this supplement is principally designed to mark the progress which knowledge has made since the Cyclopædia was commenced, with special reference to geographical discoveries and scientific improvements. The editors have also taken the opportunity of elucidating topics which have taken a great hold on the public mind, and excited much anxious discussion while the Cyclopædia was in progress, and to one of the articles belonging to this category, which most ably examines the effect of protection on agriculture, we shall, for the present, confine our attention. The writer begins by examining a question raised first by the French economists, as to the relative value of agriculture and manufactures, which he shows to be a mere worthless play upon words. Both agriculture and manufacture are employments of labour in giving value to that which is worthless, or nearly so.

"Those agricultural products which are articles of food—as bread, the chief of all—are essentials, and the industry of every country is directed to obtaining an adequate supply of such articles, either from the produce of the country or by foreign trade. Some of the various kinds of grain which are used as food are the prime and daily articles of demand in all countries. Agricultural articles which are employed as materials out of which other articles are made, such as cotton, are only in demand in those countries where they can be worked up into a new and profitable form. The varieties of soil and climate render some parts of the world more fit to produce grain, and others more suitable for cotton. Ever since the earliest records of history the people of one country have exchanged their products for the products of other countries; and, if the matter were simply left to the wants and wishes of the great majority of mankind, no one would trouble himself with the question of the relative superiority of the process by which he produces grain or cotton, and the art by which his cotton is turned into an article of dress in some other country, and sent back to him in that new form to be exchanged for grain or more raw cotton. He might not perceive any essential difference in the process of turning the earth, committing the seed to it, and reaping the crop at maturity; and the process by which the raw material which he has produced, such as flax or cotton, is submitted to a variety of operations, the whole of which consist only in giving new forms to the material or combining it with other materials. In both cases man moves or causes motion; he changes the relative places of the particles of matter, and that is all. He creates nothing; he only fashions anew. The amount of his manual labour may be greatly reduced by mechanical contrivances, and perhaps more in what are called manufactures than in what is termed agriculture; so that if the amount of the direct labour of hand is to be the measure of the nature of the thing produced, agricultural products are more manufactures than manufactured articles are. Some branches of agriculture, such as wine-making, indeed belong as much to manufactures, in the ordinary sense of that term, as they belong to agriculture. The cultivation of the vine is an essential part of the process of wine-making; but the making of the wine is equally essential. Indeed there are few agricultural products which receive their complete value from what is termed agriculture. Corn must be carried to the market, it must be turned into flour, and the flour must be made into bread, before the corn is in that shape in which it is really useful. Agriculture, therefore, only does a part towards the process of making bread, though the making of bread is the end for which corn is raised. It is true that in agricultural countries the processes by which many raw products are fashioned to their ultimate purpose, are often carried on by agriculturists, and on the land on which the products are raised. But agriculture, as such, only produces the raw material, corn, flax, grapes, sugar-cane, or cotton. If any agriculturist makes flour, linen, wine, sugar, or cotton-cloth, he does it because he cannot otherwise produce a saleable commodity; but the making of flour or wine or cloth is a manufacturing operation, as the word manufacture is understood."

The fattening of sheep, swine, and bullocks is as much a trade and a branch of manufacturing industry as the fabrication of twist, calico, or cloth; the fatted cattle have little value on the spot where they are produced, but they obtain their value by being transported to a place where they are wanted, by those who are not feeding cattle, but who are producing something which they can give in exchange for meat. In the same way the value of calico and cloth is not estimated in the weaving shed, but is measured in the place where calico or cloth is wanted by those who have produced something else to give in exchange for clothing. Value, in fact, is nothing more than market price; and every legislative interference with a market unfairly depresses the price of one set of commodities and raises that of another.

"Now, if the question be, which of all these branches of industry adds most to wealth, or, in other words, is most useful to mankind, the answer must be,—they are

all equally useful. If it be urged that some are of more intimate necessity than others, inasmuch as food is essential, and therefore its production is the chief branch of industry, it may be replied, that in the present condition of man it is not possible to assert that one branch of industry is more useful than another: each depends on every other. Further, if food is essential to all men in all countries, clothing and houses are equally essential even to the support of life in most countries; and the production of clothing and the building and furnishing of convenient houses comprehend almost every branch of manufacturing industry which now exists. It is an idle question to discuss the relative value of any branches of industry, when we found the comparison upon a classification of them which rests on no real difference, and leave out of the question their aptitude to minister to our wants. One might discuss the relative value of the manufacture of scents and perfumes, and the manufacture of wine and beer; and the foundation of the comparison of value might be the number of persons who use or wish to use the two things, and the effect which the consumption of scents and perfumes on the one hand, and of wine and beer on the other, will have on the consumers and the condition of those who produce them."

If artificial means are employed to raise the price of an article in the production of which the least amount of labour is employed, then the price of labour as a general commodity must be lowered. There is far less of manual labour engaged in the production of a quarter of wheat than in the production of a piece of cloth or a piece of furniture. The Corn Laws then, by raising the exchangeable value of food, depress the exchangeable value of labour; they are a tax upon industry in favour of the idle proprietors of brute matter. They produce that state of things which poor Hood has stated with equal force and simplicity—

"Oh God! that bread should be so dear,  
And flesh and blood so cheap."

"If those who possess political power were free from all prejudices and all motives of self-interest, or what they suppose to be their interest, there would neither be encouragement nor discouragement given to any branch of industry, and least of all to agriculture. If taxes must be raised, they would be raised in such way as would least interfere with the free exercise of all branches of industry; and they would not be raised upon raw products of any kind. It is the business of a State to find sufficient means, at the least possible cost to the whole community, for defence against foreign aggression, for the administration of justice, and for all such matters of public interest as require its direction and superintendence. To ascertain what these matters may be, and how they are to be effected, belongs to the subject of government; and the sphere to which the State should limit its activity cannot be exactly defined. But there is one principle which excludes its interference from many matters; which is this:—If men are not interfered with, they will employ their labour and capital in the way which is most profitable to themselves; and each man knows better how he can employ himself profitably than anybody else can, or any government can, whether such government is of one or many. Agriculture is no exception to this general principle; and there is no reason of public interest why a government should either encourage it or discourage it. In order that the agriculture of a country may attain its utmost development, it is necessary that it be free from all restraint, and that it be also free from the equally injurious influence of special favour or protection."

"But no governments have ever let the things alone which they ought not to have meddled with; and agriculture has been subject perhaps to more restrictions than any other branch of industry. The interference with agricultural industry lies deeper than at first sight appears. Land is an essential element of a state: it is the basis on which the structure is raised. Now, the political constitution of every country is intimately connected with the nature of the landed property; and if we would really trace the history of any nation from the earliest records to the present time, we must begin with the fundamental notions of the law of property in land. In this country, for instance, it is easily shown that the present mode in which land is held and occupied is the result of those feudal principles which were established, or confirmed and extended, by the Norman conquest of England. The various modes in which land is held by the owner and occupied by the cultivator, the modes in which it may be alienated or transmitted by will or by descent, the burdens to which it is liable either on any change of owner or in any other way, are all important elements in estimating the degree of freedom which agriculture enjoys. The political constitution of a country also materially determines whether the land shall be cultivated in large or in small portions, whether owned by a numerous body or owned by a few; there may also be positive laws which affect the power of acquiring land or disposing of it; and these circumstances materially affect the freedom of agriculture and its condition. The political constitutions of countries, so far as we know them, have not been the result of design. We of the present generation find something transmitted to us which our predecessors have been labouring to amend or deteriorate; they in like manner received it from their predecessors; but the beginning of the series we cannot ascend to. Still every existing generation can do something towards altering that which has been transmitted to it; and every act of legislation which interferes with the mode in which land is acquired or enjoyed materially affects the condition of agriculture. No sufficient reason has ever yet been shown why a man should not, as a general rule, acquire as much land as he can, and dispose of it as he pleases either during his lifetime or at his death. Though this general principle must be admitted, it may still be laid down as a safe rule that there are limits within which a man's power over his property in land ought to be circumscribed. He should not be allowed, for instance, to determine for generations to come what persons or class of persons shall enjoy his land, and to limit the power of alienating it; unless it may be when his property is given for public purposes of unquestionable utility. For with this limitation, it follows that when the purposes cease to be of unquestionable utility, the State ought to apply the property to new and useful purposes. There are therefore limits

which ought to be placed to a man's power over his land. But such limits should not in any way limit the productive use that can be made of the land; one object of fixing such limits, whatever they may be, is to prevent any large amount of land from being withdrawn permanently out of the market. In a rich country, where great fortunes are acquired by commerce and manufacturing industry, there are always men who wish to invest money in land, and it is for the public interest that there should be opportunities of making such investments."

The difference that really exists between agriculture and manufactures, is that there is a natural limit to the productive powers of the former and not of the latter:—

"A time will come in all countries which contain a large population not employed in agriculture, when foreign grain can be imported and sold at a lower price than grain can be produced on poor soils; and, if there is no restriction placed on the importation of grain, experience will soon show when it is more profitable to buy what is wanted to supply the deficiency of the home produce than to attempt to raise the whole that is wanted by cultivating poor soils. No country of large extent with a great population could obtain the whole supply of corn by foreign commerce; such an instance is not on record. But a manufacturing country, which has up to a certain point produced all the food that is required for its population, will be stopped short in the development of its manufacturing power, if from any cause whatever it cannot obtain an increased supply of food. An increased supply of food and an increased supply of raw produce are the two essential conditions, without which the manufacturing industry of a country must ultimately be limited by its own power to produce food. If the increased supply of food can be obtained from foreign countries, it is a matter of indifference to all who consume the food where it comes from; and the agriculturist himself, as far as he is a consumer of food, is benefited with the rest of the community by the greater abundance of food caused by the foreign supply and by the increased productive powers of the manufacturer. It is not necessary to determine how the increased supply of food will operate on wages or on profits, or on both: it is enough to show, that a time must come when there can be no increase in manufacturing power, if the supply of food is limited to what the country produces; and that by an addition to the supply of food an additional power is given towards the production of those articles which have reached their limit because the supply of food cannot be increased."

Our limits compel us to break off here, but we shall resume the subject.

## A CONTRIBUTION BY COBDEN.

(From Punch.)

TEETH are included in the list of small articles to be freed from duty by Sir R. Peel's proposed measure.

Three hundred articles and odd  
Peel's tariff will release from duty;  
And Commerce lifts her drooping head  
To contemplate the offer'd booty.

And as she runs her eye along  
The list of things emancipated.

She gets the better of her tongue,  
And thus the Premier's scheme is rated:—

"Fool!" exclaims Commerce, full of scorn,  
"Teeth" are in your financial fiction;  
Grant me instead Free Trade in corn,  
And deal no more in contradiction.

"Reverse your plan," the Goddess said,  
And smiling stood in all her beauty;  
"Give me untaxed my daily bread,  
And tax my Teeth with double duty."

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—By a parliamentary document it appears that the estimate of the total cost of the Westminster New Palace, according to the latest approved plan, is £928,913. 6s. 3d.

GAME FROM SCOTLAND.—It is stated, on the authority of a correspondent in one of the Dumfries papers, in alluding to the increase of poaching in Scotland, that the incredible quantity of nearly twelve tons of game left Kircudbright in one day! and that game to the amount of £400 is weekly exported by the steamers from the two counties of Kircudbright and Wigton.

THE IRISH GLASS TRADE.—In a reply to a communication from the Irish glass manufacturers, the Government has notified that a drawback of 75 per cent. of the present duty will be allowed on the stock in hands.—*Irish Railway Gazette.*

INCENDIARISM.—Incendiary fires are raging to an alarming extent in Bedfordshire. About a fortnight since, a most diabolical act was perpetrated at the little village of Wingfield, near Hockliffe (where not more than three months since an incendiary destroyed two cottages, a farmhouse, a large quantity of corn, and all the farm-buildings). This fire began at a cottage outbuilding, and soon extended itself to six other cottages, two farm-houses, and all the farm-buildings, corn, &c., the whole of which were destroyed. On Saturday last an attempt was made to fire some farm buildings belonging to Mr. Smith, situated in the town of Toddington. A barn was discovered to be on fire, which fortunately was extinguished before it spread to any extent. Had it not been seen in time, nothing could have saved one-half of the town from its ravages. Two policemen are on duty in the town every night, and lodge close to the spot.—*Brighton Herald.*

On Tuesday evening last, between the hours of ten and eleven o'clock, an alarm of fire was brought to Abington by a messenger from Llangrwyney. The engine was immediately sent, but unfortunately did not arrive till nearly all of two risks had been consumed. They were the property of Mr. Wulow, of the paper mill, Llangrwyney. It appears to have been the work of incendiaries, and suspicion attaches to two individuals, who will, most probably, be examined.—*Monmouthshire Merlin.*

We understand that an incendiary fire took place on one of Lord Hardwicke's farms, at Morden, in this county, on Saturday night. We have been unable to learn the particulars.—*Cambridge Advertiser.*

A NOBLE THUMB.—A soul occupied with great ideas best performs small duties.—*James Martineau.*

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## AGRICULTURE.

## A CHAPTER ON LEASES.

It is now universally admitted that the condition of British agriculture is relatively much lower than that of any other department of national industry. And it is almost universally conceded, that increased security of tenure—security that where the husbandman sows he shall also reap—is a condition precedent to any general improvement in the husbandry of this country. Hence we find farmers, land-agents, and the more intelligent landowners insisting on the revival of the practice of granting leases. From the same conviction proceeds the partial advocacy of that makeshift substitute for a lease, a legal tenant-right, which has here and there appeared. So some of the best farmers' clubs and agricultural associations have discussed the advantages of leases, and the stipulations such contracts should contain, with much apt business-like talent.

The subject, however, requires much more consideration than it has yet undergone, before it can be said to have assumed any definite and practical shape. And we feel it a duty to point out to tenant-farmers the risks they run when they are induced to enter into the engagements commonly contained in leases now in use. We shall suggest some of the circumstances under which the present forms of leases have been adopted, and show the utter inadequacy of those forms to secure to the skilful farmer of the present day that full remuneration for his outlay and industry to which he is entitled.

The ordinary lease is substantially the same as that in use previously to the rise of prices and the impulse to agriculture which commenced about 1792, and it seeks by a series of minute regulations to bind the tenant to a prescribed system of cultivation which is assumed to be beneficial to the owner of the land. It goes on the assumption that the tenant, with profit to himself, exhausts the fertility of the soil, and return it to the owner exhausted and deteriorated. We by no means say this is physically impossible, but it is highly improbable; and the occurrence of such an event must be guarded against by means very different to the restrictive provisions of ordinary leases. Up to 1792 the art of husbandry had done little more than to adapt systems of management to the peculiar varieties of soils, so as to take advantage of the natural fertility of each, and to avoid as much as possible the dangers to which they were respectively exposed from variations of seasons. Thus our light lands, which by means of turnip husbandry have now become, on an average of seasons, our most productive lands, were chiefly used for the cultivation of rye and oats, or as natural pastures; while the heavier soils were as permanent pasture applied to dairy farming, or as arable land to the growth of wheat and beans. Wheat, beans, and a naked fallow was then the ordinary rotation amongst the best farmers of heavy lands, and the great object of the restrictive clauses in leases was to prevent successive grain crops without the intervention of a fallow. And up to this day the system of cultivating strong, deep land has not materially improved. The improvements which have been made, and they are considerable, have been chiefly on the lighter soils. There, however, much remains to be done to develop the real capacity of the soil for producing food.

From 1792 to 1814, a period of exorbitant and constantly advancing prices, the struggle was to get possession of land upon any terms, and no improvement in the frame of leases took place. From 1814, leases have been gradually falling into disuse, partly because the art of agriculture had outgrown the system enforced by the "usual covenants" inserted in leases; but principally on account of the fearful and ruinous consequences of the attempt, commenced in 1815, to keep up a high scale of prices by an artificial scarcity. The farmer, who, having calculated on obtaining from 80s. to 100s. a quarter for his wheat, had engaged to pay a rent estimated according to those prices, was but too glad to be able to retire from his business with the wreck of his capital when he found prices falling to less than one-half of the sums on which he had relied for profit. That state of things has continued down to the present hour, when our farmers are actually writhing under monopoly rents and natural prices. Thus, there has been no opportunity for the revision of leases; and now, it having become obvious that the Corn Laws are doomed, leases will again come into use, in some form or other, but those taken from the dusty pigeon-holes of the lawyers of 1792 are to be met with. This is particularly applicable to England, for in Scotland leases are far more rational instruments. Mr. Bacon, in his very able "Essay on the Agriculture of Norfolk," mentions the usual clause requiring the tenant of heavy land to give his land a certain number of ploughings as a main obstacle to the improved cultivation of such lands in that county; and the same sort of difficulty will be met with in some form or other in nearly every rural district.

And though farmers feel the trammels of these re-

strictions, so accustomed have they been to their imposition, that they scarcely venture to require the complete abrogation of them. Yet it will be found that leases must be framed upon principles altogether different from those hitherto in use. In the language of the Harleston Farmers' Club, "Skill and science must be left as much as possible unfettered, remembering that it is the interest of all parties, and more particularly of the occupier, to earn the greatest possible produce from the land at the smallest possible expense." Now, large produce at small expense is only to be obtained by one of two methods, both of which require leases, and on which the ordinary restrictions are either mischievous or inoperative. The first method is the application of large capitals by men of energy and skill, who will bring the land into a state of almost garden cultivation, and force it, by means of high farming, into a degree of fertility of which the framers of existing leases never imagined the possibility. Here all restrictions are positively mischievous; except, perhaps, a limitation of the breadth of grain to be grown during the last four years of the term. We believe that from £12 to £15 per acre will be the least amount of capital required for this method of farming. Large stocks must be kept, much artificial food purchased, and feeding for the butchers will be the chief purpose to which the farmer will direct his attention. Vast crops of grain, at a low rate of cost, will be an incident to this system. Such farmers will require to throw open their land by getting rid of timber and hedgerows; they will undertake extensive drainages, improvements by means of amalgamations of soils, and so forth. In a word, they will bring to the cultivation of land that combination of capital, energy, and knowledge which have been so largely and profitably applied to manufactures and commerce. And these are the farmers who, having proper leases, will give the highest rents.

The other way in which large produce will be obtained at small expense is merely a different application of the same principles, suitable to occupiers of less capital and enterprise. They will adopt longer rotations, and, by increasing the growth of green, root, and artificial grass crops, will be able to maintain a considerable stock of sheep and cattle on the produce of the farm alone, and thus have a much larger force of manure than at present for their grain crops. For instance, instead of one-fourth of the farm being in wheat every year, and another fourth in barley or oats, a sixth or a seventh part only will be cropped with such grain, and the remainder of the farm will be applicable to the growth of food for stock. On this system a much greater produce of wheat and barley per acre will be raised at less expense, less seed will be wanted, fewer horses required, while by a larger breadth of root crops more manual labour will be profitably employed. This is the way in which most of the present occupiers will act when prices have become natural by the abolition of the Corn Laws, and they will find their advantage in so doing. But to this course of husbandry a long lease is indispensable, and all the usual restrictive covenants are totally inapplicable. This is well known to practical agriculturists: for instance, Mr. Bacon, in his essay above mentioned, gives a comparative statement of the results of a four-course and six-course system, in the same kind of land, on a farm of 300 acres, the capital employed being the same in both cases; and the annual difference in favour of the six-course rotation amounts to £113. 15s. We believe that an eight-course rotation would on many farms be still more beneficial. This furnishes a complete solution of the difficulty by which the monopolists try to frighten farmers from the consideration of the Corn-Law question, viz., by asserting that the present race of tenants must be ruined. Never was anything more false. They have only to insist upon long and rational leases at fair rents, and then lengthen their rotations.

Under the latter system the stock kept will be principally breeding stock, and there is no way in which a farmer of moderate means can, by the exercise of judgment and care, work his farm more profitably. A comparatively small outlay in the purchase of good animals, adapted to the peculiar circumstances of his soil and climate, and care and attention in breeding from them and in rearing the produce, will very soon convince him that the avidity for grain-growing, into which the Corn Laws have betrayed him, is not the surest road to profitable farming. We had purposed some comment upon a form of lease circulated by the *Vale of Evesham Agricultural Association*, with a copy of which we have been favoured, and in so doing to have indicated our own views of the stipulations which should be contained in a modern lease; but want of space compels us to defer such comment until another week, when we shall give a second chapter on leases.

## A LAND-AGENT ON THE GAME LAWS.

Amongst the intelligent land-agents will be found some of the most important witnesses as to the effects of the game laws on agriculture. As a specimen we extract the following passages from a letter addressed by Mr. James

Dean, of Tottenham, to the *Mark-lane Express*, upon the subject of Mr. Bright's committee. He says,—

"Many of the instances quoted by Mr. Bright, of injury done to crops by game—particularly hares and rabbits—would, no doubt, appear to many as exaggerations, but which, on examination, will be found to be strictly true. My own experience could abundantly prove many of them."

And he then proceeds to give several instances, saying:—

"I will state a case that has lately been arbitrated upon; one, I am sorry to say, of almost daily occurrence. A farm of 300 acres was let to a tenant from year to year, to be managed on the four-course system; the game was not reserved; 200 acres arable, 100 acres meadow and pasture. The arable adjoined the wood of a noble lord, not the owner of the land in question. The hares, and rabbits, coming from the wood, destroyed 15 acres of the wheat crop in the last year; the tenant broke it up, and sowed it with barley, keeping a tenter to protect it for some weeks. This occasioned a derangement of the four-course shift. The landlord gave the tenant notice to quit, and brought an action for damages for over-cropping, cross-cropping, and want of fallow for turnips; the damages were laid at one thousand pounds; the matter was referred to arbitration. I was referee for the landlord, and could not avoid awarding £220, chiefly because the pleadings were defective in limiting the period to a later period than was consistent with equity; had they gone a year back, the tenant could have shown 80 acres fallow, occasioned chiefly by the game. The landlord having, from the investigation, learned the true state of the case, remitted half the damage awarded, and paid all the costs. I have at this time three cases in hand: one in Sussex, one in Wiltshire, and the other in Essex; two of them for tenants, one for a landlord: but, of course, can give no particulars."

Here we have a sample of the past year's injury as occurring in the practice of one gentleman only. Mr. Dean then refers to another case in which the game became the subject of litigation in Chancery:—

"Another I may mention, about which Mr. Villiers could give the whole history, because, in his capacity of an Examiner in Chancery, he had to take the answers of myself and a great many land-surveyors to interrogatories on the matters in question. They were these: a large landowner entered into an agreement in writing with the Hon. ——— for the right of sporting over a certain manor or manors; the agreement was for a lease, in which agreement it was stipulated that the lease should contain all usual and necessary covenants. From some cause, the lessee allowed the hares and rabbits to increase to such a degree—particularly the rabbits—that the landlord became alarmed, fearing his whole rent would be absorbed in damages to his tenants; and therefore caused the rabbits to be slaughtered extensively. The lessee filed his bill for a specific performance of the agreement, which in due course was referred to the Master; when the question arose, under the term 'usual and necessary covenants,' if some limit might not be put to the accumulation of rabbits in particular. My own evidence, and that of the other parties examined, went to show that the lease should limit the excess, by reserving power to the landlord to destroy the excess, after seven days' notice to the lessee to reduce the number. At this point of the suit the landlord died, and thus put an end to the lease altogether."

Here we see the evil consequence of the existence of game and game laws. Why should a landlord, after letting his farm, retain a power of letting to a stranger a right to feed hares on the tenant's crop more than a right to feed sheep? But for the game laws, the one would be thought as unreasonable as the other. Besides do we ever hear of a landlord letting the game on a farm in his own occupation? We believe many cases will be mentioned before the committee on the game laws where landowners do not preserve on their own land, but rent a manor and the game on some other estate, whose tenants' property is destroyed without mercy. Such is the morality of game-preserving. The demoralization caused by the game laws is not confined to the agricultural labourer and the humbler classes. But, perhaps, Mr. Grantley Berkeley has, by writing under his own hand, rendered evidence on that point superfluous.

## A BLOW FOR MR. BRIGHT!

(From *Punch*.)

The select Parliamentary Committee to be appointed at the instance of Mr. Bright, to inquire into the operation of the game laws, will probably make the grand discovery, already well known to everybody, that they tend to the demoralization of the country. Hence, we conjecture, the cry, already raised by some short-sighted people for their abolition, will be heightened. It is to be hoped, however, that the wisdom of Parliament will be in no greater hurry to reform this so-called abuse, than it has shown itself to be in to reform any other; in other words, that it will maintain it as long as ever it can. Repeat the game laws, and, as their defenders wildly ask, What are country gentlemen to do? Why, want of employment will drive them to the writing-desk or the library; and the time that might have been devoted to shooting, will be sacrificed to intellect! They will thus be degraded to the level of literary, scientific, and the like low persons. As it is, how greatly have they degenerated since the days of chivalry, in being able to read and write! But the fact is, that the demoralization of the country is the finest thing in the world for it; that is to say, for those who have any stake in it; and as for people who have not even bread—let them poach and take the consequences. Think of the vast number of labourers whom demoralization provides for in the prisons and the hulks, besides the multitudes of whom it rids the country altogether. Then, look at the large class of persons who are interested in the maintenance of the game laws. Together with the landed proprietor, we may enumerate, besides the gamekeeper, the common informer, and that most respectable sort of man vulgarly nicknamed the pettifogger—with those useful and much underpaid officials, magistrates' clerks. Let Aristocracy and its minions unite with Law and its limbs in defence of their fun and their bread against the grasping talons of Humanity. Let them strike for their rights; that is, let them give their common enemy a good "punch on the head," and let their champion, Grantley Berkeley, begin with Bright.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 15, 1845.

The sincerity of those who call themselves the friends of the farmer was put to the test on Thursday night, when Mr. Cobden moved for a "Select Committee to inquire into the causes and extent of the alleged agricultural distress, and into the effects of legislative protection upon the interests of land-owners, tenant-farmers, and farm-labourers." This motion afforded the members of the protection societies a fair opportunity of substantiating the assertions which they made to the farmers on the hustings and at agricultural meetings, and must have been eagerly accepted if right honourable and honourable gentlemen believed what they said. It will be remembered that, when this subject was first introduced, Mr. Stafford O'Brien declared that he would not only vote for the committee, but serve on it should the motion be granted. Since that time "a change has come o'er the spirit of his dream;" for though Mr. Cobden embodied in his motion the amendment of which Mr. Stafford O'Brien himself gave notice, that gentleman abandoned the farmers for the Premier, and voted against the motion. The love professed to the farmers was manifest to resist the soft seductions of the Treasury; Mr. S. O'Brien, like a political Lothario, abandoned his agricultural flirtation for a Ministerial courtship, and left Ceres to bewail in abandonment the superior attractions of her rival in Downing-street. The prudential morality of the old song was forgotten. Mr. Stafford O'Brien did not observe the precept—

"Tis well to be merry and wise;  
Tis well to be honest and true;  
Tis well to be off with the old love,  
Before we are on with the new."

"The new love," or Ministerial policy, which has thus superseded the antiquated agricultural interest, manifested on Thursday night the practised arts of a finished coquette. Without metaphor, the course of the debate exhibited "the farmers' friends" in the most deplorable and pitiable condition. The command of this division of the supporters of the Ministry was given for the night to Mr. Sydney Herbert on the same principle as the junior corporal is appointed to drill the awkward squad. He was interposed to prevent the county members from exposing themselves to the hazard of debate. In the course of his speech the Secretary at War gave a very significant hint to the Commons of the constitutional weight of the opinion of Parliament in the deliberations of the Cabinet; he described the investigations of parliamentary committees as mere farces, and, as the Premier has given a pretty strong hint of his dislike of long speeches, it seems probable that the legislative functions of Parliament will sink down to the mere registration of Ministerial edicts; inquiry is declared useless and debate proscribed as inconvenient; the new gush to etiquette in the House of Commons is taken from the New Englanders' ballad at the commencement of the American war:

"Jolly men of Boston make no long orations;  
Jolly men of Boston drink no strong potations;  
How, wow, wow."

It is new in our parliamentary history to find all inquiry scouted as dangerous. In order to avoid any suspicion of wishing for such an investigation as would tend to the establishment of any particular opinions, Mr. Cobden distinctly offered to place the leading members of the protection societies on the committee. Mr. Stafford O'Brien, however, declared that such a committee would not be "for farmers and labourers, but for political economists." The force of this objection passes our powers of comprehension; every committee that ever sat or will sit to elicit facts must be a committee for political economists, whose chief object is the collection of facts; so that Mr. Stafford O'Brien's words simply mean that a committee cannot be for farmers and labourers if it collects facts and elicits truth. This is rather an awkward confession for the chairman of the publication-committee of the Central Protection Society, though it is in perfect accordance with the principle observed in some of their publications, and particularly in Mr. Cayley's gubbing of Adam Smith.

By their vote on Thursday night the pretended farmers' friends have declared that the farmers have no case meriting the attention of the Legislature; and they have thus given a full contradiction to the cry of agricultural distress, which they have themselves fostered and encouraged. Mr. Stafford O'Brien severely felt this dilemma, and more than once so-

lited the great wizard of Tamworth to extricate him from his difficulties. But Sir Robert Peel took a malicious pleasure in witnessing the embarrassment into which the county members were brought by their mutinous murmurs at agricultural meetings; the agriculturists found themselves in the condition described by Hudibras:—

"And as a dog, committed close  
For some offence, by chance breaks loose  
And quits the clog; but all in vain,  
He still drags after him the chain.  
Thus, though their ankles had been quitted,  
Their hearts continue still committed."

The Premier laid fast hold of the chain on Thursday night, and the hounds that had broken loose were dragged back, after some ludicrous struggles, to the Ministerial kennel. Lord Ripon, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, declared that "the whole science of Government is a perpetual struggle with difficulties;" in this science the Premier is giving a very efficient course of instruction to the farmers' friends, for he leaves them to struggle with increasing difficulties between practice and profession, unsurpassed by those which he has himself displayed in his political career.

Comment on a debate where all the argument was on one side would be superfluous. When the wife and children of Sir Walter Raleigh implored King James, on their knees, to spare the remnant of their fortunes, that they might at least have the means of subsistence from their inheritance, the reply of that despicable monarch was, "I maun ha' the land: I maun ha' it for Carr" (the basest of his minions). Sir Robert Peel has adopted the course of the profligate pedant, and when wives and children apply for remission of taxes on their food, his answer is "I maun ha' this share of your earnings: I maun ha' it for the monopolists." When such a resolution is adopted, it is no wonder that all debate should be stifled, and all inquiry resisted.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—DEFEAT OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY.—From the Paris papers of Monday, received by express, we learn that on a ballot on the Pension Bill that day in the Chamber of Deputies, there were for the bill, 188; against it, 201; majority against Ministers, 13.

A duel with pistols took place in the Bois de Boulogne, on Tuesday morning, between M. Dajarrier, manager and proprietor of *La Presse*, and M. Beauvallon, one of the editors of *Le Globe*, in which M. Dajarrier was mortally wounded. He expired before he could be brought home.

PORTUGAL.—A project of law for the abolition of slavery in all the Portuguese possessions, in the case of children born after the date of the promulgation of the proposed law, has been presented to the Chamber of Peers, and referred to the special anti-slavery committee. The finances of the country are stated to be in such a condition that the Government is on the eve of bankruptcy.

Poor Dr. Kaley came from Madeira to Lisbon, but failing to enlist the sympathies of Lord Howard in his cause, he betook him to his last resource, viz., to throw himself on the mercy of the Portuguese Government, to avert the impending sentence of the Relagio Court, and here he was more successful. He obtained of Senhor Gomez de Castro, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, an assurance that he might return to Madeira without fear of molestation, provided he entirely desisted for the future from disturbing the island with preaching or proselytizing; and with this assurance in his pocket, in the shape of a letter to the Madeira authorities, he set sail in the Zargo. A reprint of the Bible, in monthly parts, is announced for publication. It is the translation by Padre Antonio Pereira de Figueiredo, accompanied with notes and the Latin text; and the same that Borrow met with in the little schoolhouse at Colhares, but to be illustrated with lithographs by Portuguese artists.—*Times' Lisbon Correspondent*.

SWITZERLAND.—Accounts from Switzerland state that the question of the appointment of a committee of the Diet to decide on the measures to be adopted on the dispute about the Jesuits, has been carried by a majority of 124 to 94.

PIRATES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.—OSPEND, March 5.—The Comite, De Boumge, which arrived here from Messina, 2nd inst., was fired into by pirates in three lateen-rigged craft, on the 9th ult., about 15 miles off Cape Santa Maria.

GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—A deputation of the Catholic clergy of Leipzig and Dresden, headed by their Bishop, having waited on the King of Saxony to obtain the intervention of his authority against the German Catholic Church, recently formed, the King refused to interfere, stating that 19 20ths of his subjects were Protestants, and that, as the King of a constitutional state, he had sworn to secure full and entire liberty to persons of every faith.

TRUCKY.—By the latest account from Lebanon it appears that the Druses and Maronites have come to open war. The Maronites, with a force of 2000 men, attacked the Druses, and a great number of lives were lost on both sides, without any decided result either way. It was thought probable that England would be obliged to consent to the proposition, made by the Porte, of sending an armed force into the country.

LOSS OF THE PREMIER EAST INDIAMAN, AND CAPTIVITY OF THE CREW.—SINGAPORE, Dec. 26.—A communication from Sir Edward Belcher, K.C.B., of her Majesty's surveying ship *Samarang*, dated at Manilla, 5th inst., to the Honourable the Governor, states that a letter had reached Manilla from the commander of the Premier, which Sir Hong-Kong for Betty Balong on the 22nd of June last, for the, with a considerable quantity of copper cash on board, mentioning that the Premier had been wrecked on the 25th of July, on Palo Payang (east coast of Borneo), and that the commander and the whole of the crew were captive. The Sultan of Borneo took the commander, six Europeans, and six lascars; and the Rajah

of Baloongan, as his share, had sixteen lascars. The commander attempted to escape with the six Europeans, but was retaken. The Sultan was disposed to murder him unless he ransomed the crew. The six lascars were purchased from the Sultan by a Sooloo trader, and taken to that island, where they were ransomed by Com. Wyndham of the *Velocipede* for 100 dollars each, and they reached Manilla by that vessel on the 30th ult. They state that the commander set fire to the vessel to prevent her falling into the hands of the pirates. Sir Edward Belcher meant to leave Manilla on the 10th inst., to proceed to the relief of the remainder of the shipwrecked persons. Sir Edward further mentions that a schooner, with a cargo worth 18,000 dollars, was cut off near Manilla (from Batangas) just before his arrival, and that accounts from Sooloo stated a brig to have been cut off. An officer and four men of the French corvette *Sabine* had been killed at or near Samboangan by the pirates, and that these seas were much infested by the pirates generally.

LOSS OF THE RUNNYMEDE AND THE BRITON.—The following letter from Captain Doutty of the *Runnymede*, referring to the loss of these vessels, previously reported, has been received by W. Dobson, Esq., the Secretary to Lloyds:—"Runnymede, South Island, off east coast of Andaman Islands.—I beg to state for your information, that on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of November, one of the most terrific hurricanes raged in this vicinity, perhaps ever experienced by man; it was totally beyond description, which, after diastimating and rendering the ship an unmanageable wreck, with only one boat saved, threw us ashore on the above island, at one o'clock in the morning of the 12th, and through the providence of Almighty God, without the loss of life. At daybreak, we saw in shore, a large bark up among the trees, which proved to be the *Briton*, of the Clyde, from Sydney to Calcutta, with 311 soldiers, 31 women, and 51 children, with a crew of 36 men, boats all gone. The carpenters of both ships set to work on our boat, which has been raised two streets, false-keeled, and decked, and leaves this day for assistance. We are here in all 630 people, short of provisions, and those more or less damaged. The water flows in at every tide, and everything is destroyed; in fact, one half of us have no shoes, and are without a change of linen. No lives have been lost in either case, except one man who attempted to swim ashore."

LOSS OF THE SHIP MELLISH.—Accounts were received at Lloyd's on Saturday, of the total loss of the above vessel, from China to London.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT BARBADOS.—At Southampton, on Tuesday, the Tay arrived with the Mexican and West India mails. The Tay brings accounts of the taking and trial of Santa Anna, whose sentence, it is expected, will be banishment for life; also particulars of a most destructive fire at Bridgetown, Barbadoes; nearly half the town is supposed to be destroyed; the damage is estimated at nearly half a million. The fire in Bridgetown broke out on the morning of the 4th or 5th of February, in the house of a Jew storekeeper, and was caused by a little girl, about nine years of age, playing with lucifer matches. It commenced in the part of the town principally devoted to commerce, and where the stores and houses are thickly studded. The buildings being built principally of wood, old and worm-eaten, it may be readily imagined that the fire spread with the greatest rapidity, and defied all human efforts to suppress it.

MEXICO.—The accounts of Santa Anna are, that after his attack upon Puebla he had fled with 1600 cavalry to San Antonio, and from thence he stole away in the night, with four attendants only, and left his followers in the lurch. He attempted to reach his farm, that is, his private property at Encerro, but on his way was caught by a small party of Indians, who captured and made him prisoner. He was shortly afterwards removed to the Castle of Perote. The general impression is, that he will be shortly put upon his trial, afterward banished from the country, and the whole of his property confiscated to the State.

ENGLISHMEN REDUCED TO SLAVERY AT MADAGASCAR.—The last accounts from the Mauritius state that the English Captain Croft, and his mate, Mr. Heppick, had been reduced to slavery by the Queen of Madagascar (Ranavalona), on a trumped-up charge of man-stealing. They were sold to certain slaveowners for 30 dollars each, and afterwards ransomed at that sum. Captain Kelly, in the Conway frigate, endeavoured to investigate the matter and obtain satisfaction, but the Queen boldly avowed the act, and declared that she would repeat it under similar circumstances.

## DOMESTIC.

Mr. Packington has been appointed chairman of the select committee appointed to inquire into the validity of the return of Mr. Soames, for Dartmouth. The members are General Lygon, Mr. Darby, Mr. Hayter, and Mr. Parker.

We have heard upon good authority, that the Bishop of London has actually commenced proceedings against Mr. Oakeley, and that a formal notice to that effect has been sent to Mr. Oakeley by the Bishop's order.—*Morning paper*.

On Wednesday a commission *de lunatico inquirendo* was opened before Mr. Commissioner Winslow and a special jury, at the Sheriff's Court, Red Lion-square, to inquire into the state of mind of William Austin, late of the city of Milan, but now residing at Blacklands-house, Chelsea, gentleman." Evidence of the most satisfactory character having been given as to his unsound state of mind, the jury immediately returned a verdict "That William Austin was of unsound mind, and incapable of managing his affairs, and had been so since the 16th of September, 1841." The unfortunate gentleman was accepted when a child by the late Queen Caroline, and to him she bequeathed by will a portion of her property.

The third annual meeting of the Metropolitan Dispensary Association, whose chief object is to put an end to "the late-hour system" of shopkeepers, was held on Wednesday evening, in Exeter Hall, when Lord J. Russell presided. Dr. Lauckner, Mr. Payne, the Rev. B. Noel, Mr. C. Buller, M.P., and others, moved and seconded resolutions, and spoke in condemnation of the evils, physical and mental, of the late-hour system.

On Friday morning, the 7th inst., a box, containing two bars of gold, value £1000, was stolen from the luggage-train station of the Dover Railroad, at the Bricklayers Arms. The box arrived between three and four o'clock in the morning, and was deposited amongst other luggage, and at six o'clock it was missed.

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A statue is to be erected to the memory of Dr. Watts, author of hymns, &c., in Abney Park Cemetery. It will be eight feet in height, exclusive of the pedestal, and will cost £300.

On Monday evening an inquest was held before Mr. Gell, at St. James's Workhouse, Poland-street, on the body of Mary Ann Thompson, aged 75. Mr. F. Tohill, surgeon, said, that on Saturday afternoon last, he was called to see the deceased, at her lodging in Hopkins-street. He found her lying upon an old mattress, covered with a few filthy rags, and in a room almost destitute of furniture. She was quite dead, and apparently had been so for eight or ten hours. His decided opinion was that she died from want of the necessities of life, viz., proper and sufficient raiment and food. From some inquiries and witness made, he learned that the deceased had been in the habit of getting her living by begging at the door of a chapel in Warwick-street, until she and other poor persons were driven away. The jury returned a verdict of "Died from want of the necessities of life."

It is the intention of the banks in Manchester to close their establishments at three o'clock, and it has been suggested that this plan might be adopted throughout the country.

The final examination of T. H. Hoeker for the murder of Mr. Delarue, took place on Tuesday. Some new evidence of importance was given by Mr. Joseph Nash, who swore that on the night of the murder he was coming in the direction of the Avenue-road, near to which it was perpetrated, when he heard the cry of "Murder," and in ten minutes after he saw the prisoner running towards him, apparently in a "flurry;" that he (Nash) asked him if he had heard the cry, to which he gave no answer, but ran on. The prisoner was fully committed for trial.

A meeting of the handemployed by Mr. Robert Gardner, at his mill in Preston, was held last week in that town, and was presided over by an operative; the object being to ascertain the results of a regulation adopted about a year ago by Mr. Gardner, of working his mill eleven hours a day instead of twelve, paying the same wages for the stinted time. From the statements made by some of the operatives and the book-keeper, it would appear that the new system had proved highly favourable to all parties. To the operatives it gave an increase of health, and caused no diminution of wages; to the master better work, and less waste on the part of the spinners. Thanks were voted to Mr. Gardner for having adopted the new system, and a resolution was carried to celebrate the event by a festival to be held on the 22nd of April next.

It is intended to hold a fancy fair and bazaar on a grand scale in the Thames Tunnel, on Monday the 17th inst., and two following days. The arches are to be illuminated with gas and variegated lamps, and various fancy devices in Chinese lamps. The shafts will be decorated with flags and evergreens, and a ball will take place in one of the arches every evening.

One of the most extensive conflagrations that has occurred for a considerable period near Kingston, took place on Monday night, on Tolworth-common, Surrey, and resulted in the destruction of from twenty to thirty acres of forest, the property of Messrs. Baker and Fuller.

The trial of John Lawell, for the murder of Sarah Hart, commenced at Aylesbury, on Wednesday, before Mr. Baron Parke. The court was densely crowded in every part, and special accommodation was provided for the reporters of the London and local press. Mr. Serjeant Byles stated the case for the Crown; and went minutely over the various particulars (already given to the public) of the circumstances attending the death of the deceased by poison, as sworn to by the surgeons who examined the body and contents of the stomach; the connexion existing between her and the prisoner; his visit to, and sudden departure from, her dwelling at Slough on the evening when she was found by her neighbours in a dying state, and other corroborative details. The examination of witnesses, and cross-examination by Mr. Fitzroy Kelly on behalf of the prisoner, lasted the whole day, and greater part of Thursday, when Mr. Kelly delivered a powerful and feeling address in his client's defence. After the examination of a number of witnesses, who gave him a good character, the court adjourned at a late hour to Friday. On Friday, after an elaborate charge from the judge, the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," and the unhappy man was sentenced to death.

The usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association took place on Monday in the Conciliation Hall. The number of persons present was unusually small, and, probably in consequence of the scantiness of the attendance, the proceedings did not commence until long after the hour named in the advertisement announcing the meeting. Mr. O'Connell, Mr. O'Brien, and others, took part in the proceedings, which presented no feature of novelty or particular interest. The rent for the week was £477. 15s. 3d.

The Belfast Protestant Operative Association has met and denounced Sir Robert Peel's proposed increase to the Maynooth grant. A large body of the clergy of Armagh have petitioned against the measure; and it is expected that other meetings will be held, and petitions adopted by the Ultra-Protestants to the same effect.

The judges, now on circuit in Ireland, in their charges to the grand jury, are bearing testimony to the tranquillity that prevails; the county of Tipperary being the only striking exception to this happy state of things; but even in that county there is a decided improvement.

An action for libel was tried at the Waterford assizes last week, before Mr. Baron Lefroy and a special jury. The plaintiffs were the Messrs. Malcolms, the extensive cotton manufacturers of Portlaw, and the defendants were the proprietors of the *Dublin Warder* newspaper. The libel complained of consisted of a series of letters and statements published in that journal, ascribing acts of oppression to the plaintiffs in the conduct of their factory. An apology was subsequently printed in the *Warder*, but it was deemed unsatisfactory to the aggrieved parties. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiffs of £500 damages and 6d. costs.

Four persons were killed in Cork on Thursday evening last, by the falling down of a corn store on Patrick's Quay, belonging to Messrs. Burke brothers. The persons killed were Timothy Hanlon, aged 69, lard welter; James Walsh, aged 24; John Binn, 19; and Honora Griffin, 25.

**THE RECIPROCITY FALLACY EXPOSED BY THE PREMIER.**—In his speech on the sugar duties, on the 24th ult., Sir R. Peel, thus spoke on the subject of commercial reciprocity treaties:—"If other countries will not enter into these treaties, all that remains for us to do,

is to take our own course. Without making any stipulations whatever, let us go on reducing our own duties: we may make the reductions for our own interest, trusting to the force of common sense and good example to effect that which negotiations have hitherto failed to accomplish. If in this we prove to be in error, it must be recollected that in that error we do not stand alone—we are in that respect following the example set us by other administrations. Whenever foreign countries may be induced to take that course so often and so strenuously recommended to successive Governments in this country, we shall then enjoy a double advantage; meanwhile, let us proceed as we are now doing in the important work of reducing our duties. I ask, ought we to postpone a great and important benefit to ourselves, merely because other nations do not see the advantages which they themselves would derive from following our example?"

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Mar. 8	Mon. Mar. 10	Tues. Mar. 11	Wed. Mar. 12	Thurs. Mar. 13	Fri. Mar. 14
Bank Stock for Ac.	—	217	219	220	220	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	Shut	Shut	Shut	Shut	Shut	Shut
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	100	100	100	100	99	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long An. Ex. 1860	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cons. for Acct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Exc. Bills, p. 100	65	66	68	68	68	—
Ind. Bds. and 1000	—	75	73	—	—	—
India Stock for Ac.	—	285	285	285	—	—
Belgian Bonds	—	—	91	—	101	—
Brazilian Bonds	90	91	91	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colomb. ex. Ven.	—	101	—	101	—	—
Columb. ex. Ven.	14	11	14	14	—	14
Danish	—	91	90	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	99	99	99	99	99	99
Dutch 2 1/2 per Cent.	63	63	63	63	63	63
Mexican	36	36	36	36	36	36
Peruvian	31	32	32	32	32	—
Portug. conv.	69	68	69	70	69	66
Spanish 5 per Ct	30	30	29	30	29	30
Do. 3 per Cent.	41	41	40	40	40	41

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK LANE, Monday, March 10.—There was rather a large supply of English Wheat during last week, and we had a good supply fresh up to this morning's market; the best samples were taken off at about last week's rates, but other descriptions met a very slow sale, and some quantity remained unsold at the close. Foreign Wheat sold in retail on late terms. There was a dull sale for Malting Barley, but there was rather an improved demand from the country for other kinds at former rates. Beans and Peas the same as last week. The supply of Irish Oats was moderate, but a considerable quantity of Scotch arrived during last week; though there was a little improvement in the demand, last Monday's prices were scarcely maintained.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

## BRITISH. Per Imperial Quarter.

Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 45 to 54
Ditto New	42 to 48
Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 to 48
Do. New	42 to 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Red	23 to 26
Ditto ditto Polands	23 to 26
Scotch Feed	23 to 24
Limerick	23 to 25

Ditto	23 to 25
Cork	21 to 22
Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black	21 to 22
Silgo	21 to 22
Galway	20 to 21

Barley	28 to 35
Beans, Mazagan Old 34 to 36	New 32 to 35
Harrow do.	34 to 36
Small do.	42 to 44
Peas, White, New	42 to 44
Grey	31 to 32
Maize	32 to 33
Flour, Town-made	per sack of 280 lbs. 36 to 43
Norfolk and Suffolk	34 to 36

## FOREIGN. PER IMPERIAL QUARTER.

Wheat, Danzig, high mixed	48 to 56
Roussel	47 to 54
Stettin	44 to 52
Hamburg	42 to 48
Odessa	42 to 48
Ditto Polish	47 to 50
Russian soft	42 to 45
Ukraine hard	40 to 44
Spanish Red	45 to 49
Ditto White	50 to 54
Australian	56 to 58
Barley, Grindling	28 to 32
Distilling	29 to 31
Oats, Archangel	22 to 23
Stralsund	23 to 24
Dutch Brew	24 to 25
Polands	19 to 20
Beans, Egyptian	32 to 34
Peas, White	35 to 36
Ditto Bollers	30 to 38
Flour, Canada	per barrel of 196 lbs. 23 to 26
United States	25 to 32
Danzig	36 to 38
Australian, per sack of 240 lbs.	33 to 35

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from March 3 to March 8, 1845, both days inclusive.	
Wheat	802
Barley	6001
Oats	2400
Beans	1406
Peas	706
Scotch	0
Irish	1439
Foreign	—

Flour, 9749 sacks, — bars.

FRIDAY, March 14.—The supplies of English Wheat and Barley, and of Irish Oats, since Monday, are moderate. But 10,000 quarters of Oats have arrived from Scotland. There is but little stirring in the Wheat trade, though prices are on the whole firm. Barley is a dull sale, at Monday's rates. The large arrivals of Scotch Oats cause a dullness in the Oat trade generally; and for this description a reduction of 6d. per quarter must be noted. There is, however, no alteration in the price of Irish. Beans and Peas are the same as on Monday. The duty on Barley rose 1s. yesterday.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 11th of March to the 13th of March, both inclusive.	
Wheat	4370
Barley	4580
Oats	10099

Flour, 4740 sacks.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES Week ending

Wheat	Barley	Oats	Rye	Beans	Peas
5. d. s. d.	5. d. s. d.	5. d. s. d.	5. d. s. d.	5. d. s. d.	5. d. s. d.
1st Feb.	4. 5. 3. 10	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7
10th "	4. 5. 3. 3. 1	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7
15th "	4. 5. 3. 3. 1	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7
22nd "	4. 5. 3. 3. 1	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7
1st March	4. 5. 3. 3. 1	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7
8th "	4. 5. 3. 3. 1	2. 1. 3. 31	6. 3. 1. 35	6. 3. 1. 35	7

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 48s. 3d.; Barley, 32s. 8d.; Oats, 21s. 7d.; Rye, 30s. 8d.; Beans, 33s. 6d.; Peas, 35s. 4d.

Duty.—Wheat, 10s. 0d.; Barley, 6s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending Mar. 11, 1845.

	Qrs.	Price		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat..	8088	47s. 8d.	Rye ..	5	32s. 6d.
Barley..	4239	38s. 0d.	Beans..	1498	33s. 1d.
Oats ..	33312	21s. 6d.	Peas ..	607	35s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, Jan. 5, 1845.

Wheat. Barley. Oats. Rye. Beans. Peas. Flour.

In London,	133112	—	23154	—	2050	1517	53146
Unit. King.	302150	2464	74483	—	13462	7304	363643

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7.

CROWN OFFICE, MARCH 6.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

Borough of Shaftesbury.—Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Esq.

## BANKRUPTS.

F. WEST, Southampton, boot and shoemaker. [Mackey and Girdlestone, Southampton; Smith and Atkins, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.]  
W. SPENCER, Walsingham, Berkshire, brewer. [Smith, Golden-square.]  
C. JACOBS, Farringdon-market, fruit salesman. [Overton and Hughes, Old Jewry.]  
J. WILSON, Jermyn-street, St. James's, bootmaker. [Wright and Co., Golden-square.]  
J. STRUCKETT, Wye, Kent, grocer. [Palmer and Co., Bedford-row; King, Maidstone.]  
J. S. HERRING, Cecilia-place, Spa-road, Bermondsey, builder. [Rippon, Blackfriars-road.]  
G. SALMON, City-road-basin, timber merchant. [May, Queen-square, Bloomsbury.]  
W. CAWTHORN, jun., Salisbury-street, Strand, wine merchant. [Lawrence, Old Fish-street, Doctors'-commons.]  
J. HARDY and G. HARDY, Wisbech Saint Peter, Cambridgeshire, grocers. [Jenkins and Abbott, New-inn.]  
T. K. GORRELL, Bedford-place, Commercial-road, bookseller. [Turner, Mount-place, Whitechapel-road.]  
J. R. DAY, White Hart-street, Drury-lane, victualler. [Smith, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.]  
D. MACKAY, Liverpool, master mariner. [Sharpe and Co., London; Miller and Peel, Liverpool.]  
W. BUTTERILL, Sheffield, rocer. [Tattershall, Great James-street; Broadbent, Sheffield; Blackburn, Leeds.]  
W. C. WHITTENBURY, Leeds, cheese factor. [Messrs. Rushworth, Staple-inn; Sanderson, Leeds.]  
W. PELL, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linen draper. [Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Griffith, Raymond's-buildings, Gray's-inn.]

## DIVIDENDS.

March 28. W. Law, Reading, Berkshire, draper—April 8. W. Smith, Strand, printer—April 8. H. and A. Wood, Basinghall-street, City, Blackwell-hall factors—April 8. H. W. Collinson, Stamford-street, Surrey, hatmaker—March 28. T. Creeke, Cambridge, tailor—March 28. D. Fowler, Lime-street, City, merchant—April 1. O. P. Wathen, Woodchester, Gloucestershire, clothier—April 3. J. Cox, Nottingham, silk throwster.

## CERTIFICATES.

March 29. G. Jackson, jun., Hertford, upholsterer—April 4. J. Curwen, Bridge-place, Vauxhall, cheesemonger—March 28. W. Tydeman, Chelmsford, timber merchant—April 1. S. Libbin, Stratton St. Mary, Norfolk, innkeeper—April 2. H. R. Stutchbury, Theobald's-road, Bedford-row, bookseller—April 1. J. Harwar, Charlotte-street, Bloomsbury, pianoforte manufacturer—April 5. C. M. Mottram, Friday-street, Cheapside, watchmaker—April 2. G. E. Latham, Southampton, builder—April 4. J. F. Barwick, Old-street, St. Luke's, wire-wright—April 2. J. Wallington, Bristol, painter—April 2. W. Fancloz, Liverpool, licensed victualler—March 31. J. Harley, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, plumber—March 31. J. G. Schott and J. C. Lavater, Aldermanbury-postern, City, merchants—March 28. W. Rees and G. Edwards, Wells, Somersetshire, gardeners—March 28. C. Parry, Cleaver-street, Kennington-road, furniture broker—March 28. J. Colen, New Bond-street, jeweller—March 28. J. Hook, Nine-elms, Surrey, contractor—March 28. R. K. Mann, Kingston-upon-Hull, wine merchant—March 28. F. Definne, Manchester, check manufacturer.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. HAMILTON, Leith, fisher—D. IRVING, Greenmeise, Kirkcudbrightshire, farmer—R. WALLACE, Galton, mason—J. and A. McDONELL, Inverness, clothiers—J. LANG, jun., and A. MERCER, jun., Leith, merchants.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11.

## BANKRUPTS.

J. TAYLOR, Whittheca, Cambridgeshire, draper. [Solen and Turner, Aldermanbury.]  
A. GREEN, Brighton, apothecary. [Freeman, Bothomley, and Benthall, Coleman-street; Freeman and Cornford, Brighton.]  
D. HOLDFOOT, Stratford, Essex, grocer. [Wright, Cook's-court, Carey-street.]  
A. NOIT, Treford, Sussex, miller. [Solen and Turner, Aldermanbury.]  
W. HARDISTY, Wakefield, Yorkshire, whitesmith. [Fidley, Temple; Brown, Wakefield.]  
J. ROBERTS, Liverpool, potato dealer. [Sharpe, Field, and Jackson, Bedford-row; Moss, Liverpool.]  
T. GRIFITHS, Blaenau, Cardiganshire, auctioneer. [Smith, Cardigan.]

## DIVIDENDS.

April 9. H. R. Stutchbury, Theobald's-road, Bedford-row, bookseller—April 9. J. Stevens and R. W. Drummond, Mile-end, road contractors—April 9. F. Blundell, New Barn, Wiltshire, grocer—April 9. J. Maynard, Pantons-street, Haymarket, bookseller—April 1. J. F. Barwick, Old-street, St. Luke's, wheelwright—April 12. J. H. J. S. J. K., and A. Heron, Manchester, cotton spinners—April 10. G. and S. Potter and J. Kraus, Manchester, calico printers—April 12. H. Hardie, Manchester, merchant—April 2. S. Parsons, Manchester, paper hanger—April 3. W. H. and T. B. Turner, Blackburn, Lancashire, cotton spinners—April 2. E. Sheppard, son, Uley, Gloucestershire, clothier—April 4. W. Rees and G. Edwards, Wells, Somersetshire, nurserymen—April 8. T. and W. Withell, Padstow, Cornwall, ship builders—April 3. J. Hall, Walsall, Northumberland, cowkeeper—April 8. J. Tristram, Hasford, Nottinghamshire, beer housekeeper—April 8. R. Jackson, Lee, a engineer—April 3. J. L. Taberner, Birmingham, auctioneer—April 3. T. Taberner, Birmingham, corn factor—April 8. R. Light, Hanley, Staffordshire, grocer—April 4. H. Newton, Derby, colour manufacturer.

## CERTIFICATES.

April 1. W. Bettner, Upper Marybone-street, pianoforte manufacturer—April 3. A. Francis, W. Davy, and M. Francis, Aberystwith, ironfounders—April 3. J. Higginbottom and G. Peck, Manchester, machine makers—April 1. T. Ross, Leicester, hatter—April 1. J. R. King, Bath, druggist—April 1. C. Strange and R. Parsons, Baginbun, Glamorganshire, merchants—April 1. J. Quin, Liverpool, painter—April 1. R. Proctor, Kingston-upon-Hull, coach proprietor—April 1. G. Craven, jun., Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn miller—April 1. W. Hill, Woolwich, builder—April 1. L. H. Folger, High-street, Shoreditch, cabinet maker—April 1. C. Dore, Slough, Buckinghamshire, hotel keeper—April 1. T. Palmer, Hemdun, Yorkshire, worsted spinner—April 1. A. Padbury, jun., Epsom, Surrey, grocer.

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Beware of IMITATIONS of the most DELICIOUS CHAMPAIGN, containing mineral ingredients highly injurious to the complexion and by their repellent action endangering health. Beware that the words "ROWLAND'S KALYDOR" are on the wrapper, and A. ROWLAND and SON, 30, Hat Garden, engraved (by authority of the Honourable Commissioners of Stamps) on the Government Stamp affixed on each bottle.

Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

\* All other Responses are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!!!

## CHEAP BREAD.—Members of the Anti-Corn-Law

League are earnestly entreated to obtain a Letter, addressed to Ed-ward Winchelsea, upon the vital subject of CHEAP BREAD, by JOHN ASH, change, on and after the 17th inst.; J. Papineau's, Mark-lane; and Ed-ward Ash's, 9, Parliament-street, Westminster.

## NEW CHRISTMAS GROUP.—Madame TUSSAUD

and SON'S greatest effort, which may challenge Europe. The House of Brunswick, at one view:—George I., George II., George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, Princess Charlotte, the Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. The Robes of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Guard. Mr. Colborne, and the Times. Opera from Eleven to Four, and from Seven till 11 p.m. Admis-sion, 1s.; Napoleon's Room, 6d.—Bazaar, Baker-street, Portman-square.

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Employment and Liberal Wages will be given. Labourers desirous of becoming Colliers, will be instructed by Experienced Men, and receive 3s. per Day during the time of their instruction. Apply at Kail-less Colliery, Aspall, near Wigan, Lancashire.

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TAIN, and BEDDING BAZAAR, is at 32, Finsbury-place, two doors from Finsbury square, formerly the celebrated Lackingtons', and Temple of the Muses, which contains the largest and most varied stock in the metropolis. Every article marked in plain figures.—R. FISHER and CO., Wholesale and Retail Cabinet Makers.—P.S. A printed list of prices forwarded gratis.

## HEAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING, containing a

full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasers are enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to make a good set of bed-ding. Sent free, by post, on application to their establishment, the largest in London, exclusively for the manufacture and sale of bedding (no beds or other furniture being kept). HEAL and SON, Feather Dressers and Bedding Manufacturers, 190, opposite the chapel, Tottenham-court-road.

## STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CON-

TRACTION of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and greatly and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER, which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or inwardly, without bands beneath the arms, uncomfortable restraint, or impediment to ex-ercise. Sent per post, by Mr. A. HAYDON, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, Lon-don; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

## EVANS'S SELF-ACTING KITCHEN RANGES

continue to maintain their superiority over all others; they are adapted for roasting, boiling, steaming, and baking in the best manner, and yield a constant supply of hot water, and are constructed on econom-ical principles, with open fires, which may be contracted or extended at pleasure; and are not liable to produce the unwholesome smell and great destruction of fuel inseparable from the close shut-up ranges. Every article for the kitchen in copper, iron, and block tin.—J. EVANS and Co., Stove-grate-makers and Furnishing Ironmongers, 33, King William street, London-bridge.

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JOHN GOSNELL and CO.'S AMBROSIAL SHAVING CREAM (Patronised by Prince Albert). This inestimable Cream possesses all the good qualities of the Finest Naples Soap, without the disagreeable smell inseparable from that article in a genuine state. It is of white pearly silvery appearance, produces a creamy lather, which will not dry on the face, and emits in use the delightful odour of the almond. In 1/2 lb. tins, price 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., &c.

Perfumers to Her Majesty, 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London. Manufacturers of Combs and Brushes of the best quality, and on the most approved principles.

## THE PIQUA PLANT.—HEALTH.—This Plant

offers great advantages over the popular beverage of the day.—Tea. The effect of the Piqua Plant on the nerves is strengthening, it does not produce acidity, and the stomach feels itself much benefited by a cup or two of the infusion: it is much better than tea for breakfast, or as an afternoon beverage. The Piqua Plant is pleasant, and may be used before retiring to bed, and, unlike tea, it accelerates rest. Sold in 1/2 lb. tin packets, 10s. each, by J. GOSNELL, Manchester, by one respectable keep-keeper in every town in Great Britain, and at Evans's Depot, 1, Mary-street, Strand, London. No Licence required.—One Agent wanted in every town where there is not any.

## LETTERS TO THE CLERK OF THE WEATHER.

Mr. "Clerk of the Weather," don't take it amiss. That we trouble your honour with rhyme such as this; We were tempted to string a few verses together, On account of the singular state of the weather. Father Winter for such a long time has been king, That we almost began to despair of the Spring. Don't you think, "Mr. Clerk," if you tried the right stride, You could cause Father Winter to give up his reign? It thus were effected, much good would be done, And you'd greatly oblige Messrs. Mosses and Son. Then let us persuade you to make the endeavour, You know, "Mr. Clerk," you're remarkably clever; Tell Winter the next time you meet in the sky, That thousands are longing to bid him "good bye;" And pray don't forget, Sir, to lay a great stress, On Mosses and Son, and their present Spring dress. Explain, while the various facts you are stating, That the dresses for Spring are in readiness waiting! And while you descend on the dresses of Mosses, Tell Winter we all shall be glad when he closes. Of course, "Mr. Clerk," you are fully aware, That Mosses's Spring suits are remarkably rare; Yet none can assume, till the Winter is done, The charming Spring garments of Mosses and Son.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

A new work, entitled "The Levitation of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free.

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Heaver Taglioni's . . . . . from 1 10 0

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Warm Winter Trousers, lined . . . . . from 1 10 0

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Dress Coats, edged, &c. . . . . from 1 10 0

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Mourning Collar Vest . . . . . from 1 10 0

Double-breasted ditto . . . . . from 1 10 0

Royal Hussar Suit . . . . . from 1 10 0

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Five Gothic Coats, velvet collar and cuffs . .



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According to this statement every sliding scale has been no better than a mockery and a delusion to the producers of corn, while to the consumers each successive scheme has produced such intolerable injury that it could not be endured. No more convincing argument could be used to prove that what is vicious in its essence and its principles can never be accommodated to safe and practical working by any clever details and artistic modifications. Mr. Miles complained of the limited advances that have been made in the direction of Free Trade since the present Ministry came into power; but he unconsciously admitted the unsoundness of the protective principle by cautiously abstaining from even a hint that the Government should retrace its steps. He complained of Sir Robert Peel's change in the sliding scale, of his tariff, and of his Canada Corn Bill; yet he did not ask for the repeal of any one of these measures, but, to the great amusement and amusement of



those who were not in the secret of his counsels, proposed that a portion of the county-rates should be paid out of the Consolidated Fund. If these expenses should be removed from the sphere of local taxation, the management and direction of them must necessarily be taken from the local magistracy; public money must be managed by public officers, and we are far from believing that such a change would be undesirable; but sure we are that, had the Minister consented to such a change, he would have had to encounter fierce opposition from those who put Mr. Miles forward as their representative. The proposal was in fact "a sham," and nothing else; for every one knows that the last thing which the squires will part with is the system that ensures them the profits of local jobbing, the pleasures of local patronage, and the power of local influence.

Mr. Miles set himself to establish a claim to compensation for the agriculturists because the protection promised to them neither had been nor could be maintained. The answer to his motion by Sir James Graham was, in effect, that the transfer of the county-rates would give no relief to the agriculturists, and that their claim for compensation was nugatory, inasmuch as they had not been injured by the loss of the protection of which they have been deprived. On this point the Secretary for the Home Department adopted the sentiments advocated by the League, and urged the great principle on which the whole question may be said to rest, that "no amount of protection given to agriculturists could compensate the agriculturists for the lowering of wages in the manufacturing districts." In fact, the following passage from his speech is a mere echo of what has been often stated at the League meetings in Covent-garden:—

"It so happened that where he resided, and about the estate with which he was connected, though distant from either Liverpool or Manchester, all the surplus produce of the country, by the magic power of steam, could now be sent from the north of England, in a space of time incredibly short, into the very heart of the manufacturing districts. With the produce in that part of the country this state of things had given rise to a very important question, and the question with them now was, what was the state of trade throughout the country? and not what was the amount of cattle imported? He was satisfied that, as related to the great body of the graziers and producers of fat cattle in this country, it was not the apprehension of importation from abroad which should arouse their fears or disturb their feelings, but that which they had to fear was, lest the great body of the manufacturers should be reduced to poverty and destitution, which poverty and destitution were certain to reflect upon the farming interests that distress which could not exist in the experience of one class without affecting another."

Add corn to cattle, and this is a fair statement of our entire case. How Sir James Graham can reconcile it with his subsequent declaration of continued attachment to the principle of protection is a riddle of more difficult solution than any which the Sphinx ever propounded.

Lord John Russell very ably showed that all the details to which Mr. Miles had referred, tended to demonstrate the utter inefficiency of Corn Laws as a means of securing high prices. The law of 1815 failed; that of 1828 failed; and the whole of Mr. Miles's reasoning went to prove that the law of 1842 had been an equal failure. "The lottery of legislation" has given the farmers nothing but blanks. Added to this failure we must consider the ungracious position in which the lords of the soil have placed themselves; Lord John Russell dealt very tenderly with this part of the subject, but he manifestly felt how odious and even dangerous it is for the rulers of a land to be speculators in famine and traffickers in starvation. To those who live by the wages of labour the cry, "Where is our promised fifty-six shillings per quarter?" is a declaration that their food is too abundant and their comfort too great,—a demand that their meals should be stinted and their remuneration abridged in order to give the monopolist his own price for articles of consumption.

The exposure of the inconsistency—not to use any harsher term—of the pretended farmers' friends was crushing and complete; he announced to the protectionists the unwelcome fact, that the farmers and labourers were no longer deluded by the professions and sophisms of selfish monopolists:—

"But the truth was, the farmers and the labourers had a much deeper and closer intuition into these things than some of their representatives were inclined to give them credit for; they knew that the trade of farming, like other trades, could flourish only in the general prosperity of the country, and that any attempt to prop up agriculture at the expense of the rest of the community could only ultimately tend to the destruction of those who lived by their labour upon the land."

The heaviness of a debate in which men complained of distress, and at the same time declared their resolution to support the very system to which they ascribed that distress, was relieved by Mr. Disraeli's sarcastic onslaught on Sir Robert Peel's dalliance with Free Trade. Every one felt the truth of his declaration that "Protection is in the same condition now that Protestantism was in 1828," and that the emancipation of industry is as certain as the emancipation of the Catholics.

Nor was Sir Robert Peel's equivocating reply

at all calculated to efface this melancholy conviction from the minds of the monopolists. The contempt with which he spoke of the Central Protection Society, and the scorn he expressed for their circular appeals, gave deeper mortification to the taxers of food than anything that has occurred this session. He, too, showed that to increase the prosperity, and therefore the powers of consumption in the manufacturing districts, was the greatest service that could possibly be rendered to the agricultural interest. His reply to the complaints of the protectionists was worthy of a Leaguer, and had he consistently maintained the principle, would have entitled him to national gratitude.

"When you say, therefore, that our measures may be calculated to increase manufacturing activity, but that the benefits of them are confined to manufacturers only, I offer you a conclusive proof that there has been a corresponding benefit conferred upon agriculture, because I show you that the demand for your produce—that portion of it too which is of the utmost importance to agriculture, namely, wheat—has been extended in a proportionate degree to the increased activity and prosperity of your manufactures."

He, in plain terms, avowed that protection was utterly indefensible on the ground of principle; and excused his own continuance of protection to colonial sugars and British corn on the score of expediency. Sir Robert Peel was too wily to point out the necessary inference from such a declaration; principle is permanent—expediency is the mere creature of circumstances, and must vary when they alter. We have, therefore, the Premier's own declaration that the sugar and corn monopolies have only a precarious existence; and we are prepared to show that the uncertainty thence arising is far more injurious to the producers than any advantage they can ever hope to derive from protection.

The whole debate gave most gratifying evidence of the progress which the doctrines of Free Trade have made; no one has ventured to reproduce any of the fallacies which were recently so fashionable—that "cheap bread would lead to low wages" has been abandoned; "dependence on foreigners" has been consigned to oblivion, and "reciprocity" is flung to the winds; the conviction that "protection is the bane of agriculture" is rapidly spreading, and taking a deeper root in the public mind. Mr. Cobden's unanswered and unanswerable speech on the evils which the system of protection has wrought to farmers and labourers has produced an incalculable effect within and without the walls of Parliament. A retrospect of the labours of the portion of the session that has been closed by the Easter recess must give great satisfaction to every lover of truth and justice: the income-tax continues a "bitter

extract of sugar," and the corn monopoly is maintained by "a tyrant majority;" but the pretences which concealed their impolicy and iniquity have been demolished. No man believes them worth a three year's purchase; and even the most speculative of insurance-officers would hesitate to guarantee their existence for twelve months.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Seventh Week, ending Saturday, March 22.

There have been many memorable debates in the House of Commons between Monopoly and Free Trade; but the debate of Monday night last was, in its peculiar way, the most noticeable of them all. Had moribund Monopoly taken counsel with Free Trade, in what way it could most effectually expose its inherent meanness, shabbiness, ay, and its atrocity, no more effectual advice could have been given to it, than to proceed with the motion of Mr. WILLIAM MILES, member for East Somerset. Let no reader who did not witness the display suspect this to be the language of exaggeration. It was, indeed, a scene (as Lord JOHN RUSSELL well remarked) which all who entertain the smallest particle of regard for the aristocracy of this country might heartily wish had never been exhibited. It was not an exhibition of mere imbecility, at which superior intelligence could have smiled and turned from with pitying contempt. Mr. William Miles is not an ignorant man, nor a bad man, nor a tyrant, nor an oppressor, nor a fool. Yet he was placed (or rather had placed himself) in a position in which he was compelled to show himself as possessing all those characteristics; and in pleading the cause of agriculture he was driven to the sad necessity of evincing that organised SELFISHNESS, perceiving its pauperising indulgences eluding its grasp, is, in its last hours of despair, the dirtiest, the paltriest, and the cruellest thing that ever mocked the creation of God, or insulted the intellect of man.

The protection societies, not yet disabused of the notion that they possess influence, have been fuming and fretting themselves into the idea that they can check the tortuous advances of Sir Robert Peel towards Free Trade. They have been meeting, speaking, scribbling letters, and overawing the members who, in the House of Commons, represent the "agricultural interest." Mr. William Miles is avowedly a bovine chieftain, and a leader of the long and the short horns. He has been latterly

very much on his trial with his constituents. They have suspected that underneath his waistcoat the word "SHAM" was written large. Annoyed by this suspicion, he has avowed himself resolute; and, as Sir Robert Peel, in his Budget, gave away too much to the sugar-growers to have anything to spare for the corn rack-renters, he protested that he would make such a motion as would scare the Prime Minister into a compliance with their demands.

Monday night last was the appointed day. Before the motion came on, an attempt was made to coax off Mr. William Miles, and get him to keep over his motion till after Easter. Sir Walter James said he had consulted with the "senior" member for the city of London, who had assured him that any delay in the passing of the resolutions respecting the reduction of the customs duties would be seriously detrimental to commerce and trade. When the laughter suggested by the idea of "seniority" had subsided, Mr. Masterman, the banker, got up, and avowed that he was the "elderly gentleman" referred to. But the entreaties of the elderly juvenile and the elderly gentleman were unavailing. The bold Miles knew that he had got himself into a "fix." The protection societies were watching him. No 17, Bond-street, had come down to the House, in expectation of big results. Paltering their must be none; and his motion must go on.

The equable voice of the SPEAKER was heard repeating, "That I do now leave the chair." Up rose Mr. William Miles. His motion was to this effect:—

"That it is the opinion of this House, that, in the application of surplus revenue towards relieving the burdens of the country by reduction or remission of taxation, due regard should be had to the necessity of affording relief to the agricultural interest."

A fair enough motion in its way. If the agriculturists be in distress, and be entitled to relief at the expense of the community, is it fitting and right that their case should be stated by Mr. William Miles, or any body else. The House of Commons should be the great *kan* of the nation; the appellate court of social wrong and distress. In a healthy body, the pain of the smallest member causes uneasiness to the whole; in a well-regulated state no class should suffer without every other class finding out the cause, and rectifying it—by placing all classes on the same equality in the eye of the law as they are in the sight of God.

Mr. William Miles made his speech; and for its purposes it seemed a very clever and a very artistic speech. There was a great display of figures. The calmness of investigation appeared to mark it. Statistics was its staple. Yet Mr. William Miles proved that figures may become edgedtools—shells that may explode in the hands of those who wish to throw them. The engineer was literally "hoisted with his own petard."

Listening to Mr. William Miles, the effect was very curious, with the eyes open, and the eyes shut. With the eyes open, you saw a comfortable-looking man, verging on fifty years of age, and whom you would not suppose capable of hurting a fly, addressing a body of gentlemen, whom you had every reason to believe constituted the HUMANITY House of Commons of the year 1845, and who would reprobate even the slightest hint of harshness or cruelty. Shutting the eyes, and "abstracting" one's self from all recollection of place or time, you heard words which might have been fitly spoken in a house of ghosts, feeding, not on dead, but, on living bodies of men. The burden of all Mr. William Miles's elaborate figures and deductions was this:—

Corn and cattle are too cheap, therefore we are in distress. EAT LESS, poor man, or we will be ruined. PAY MORE, poor man, or we can't recover from depression. CONTRACT TRADE, or we shall have to earn our own bread, instead of having to take it out of the bread of the community. CRIPPLE COMMERCE, or else agriculture must stand on its own legs, and we shall have to be content with the fair prices of honest competition. But, though we are in distress, I shan't ask you to repeal the Tariff or the Canadian Corn Act, or the other measures which we say have so lowered prices. No! that is—hopeless. But we must try and mummify the farmers a little longer. I can't for the life of me discover how relief is to be afforded, but some scheme I must discover. (Oh, I have it! Take about £250,000 off the county-rates, and put it on the Consolidated Fund, and then I can go back to Somerset, and say to the farmers (winking all the time) "Much good may it do you!")

In support of his views, Mr. William Miles went into an extensive series of figures, comparing the annual importations of foreign grain, and the average prices in low-priced years, under the Corn Act of 1823, with the average prices and the importations under the act of 1842. The present low prices of cattle and corn he traced to the measures of the Government—an opinion which coincided with that of the farmers, who, thanks to the gentlemen of the Anti-Corn-Law League, had been taught to think, and were able now to draw accurate conclusions as to the causes of their distress. In 1842 the harvest was good, but a heavy importation of foreign and colonial corn, suddenly thrown on the market in the autumn, threw down prices ruinously low. In 1843 there was a deficient harvest, and prices which, measuring the deficiency, should have been 63s., were only 48s. In 1844 the harvest was above an average, and there was no chance of the market recovering. The fall in prices, both in meat and corn, was not attributable to any panic, as he showed, by quoting





Mr. Long carried the question to a division, and was defeated by 73 to 27.

Mr. Grogan moved the omission of lard, on which a discussion arose, during which

Colonel Wyndham said he was sorry to see his agricultural friends imitating the example of the representatives of the manufacturing interest, ever jumping up, like jacks-in-the-box, preferring their claims, to the disgust of the country. The agriculturists would share in the reductions proposed by the Government; and he was surprised and sorry at their clamours. Happening to sit beside an agricultural friend when Sir Robert Peel made his financial statement, he was asked what was for them, when he replied, "There's nothing for you!" There were three Parliaments sitting outside these walls—the Conciliation humbug in Dublin, the Covent-garden League, and the little "House of Commons" at 17, Bond-street. From the latter, edicts were issued to the representatives of agricultural constituencies—which was a very great liberty. He would not bate one inch on behalf of protection: but a farmer, in the midst of his fields and cattle, could not be expected to take a comprehensive view of public interests; and therefore, at their command, he would not vote for Mr. Miles. "I am not speaking to you, gentlemen!" he said, addressing the Opposition side of the House—"I am speaking to my constituents!" If they could get a better man to represent them, as no doubt they might easily do, he would place his trust in their hands, but while he was in the House he would not be dictated to. Let us analyse this Bond-street club: it is composed of a number of country gentlemen; and a certain lord duke who pulled the strings, and moved all the "little goes." Like Polyphemus, the agriculturists had but one eye, and could see nothing but a turnip-field. He begged them to take a larger view of the interests of the country.

Lord A. Lennox, as a constituent of Colonel Wyndham's, did not think that such sentiments were likely to lead to his re-election.

Mr. Ward thanked Colonel Wyndham for the good humour, good sense, and impartiality which marked his speech. He repeated his feeling of contempt for the palsy, peddling opposition of the agriculturists.

Mr. Stafford O'Brien treated Free Trade as a system to reduce commodities to the lowest price—its only principle was cheapness.

Mr. Cobden replied that they sought abundance, which was not always synonymous with mere cheapness. In the Prayer-book they were used as convertible terms. The monopolists, on the contrary, wished for dearth and scarcity. [Being met by repeated cries of "No," he asked, "What is it, then, you do want?"] There had been lately a great improvement in the knowledge and manners of the representatives of the agriculturists; they had learned more in the last two months than in the preceding two years. How, then, had Sir John Tyrrell so lost his usual good humour as to make a personal attack? Because he was maddened by the utter absence of all argument—the consciousness of a very bad case. What a plight had the landed interest placed themselves in by their recent conduct in that House! He was going down to Lancashire, and he was sure that he would be stopped at the corner of every street with exclamations as to the pitiable exhibition of the great landed interest. He besought them to look at it themselves: all their whining and entreaties could not induce the Prime Minister to get up and defend them; and surely it was not worth their while to endure all this obloquy for any benefit they reaped from it. For his part, nothing could bribe him to submit to similar taunts and obloquy.

After some remarks from Mr. Darby, Sir Robert Peel regretted to see personal feeling mixing itself in the discussion. He defended members on his side of the House in making motions respecting matters in which their constituents were interested. Good arose from all these discussions, as they brought out explanations.

Lord John Russell admitted the propriety of this, but what was applicable to lard was equally applicable to every other article of protected agricultural produce. If the representatives of the agricultural interest wished to act honestly, they should either surrender the principle of protection to native industry, or resolutely stand by it in and out of Parliament.

Mr. Gladstone would not worry the agricultural interest with nibbling changes in order to obtain infinitesimal degrees of cheapness in articles of food. But he looked on lard as a raw material in trade and manufactures, as it might be made a substitute for sperm oil, the supply of which was diminishing, as well as other oils used for machinery, in the manufacture of soap, and so forth.

Mr. Grogan withdrew his opposition, and lard was added to the articles to be admitted duty free.

With this most amusing and instructive "divertissement" the discussion closed, leaving the "agricultural interest" in certainly the most deplorable, the most pitiable, and the most contemptible state in which it has ever yet been seen.

Both Houses of Parliament have risen for the Easter holidays—the House of Lords adjourning on Tuesday, the House of Commons on Thursday. We shall take advantage of the Easter recess to review the truly important proceedings which have taken place since the opening of the session.

#### THE REV. MR. ASPINALL'S SPEECH AT THE GREAT FREE-TRADE MEETING AT HULL.

The following is the eloquent speech of the Rev. James Aspinall, rector of Althorpe, at the great Free-Trade meeting at Hull, on Wednesday week, the proceedings of which occupy fourteen columns of the *Hull Advertiser*.

The Rev. JAMES ASPINALL, rector of Althorpe, Lincolnshire, on coming forward was hailed with enthusiastic applause. Repeated rounds of hearty cheers prevented him for some time from commencing his address. He said:—Sir William Lowthrop, Mr. Mayor, ladies, and gentlemen. Regarding the present gleam of prosperity which the country is enjoying, but as, if I may so phrase it, a kind of parenthesis in the history of the Corn Law, I shall, in the remarks which I am about to address to you, speak generally of its effect, as it was felt under the pinch from

which we have just escaped, and as it will be felt again as soon as ever there is a change in the seasons and a falling away of the harvests. (Hear.) And the more deeply and seriously I ponder over the merits and objects of the great cause which we are here met to forward, the more thoroughly convinced am I that it is one which every Christian man should do his utmost to promote, and one especially for which every minister of the Church of England should most anxiously labour, unless he repudiates and rejects those portions of her services and her prayers which supplicate the Most High for "comfort" and for "plenty" for the people, and implore Him not only to give them "the fruits of the earth," but also to "increase them by His heavenly benediction." (Loud cheers.) With this conviction fully impressed upon my mind do I row, in obedience to the call of your committee, stand forward to address you on the all-important question which has brought you together. (Cheers.) And I will begin by confining my remarks, in the first instance, to the inhabitants of this great mart of commerce. Sitting with the map before me, and seeing how large a share of the increased trade with the north of Europe which the repeal of the Corn Laws must bring with it will inevitably fall to the lot of the port of Hull, I should have naturally concluded that, when you entered upon the work of agitation for Free Trade, you would have begun by being unanimous on the subject. (Hear, hear.) Or that, if there had been any exception, it might have been some solitary corn-merchant, who preferred the lottery of speculation to the steady profits and commissions of his business, or some individual warehouse-owner, who had learned to look with pleasure on rents derived from foreign wheat while waiting for the juggling tricks of the sliding scale in its operations upon the averages. (Laughter and cheers.) But beyond such specimens of selfishness—even, in their case, mistaken selfishness I believe—I should have thought that you would all have been as one man with one mind in the port of Hull. (Cheers.) The advantages which you would gain from Free Trade cannot be too highly estimated. Run them over for a moment in your own minds. Your merchants would have become the great carriers between this country and northern Europe. (Hear.) The shipping interest would be greatly benefited by it, and, to a seaport town, I need not say that the shipping interest is what the soul is to the body: it is the breath of life, life itself to it. (Cheers.) Good for the shipping interest means, then, good for everything: good for all who are connected with it, employed by it, supported by it. (Cheers.) Carpenters, sailmakers, riggers, painters, lodging-housekeepers, mechanics, artisans, labourers, all these depend directly upon it, and are, therefore, interested in its prosperity. ("Hear," and cheers.) Tradesmen and shopkeepers of all kinds are equally interested in it, although more indirectly, the only difference being that they are supported by those whom it supports. (Cheers.) Even professional men, lawyers, and doctors—(laughter)—must have a share in the harvest of the general advantage, as, with a greater population and increased wealth, there will be a wider field for the exercise of their talents and a better remuneration for them. (Hear, hear.) But, especially, as the town increases from the new impulse given to its trade, the owners of land required for building must be immense gainers. I marvel that they are not Free-Traders to a man. (Cheers.) To take land out of cultivation to sell it in building lots is positive gain.

(Hear, hear.) If you have not a gold mine, the next best thing you can have is land when it is selling, not by the acre, but by the yard. And look a little further. Those owners of the soil in a more extended circle who cannot come in for this advantage instantly will have some pretty pickings wherewith to amuse themselves in the meanwhile. ("Hear," and laughter.) As the town expands and embraces within the area of its streets fields which are now let out at enormous rents either for the grazing of cows for your supply of milk, or for feeding cattle for the butcher, their property will come in for these benefits, until, in its turn, it is swallowed up by the extending vortex of brick and mortar. These things, observe, are not possibilities and probabilities, but certainties, if the Corn Laws were repealed. (Hear, hear.) And the more I reflect upon them the more puzzled and perplexed am I to make out why there is not perfect unanimity amongst you on this point, or a unanimity only disturbed by the exceptions to which I have before alluded. But it will, I hope, come presently. (Hear, hear.) You have made a beginning, at all events, and that is a great point gained in everything. I was looking at the statue of your Wilberforce on my way hither to-day, and a thought struck me at the moment that I had read somewhere a letter describing the impression made upon the writer by the first speech he ever heard from that illustrious man. I have forgotten the exact words, but they were to this effect:—"A little man, like a shrimp, stood forth upon the table, but presently he began to speak, and then the shrimp grew, and grew, and grew until it became a whale." (Laughter and cheers.) Now, I want to see a similar growth in the Hull Anti-Corn-Law Association. (Hear.) I want to see it expand until it attains the dimensions of a leviathan, and I believe I shall before long. (Cheers.) From what I can see and hear, the cause is gaining ground among you every day. (Hear.) But it is not sufficient that you enrol your names as members of an Anti-Corn-Law Association. It is all very well to meet, and talk, and cheer each other on. But there should be a practical result. (Hear.) You must, as many of you as can manage it, become freeholders of the East Riding, so that, at the next election, you may wrest its representation from Toryism and monopoly. (Hear, hear.) Does some timid old gentleman say that such a consummation is impossible? I tell him that there is no such word as "impossible" in the vocabulary of determined men. (Cheers.) Look at Lancashire and at what has been effected there. I am a freeholder of South Lancashire myself, and, as a landowner and one living by the land, I went down at the last election to vote and protest against protection as being what Lord John Russell (honour to him for the phrase) so happily called it, the other night, "the bane of agriculture" (cheers); but I hope to go thither again before long as part and partner of the triumph which is certain to be achieved. Look also at the West Riding. One more registration, and the work will be done there also. Now, it is for Hull to head a similar movement in the East Riding; and I heard a little bird singing, but a few days ago, that if the men of Hull will only help themselves in this matter, they will have plenty of co-helpers both from the West Riding and from Lancashire itself, who will give you a very different registration before

another election from that which now holds you down under the yoke of your Tory monopolists. (Cheers.) May of Hull! you must look to this forthwith. You should strengthen yourselves in the number of your freeholders that you may be sure to make a good fight of it whenever another struggle comes. Nay, you should so strengthen yourselves that there may be no fight at all, but that your opponents, appalled at the very reading of the registration, may leave you an uncontested field. (Hear.) You have, doubtless, all of you, heard the story of the poor woman who called upon an officer, not too famous for his love of the smell of gunpowder, to thank him for having saved the life of her son in some great battle. "How my good woman?" said the delighted warrior, beginning, man; "How did I save your son's life?" "Why, please your honour," was the reply, "you ran away, and he ran after you." (Loud laughter.) The moral of this is plain, I think. You must, as I observed before, so strengthen yourselves on the registration of the East Riding, that whenever an election comes, one of your opponents may run away and the other run after him, and so both of them save their time and money. (Cheers.) But, to pass generally, our cause is, I believe, rapidly making its way into the favour of the country, and public opinion in its behalf has almost reached that point when it can no longer be resisted by any Ministry. In the long run it is public opinion which decides everything, both in the Legislature and out of the Legislature, in this country. (Cheers.) There is an ancient Greek epigram on a statue of Niobe, who, according to the legend of heathen mythology, was bereft of her children and turned into a stone by the angry deities, which has been translated thus:—

"To stone the gods have chang'd her—but in vain—  
The sculptor's art has made her breathe again."

This beautiful idea is an exact type of what is passing in this country on the subject of the Corn Laws at the present time. The Lords and Commons have, by class legislation, ignorantly we hope, and ignorantly we believe, doomed our trade, like Niobe, to perdition. "But in vain," Public opinion, like "the sculptor's art," in the epigram, has stepped forth to the rescue, and will, making the intended victim "breathe again," before long, we confidently trust, induce it with new life and vigour. (Cheers.) Light is even forcing its way into the darkest recesses of the rural districts. It is true that the agriculturists have now for some time been attempting on their side, by public meetings, to thwart and arrest the progress of our cause. So much the better. (Hear.) It is only by the conflict of sentiment that truth can be elicited. Besides for other reasons likewise, I looked upon it as a matter of great congratulation when I heard that the advocates of monopoly had begun to meet and to talk. (Hear.) As long as they kept a prudent silence, there might be some inclined to give them credit for some secret store of arguments, which they could produce, if they would. (Laughter and cheers.) But they have opened their mouths, and that dream has vanished. (Laughter.) For my part, after reading, and I have read, most of the speeches delivered at the Pro-Corn-Law gatherings, I should, upon a careful analysis, say, that, dividing them into twenty constituent parts, fifteen-twentieths are made up of vituperation, four of false impressions and groundless fears, and the remaining one of delusion, mistaken

argument of the strongest character. (Laughter and cheers.) Now, as to the first point, that is, the vituperation which the agricultural orators are pleased to cast upon the advocates of Free Trade, I like to hear it. When a man takes a desperate language, it is a clear proof that he has a desperate cause to defend. (Cheers.) It always reminds me of people talking about the weather when they have nothing else to talk about. Goldsmith makes his Vicar of Wakefield observe, when his wife was getting the worst of it a discussion with Mr. Burchell, "The dispute grew hot while poor Deborah, instead of reasoning stronger, talked louder, and was at last obliged to take shelter from a defeat in clamour." (Laughter.) And thus it is with the Deborahs who figure at the monopolist meetings. (Laughter and cheers.) Like the excellent Mrs. Primrose, "endeavour to overwhelm us by clamour and loud talking, but, as I said before, I love to hear it. (Hear.) Captain Marryat, too, in his Diary in America, has a story that Sir Isaac Coffin once made a bet that he would have given number of gigantic lobsters of the weight of three pounds. It happened not to be in the lobster season, and the monsters were not forthcoming on the appointed day. Sir Isaac, however, not liking to lose his money, sent certain depositions to the stakeholders from fishermen on the coast, stating, that they had frequently met with lobsters of the required weight, to which this pithy answer was returned, "Depositions are not lobsters." (Laughter and cheers.) And, we may add, neither is vituperation an argument. (Cheers.) But the Deborahs of monopoly are not satisfied with loading us poor Free-Traders with the abuse. They are impartial in this line of acting. While their hand is in they even include their own leader, Sir Robert Peel, in the outpourings of their wrath. (Laughter.) Their cry against him everywhere is, "the voice of Jacob's voice, but the hands are of the hands of Esau." (Loud cheers.) As long ago, I remember, as at the Cambridge meeting, in the first array of last year, and the same sort of thing has been going on ever since, Mr. Adeare insolently told the assembled farmers that Sir Robert Peel's recent pledge, on the opening day of Parliament, that he would stand by the sliding scale, was *their pledge, not his*, and that they should force it from him. And then, again, there was a meeting at York, somewhere about the same time, which Lord Beaumont performed in these parts recollecting style—(laughter)—as you must all in these parts recollect that York meeting was a most terrible and tremendous affair. You have no idea how the rural swains in a neighbourhood triumphed and exulted in it. (Laughter.) With what a flourish of trumpets did they tell me, before I saw the report, that when it came out I should see what I should see and read what I should read. To me, their own phrases of Arcadian simplicity, which as I finished me that I cannot help repeating them to you. Was to be a finisher, a settler, or, as they say among the Atlantic, much more expressively, however, than actually, a tee-total snasher of us and our hopes for ever. (Laughter.) Well, at last this marvellous report of the marvellous meeting did make its appearance, and I was positively inundated with newspapers containing it, by good-natured friends, who did me the honour of thinking either that I was worth confabing or worth conversing

(Laughter.) But shall I confess my ingratitude? As I have been through the proceedings, my terror and dismay have gradually evaporated, until, at length, I found myself exclaiming, in the language of the great poet of

"Now is the winter of our discontent  
Made glorious summer by this sun of York,"

to which I was base enough to add, in plain prose of my own. "I like these meetings, for the oftener such people open their mouths the more completely will they expose their weakness and badness of their cause." (Cheers.) At the meeting, also, Sir Robert Peel came in for a full share of the vituperation which was poured upon the Anti-Corn-Law Leaguers. "His Ministry," Lord Beaconsfield observed, amidst the cheers of the assembled multitude, "was an expediency Ministry," to which, with unparalleled ungraciousness, he added, that "they must look up the opinion and statement at last wrung from the Prime Minister of his intention to stand by the present law," and, farther, that they must try by all means "to keep him up to his point." Mark those three phrases—

"Back up," "Wrung," "Keep him up to his point." (Laughter.) Are they not three sweet flowers of rhetoric, any Deborah of them all to throw into the teeth of the man who is their very head and front, the very breath of the only source of strength to the party who presume to speak of him in such terms? (Hear.) But, leaving the refractory and ungrateful monopolists to settle their own differences, I would also warn the timid and the nervous and the credulous, on our side of the question, never to be led away into error by this brilliant master of language and rounded periods; never to suppose for a moment that he heartily loves Free Trade and things liberal because he now and then coquettes with them under the influence of a place-keeping expediency. (Loud cheers.) His friend, or rather his colleague, Lord Stanley, says of him, "that there is no man like him for dressing up a statement for the House of Commons." There is hardly a fallacy, however transparent, which he cannot so adorn as to make it pass current as a truth. There is hardly a sophistry, however shallow, to which he cannot impart the appearance of an argument by his fatal eloquence. Eloquence! What is eloquence when so employed? (Hear, hear.) I would rather be an automaton than possess his gift and so abuse it. (Hear.) Eloquence, all-powerful as it has ever been in directing and controlling the affairs of this world, has unhappily as often been the champion of evil as the advocate of good. It has, by turns, riveted, or snapt asunder, the chains of slavery. Its tongue has been the trumpet of glory to those who have been under the galling yoke of slavery, or it has assisted the oppressor in confirming his dominion. It has reared or cast down the ladder of ambition. It has been employed to rescue the innocent from unjust persecution, or perverted to baffle the power of the law, and snatch the criminal from his due punishment. However, therefore, it may dazzle, however it may delight, never surrender up your own sober judgment and reason to its ignis fatuus, a meteor which may lead you you know not whither, and plunge you into errors the most dangerous and opinions the most pernicious to the welfare of the country and the happiness of the people. (Cheers.) But I now pass on to another component part of the staple of the oratory delivered at the meetings of the monopolists, namely, the delusions which they promulgate under the idea that they are arguments of the most resistless character. (Hear.) One specimen will, perhaps, suffice to expose their hollowness. Some very clever person among the opponents of Free Trade, in alluding to the rapid progress of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and other gentlemen connected with the League, from place to place, through the country, was pleased, a little time ago, thus to address his friends upon the subject: "Do not mistake ubiquity for numbers." This was at once voted by them to be "a bit, a palpable hit," the very essence and quintessence of all wisdom, and, accordingly, like a joint roasted one day, taken cold the next, and hashed the third, it has since been cooked and served up at all their meetings in every shape and way. (Laughter and cheers.) "Do not mistake ubiquity for numbers." Let us give a moment's consideration to this splendid conception. (Hear.) It is true,—and honour to them for the enthusiasm, the earnestness, the zeal, the energy, the devotion, with which they have embarked in the good cause (cheers)—it is true that the mischievous influence of monopoly, at times appeared to possess the attribute of ubiquity ascribed to them, as, with marvellous and almost miraculous celerity they have passed from town to town, and district to district, and seemed to have been here, there, and everywhere at one and the same time. (Cheers.) Still, the riddle remains unsolved. "How does ubiquity make numbers?" Do they bring you and me and all of us in their pockets to set up and bowl us down like ninepins, and then pack us up again, to carry with them for exhibition at the next place which they may visit in their tour? ("Hear," and cheers.) Do they move about, as a marching company to attend their steps, the hundreds and thousands who hail their arrival in every town, who flock to listen to them, who are drunk in their soul-thrilling and brilliant eloquence with pleasure and delight; whose minds weigh and appreciate the resistless arguments with which they address themselves to the understanding; whose hearts, as they listen upon the enthusiasm of the speakers, catch up a sympathetic and kindred spark; and whose tongues, as they raise the cheer to the very echo, proclaim that mighty is the truth, and that it shall at last prevail against every opposition? (Loud cheers.) No, no; our cause has, indeed, realized the idea of ubiquity attributed to them by its enemies; but it has numbers also—thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of the people of England enlisted in its behalf. (Loud cheers.) I will next proceed to a review of the misapprehensions and groundless fears under which the Anti-Corn-Law labour on the subject of Free Trade. To the point to be here decided is, whose question is it—of the law in its present shape carried on? (Hear, hear.) The speakers at the various agricultural meetings through the country tell us, in glowing and, as they think, triumphant language, that the question is, whether the three classes, the landlords, tenants, and labourers, if they do not exactly derive a

have, according to their several stations, a coequality of interest in maintaining them. This is a pretty theory to look at. (Laughter.) I have met with something like it before. When the lion in the fable condescended to hunt in company with the other animals, and they had run down the prey, he took, in the division, the lion's share, that is, the whole. (Cheers.) Sir Walter Scott also, in his tale of the "Pirate," describes two men as drinking brandy and water together, the one, however, swallowing all the spirit and the other only sipping at the element. (Laughter and cheers.) And, in like manner, of the advantages, real or imaginary, to be obtained from the Corn Laws, the landlords, generally speaking, look for the lion's share and all the spirit. (Laughter and cheers.) Try the thing. First of all, is the question a labourer's question? Consult the great organ of Toryism, the *Times* newspaper. Go into Mr. Bankes's paradise, Dorsetshire, or into Devonshire, where a man's wages do not amount to more than seven or eight shillings a week for himself and his family, and where the people, to use the emphatic expression of one of themselves, do not *live*, but *linger*. (Cheers.) It is not, then, a labourer's question. But is it a tenant's question? Is draining the pond a pump's question? (Laughter and cheers.) In the story of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," indeed, we do read of some of the gold cleaving to the sides of the measure through which it was passed, but that is only in a tale of fiction. When we come to realities I much fear that no very great weight of the precious metal abides with the farmers of England in its passage from the land to the landlord's pockets. (Laughter and applause.) How should it, when their profits are regulated by market prices between harvest time and spring time, while their rents are fixed by the averages worked up by the blessed sliding scale between spring time and harvest time, when, in the generality of years, the speculator and the foreigner have the markets at their mercy. (Applause.) It is, then, no more a tenant's question than it is a labourer's question. (Hear, hear.) It is a landlord's question altogether, and with them is the great struggle for the overthrow of monopoly to be carried on, and tremendous will be the energies and desperate the efforts which they will put forth in its behalf. (Hear, hear.) They have made up their minds to that, you may depend upon it. They are quite determined never to be persuaded to give way. Expose any error which they have embraced on this subject, and they will straightway clasp the dear, darling, misshapen bantling to their hearts with fonder affection than ever. Drive them from any fallacy, and they will forthwith return to it and intrench themselves within it again as the very citadel of truth, admirable illustrations of the saying, that

"The man convinced against his will  
Is of the same opinion still,"

(applause), and firmly resolved to emulate and imitate the hero immortalized in the ballad of "Chevy Chase":—

"For Witherington needs must we wall,  
As one in doleful dumps;  
For, when his legs were smitten off,  
He fought upon his stumps."

(Laughter and cheers.) But let me not be misunderstood when speaking of the landed gentry. I have lived much in the country, and ever found them a class worthy

on many occasions of respect and admiration. Frank, noble, and free, open-hearted and open-souled, kindly neighbours, liberal and generous, I know not whither I should go beyond them for the best specimens of Englishmen, or of the human species itself, within the circle of the globe. But, nevertheless, on the subject of the Corn Laws they are blind, stone blind. (Cheers.) To them, therefore, I would now address myself for a few moments, only premising that, as a copartner in the land and agriculture of the country, I am embarked in the same ship with them, and that, sink or swim, I must meet their fate and share their lot, and that, moreover, I have no more fancy than they can have for exchanging the stout vessel of safety for a storm, a shipwreck, and the chance of escape upon a plank. (Loud applause.) I would begin, then, by observing, that the landlords generally fall into a great error by looking at the present state of things as if they had existed from eternity and would abide with us for ever. With regard to the past, they forget that it is the increase of the trade of the country which has made the land what it is in value. With reference to the future, they never consider that, if, under the mischievous influence of class legislation, the trade of the country should decline and fall away, land—that is the landed interest—will be involved in the same common ruin with it. (Applause.) It has been sometimes said that there are persons—the gluttonous and greedy ones of the earth—who "live to eat." The great majority, however, of mankind undoubtedly eat to live. (Hear.) But the manufacturing and trading population of this country not only eat that they may live themselves, but that we of the agricultural districts may live also; and the more they do eat, the better living shall we make out of them. You may, perhaps, bring the landowners up to this point with you; but their chief terrors have yet to be combated and removed. These are all centred in the idea of the fearful competition which corn of home growth will have to undergo against that of foreign countries, where land and labour are at a low figure, and where corn is, consequently, cheap, and whence it can be brought to the English market at very small freights. Now, in the face of these fears, I would ask, with Earl Spencer, "Is it not just as likely, with a Free Trade established, and the increased consumption occasioned thereby, that continental should rise to the level of English, as that English should fall to the level of continental prices?" (Cheers.) Take the points separately. "The price of land," they say, "is low." But it is advancing already, I am told, in the north of Germany, on the very strength of the agitation for Free Trade in this country. We may not doubt, then, what will be the result when Free Trade is actually achieved. "But wages are low." As land increases in value, and more of it is, consequently, brought under cultivation, the price of labour will increase with it. (Hear, hear.) "But corn is low, beyond anything with which we can compete." And why? Because the foreign growers of it can only look forward to a kind of bumper or chance trade with us for four, or five, or six weeks in the year, and that only in case the weather here should be too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry, for our own crops. (Applause.) But abolish the Corn Laws, and carry on a constant trade with them, and you will soon find a difference. (Hear.) The foreigner will no longer

give away his agricultural produce when he has a steady and regular market opened to him for it in this country. (Cheers.) "But last of all, look at freights, how low they are." Yes, they are. The incubus of monopoly has done its work here also, and pressed and crushed our shipowners, at times, into such a ruinous competition that they have been almost driven to the point to which, it is said, before the introduction of railroads and steam-carriages, the opposition coaches on some of the roads were, at one period, reduced, when they would carry you fifty or a hundred miles for nothing, and give you a dinner and a bottle of wine into the bargain for honouring them with the preference. (Laughter.) But once make wider the borders of commerce, and there will be an end of such things. (Hear, hear.) Shipowners know how to take care of themselves as well as other people, and they will stand out for remunerating freights the very moment that Free Trade increases the demand for vessels. So that, in whatever point of view I look at the subject, I still and still come back to the conclusion, that the apprehensions of my brother-agriculturists and landlords, as to the overwhelming influx of low-priced foreign wheat which the repeal of the Corn Laws would bring upon us, are apprehensions founded, if I may so say, altogether upon misapprehension. (Cheers.) And, then, we must take into the account in our favour the abolition of the sugar and other monopolies which would instantly follow that of corn; while the blister of the Peel-pet income-tax would also be withdrawn, as that crutch of the deformed cripple, Monopoly, would no longer be required, if trade, standing on its own stout and healthy legs, were allowed, without let or hindrance from class legislation, to bring its contributions to the revenue from every region of the earth. ("Hear," and cheers.) And while, as I look at the question, the repeal of the Corn Laws would inflict damage upon none, upon how many would it confer advantages of inestimable value! (Hear.) The merchant, the manufacturer of every kind, the tradesman in every branch, the shopkeeper, the mechanic: all these would derive great and immediate benefit from the change. ("Hear, hear," and applause.) But, above all and before all, it would be a gain and a blessing to the masses of our working and manufacturing population. By increasing the demand for labour, it would stimulate energies which are now too often rusting from the want of employment, and give occupation to industry, which at times is useless, because unused, like gold hid in its mine in the bowels of the earth. (Hear, hear.) And with this individual happiness national security is closely allied. There is an old proverb, telling us, "that when poverty comes in at the door love flies out of the window," which Cobbett, somewhere in his "Cottage Economy," has thus expressed in his own emphatic Saxon: "Food in a house is a great source of harmony." (Laughter and cheers.) It is and, upon a more extended scale, it has the same effect in a country. (Hear.) It is the best police you can have. (Cheers.) There is no standing army equal to it. (Cheers.) The masses of the population can never remain discontented under a Government which bombards them, not with joints of meat "in theory" and loaves "in the abstract," but with *bond fide*, real beef and mutton, and actual bread: that is, in other words, which, by increasing trade, brings the means of obtaining such things within their reach. (Loud cheers.) But the picture expands before me. Free Trade would not only be a national good, but it would be more: it would be a benefit conferred upon mankind at large. (Hear.) Trade has ever been the pioneer of civilization, which has followed closely in its track, as it has won on its way from nation to nation in its progress through the world. (Hear.) It is, moreover, the herald and harbinger of Christianity wherever it appears. (Hear, hear.) Let it penetrate, with its white sails, to the farthest isles of the ocean; let it reach, in its spirit of undaunted enterprise, the most remote recesses of the desert and the wilderness, there forthwith will the missionaries of the Gospel stand side by side with it, and, unfurling the banner of the Cross, proclaim the way of truth and life to the heathen and the savage, who, before, have only,

"With untutor'd mind,  
Seen God in clouds, or heard him in the wind."

(Cheers.) Trade also, in the end, with a power more resistless than that of kings and an influence which puts to shame all the diplomacy of statesmen, will prove itself to be the great pacificator and harmonizer of the world. (Applause.) Encircling the globe with a chain of self-interest and mutual advantage united, of which every nation will form a link, it will bind all mankind in friendship and amity together, so that at last they will be persuaded "to beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks," and no longer war one against another, as in days gone by, at the bidding of pride or the call of wild and frantic ambition. (Cheers.) Such, so various and so many, are the advantages which are involved in the success of the great question which we are all so anxious to promote. And here, while on this part of the subject, I would claim—and I speak not only of the men of the League, but of all those illustrious names whose hearts are with us here—I would claim their due praise for those who have led us on to the point which our cause has reached, and who will, we trust, continue to lead us until final success has crowned their efforts. (Cheers.) Upon them, when that time comes, will the blessings of the people be showered as the real and most substantial benefactors of their country. (Applause.) There will be a distinction far beyond the blaze of titled rank or worldly honours; theirs will be an abiding and never-fading renown and glory, in comparison with which the laurel of the conqueror becomes as a chaplet of sear and yellow leaves, and the sceptre of the monarch shrinks into an empty bauble; theirs are the names which deserve the reverence of their fellow-men, and to be written in letters of gold in the best and brightest page of the history of nations. (Cheers.) But, to return to the question before us in the few more words which I shall address to you. Are not the benefits and blessings which Free Trade promises to bestow upon the country worth struggling and striving for to the very utmost of our energies and exertions? They are, they are, indeed. (Cheers.) And, in preparing to make the efforts which our cause deserves, let us at the same time fairly take into our calculations the difficulties which yet remain for us to overcome. (Hear, hear.) Many, however, and great as they are, they are trifling, weighed against those which have been already surmounted, and they are as nothing when compared with the magnitude of the prize which is at stake. (Cheers.) They are enough



to inspire zeal, but not to excite fear. They are sufficient to stimulate activity, but not to awaken despair. Despair! Who talks of despair, when even to doubt would be treason to our good and righteous cause? (Cheers.) It would be to distrust that Omnipotent Being who gives His sun to shine upon us, and sends the former and the latter rain to fertilize the earth, and crowns the year with the coming harvest, to suppose that He will always look on, an unconcerned spectator, while short-sighted mortals arrogate to themselves the power of controlling His providence and limiting His mercies to mankind. (Cheers.) Yea, it would be to disbelieve and reject the heaven-taught prayer, for "our daily bread," to imagine, for a single moment, that He, who sits on His throne on high, and who, of old, fed His people in the wilderness with manna, and sent the ravens to carry meat to His prophets, will for ever allow the supplications of His servants to remain unanswered and His promised gifts to be intercepted by—shall I say, the more than mischievous or less than impious legislation of men? (Loud cheers.) Let us, then, not only with every aspiration for success, but with every trust and confidence that it is not now far off, press on to achieve it. We have, as I said before, struggled against mightier odds than those which are now opposed to us. We have toiled through the desert, where all was dreary and desolate around us, and where we should have sunk down in despair but that the star of hope, like the sacred fire on Horeb, shone through the darkness to guide and cheer us on our way. (Applause.) We have held on our course until we have climbed the lofty elevation of the mount from which we behold the land of promise spread out before us in all its inviting loveliness and fertility, and with the descent to it comparatively easy. (Cheers.) Forward, until we plant our feet firmly upon its rich and luxuriant soil. (Cheers.) Forward, until the banner of success floats in triumph over it. (Cheers.) The fruits of victory are even now almost within our reach, and, presently, our outstretched hands will grasp them. (The eloquent and rev. gentleman then sat down amidst the most rapturous cheers, which were continued, at intervals, long after he had resumed his seat.)

#### MEETING AT STEYNING.

On the 17th inst., Mr. Falvey delivered an address in the Market-room, Steyning, Sussex. We cannot find room for a report of the proceedings; but a correspondent who was present has written to us, and from his letter we extract the following:—

"Brighton, March 18.

"I cannot let this morning's post go without a line to tell you about our glorious meeting at Steyning last night. It was the two-weeks market, and many of the farmers stopped. The room was well filled by ten minutes after six; and when Falvey began he was received with hisses, and 'Oh, oh!' &c. &c., and it was some time before he could obtain a hearing. The hubbub, however, gradually subsided, and the people became attentive, when he was determinedly interrupted by a young man, a farmer Hampton of Appleton, who wished to put questions to him. It was ultimately arranged that Falvey should not exceed one hour more in delivering his address, and that then he would enter upon a discussion with any one the farmers present chose to appoint. At the conclusion of his address each party nominated a chairman, and Mr. Hampton was appointed to conduct the defence. Both parties were limited to a quarter of an hour each. The discussion was conducted with good feeling; and it was gratifying to see how ably Falvey met the arguments of his opponent, and how well his replies told upon the meeting. Their champion managed their cause very well for a bad one. He is evidently used to speaking at protection meetings, and writes articles for the *Sussex Express*, the county protection organ. The room, which was the Market-room, was crowded—I should suppose at least 300 people—and, with the exception of the seventeen who went from here, nearly the whole were farmers and farm-labourers, and many large, substantial men amongst them. At the conclusion a good sweeping Free-Trade resolution was carried triumphantly, about a dozen or a score of hands only being held up against it, and a crowd for it; after which we had a vote of thanks for Falvey, which he had fully earned; then three good cheers for the League; and the meeting separated at half-past nine, many of the audience requesting him to come again. It was decidedly the best meeting ever held in Sussex, and the most likely to have effect. I have much pleasure in bearing my testimony to the cool, deliberate manner in which Falvey meets opposition, and the able way in which he defends his arguments. He has given great satisfaction in these parts."

#### MONOPOLIST DOINGS AT GLOUCESTER.

At the meeting of farmers and others held last year at Gloucester, attended by Mr. Cobden, and presided over by Lord Dule, the former gentleman stated that the expense of importing a quarter of wheat from Dantzic, including freight, insurance, and all other charges, amounted on an average to 10s. Mr. Biddle, a protectionist dealer and, we believe, miller of the neighbourhood, stoutly asserted that the expense of freight and insurance averaged only 5s. a quarter; and he publicly challenged Mr. Sturge, the eminent corn-merchant, who had corroborated Mr. Cobden's statement, to refute him, offering to stake £50 on the issue. This piece of empty swagger was exactly calculated to captivate those two notorious personages, Messrs. Peter Matthews and John Long, who commenced a subscription amongst their followers to reward Mr. Biddle with a piece of plate, which was presented to him at a meeting, the proceedings at which drew the following letter from Mr. Sturge:—

"To the Editor of the Gloucester Journal.

"My attention has been called to the proceedings of a meeting held at the Spread Eagle, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., as reported in Saturday's Gloucester Chronicle. I think it is due to an impartial public that I should make a few observations, that they may not be misled by the statements there made, as one object of the meeting appears to have been to make an attack upon me. As to the remarks of Peter Matthews and John Long, the chairman and vice-chairman, and their imputations, they are so unworthy the station in life they profess to fill

that I should feel it as a degradation to enter into any controversy with them; besides, I suffer from their aspersions in good company, for the truly noble Earl Ducie has fared no better at their hands; and they have their reward, for it cannot be doubted that the recent dissolution of the Farmers' Club was in a great measure caused by the violent language and conduct lately exhibited by these parties. As respects my friend John Biddle, the case is very different,—I have received nothing in the shape of insult from him; but his much-talked-of challenge was, that the freight and insurance on wheat from Dantzic was only 5s. per quarter. In this we are exactly agreed, and of course there could be no dispute between us about it; but, mark me, he will not admit there are any other expenses or charges in importing foreign wheat than freight and insurance; on this, we are at issue; but, such being the case, any farther argument with him on the subject would be an idle waste of words. But I am fully prepared to prove the accuracy of my statements of cost in the freight and other charges of importing Dantzic wheat, to the satisfaction of any impartial persons. The actual charges on a large quantity of Dantzic wheat imported into Gloucester last summer were as under:—

	Per Quarter.
Freight	s. d.
Sound dues	4 6
Insurance	0 6
Shipping charges, mats, dunnage, &c.	0 6
Canal tonnage	0 9
Landing charges at Gloucester	0 6
Interest on advances before the wheat can be sold	0 6
Loss from salt-water, damage, not covered by insurance, heating during the voyage, and short measure	0 3
Merchants' commission in Dantzic and in England	2 0
	2 6
	12 0

"Besides this, I suppose no sane person can be ignorant that the wheat does not grow on the quays or in the warehouses at Dantzic! It is brought from the interior of the country, at distances of from three to seven hundred miles from the place, and further expenses to the amount of many shillings per quarter are incurred after it leaves the estates where it grows; so that the home grower possesses advantages in prices, in his own market, over the foreign producer to a far greater extent than the sum above stated. I am, very respectfully,

"Gloucester, March 3."

"T. M. STURGE."

#### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

The following is the list of "Farmers' Friends" who voted against Mr. Cobden's motion for inquiry into the causes of the agricultural distress which they pretend to deplore, but dare not investigate.

##### NOES.

Acland, Sir T. D.	Fitzmaurice, Hon. W.	Neeld, Joseph
Acland, T. D.	Fitzroy, Hon. H.	Neeld, John
A'Court, Capt.	Flower, Sir J.	Neville, R.
Allox, J. P.	Forbes, W.	Newgate, C. N.
Antrobus, E.	Forman, T. S.	Newport, Visct.
Arbuthnot, Hon. H.	Fox, S. L.	Nicholl, Rt. Hon. J.
Archdall, Capt. M.	Fremantle, Rt. Hon.	Norreys, Lord
Arkwright, J.	Str T.	Oswald, Alex.
Aspell, W.	Fuller, A. E.	Packer, C. W.
Baker, W.	Gaskell, J. M.	Pakington, J. S.
Balog, Hon. W.	Gladstone, Rt. Hon.	Palmer, R.
Balley, J.	Wm. E.	Palmer, G.
Balley, J., Jun.	Gladstone, Captain	Peel, Rt. Hon. Sir R.
Ballie, Colonel	Gordon, Hon. Capt.	Peel, J.
Baker, G.	Gore, Montague	Plumptre, J. P.
Barling, T.	Goring, C.	Pollington, Visct.
Barling, Rt. Hon. W. D.	Goulburn, Rt. Hon. H.	Powell, Col.
Barrington, Visct.	Graham, Rt. Hon.	Præd, W. T.
Beckett, W.	Sir J.	Pringle, A.
Bell, M.	Granby, Marquis	Pusey, P.
Bentley, Lord G.	Greenall, P.	Raid, Sir J. R.
Beresford, Major	Greene, T.	Rendlesham, Lord
Blackstone, W. S.	Grimsditch, T.	Repton, G. W. J.
Boldero, H. G.	Hinton, Visct.	Roileston, Col.
Borthwick, P.	Grogan, E.	Round, C. G.
Botfield, B.	Hale, R. B.	Round, J.
Bowles, Admiral	Halford, Sir H.	Rous, Hon. Captain
Bramston, T. W.	Hamilton, W. J.	Rushbrooke, Col.
Briaro, M.	Harcourt, G. G.	Ryder, Hon. G. D.
Broadwood, H.	Harris, Hon. Capt.	Sanderson, R.
Bruce, Lord E.	Hays, Sir E.	Seymour, Sir H. D.
Bruce, C. L. C.	Heneage, G. H. W.	Shaw, Rt. Hon. F.
Bruce, W. H. L.	Henley, J. W.	Shirley, E. P.
Buck, L. W.	Hepburn, Sir T. B.	Shirley, E. P.
Buckley, E.	Herbert, Rt. Hon. S.	Slithery, Col.
Buller, Sir J. Y.	Holmes, Hon. W.	Smith, A.
Bunbury, T.	A'Court	Smith, Rt. Hon. T. B. C.
Burrell, Sir G. M.	Hope, Hon. C.	Smyth, Sir H.
Burroughes, H. N.	Hope, G. W.	Smyth, Hon. G.
Campbell, Sir H.	Hussey, A.	Smollett, A.
Cardwell, R.	Hussey, T.	Somerset, Lord G.
Charteris, Hon. F.	Ingestre, Visct.	Somerton, Visct.
Chelsea, Visct.	Irton, S.	Somers, J.
Chetwode, Sir J.	James, Sir W. C.	Stotherton, T. H. S.
Christopher, R. A.	Jermyn, Earl	Stewart, J.
Clayton, R. R.	Jocelyn, Visct.	Stuart, H.
Clerk, Rt. Hon. Sir G.	Johnston, Sir J.	Stuart, H. C.
Clifton, J. T.	Knolly, Sir W. G. H.	Sutton, Hon. H. M.
Cochrane, A.	Knightley, Sir C.	Talbot, C. R. M.
Codrington, Sir W.	Lawson, A.	Tenent, J. E.
Colville, C. R.	Legh, G. C.	Thesiger, Sir F.
Compton, H. C.	Lennox, Lord A.	Thornhill, G.
Copeland, Mr. A.	Lincoln, Earl of	Tollens, J.
Courtenay, Lord	Lockhart, W.	Tower, C.
Darby, G.	Long, W.	Trollope, Sir J.
Deedes, W.	Lowther, Sir J. H.	Trotter, J.
Denison, E. B.	Lowther, Hon. Col.	Turnor, C.
Dick, Q.	Lygon, Hon. Gen.	Villiers, Visct.
Dickinson, F. H.	Mackenzie, T.	Vivian, J. E.
Dismore, D.	Mackenzie, W. F.	Waddington, H. S.
Dodd, G.	Maclean, Donald	Walsh, Sir J. B.
Douglas, J. D. S.	McGrath, E. A.	Wellesley, Lord C.
Dugdale, W. S.	McNeill, D.	Wodehouse, E.
Duncombe, Hon. A.	Manners, Lord J.	Wood, Col. T.
Dr. Pie, C. G.	March, Earl of	Worley, Lord
Easton, Visct.	Marshall, Visct.	Wortley, Hon. J. B.
Edmon, R. J.	Martin, C. W.	Wyndham, Col. C.
Exerton, W. T.	Mutton, C.	York, Hon. E. T.
Exerton, Sir F.	Muswell, T. P.	
Forster, W.	Myers, Capt.	
Farnham, E. B.	Mildmay, H. St. John	
Fellowes, R.	Miles, W.	
Ferrand, W. B.	Morgan, G.	

##### TELLERS.

Young, Mr.  
Barling, H.

LINENS MANUFACTURED BY POWER.—Messrs. Marshall and Co. have advanced their linen power-loom weavers from 10 per cent. to 16 per cent. for the work on fine linens and drills.—*Leeds Mercury*.

#### LONDON BAZAAR PROCEEDINGS.

##### LONDON LADIES' BAZAAR COMMITTEE MEETING.

On Wednesday last a general meeting of ladies from the various local committees of London was held at No. 20, New-street, for the purpose of forming a general committee of superintendence for the metropolitan districts. There were upwards of fifty ladies present. Interesting reports were made of what was doing in some of the suburbs of the metropolis and many of the central districts, from which it appeared that great activity and zeal were manifesting themselves, and the ladies were busily at work in efficiently promoting the success of the Bazaar.

Plans of the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, with the coloured designs of the intended decorations, were exhibited, the splendour and beauty of which excited great admiration.

The necessary arrangements for systematizing operations in the various districts were discussed and determined upon; and the ladies seemed to vie with each other in their anxiety to give practical effect to the proposed means of organization and cooperation. (Canvasing committees were formed to wait upon and solicit contributions from the friends of the cause, in most of the suburban districts of the metropolis. The following are the names of ladies who have engaged to act as secretaries in their own localities, and to receive contributions from, or give information to parties who may be desirous of aiding in any way the success of the Bazaar.)

Mrs. Bauer, Balham-terrace, Balham.

Mrs. Cogan, Upper-mall, Hammersmith.

Miss Eckett, Argyle-square, New-road.

Mrs. William Hampton, Albany-street (Regent's-park).

Mrs. Jenkyns, Byng-place, Torrington-square.

Mrs. Lucas, Pembroke-square, Kensington.

Mrs. Lewis, 113, Strand.

Miss Linthorne, 15, Vassal-road, North Brixton.

Mrs. Price, 7, Highbury-terrace.

Miss Phelps, Winchester-place, Pentonville.

Mrs. Poulter, Harder-lane, Peckham.

Miss Rhoades, Vine-street, Minories.

Mrs. Taylor, 38, Arlington-street, Camden-town.

Mrs. P. A. Taylor, jun., Cheapside.

Mrs. J. L. Wheeler, 45, Gloucester-place, Kenilworth.

##### LADIES' MEETING AT PECKHAM.

A morning meeting of ladies, resident in Camberwell and Peckham, was held on Thursday, in the lecture-room, Hill-street, Peckham, for the purpose of hearing an address from Mr. George Thompson, in explanation of the objects of the Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in May next. The meeting was most respectable and numerous. On the motion of Mr. Farrah, a member of the Society of Friends, Mr. J. A. Lyson, of Camberwell, took the chair. Mr. George Thompson delivered an eloquent and impressive address on the great national objects which the League have in view in promulgating the principles of Free Trade with the nations of the world. He impressed upon his auditory that the time for holding the Bazaar was fast approaching, and that, as the intervening space was short, the necessity for active co-operation on their part was in proportion great. Mr. A. L. Saul, of the League, then spoke, and further elucidated the advantages which would arise to the country from the adoption of Free Trade, whose principles he explained. A ladies' committee for the districts of Camberwell and Peckham, with power to add to their number, was then formed, and the meeting separated.

##### LONDON GENERAL BAZAAR COMMITTEE.

On Thursday evening a meeting was held in the Grand Room of the League Offices, 69, Fleet-street, for the purpose of forming a General Bazaar Committee for London. The large room was crowded; and amongst the gentlemen present were observed Major-General Briggs, Captain Cogan, Ralph Ricardo, Esq., Samuel Lucas, Esq., W. Wilson, Esq., Samuel Hickson, Esq., David Deane, Esq., and many of the principal friends of the League from the different boroughs and districts of the metropolis.

Mr. A. W. Paulton took the chair, and opened the business of the meeting by shortly explaining the plan of operations that had been adopted in Manchester, and other large towns of the kingdom. The accounts from all parts of the country justified the most sanguine expectations. A spirit of zeal and emulation existed that promised to make the exhibition one of the most brilliant and attractive ever witnessed on any similar occasion, and it was hoped that the Free-Traders of London would contribute to its success and magnificence on a scale worthy of the metropolis of the empire.

The main business of the evening was the formation of sub-committees of gentlemen to undertake the canvass of the various trades, and request contributions of their respective articles of sale or manufacture. Ten committees were formed, each taking a separate trade, and engaging to canvass them systematically.

It was resolved, also, that a circular should be addressed from the Committee to the chairmen and secretaries of each of the Metropolitan Anti-Corn-Law Associations, requesting them to convene a special meeting of their members and friends, to institute a similar organization within their respective districts, and appoint canvassing committees to wait upon and solicit contributions from the various trades and manufactures throughout the different boroughs.

As it is obvious, however, that there are many manufactures and trades carried on in the neighbourhood of London capable of supplying articles well suited to the Bazaar, for which no canvassing committees have yet been appointed, it is requested that all persons able and willing to render assistance in this way will attend the next meeting of the committee. Gentlemen who are not able to attend, but who are willing to join canvassing committees, are requested to send their names to the Committee, at 67, Fleet-street, together with any suggestions they may think useful, which will receive every attention.

The Committee will meet again on Thursday next, at seven o'clock.

#### MEETING AT UXBRIDGE.

On the 12th inst., a numerous and respectable Anti-Corn-Law meeting was held at Uxbridge. The chair was taken by HENRY HULL, Esq., who made some forcible remarks on the question of Free Trade.

Colonel THOMPSON, who, on coming forward, was loudly cheered, spoke with his usual felicity on the general question, and enforced the claims of the Bazaar, especially on the female portion of his auditory.

ROBERT WILKINS, Esq., proposed the appointment of a committee of ladies.

GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq., in an eloquent speech, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A committee of ladies, consisting of the wives and daughters of some of the most influential men in the town, was then formed; and after the usual votes of thanks the meeting separated.

Colonel Thompson's speech gave so much pleasure and satisfaction that the Uxbridge Association have concluded to publish it.

#### BRADFORD.

On Monday night a meeting of Free-Traders was held in the large room of the Exchange-buildings, for the purpose of meeting a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, consisting of Colonel Thompson and Mr. Robert R. Moore, who attended to afford information as to the operations of the League, and especially respecting the Bazaar. The meeting was numerous and respectfully attended. George Oxley, Esq., was voted to the chair, and in commencing the meeting announced the object which had called them together.

Colonel THOMPSON and Mr. MOORE severally addressed the meeting, and were loudly cheered.

The Rev. WALTER SCOTT proposed a resolution, nominating a committee of gentlemen to collect subscriptions of articles or money for the Bazaar.

T. BRAUNTON, Esq., seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman, which that gentleman duly acknowledged, the meeting broke up.—*Abridged from the Bradford Observer.*

#### LEEDS.

On Wednesday evening there was a well-attended meeting held at the Music-hall, Leeds, to forward the Bazaar. HENRY STANFIELD, Esq., presided. Able speeches were delivered by Colonel Thompson, Robert R. Moore, Esq., and others; and a resolution to support the Bazaar was passed with acclamation.

#### TEA PARTY AT HALIFAX.

A tea party, in aid of the Great League Bazaar, was held in the large and handsome room of the Odd Fellows' Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 19th inst. The room was splendidly and tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the tea, cakes, &c., were provided by the ladies of the committee, each lady furnishing one tray for twelve persons. A party of about 150 sat down to tea; and the proceedings were enlivened by the attendance of Mr. W. Taylor and an excellent quadrille band. After tea visitors were admitted, at sixpence each, and the room was most respectably filled. The chair was ably occupied by Jonathan Akroyd, Esq., president of the Halifax Anti-Corn-Law Association; and the meeting was addressed by W. Morris, Esq.; Francis Crossley, Esq.; the venerable "Cavalier," Colonel Thompson; T. Flint, Esq., of Leeds; Robt. R. Moore, Esq.; Joseph Thorp, Esq.; J. T. Clay, Esq., of Rattrick, &c. &c. Numerous contributions to the Bazaar were promised, and a ladies' committee formed. It was announced that the committee would meet on the following afternoon for despatch of business. The most enthusiastic feeling in favour of the great object of the meeting was manifested throughout the evening. The meeting broke up about ten o'clock, after having passed a vote of thanks to Colonel Thompson, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Flint, for their attendance and speeches; having also given three cheers for the chairman, and three cheers for those ladies who had furnished the trays.

#### THE MINISTRY, THE FREE-TRADERS, AND THE FARMERS' FRIENDS.

(From the (Delft) Northern Whig.)

A debate of an extraordinary and very important kind took place in the House of Commons, on Thursday evening. Mr. Cobden appeared as the advocate of justice to the agriculturists; and the bucolic gentlemen utterly deserted the cause of that party.

At an early period of the session, the member for Stockport referred to the numerous complaints which were made about the depressed and distressing condition of the farmers; and stated, that he hoped some of the gentlemen belonging to the agricultural interest would move for an inquiry, promising, at the same time, that if, after a reasonable interval of delay, the matter were not so taken up, he would himself move on the subject.

In accordance with this promise, and as the agricultural

members appeared to be "fighting shy," Mr. Cobden proceeded, on Thursday evening last, to fulfil his promise, by moving for a committee to inquire into the causes of the alleged existing agricultural distress, and into the effects of legislative protection upon the interests of *landowners, tenant-farmers, and farm-labourers*. Here was a proposition which, one would have supposed, must command the acquiescence of every man in the House who holds that the farmers, and so forth, are suffering, from whatever cause. And if the country gentlemen in general believe what they say, they hold that it is in the power of the Legislature to alleviate, or even remove, the distress of which they complain. They assume, also, to be especially concerned for the prosperity of the farmers, and still more, if that be possible, for the comforts of the farm-servants. Well, here was just the case for them. What are the causes of agricultural distress? Do those gentlemen wish to have them investigated, and stated, with a view to their removal? We must not, of course, doubt this. Do they wish the farmers to prosper? Oh! as to that, their own interests, if we are to believe themselves, are of a merely secondary description. Well, then, they could not object to having the unfortunate case of such parties examined. Lastly, do they desire that the hard-worked and honest farm-servants should be made more comfortable? The answer is, according to themselves, that there is scarcely one thing on this wide earth that they desire so much. Behold, then!—here is an inquiry: will they consent? Not they! They at once object, and vote stolidly and doggedly against it.

But, perhaps, as the motion was made by a Free-Trader, there was something dangerous in it. That can scarcely be urged, seeing that the Free-Trader was quite willing to let the matter be taken up by one of the agricultural gentlemen themselves—one of the "farmers' friends." No such person, however, seemed disposed for the work; and, of course, there was no good ground for suspicion, when Mr. Cobden at length interfered. Still, as he was the mover, perhaps the committee would have been a partial one—a committee packed with Free-Traders. Even if it had been so, it would have been practicable and easy for the agricultural party to produce their witnesses, and make out their case, which they would have us believe is so strong. But what was the proposal actually made? That the majority of the members of the committee should be chosen, not from among the Free-Traders, but from the opposite side.

"Let them," said Mr. Cobden, addressing himself to the agricultural party, "place a majority of their own members upon that committee—he would assent at once to that." This was taking away all plausible excuse or pretext from them, if they were not prepared to put themselves in a position in which they must stand before the country, either as betrayers of the farmers of England, or as men who know that inquiry and truth are not convenient, because they believe that their case is bad. But, in this position they have placed themselves. They talk loudly, at farmers' dinners and from the hustings, about their determination to right the wrongs of the farmers and labourers; yet, here, when they are challenged to inquiry—when the sufferings of the agriculturists are admitted by Mr. Cobden—for that admission is a part of his case—they shrink back, and refuse to afford an opportunity for having witnesses called forward, in order that the whole matter may be impartially and fully investigated; and that, too, when it is proposed to them to have the nomination of the majority of the members of the committee!

Mr. Cobden tried, though in vain, to arouse the spirit of the agricultural members:—"He could not believe that, after the experience they had had, the country gentlemen would longer remain a mere drum-head in the hands of the Premier, giving out empty sounds as he struck, but having no voices of their own. No, they were the aristocracy of England, whose fathers had led the country for many centuries; and they might themselves long continue to lead it, if they only took the right way." They were not to be roused by any such appeal into a manly bearing. They are a crouching, spiritless set, trembling at the apprehension even of fair and full inquiry; and, whilst they privately rail at Sir Robert Peel, they cower before him. Mr. Bright described the Premier and them, very well, by repeating the story of the Irish horse-tamer:—

"He thought the right honourable baronet exercised too much influence, in taming down honourable gentlemen opposite. At agricultural meetings, they could speak out most valiantly; but in that House they were mute. Surely it was no enviable reputation they were thus acquiring—that of being great in the field, and little in the Senate. The influence the right honourable baronet had over the hon. gentlemen by whom he was supported reminded him (and he could compare it to nothing else) of an Irish story, of a man who had a great talent for taming horses. When he went to tame a horse, he went into the stable, and it was supposed he whispered in the animal's ear; and, such was the influence of his voice, that, however vicious, however fiery and ungovernable before, he immediately afterwards became the most docile, tractable, and useful animal possible. ('Hear,' and laughter.) And so it was with the right honourable baronet, and the country gentlemen around him; when they were in the country, they were most fiery and untractable; but the moment they came into that House the influence of the right hon. baronet's voice was such, that the most tractable and useful supporter any Minister could wish to have was, a thorough-going agricultural member. (Cheers and laughter.)"

The truth seems to be so proved and proclaimed, with respect to those tamed gentlemen, that it will be wonderful, indeed, if the public place further confidence in them. They are either the most arrant of fiction-mongers, in their intercourse with the agricultural population, deluding and delving them with respect to their condition and its causes, or they are most heartless betrayers of them, to suit the political convenience of themselves and their master. This debate will do more, we believe, than anything that has for a long time occurred, to blow up the imposture of protection, and the injurious influence of those individuals who falsely lay claim to the title of "farmers' friends," whilst in fact they are their worst foes.

A most remarkable circumstance connected with this debate, is the course taken by Ministers. Notwithstanding the ability and effect—an effect acknowledged on both sides of the House—with which Mr. Cobden brought forward his motion, and notwithstanding the eloquence and power with which Lord Howick, Mr. Bright, and

Mr. Villiers supported it, the only official man who spoke on the other side was the new Secretary-at-War, Mr. S. Herbert, who spoke after Mr. Cobden; and if his speech was valuable for anything, it was for showing the strength of his opponents, and his own weakness. In his difficulty, he turned petulantly (it might be deplorably) upon the agriculturists, and said:—"He must confess, as the representative of an agricultural constituency, that there was something to him very distasteful in the agriculturists coming whining to Parliament on every occasion when any distress befel them."

The "whining" agriculturists will not fail to appreciate this compliment from the only member of the Government who condescended to speak in the debate. And if they do come "whining to Parliament," who taught them to do so? Men like Mr. Sidney Herbert, who, from a blind, stupid desire to put money into their own purses, told the farmers that their prosperity depended upon protection. How dare he first join in teaching them this lesson, and then turn insolently round upon them with his exasperating taunt? We hope, however, that the taunt will not be lost upon them; but that it will lead them to think, at the same time, of the hollowiness of their professing friends, and of the necessity of turning away from men who have so misled and deceived them, and trusting to their own freed energies.

#### THE BAZAAR.

WHITEHAVEN.—This great device in aid of the League funds—and which will be at the same time a grand display of the mechanical skill of our artisans, and of the natural resources of the country—is to open in May. Though, in this locality, there may not be much done in the way of combined effort, yet we may remind the friends of Free Trade that individual contributions will be acceptable. The mineral and marine resources of the county, which abound in this locality, may furnish something; and there are various ways in which the great object in view may be promoted, especially by our fair readers, which if sent to our office will be duly forwarded to the committee of management.—*Whitehaven Herald.*

OPERATIVES' CONTRIBUTIONS.—As we understand there are many operatives who would willingly give their time in preparing specimens of their genius for the Bazaar, but who at the same time cannot afford to purchase materials, we may state that the Preston committee are willing in such cases to furnish the materials that may be required. And, as the committee meet every Monday night, we would recommend the operatives to make application for such help.—*Preston Guardian.*

SHEFFIELD.—We have the pleasure to state that, at the meeting of the committee on Wednesday evening, Mr. Hargreaves handed in the handsome sum of £20, contributed in aid of the League by a voluntary subscription among the table-knife grinders. This liberal trade contributed last year, in the same manner, £25. The committee acknowledged the donation by a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks.—*Sheffield Independent.*

LEEDS.—We understand that during Thursday Mr. Moore and Mr. Birchall were canvassing some of the leading manufacturers and merchants of Leeds, and that there is every reason to expect that Leeds will not be behind the other towns in the West Riding. The Bazaar, as an exhibition of national resources, is of national importance, and should receive national support.—*Leeds Mercury.*

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The ladies of Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Denton, and the surrounding neighbourhood, are at present fully engaged in their endeavours to maintain their position for liberality to the cause of Free Trade. The towns and villages in this part have been divided into districts, and ladies appointed to each, to solicit contributions in money, work, &c., for the forthcoming Bazaar, shortly to be held in London.

BRIGHTON.—A mixed committee of ladies and gentlemen has this week been formed in Brighton to promote this national undertaking.—*Brighton Guardian.*

#### CONVICTION OF A FARMER FOR POISONING GAME.

—At York Castle, on Friday last, before John Clough, Esq., and W. D. T. Duesbery, Esq., John Reynard, of Skipwith, farmer, was charged with having put arsenic in a certain field called "Hag Field," in his occupation, as tenant to Lord Wenlock, with intent to destroy the game thereon. The field adjoins upon two woods, in the parish of Easingwold, which were well stocked with pheasants. On the 8th of January last, the defendant was seen by John Remison, one of the gamekeepers, to be sowing wheat on the field, and subsequently he found several pheasants, which had died from the effects of the poison. The crop of corn had been drilled several weeks previously to the defendant scattering this wheat. On the 12th of January, Remison gathered up some of the wheat, and gave it, along with the dead pheasants, to Sigus, another of his lordship's gamekeepers, who also found some dead game. —Mr. Barker, of York, surgeon, proved that he had examined the wheat taken from the crops of the dead game, and also that gathered in Hag Field by Remison; he found it strongly impregnated with arsenic, so that any bird eating it would die in six or eight hours afterwards. The magistrate convicted the defendant, who was fined £10 and costs; in default of payment within ten days, to be imprisoned in Bevelley House of Correction for three calendar months to hard labour.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—Thursday afternoon the inhabitants of Clapham were suddenly alarmed by the outbreak of a fire upon Clapham-common, known as Battersea Manor. It originated in one of the plantations of furze, the property of Earl Spencer, and before it could be extinguished nearly two acres of furze, very thick, and some eight feet high, were consumed. A number of workmen, with a strong muster of the police belonging to the V division, hastened to the scene of conflagration, and at once set to work in cutting a roadway, in which they succeeded, and thereby prevented the flames from making greater havoc. That the fire was the work of some evil-disposed person, not the least doubt remains.—On Monday night, a wheat-mow, belonging to Mr. Pike, of Lewsey, Wilts, was maliciously set on fire, and from which the flames afterwards communicated to another mow standing on an adjoining farm, in the occupation of Mr. Allen. The devastation also extended to other property contiguous situated, and before it could be arrested the destruction was considerable. A man was apprehended the following day on suspicion of being the incendiary, and was taken before the magistrates at Devizes, and remanded for further inquiry.—*Bath Chronicle.*



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, March 19, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Moffie, D., Temple-st. Mill, C-on-M., Manchester	25 0 0
Stott, Edwin, 29, Withy-grove, do.	5 0 0
Steuernont, W., Austerlands, near Lea, Saddleworth	5 0 0
Carlisle, Captain, Woodbrow, near Delph, do.	2 10 0
Jackson, W., 30, Bridge-st., Cheetham, Manchester	2 0 0
Mayo, William, 13, Market-street, do.	1 1 0
Dobell, J., and H., Withy-grove, do.	1 1 0
Kendal, Thomas, 99, Deansgate, do.	1 1 0
Milne, James, 99, do.	1 1 0
Rhodes, James, Tintwistle, near do.	1 1 0
Grindrod, J. N., 2, Palace-square, do.	1 1 0
Spencer, Samuel, Accrington, do.	1 1 0
Weller, Joseph, High-street, Oldham	1 1 0
Edleston, Archibald, 14, Arlington-street, Salford	1 1 0
Wylie, Thomas, 56, Gloucester-street, Liverpool	1 1 0
Pomfret, William, Lord-street, Preston	1 1 0
Collier, Thomas, tea-dealer, Glossop, Derbyshire	1 1 0
Cherry, G. H., Barrow-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire	1 1 0
Andrew, Gers., Mosley, near Manchester	1 1 0
Andrew, Mark, do.	1 1 0
Andrew, Mathew, do.	1 1 0
Hardner, R., 12, Upper Medlock-st., Hulme, do.	1 1 0
M'Kinley, John, 10, Clarendon-st., Oxford-road, do.	1 1 0
J. B., do.	1 1 0
Davis, William, 95, Hardman-street, do.	1 1 0
Wood, R., Rochdale-road, Bury, Lancashire	1 1 0
Oliver, David, and Sons, Wood-mills, Tadmorden	1 1 0
Oliver, Mrs. Muttchell, do.	1 1 0
Thompson, Robert, timber-merchant, Colne	1 1 0
Wilson, John, Wine-hall, near do.	1 1 0
Wright, Jon., Bugworth-hall, near Stockport	1 1 0
Bright, J., Barham, near Norwich	1 1 0
Olley, S., St. Gregory, do.	1 1 0
Thibbott, Thomas, do.	1 1 0
Tabrey, John, Market-place, do.	1 1 0
Kobson, Isaac, King-street, do.	1 1 0
Clifton, John, Salford-street, do.	1 1 0
Street, John, Woodbridge, Suffolk	1 1 0
Mayhew, Robert, Wickham-market, do.	0 3 6
Howard, John, do.	0 2 6
Shen, Mr., West Pottergate, Norwich	0 2 6
Green, James, cutter, Yargate, do.	1 1 0
Hawkesley, John, Hollis Croft, do.	1 1 0
Barnes, John, grocer, Infirmary-lane	1 1 0
Harrop, John, builder, West-street	1 1 0
Derby, John, 10, Cavendish-street	1 1 0
Whitely, Joseph, Gloucester-street	1 1 0
Jones, Jonathan, 27, Bowing Green-street	1 1 0
Parwin, W., Cannon Tavern, Norris Field	1 1 0
Swift, R., at W. Collier's, Wellington-st.	1 1 0
Redfern, Eljah, Eccleall New-road	1 1 0
Raynor, G., John-street, Shilld and Moor	1 1 0
Charlesworth, E., 101, Duke-street Park	1 1 0
Mallison, Wm., Stanley-street, Wicker	1 1 0
Hooker, George, Hill-foot	1 1 0
Wragg, John, Crabtree, Scotland-street	1 1 0
Oliver, James, Norris Field	1 1 0
Greaves, John, Hill-foot	1 1 0
Marshall, William, George and Dragon, Broad-lane	1 1 0
Marsden, Samuel, Carver-street	1 1 0
Hocking, John, Dog, Gibraltar-street	1 1 0
Roberts, Thos., Royal Oak, Hollis Croft	1 1 0

Mills, William, do.	1 0 0
Howley, Thomas, do.	1 0 0
A. F. C. Trader, do.	1 0 0
Martin, Thomas, Racebourn, near	0 5 0
P. Q., do.	0 5 0
A. B., do.	0 5 0
J. M., do.	0 5 0
Y. Z., do.	0 5 0
J. B. H., do.	0 2 6
J. S., do.	0 2 6
King, Thomas, do.	0 2 6
Court, Henry, do.	0 2 6
Burnett, W., do.	1 0 0
Reed, C., do.	0 2 6
Lee, Mr., do.	0 2 6
J. S., do.	0 2 6
H. O., do.	0 2 6
"A Friend to the League," do.	0 2 6
White, James, do.	0 2 6
H. H., do.	0 2 6
N. N., "A Friend to the Cause," do.	0 2 6
P. W., do.	0 2 6
W. N., do.	0 2 6
X. A., do.	0 2 6

Smith, W., do.	1 0 0
Dixon, W. H., do.	1 0 0
Smith, John, do.	1 0 0
Hudson, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Low, Thomas, do.	1 0 0
Howe, William, do.	1 0 0
Gaskins, Joseph, do.	1 0 0
Feeling, H., do.	1 0 0
Clifford, Charles, do.	1 0 0
Johnson, H., do.	1 0 0
W. T., do.	1 0 0
Sherwood, John, do.	1 0 0
Sherwood, Richard, do.	1 0 0
Sherwood, John, Jun., do.	1 0 0
Manton, H., do.	0 10 0
Turner, J., do.	1 0 0
Reeves, W., do.	1 0 0
Lawson, C., do.	1 0 0
Truman, C., do.	1 0 0
The workmen of J. R. and J. Sherwood	1 1 0
Redfern Jas., Smallbrook-street	1 1 0
Rythe, P., do.	1 1 0
Hall, T. and W. F., do.	1 1 0
Phillips, Mr., do.	1 1 0
Biddle, Joseph, do.	1 1 0
Funkinson, Mr., 170, Heckley	2 0 0
Wrighton, Mr., do.	1 3 6
Forgham, P., do.	1 0 0
Gargony, J., do.	1 0 0
Patron J. J. Helely Hill	1 0 0
Boyle, J. R., Abchurch-street	1 1 0
Wright, W., Balcanth	1 1 0
Wright, W., do.	1 1 0
The workmen of W. S. Whitfield	1 1 0
Whitfield, S., do.	1 1 0
Whitfield, S., do.	2 0 0
Whitfield, S., do.	1 0 0
Whitfield, S., do.	1 0 0

Working Men's subscription, per Wood,	1 0 0
James, John, Hildgate	1 0 0
Amey, John, Hildgate	1 0 0
Reed, John, New Zealand-road	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, Wellington-road North	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, do.	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, do.	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, do.	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, do.	1 0 0
Wrighton, John, do.	1 0 0

Ord, George, 100, Virginia-street	21 0 0
Robertson, Charles, 37, Montrose-street	1 1 0
Stewart, Robert, 33, Buchanan-street	1 0 0
Roy, William, Clyde-bank Print-works	1 0 0
Loudon, John, 68, St. Vincent's-street	1 1 0
Fingland, Thomas, 62, Argyle-st.	1 1 0
Sterratt, David, 62, Queen-street	1 1 0
Young, G. K., Barr-house, Lochwinock	1 1 0
Fulton, Laird, and Co., 57, Argyle-street	1 0 0
Dick, Alexander, 153, Queen-street	1 1 0
Harvie and M'Gavin, Washington-street	1 1 0
Workmen of W. and A. Taylor, Mile-end	1 4 9
Cook, Thomas A., Walker's, Alkali Works, near	1 0 0
Patterson, John, 80, Pilgrim-street	1 0 0
Montgomery, Jas., Marlborough-st.	1 0 0
Milligan, Robert, Exchange-street	1 0 0
Forbes, Henry	1 0 0
Saunders, Rev. M., Haworth, near	1 0 0
Hainworth, Peter, Farsley, near	1 0 0
Price, Mr., surgeon, Park-row	1 0 0
Bentley, Thomas, Cleckheaton, near	1 0 0
Beattie, William, 11, Bread-street	1 1 0
James, Thomas, Lawn-market	1 0 0
Ferrier, James, 331, Canongate	0 10 0
Goldschmidt, S. H., 2, Copthall-chambers, Throgmorton-street	5 5 0
The Operatives of Warwick Works, near Carlisle, per Edward Calvert	5 0 0
Key, Professor, 44, Camden-street	5 0 0
Strickland, E. R., Glympton-park, Glympton, near Woodstock	5 0 0
Johnson, Thomas, Hallgate, Doncaster	1 1 0
Smith, William, Polmadie-house, near Glasgow	1 1 0
Nichols, Isaac, Plymouth	1 1 0
Swaine, Edward, 185, Piccadilly	1 1 0
Brown, John, and Sons, Montrose	1 1 0
Monder, Thomas, Strood, Kent	1 1 0
Clark, Benjamin, 57, Lower Brook-street, Grosvenor-square	1 1 0
Nelson, John, Bramley-yard, Whitehaven	1 1 0
Grave, Arthur G. W., 41, Dowgate-hill, City	1 0 0
James, E., Exeter	1 0 0
Jaques, R., Ripon	1 0 0
M'George, M., Brighton	1 0 0
Baker, David, Thirsk	1 0 0
Mann, Alex., and Son, Arbroath	1 0 0
Hunter, Miss, Southward-lane, Highgate	1 0 0
Dickson, Ralph, builder, 5, North-road, Preston	1 0 0
Horner, William, Coniston, near Skipton	1 0 0
Hirshane, Sir Thomas Macdougall, Bart., G.C.B., Manchester, near Kelsa	1 0 0
Pickering, William, Sherburn-hill, near Durham	1 0 0
Hutchinson, William, Brighouse, nr. Huddersfield	1 0 0
Pollard, Wm., Chapel-end, Walthamstow, Essex	10 0 0
Jacob, Frederick William, 59, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury	1 0 0
Hart, T., 3, Brooke-st., Star-corner, Hermondsey	1 0 0
Thompson, George, Haymarket, near Kelsa	1 0 0
Ramsey, Robert, carpet-weaver, Kilmarlock	1 0 0
Aiken, Richard	1 0 0
Aitken, Mrs.	1 0 0
Aitken, Richard Cobden, Mitcham-common	0 10 0
Johnson, Mrs. Mary, 48, St. Martin's-lane	1 0 0
Wells, W. H., Dillham, Norfolk	1 0 0
Rowley, John, Cross-street, Hanley, Staffordshire	1 0 0
Griffith, Rev. William, Jun., Knareborough	1 0 0
Stubb, Edward, Wallingford, Berks	1 0 0
White, John, Hounslow	1 0 0
Foxwell, Thomas, S., Shepton Mallet	1 0 0
Gill, G., Nottingham	1 0 0
New, Anthony, Evesham	1 0 0
Hastle, Joseph, Dundee	1 0 0
Brigler, William, Brewers' Arms, Lewes	1 0 0
Hinton, H., milkman, Barker-gate, Nottingham	1 0 0
Hill, T. J., 20, Abchurch-lane	1 0 0
Smith, R., St. Paul's-place, Walworth-common, Surrey	1 0 0
Hassall, John, St. Paul's-churchyard	1 0 0
Angus, James, Kirtlepaire	1 0 0
Robertson, John, 2, Grove-place, Brixton	0 10 0
Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.	0 3 6

## Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

Pollock, Thomas, 129, Fenchurch-street	1 0 0
Stone, R., Oxford-terrace, Hyde-park	5 5 0
Leitcher, Mr. John, Upper Ramford-st., C-on-M., Manchester	5 0 0

**NORTH LONSDALE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—A correspondent writes:—"The North Lonsdale Agricultural Society is all but dead; the tenant-farmers cannot be persuaded to put down their cash, and the circular lately sent from the Central Society has been of no effect."—*Lancaster Guardian*.

**FUNCTION OF PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION.**—We cannot help thinking there is some mistake as to the function of honest Opposition. That function, in our view, is, on all occasions, to put forth the right principles of measures. They cannot expect, and need not desire, to supersede those of the parties officially responsible, or even to alter them much in detail. They may fairly expect, in those measures. But they should sacrifice no jot of their principles, by supporting policy founded on other principles. They should miss no opportunity of presenting them in contrast, wherever they are contrasted. Only in this way can the public ever be taught preference for those which are really preferable. The function of Opposition is neither paltry nibbling, nor factious obstruction. But it is steady declaration of general views, on every subject involving them. Numerical strength, or immediate prospects, should have no influence on this mode of action. While a minority, they have simply to consult their convictions what course of policy is the best practicable.—*Globe*.

**COTTON FACTORIES IN THE UNITED STATES.**—A large factory commenced operations in St. Louis, Mobile, during the month of January, being the pioneer in that quarter. John Bull is respectfully informed that the Yankees have established one at Buffalo, New York, for supplying the British Colonies on the lakes with cheap sheetings. It is moved by steam power. The company has a capital of 50,000 dollars. The building is 50 by 90 ft. exclusive of the engine-house. It will give employment to 200 persons, and the cotton will be brought to the factory, from the west, through rivers, canals, and lakes. The company promise to furnish brown sheetings, batting, and wicking, as cheap as the Eastern manufacturers. They will turn out 15,000 yards of cloth per week. Miscellaneous also has entered the list of manufacturing states; together with Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. What does honest John Bull think of his Corn Laws now?—*New York Sun*.

## DEATH OF SIR THOMAS POTTER.

Just as we were going to press we received, with deep sorrow, the account of the death of that long-tried friend of the people, Sir Thomas Potter, who expired at his residence, Buile-hill, near Manchester, on Thursday morning. For more than thirty years the name of this estimable gentleman was associated, in Manchester, with every object of local or national advantage;—his time, his toil, and his purse were freely given to forward the cause of truth and justice, and to defend the rights of the poor when menaced by private oppression or public wrong. Through evil report and through good report he maintained the great principles of civil and religious liberty, and of commercial freedom; exhibiting the same firmness in the dark days of Sidmouth and Castlereagh that he displayed in the later season of comparative liberality. He has gone down to his grave full of years and of honour, respected by the wise, mourned by the good, and eulogised by the honest. A new generation in Manchester enjoys the fruits of his toils, for to him that town is mainly indebted for the best part of its municipal institutions. But his richest boon to his townsmen was his noble example of unswerving integrity and uncompromising rectitude; through this, "being dead he yet speaketh;" for, to use the words of Grattan, "the example of the patriot, like the preaching of the prophet, will not die with the holy man, but will survive him."

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXIV.

TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD HOWICK, M.P., &c. &c.

MY LORD,—Your able speech in support of Mr. Cobden's motion for a Committee of Inquiry into the effects of Legislative Protection upon the interests of landowners, tenant-farmers, and farm-labourers, has excited peculiar attention with many readers, by its allusion to the state of your own mind upon the subject of the Corn Laws. Always averse to the policy of "protection," and convinced of its inexpediency, you nevertheless describe yourself as not having been, until lately, adequately impressed with the deep and fearful character of the mischief which that system produces, and its incompatibility with the precepts of religion. Discussion has not been lost upon you. The multitude of facts brought to light has not been disregarded. Your own reflectiveness has not been idle; and you have continued to study the question, not only as a legislator responsible to your constituents, but as a moral agent responsible to the most awful tribunal. To your views, thus elevated, impolicy has darkened into wickedness. While you gazed, the mask of "protection" fell off and exposed cupidity; and even cupidity itself proved but another mask of the system, which fell off and exposed the guilty features of injustice. The speech to which I refer is not only one of the most cogent of arguments against a fallacy, but also one of the most solemn protests against a crime.

The sincere and earnest manner in which you indicate the progress of your mind, as to its perception of the real character of the question at issue, is most likely to be appreciated by putting your own words before the reader. They demand more than that fugitive attention commonly bestowed on newspaper reports, and will sink into the minds of many whose habitual modes of thought dispose them rather to moral and religious views of a question which is often only presented amid a mass of statistical details:—

"It was in vain that they could hope to benefit, still less to vindicate, the owners of land, if they refused to go into a committee for the purpose of meeting and rebutting the charges made against them. They never could stand acquitted before the world if they refused to meet their adversaries hand to hand in the close quarters of a committee. If they refused that, they would lay themselves open to the charge of contending that the 'labourer was not worthy of his hire.' Ever since he enjoyed the honour of a seat in that House he had always held the opinions to which he had that night given expression; but it was not till within the last two or three years that he had begun to view them in so very serious a light as they now presented themselves to his mind. It was not until lately that he had seen how grievously these laws infringed the sacred precepts of the divine law. When, however, he looked a little more closely at the state of the matter—when he viewed the awful phenomena which society in this country presented—he could not but see that one of the worst symptoms of our daily-increasing misery was the violent contrasts between the higher and the lower classes—between the condition of the wealthy and the poverty of the mass. If hon. gentlemen opposite doubted the existence of that poverty, let them agree to a committee. It was too hard that, while the rentals of the country gentlemen were doubled—as they had been within the last century—while the whole scale of living in almost every class of society had been inconceivably improved—while those of the middle ranks enjoyed luxuries to which that class were strangers 50 years ago,—though rents were doubled and trebled, the agricultural labourer was now in a worse condition than he had ever been—plucked by want and enduring every physical privation. When he looked at these things—when he remembered that gentlemen opposite were bent on keeping up men"

while they kept down wages—he could not help asking them whether the awful words applied to the rich man, in the days of the Apostles, might not now be applied to the ruling classes in this country—“BEHOLD THE HIRE OF THE LABOURERS WHO HAVE REAPED DOWN YOUR FIELDS, WHICH IS OF YOU KEPT BACK BY FRAUD, CRIETH; AND THE CRIES OF THEM WHICH HAVE REAPED HATH ENTERED INTO THE EAR OF THE LORD OF SABAOOTH.”

There is a double process, my lord, in society, by which many have arrived at this combined conviction of the impolicy and the iniquity of monopolist legislation. Some have traversed a similar route with your lordship. They began with the economy of the question, and advanced towards its morality. Perhaps, in the first instance, they merely felt the personal pinching of a particular grievance. The Corn Laws diminished their business, and distressed their work-people. They found law, as the idler found a lion, in the way, and shouted to scare it from the path of their industry. The very resistance stimulated their minds to farther inquiry. They soon encountered fellow-sufferers, more than they had calculated, and antagonist classes stronger than they had anticipated. Like a blind man tracing with his hand the form of some unexpected obstacle, they groped this way and that, up and down and around, until the monstrous dimensions and heavy pressure of the mischief were embraced in their contemplation. In this process they have studied the statistics not only of exports and imports, but of pauperism and disease, crime and mortality. The discussion has been an intellectual and moral training, qualifying them to sympathise with your solemn appeal as a Christian legislator. Others, unaccustomed to the disquisitions of political economy, have started from the opposite point of the compass. It shocked them that any human beings should deprecate the bounty of Divine Providence, that plenty and cheapness should be gloomily regarded and artificially avoided; that food should be repelled from our shores while multitudes were famishing; and that fertile lands abroad should lie uncultivated lest the price of produce at home should be diminished in the market. This class of thinkers had a different set of fallacies to surmount. Bewildered awhile about “national independence,” the “untaxed foreigner,” “steadiness of price,” &c., they have been prevented, by the continued discussion, from settling in a patched-up compromise between the laws of morality and the laws of monopoly. They have learned that the right is not the impracticable; that justice for the poor is not ruin to the rich; that unrighteous privileges are not a wise policy; nor political economy at any variance, but in full accordance, with the dictates of religion and humanity. These two classes are the main divisions of the Anti-Corn-Law League; the one represented by the great manufacturers of the North, and the other by the (WM) preachers of the Gospel who assembled in Manchester to testify their co-operation. The commercial intelligence of society responds to the one, and its religious principle to the other. Their combination is the moral strength of the League. And the heart of both thrills with one common feeling of satisfaction at your lordship’s truly statesmanlike and Christian declaration.

It is an unseemly exhibition, that in a British House of Commons the serious and reverent citation of scripture, on a moral topic, should be rudely put aside as cant of the Cromwellian age, and only characteristic of the ranters; and yet this is merely the natural tendency of the inverted morality of Monopoly. Four nights afterwards, Mr. Miles was reckoning up as grievances and evils that the quantity of meat in the country had been increased by a few hundred head of foreign oxen; that so much corn had found its way into the country; and that the price of wheat had not been higher than it actually was by some 25 per cent. What stuff the man’s heart and conscience must be made of, who affirms the people to have more meat and more bread than they ought to have, and at a cheaper rate, I will not pretend to say. The reason is obvious why such persons, or their coadjutors, should dislike the citation of scripture. They transpose its blessings and its curses. They ask a legislative defence against the bounty of Providence. They murmur that food can anywhere be produced cheaply. They make it dear should it approach our shores. They do so, in the hope of making their own produce dear also, although the purchase of a sufficiency be still beyond the reach of multitudes. They obstruct that increase of home-grown food which might be stimulated by foreign competition. The labourer starves under their system, and the farmer is bankrupt; still they persevere. Between the Christian’s prayer, and the earth’s Saviour, their perceptions are dulled to the difference between the word of God and the cant of Cromwell.

“The foreigners are now bringing their cattle to market,” says Mr. Miles dolorously. He has not seen that the labouring millions have too much meat. What is this paltry addition, compared with the notorious want of the means of subsistence? The farm-labourers rarely taste meat. Importation

has brought it an inch nearer to their mouths, leaving it still at the distance of a mile. Our supply of the necessities of life is deficient. And yet the law is framed for the diminution of supply. You have applied this argument, my lord, to the sugar duties. You have shown that the country pays as much for 18 tons as would purchase 28 tons. “There is a diminished supply of sugar, of coffee, of meat, of timber for building the poor man’s cottage—of everything that the poor man wants; and this went through the whole circle of our protective duties. In that way, there is a diminished supply, and thus are the labouring population pinched.” True, my lord; and if not pinched for the profit of the landlord, then assuredly for the benefit of no one living being in the wide world.

The tone which your lordship has taken in this discussion is the more gratifying because a degree of confidence is felt in your earnestness, consistency, and superiority to party spirit, which is rarely rendered to public men, especially of late years. Your political career has afforded honourable instances of an adhesion to principle at the expense of a disregard of Parliamentary tactics. The expediency you consult is that broad expediency which coincides with right. Your arguments are truths to your own mind, and not the counters of a game to be played with political opponents. Entitled by your position and proved ability to look forward to high office hereafter, you lay out no lines to catch support from different classes by ambiguous promises. By straightforwardness, you win reliance for the present, and hope for the future. The confidence attracted by your personal qualities and conduct is enhanced by the prestige of hereditary character and patriotism. The country is not unmindful of one whose word was ever held of more worth than oftentimes would have been the affidavits of a whole cabinet. It gratefully remembers the struggles and the triumphs of the Father for political reform; and hopefully rejoices to see the Son championing commercial reform. Persevere, my lord, in this noble warfare; continue to identify the morality of the question with its policy; and demand of the House of Commons its allegiance to eternal justice, as well as its regard for the public interest. You have created a power which looks to you for guidance. You have excited an expectancy which promises for the nation a much-needed deliverance, and for yourself the purest glory. The path is open before you to a prouder eminence than mere party leadership could ever attain. Rest not till the laws of the land are reformed, and the laws of Heaven are obeyed, by the abolition of an unjust, pestiferous, and demoralizing monopoly; and then inherit the blessings of a thankful people. From no hands would that good be received more gladly, as by none could it be more fitly bestowed.

#### A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

#### VICTIMS OF PROTECTION.—LETTERS TO INDIVIDUAL SUFFERERS.

##### FOURTH LETTER.

To the Rev. Thomas Skipworth, Rector of Pickwell, in the county of Leicester.

REVEREND SIR,—“Protection is the bane of agriculture,” so says Lord John Russell; “Protection is a delusion,” so says many an agriculturist who once believed in its truthfulness; “Protection is the will-o’-the-wisp, which is ever deluding the farmers, and leading them where they should not go, deterring them from following the lights they should follow—the light of agricultural science,” so says your humble servant.

Sir, you are, it is exceedingly probable, a reader of the Church organ, the *Standard*, and of such papers only; you are probably a believer in the so-called “protection,” and a believer in whatever the newspapers of your party say of the opponents of protection. I will, therefore, in sending you a copy of the *LEAGUE* paper which contains this letter, send you the previous number of it, containing the speech of the honourable member for Stockport, delivered in the House of Commons on the 13th inst., descriptive of the evil effects of protection; and I beg of you to read that speech. As a practical agriculturist myself, and acquainted with the state of agriculture and the condition of the farmers in almost every county of England, I agree with everything said in that speech. You will see from it, should you not have already learned the fact, that the Free-Traders are the best friends of agriculture. You will perceive that it proves that to be true of all England generally, which you allege to be true of your own glebe particularly—that a larger expenditure of money in changing the culture of the soil would enlarge the profit of the cultivator. You will see that the doctrine taught by Mr. Cobden, as regards the evil of restricting the enterprise of the cultivators of the soil, by making them entirely dependent on the will and caprice and ignorance of the men of law who manage most of the English estates as agents under the landlords—you will see that this doctrine, laid down on Thursday night in the Commons’ House of Parliament, was the same as you sought to establish next day, on the Friday morning, in the Rolls’ Court, before Lord Langdale. The only difference between you and the honourable member is, that he attempted to (do that for twenty millions of acres of

land which you attempted to do for twenty acres. He attempted to liberate from the thralldom of insecurity and poverty, and bad cultivation, the major part of all England and Wales. You attempted to do the same for your own glebe.

It seems you were appointed to the living in 1814; that, subsequent to that period, the Duke of St. Alban’s purchased the patronage of the living. It seems the glebe has been used as a pasture; but has become next to worthless, being overrun with moss and weedy foulness. You asked the advice of a skilful agriculturist, who very properly advised you to plough it up; to clear it of weeds; to crop it for some years; to manure it, and again lay it down in grass. It is quite possible, indeed I think it very likely, that a different course of treatment might have been used more effectually, seeing that your design was to restore the glebe to pasturage. Being overgrown with moss it is very likely that an application of hot lime, applied as a top-dressing, would have eradicated the moss by destroying all vegetation for a year; or it is possible that some other kind of top-dressing might have effected the same end. But this cannot be alleged positively unless one had a local knowledge of the soil, the subsoil, the rocks beneath, and such like matters. And here I may remark that the difficulty of determining what is right and what is wrong, in such cases, is one of the reasons why the occupiers of land should not be subjected, as they now are, to rules laid down by lawyers who have no practical knowledge of agriculture; to rules which apply to whole estates of great magnitude, the soils and subsoils and requirements of which are exceedingly various, and the treatment of which should be as various; rules which are the offspring of law, and not of agricultural science, even though administered by agents who are sometimes professed agriculturists.

Lord Langdale, in your case, seems more inclined to judge it by the rule of common sense than by any rule of the statutes. He inclines to follow Liebig, the chemist of agriculture, rather than Blackstone, the commentator of law. His lordship is thus reported:—“He had (himself) had occasion to obtain agricultural advice; and he could say that, having followed it, he had found it most advantageous.” That is, his lordship had used the science of agriculture instead of the science of law to his land, as you attempted to do to your glebe. This good sense is creditable to his lordship as a lawyer. But Mr. Parkinson, agent of the Duke of St. Alban’s, being accustomed to rule the culture of the duke’s estate by law, and not by agricultural science; being accustomed to keep the tenantry in leading-strings by protecting them; being accustomed to keep everything out of their reach that might lead to enterprise and experiment, by laying down the law to them as to what they shall do on their farms, and what they shall not do; being accustomed to threaten them that they will not be protected if they dare to think or act as cultivators for themselves;—being accustomed thus to treat the tenantry, he has proceeded thus to treat you, though you are a life freeholder of your glebe.

The law of the case as applied to the incumbent of a living I shall not inquire into. While I write, Lord Langdale has not given his judgment. But he has remarked that, though the case be of no great importance in itself, it is of great importance as regards the effects its decision will have on the occupiers of other glebe lands. He said: “If the law was as alleged, it would prevent the incumbent from making a potato ground or an orchard upon the glebe when he could not show that at some former time the grass land had been broken up.”

But this case opens other questions to our view of infinitely greater importance, as regards the laws under which the farmers are bound and held down, powerless to do good for themselves, for the land they occupy, and for the multitudes who must be content with the small amount of food they produce.

Law is the primary subject for an English farmer to study. It is the Alpha and Omega of English agriculture. The late James Hogg, the “Ettrick Shepherd,” left Scotland at one time to take charge of an agricultural project in England, but did not remain long. When asked why he had left it, he said he was not qualified to manage a farm in England. And when it was said that he had surely as good a knowledge of the best manner of breeding and feeding flocks as any man in either Scotland or England; and as good a knowledge of farming matters in general; he replied that such might be true, but the first thing required in England to make a successful farmer was not a practical knowledge of breeding and rearing and feeding sheep and cattle, of manuring and cropping land. Every qualification, he said, of an agricultural kind, was entirely subordinate to a knowledge of law. And he said the laws affecting the cultivator of the soil were so numerous, so completely interwoven into everything which a farmer could do; and the lawyers were so keen-scented and so plentiful—the estates being almost entirely committed to the management of lawyers,—that it was next to hopeless for a stranger to learn the laws which beset him and hindered him in all his actions; utterly hopeless, before a stranger, led by common sense and agricultural science, would break through them and incur ruinous penalties.

In this way you have been caught by the net-work of the law. Mr. Parkinson, the duke’s agent, heard that your glebe, being overgrown with worthless moss and weeds, was about to be restored to fertility and usefulness;



full of that spirit of protection which controls the tenant-farmers, he stepped forward to protect your weeds and worthless moss; to protect your glebe from being made fertile and profitable. He stood forward to protect it from having moneyed capital and manure applied to its cultivation. He stood forward to protect those labourers whom you would have employed in ploughing and digging and weeding, from being employed to plough and dig and weed. He stepped forward to protect the paupers, who, it may be, are now living on prison fare within the workhouse walls, from being liberated and elevated to the dignity of working for honourable bread by honourable and useful labour. He, full of protection, and in the full flow of protection, the everyday current of the protective spirit, arrested you, by an injunction of a court of law, from raising more human food from your acres than they now produced.

The advantage to the occupier of the land; the advantage to the labourers who have not enough of work, and who, being more plentiful than their work, are obliged to submit to the lowest amount of pay and of food which will sustain life; the advantage to the general consumers of agricultural produce, who augment their consumption as the supply and their ability to buy increase;—all these, and also the advantage to agricultural science, were at once arrested by Mr. Parkinson, the duke's agent, who brought the law which binds the tenant-farmers to arrest and bind and tie you, and make you powerless and helpless, as the tenant-farmers are, miserable men!

He who is, at the duke's instance, as other agents are at the instance of other dukes and of other landlords, the man who is first to lead the tenants to the hustings to vote for protection; who is the first to bid them declare in dolorous whine, that they cannot cultivate their land if they be not protected; who bids them cry out that they are in distress, and who, to make them cry the louder, pinches them behind as the whining beggar pinches the alleged motherless baby whom he has stolen, and professes to fondle to impose on the public: this same Mr. Parkinson, and those whose office is like his, are the first to prevent the farmers from cultivating their land to relieve themselves from distress.

It was laid down as an axiom by Sir John Sinclair in his "Code of Agriculture," and repeated by Brown of Markie, the first and long-continued editor of the "Farmer's Magazine," a thoroughly practical and successful tenant-farmer; repeated also by Jackson of Pennyquick in his excellent treatise; repeated and acted upon by the best experimentalists in England, and most successful practicalists in Scotland;—the axiom is this:—

"Assuming always that the expenditure on a farm be directed with judgment, it will be found that the profit upon the outlay increases in more than a proportionate degree to its amount. Thus, suppose that £5 be the lowest and £10 the highest sum that can be employed in the common culture of the same acre of land; it is more than probable that, if the £5 return at the rate of five per cent., the £10 will yield twenty per cent., or any intermediate sum at the same progressive ratio. Now, admitting this to be true—and it is to be presumed that no experienced agriculturist will doubt it—it follows that £1000, expended in the cultivation of 200 acres, will only yield a profit of £100; while if applied to no more than 100 acres it would produce £200. For this reason, although a farmer of limited capital may not be driven to the extremity we have already supposed, and although he may be able to carry on his business with a certain degree of advantage, it is quite evident that his profit would be increased by diminishing the quantity of his land."

(See "Treatise on Agricultural and Dairy Husbandry," by James Jackson, of Pennyquick; the successful competitor for some of the Highland Society's prizes as a practical writer. This valuable treatise is published in the "People's Edition," by the Messrs. Chambers, at the low figure of 2s. 3d. It should be carefully read wherever a spade or a plough penetrates the ground, or wherever a scythe or a cow crops the grass. And particularly where the Mr. Parkinsons of England interfere with their absurdity to keep moneyed capital out of agriculture, and lay enterprise prostrate.)

But what is the use of either knowledge or money upon such estates as that of the Duke of St. Alban's? The tenants are not rich in knowledge and moneyed capital. They have had no means of obtaining either. But had they both they could not use them. All their attention is turned to protection by act of Parliament. They are but puppets in the agent's hands. He leads them by the nose and squeezes them, and bids them whine and cry out for help.

If they would help themselves, they would break up some of their wet meadows to drain the wetness from them; to eradicate the rushes and make the soil sweet and fertile which is now sour and barren. But the agent steps up and says, "No, you mustn't. Let the wetness and sourness and rushes alone."

The tenants may see the huge banks between the double hedges; also the ditches and superfluous hedgerows: they may see that all of them are nurseries of stagnation, touthers, and vermin; and exceedingly wasteful in horse labour in ploughing, by the frequent turnings and unavoidable trampling of the ground. But if they offer to cut a branch of the hedge, or build and cover in a ditch, or dig down a useless bank, the agent comes and says, "No, you mustn't."

They see their old pastures overgrown as your glebe is with moss, and like you they may be told by skillful agriculturists to plough them up and clear them of weeds, and crop and manure them and lay them down to grass again.

But the agent says, "No, you mustn't." And if he found them offering to do it he would not go to the expense of getting an injunction at law, as in your case: he would at once expel them from the land. Had your reverence been a *rector-at-will*, removable by the duke, your case would never have come before Lord Langdale. You would have been at once turned out of your parish, a terrible warning to all rectors.

Should the tenantry see the trees standing round their fields, and in their fields as they very frequently do, injuring five acres out of twenty, defrauding the crops of the requisite sunshine and free air; and should they seek leave to cut some of them down, or to lop their branches, the agent says, "No, you mustn't."

Should they be persuaded of the truth of the established fact, that to feed cattle in the yard to produce manure, is the foundation of all good husbandry; and that cattle should not waste their grass, their manure, and their fat by running at liberty in the fields—save milk cows and young cattle; and the latter may be more profitably reared on farms unsuited to the culture of corn;—should the tenantry be convinced of these established truths, and offer to raise food for yard-feeding where they now have meadows, the agent says, "No, you mustn't."

Should the farmers say the liquid manures they can thus save from their cattle will be equal—over all England in one year—to the whole of the guano of Ichaboe when the first ship loaded at it; and, further, that they require the erection of cisterns or tanks to preserve the whole accumulations, or some chemical apparatus to extract the ammonia; and that they will apply one year's or two years' rent to such works, the agent says, "No, you mustn't."

If they say that they are too poor to erect such works at their own expense; or that, having the money, they cannot venture to expend it on works of improvement without the security of a lease; and that they must have leases to enable those to obtain money who have it not to improve their land, and to enable those to lay plans for future profit who have money, the agent says, "No, you mustn't."

If the farmers urge that they could thus employ many more labourers than they now employ; that they could give full work and better wages to every labourer, had they leave to do to their farms what they think best, the agent says, "No, you mustn't."

If the farmers urge that all other persons engaged in trade conduct their business as they think fit, adopting any improvements they may deem advantageous, trying any experiments they may deem profitable; on the same principle that the tailor makes a coat from whatever cloth he thinks best fitted for a coat, and makes one in a new style when he chooses; or on the same principle that a manufacturer works up his raw material into whatever kind of goods there is most demand for;—if the farmers

urge that the whole success of trade, and of tradesmen of every degree, depends on their freedom of enterprise, and the comparative security with which their money is invested in business; and they, the farmers, ask to be secured in the profits of their own business in a similar way, the duke's Mr. Parkinson, or any other landlord's Mr. Parkinson, says, "No, you mustn't."

It is "No, you mustn't" to everything asked or attempted. "You are protected," say the Parkinsons. "You must get more protection if you can; or at all events cry lustily about your distress and keep what you have got." And, to say the truth, the great bulk of the tenantry follow this advice, and are exceedingly well contented to live without an effort to make themselves independent and their farms fruitful and profitable.

They might very well ask what protection has done for them; they might point out the fact that the Corn Law allows corn to come in, if it comes at all, just at harvest when prices are highest, and the English farmer cannot take advantage of such prices. They might show that under the Corn Law their losses are greater by sudden fluctuations than they ever could be by steady prices, even though those prices stood at what they are now—45s.; they might very well point to the ruinous price they pay the landlords for their protection, by being bound as they now are hand and foot, led by the nose by one agent, pinched behind their backs by another; obliged to pay high poor-rates to maintain a pauper population whom they cannot employ; compelled to endure game, and pay for the crimes and punishments arising from game, because they dare not complain; compelled to be put to all manner of mean uses in political prostitution; and, worst of all, while everybody else advances with the intellectual spirit of the age, they remain hopelessly and helplessly behind.

POSTSCRIPT.—LORD LANGDALE'S DECISION.  
His lordship decided the case, "*The Duke of St. Alban's v. Skipworth*," on Monday. And he has removed the injunction, affirming the right of an incumbent to break up his glebe, should it be in old grass, if he so chooses.

What a blessing to England if Cheshire and some ten or twelve other counties could be so broken up, and put to profitable uses!

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

TO MOTHERS OF FAMILIES.

No. 1.—To the Wife of Francis Horlock, of —, in Dorsetshire.

Mrs. HORLOCK.—You are the wife of an industrious man, who loses no time—wastes no money. You have

kept an exact account of your incomings and outgoings for a year; and as you have allowed that excellent clergyman, the Honourable and Reverend Sidney Godolphin Osborne, to make the items public, I shall take the liberty of addressing you thus publicly, as the first of several mothers, in different parts of the kingdom, to whom I shall probably write a series of letters.

You live in a county remarkable for its production of butter—Dorset. The Vale of Blackmoor is said to produce the best butter in England. At all events, "Dorset butter" is well known.

Now, butter is what is called "protected;" that is, no foreign butter is allowed to come into England, lest it should reduce the price of English butter. It may be introduced, and is introduced, in large quantities; but before it leaves the docks where it is landed from the ships which bring it across the sea, it is mixed with tar, to prevent its being used as human food.

I perceive that, from the 1st of January to the 11th of December, 1843, just forty-nine weeks, you paid the following sums for butter, for the use of yourself, husband, and four children. On the 15th of January you paid 81.; 9th of February, 4d.; 13th of March, 4d.; April, nothing; 3rd of May, 6d.; June, nothing; 5th of July, 6d.; August, nothing; September, nothing; 23rd of October, 6d.; 13th of November, 4½d.; 3rd of December, 6d. Total, 3s. 8½d.

Three shillings and eightpence halfpenny, Mrs. Horlock, is the sum of what you contribute to the "butter interest" of Dorset. At 9d. per lb. this is very nearly five pounds weight; but you are well aware that, as a general rule in Dorset, you cannot buy butter at 9d. per lb. It costs you from 11d. to 13d., fully one penny per lb. more than the same butter is retailed for when it reaches London. This, to many people, seems a mystery; but it is accounted for in this way, that the dairy-farmers will not sell quarter pounds and half pounds of butter, such as you buy once a month, or once in two months. You must get it from the village shopkeeper, who, selling small quantities, and few of them, must charge a higher price, and must often give uncertain credit.

Your reason for buying so little butter is simply that all the family earnings are spent on something else, which with you is more absolutely requisite than butter. Butter is an absolute necessary of life to everybody who can afford it. And in such a family as yours we need not doubt that it would be an indispensable necessary were you able to get it, and use it always.

Butter is, what the lords and gentlemen who come out of Dorset to Parliament call *protected*. And it is *protected* for the sake of the labourers,—so those lords and gentlemen say,—that is, the tar is mixed with the butter which comes in ships to make it unfit to be eaten, and all for the sake of you and your family, and such as you.

The gentlemen of the Parliament were making a law on this subject on Wednesday last. One of them Mr. Bramston, of Skreens, in Essex, was afraid that if grease was admitted free of duty, butter would come into this country in the disguise of grease. Sir George Clerk, of Pennyquick, in Scotland, who is one of the Government members, said, to console Mr. Bramston,

"That, so far from the agriculturists" (I am now giving his words as reported in the daily newspapers of Thursday morning) "being injured by the remission of this duty (on grease) they would be benefited, seeing that the uses to which it was put were agricultural. For instance, large quantities of it were made use of by the sheep-farmers of the north, for the purposes of smearing their sheep as a precaution against the effects of cold. The honourable gentleman need not fear that the article would be made use of as food ('hear, hear, hear,' from the Opposition benches); the Custom-house officers took effectual means to prevent fraudulent traders selling the article to the poor as food (renewed cries of 'hear, hear,' from the Opposition benches.) He did not understand what the gentlemen opposite were cheering; but he would repeat that the Custom-house officers took care that the article introduced as grease should not be sold as butter by mixing a quantity of tar with it before it passed the Custom-house."

Sir George Clerk means that the butter which is to be admitted duty free as *grease* has tar mingled with it in the Custom-house, after which it is unfit for human food, and is called *grease*.

Now, Mrs. Horlock, you know well that 7s. a week is the full average of men's wages in Dorset; you know that unmarried men only get 4s. and 5s. a week. You know that, at this time, many men have no work at all. You know that fully one-half of the whole are out of employment for several months every year. Yet your husband with 8s. a week in 1843, and you, with your careful housekeeping, could only spend 3s. 8½d. on butter during forty-nine weeks. In cheese you expended 7s. 3d.; your total expenditure in butter and cheese was 10s. 11½d. And your total for butchers' meat was 10d. just *temperance*. So that those great staple products of your county which are protected for the especial benefit of the labourers, as Lord Ashley, Mr. George Banks, and Mr. Sturt, your county members say, were purchased and used by your family of six persons to the amount of 11s. 9½d.

I know well that every other family were not in a condition to buy so much; but assuming that they did, 48,000 men, women, and children, which is the full amount of those employed in agriculture, or unemployed, and calling themselves dependent on it, would annually support the beef, mutton, butter, and cheese interests thus:—

Beef and mutton .. ..	£ 316 13 4
Butter and cheese .. ..	4383 6 8

Those families who feed a pig sell it, more frequently, to pay for shoes and rent, than they eat it. Thus, in a manner, they may be said to be in competition with the farmers, rather than supporters of them by the consumption of their farm produce. But in many parts of Dorset no pigs are allowed to be kept by labourers. The dictum of the father of Sir John Tyrrell, in Essex, is understood and acted on in Dorset—"No labourer can be *honest* and feed a pig!" But if every labourer's family did feed and eat, which they do not, a pig eight or nine score weight in a year, it would be no reason why they should not eat beef and mutton, butter and cheese, if they could afford them. A working man in London, or Liverpool, or Manchester, who has meat for dinner every day with his family, consumes more than a pig of nine score weight in the shape of bacon or ham for breakfast and supper, in addition to the beef or mutton from the butcher's shop for dinner; so that we have it proved that consumption is only limited by the power to purchase; and consumption is the true protection to agricultural produce.

If we take fifteen journeymen printers in London employed, say on the *Times* newspaper, whom we shall suppose to be all steady men and not drunkards—else they would not be employed there; and suppose them to have each a wife and four children, as Francis Horlock, your husband, a steady agricultural labourer, has;—those fifteen working men and their families, according to the London style of living and expenditure amongst people earning so much wages as theirs, will consume as much butcher's meat in 52 weeks as the whole 48,000 men, women, and children fed by protected agriculture in Dorset consume. A family man, like Francis Horlock, receiving from 30s. to £2 a week in London, will, for six of a family, give an average of about 8s. a week for butcher's meat. At 8s. per week it will be found to amount to as much for 90 persons as the consumption of 48,000 in Dorset.

I may tell you, Mrs. Horlock, that at the beginning of this session of Parliament, a great many lords, and squires, and farmers, all of them persons who live by selling cattle, some of them from your own county, came to London, and went before the Prime Minister and complained of distress—of being poor—of not getting such a good market for their produce as they once had. One of them dwelt especially on the fact, that in the great Smithfield Market of London there were occasionally some foreign cattle, one hundred or so, to 2000 home-fed cattle, and to 18,000 or 21,000 sheep; and that prices fell because of these occasional cattle. And it was urged that, as cattle were what the farmers so much depend upon—and especially the farmers in such districts as the Vale of Blackmoor—the foreign cattle should be prevented from coming to London.

Now, Mrs. Horlock, there is a mode of doing business vulgarly called "Robbing Peter to pay Paul," or taking money out of one pocket to put it into another pocket. The system by which the lordly cattle dealers of Dorset wish to make the nation prosperous is by robbing Peter to pay Paul; by taking money out of one person's pocket and putting it into another person's pocket; they represent Paul, and somebody else representing Peter. They say if the Londoners pay dear for butchers' meat for the sake of making them, the lauded gentry, rich, they go back to London to spend their money on the Londoners.

Now, according to this logic, they might with as much propriety, and certainly far more humanity and benevolence,—and your Dorset lords and gentlemen are prodigiously humane and benevolent: you of course know your noble county member Lord Ashley,—they might with as much propriety and more humanity give their labourers the wages paid to printers per week to buy butter, and cheese, and butcher's meat. Fifteen journeymen printers in London, with their families, patronizing such farming interests as are involved in Smithfield Market to as great an extent as the whole 48,000 men, women, and children, dependant on agriculture for their existence in Dorset, affords a wide scope for speculation. What would be the demand for cattle and sheep if, proceeding on the system of robbing Peter to pay Paul, the lords of Dorset should give the 48,000 men, women, and children money enough to buy and eat as much beef and mutton as the same number of journeymen printers with their wives and children buy and eat in London?

But you might as well put your husband's 8s. a week first into one pocket and then into another, three times over, and say that he has 24s. a week, as say that the robbery of Peter enriches Paul. But the lords of Dorset do say so when they ask people, and compel them, to pay high prices to them, that they may return the high prices to their lordly expenditure.

Wealth is only produced by giving a greater value to something by labour than it had before it was laboured at; or by exchanging something of which we have too much for something else of which we have too little.

And the only way to make the butter interests of Dorset richer—the Vale of Blackmoor more thriving, and its native population better customers for its native produce—is to direct money and skill and industry to its better cultivation.

I have already occupied too much space by another letter in this paper; but all that is said in that letter of mismanaged land, and the loss thereby to labourers, tenants, and landlords, applies most appallingly to the

butter county of Dorset. All that Jackson declares to be absolutely requisite to profitable farming is absolutely wanting in Dorset. And it is certainly remarkable that Sir George Clerk, of Pennyquick, the political landlord, should be professing to protect the butter-makers by assuring them that foreign butter will be mixed with tar when it comes to this country to prevent its use as human food; while Mr. James Jackson, of Pennyquick, the practical agriculturist, is showing that such farmers as the butter-makers of Dorset would be enriched by doing the reverse of most of that which they now do.

I will resume the subject in a letter to some of your neighbours next week. Mrs. Horlock, your sugar-basins and tea-kettles want looking into. Meanwhile, I am a sympathising friend well acquainted with the struggles of poor mothers, and

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

## REVIEW.

*Remarks upon Recent Commercial Legislation.* By the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. for Newark. London, Murray.

The late President of the Board of Trade has successfully employed his leisure in preparing a comment on the expository statement of the Customs Revenue which was laid before Parliament at the opening of the session. It is unfortunate that Mr. Gladstone no where definitely states the principles by which the imposition or remission of taxes should be regulated, though something like a rule is intimated by the distinctions pointed out in the following passage:—

"Speaking generally, the reductions and remissions have been far from inconsiderable. For instance, on the three great articles of sugar, timber, and corn, the diminution made, though it cannot be estimated with strict accuracy, may be said to amount nearly to one-half of the duties previously subsisting.

"11. At the same time it is undeniable that, whatever may be the extent of these measures in reference to trade, in reference to the whole amount of revenue which we raise from imported commodities, they have been secondary. Four articles of the first class, with respect to the amount of duty levied from them, have been left wholly untouched. They are the articles of

1. Tea, yielding in 1844 ..	£1,521,000
2. Tobacco .. ..	3,977,000
3. Wine .. ..	1,991,000
4. Spirits .. ..	2,211,000

£12,703,000

or more than half of the entire revenue derived from the customs.

"With respect to this topic, it is enough to say that no considerable part in the country appears to contemplate any fundamental change in the system by which we supply a very large part of the wants of the Treasury through the medium of indirect taxation; and so long as this is the case, any reductions of duty, which may be conceded from time to time, must always bear but a small proportion to the amount still continuing to be levied. But the four articles which I have quoted as the most conspicuous and productive among those unaffected by the recent alterations, are none of them articles of the first rank in our trade. The aggregate values of the whole four, independent of duty, do not equal the value, taken singly, either of the cotton or of the sugar, or, in most years, of the grain, which we import.

"There are only six other articles of any considerable importance to trade, which remain, like the four above specified, subject to the same duties as those payable upon them before the Act of the 5 and 6 Vict. c. 47. They are these:—

1. Tallow, which in 1844 yielded ..	£174,000
2. Butter .. ..	136,000
3. Cheese .. ..	117,000
4. Raisins .. ..	159,000
5. Pepper .. ..	81,000
6. Silk manufactures of Europe ..	277,000

£944,000

"If, then, we divide our imports according to the revenue they yield, the major part have remain untouched; but, estimated according to value, that is, according to their commercial importance, they are a small fraction of the whole with regard to which this can be asserted."

Mr. Gladstone underrates the strength of public feeling in favour of direct rather than indirect taxation. The income-tax is endured because people are afraid that they could not maintain the property-tax without it; and the property-tax is admired because it allows for the remission of those taxes which pressed on the industry of the country. The rules by which Sir Robert Peel professes to be guided in his tariff are thus stated and elucidated:—

"In 1842 it was attempted to make a general approach to the following rules:—

1. The removal of prohibitions.
2. The reduction of duties on manufactured articles, and of protective duties generally, to an average of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.
3. On partially manufactured articles to rates not exceeding 10 per cent.
4. On raw materials to rates not exceeding 5 per cent.

"The duties were then reduced on about 650 articles. Many changes were made which were of great importance to the consumer or to some branch of trade, but which cost little to the revenue, or were even, in some cases, positively profitable. I allude particularly to the changes affecting cattle, salt meat, seeds, oils, manures, leather, and ores, as belonging to these two classes.

"It is very difficult to form any general estimate of the effect of the measures of 1842 upon the import trade of the country, which shall even approach to precision. Still I think a rude view of this important subject may be presented by means of the tables of official valuations, which

reduce the quantities of articles imported to a common measure. We have these valuations printed for the years 1841, 1842, 1843.\* I reject 1842, which was almost equally divided between the old law and the new; and I take 1841 as the latest full year of the old law, and 1843 as the first full year of the new one.

"The official values of imports into the United Kingdom were—

For the year 1841 .. ..	£64,377,952
" 1843 .. ..	70,093,353

Increase .. £5,715,401

But there are two articles of importance which it may be better to exclude from this comparison, cotton and corn, inasmuch as the quantities of them which we receive in one year as compared with another depend much more upon the respective crops of those products in America and England than upon any increased facilities in the means of exchange. The official values imported in 1841 were—

Of cotton .. ..	£15,918,384
Of corn .. ..	5,238,389

£21,156,773

And in 1843—	
Of cotton .. ..	£22,282,365
Of corn .. ..	2,048,768

£24,331,133

Deducting these amounts from the respective totals, we have the official values of imports—

For the year 1841 .. ..	£43,191,139
" 1843 .. ..	45,762,220

Increase .. £2,571,081

This is a rude, but I do not think by any means an excessive, statement of the increase of general trade which had been realized in 1843, and of which a considerable part may be considered due to the alterations of the law. It is likely that the returns for 1844 may bear a stronger testimony to its influence."

The most interesting part of the pamphlet is that which relates to the effect produced by the repeal of protective duties; and here the importance of the subject must excuse the length of our extract:—

"Most of these were articles, with regard to which the very greatest apprehensions had been expressed. It is within my own recollection that, in the month of August, 1842, the people of a rural district of Scotland, thirty or forty miles from any focus of foreign trade, were much excited on the subject of some salt meat which had been exposed for sale at 3d. per lb., in consequence, as was professed, of the new tariff: the fact being that the change in duty on that article amounted only to the small sum of 4s. per cwt., and that this change did not take place until the 10th of October, two or three months after its miraculous results had been palmed upon the public. Nor was it an uncommon thing in the streets of London to see advertisements of goods purporting to be cheapened by the new tariff, with regard to which no change either was made or had ever been proposed.

"But the most remarkable example of this recession after a first experiment was in the case which, of all others, excited the greatest alarm and apprehension—namely, the importation of live animals for food. Arguing in Parliament against the exaggerated apprehensions which were entertained with respect to the effects of that measure, I protested against an estimate that had met my eye, according to which it was shown, that in the course of a few years there might be 300,000,000 pigs disposable for importation into England from a single country; but I, somewhat weakly, admitted the possibility that within a short time we might have from abroad, as a maximum of addition to our supplies, 50,000 head of cattle annually. The importations of the first six months were—

Cattle .. ..	4076
Swine and Hogs .. ..	4104

But the parties engaged in them apparently (as it is termed) burnt their fingers; for in the whole year 1843 there were only imported—

Cattle .. ..	1182
Swine and hogs .. ..	361

There is, indeed, a revival in 1844, sufficient to save the results of the measure from becoming ridiculous. In that year we obtained from the whole world—

Cattle .. ..	4865
But of swine and hogs only ..	271

"An argument, however, has been frequently advanced to the effect, that the foreign prices have acted powerfully in reducing British prices to their own level, although when they had reached that level no extended opening could remain for importation. My answer is twofold: first, it is impossible that foreign prices could have exercised a depressing influence upon the immense market of England to any considerable extent—say, for instance, 1d. per lb.—without having held out such opportunities of profit by actual importations from abroad as must have led to very much more extensive operations than those which have actually taken place; secondly, there are two modes in which prices may be lowered—either by addition to supply, or by subtraction from demand. An addition of 3000 head to supply will have no greater effect upon prices than a diminution of 3000 head in the demand. The new tariff is responsible for the addition of 3000 head to the supply; but commercial distress—affecting immediately, perhaps, four or five millions of the people, nearly all of whom were consumers of animal food—is responsible for contracting the demand to an amount nearer 300,000 head than 3000. If fall of price took place, it appears to me more rational to ascribe it to the latter cause than to the former one.

"The result seems to be that there is no likelihood, for some considerable time at least, of our obtaining a supply of cattle from abroad at all sufficient to meet the steady increase of our population. Nor is this, in my view, an unsatisfactory result. On the contrary, what has taken place is highly cheering, for this reason, at least, that it shows this most important branch of agricultural industry in our own country to be pursued with an economy and skill which need not shrink from competition, and which,

\* Finance Accounts, Paper No. 147, of 1844, pp. 181-88.  
† Paper No. 43, Session 1845.



Indeed, has now defied it; and it may teach us not to regard, so much as we are apt to do, the low nominal prices which commodities may bear in some other countries, while, notwithstanding, it may be, and is often true, that, when quality is considered, the Englishman gets the cheapest article.

"I must quote, however, as a last class of illustrations, one or two cases of manufactured commodities, for the very striking manner in which they contrast the anticipations of persons bewildered by their fears with the actual results of changes in duties upon imports.

"Amidst predictions of ruin, the duty on the candles termed stearine (a refined tallow) was reduced from 63s. 4d. to 23s. 4d. per cwt. The quantities entered were no more than 1000 lbs. (of the value of perhaps £50) in the first year, and 2000 (or £100 in value) for the second.

"The duty on heavier hats was lowered from 10s. 6d. each to 2s. 6d. each. Foreign hats had been introduced in 1840 to the number of 240. In the first year of the new act they were but 135, and in the second 191.

"The duty on cordage and on cable-yarn was reduced from 10s. 9d. per cwt. to 6s. per cwt. The first proposal was only 5s. This duty touched upon a very important trade, and a great mass of hand labour. We are importers of 700,000 cwt. of hemp annually, of the value of about a million sterling. There was submitted to the Government the most complete invulnerable paper demonstration, that our trade in cordage must pass bodily into the hands of Russia. Export duties, low wages, employment in the long Russian winters for hands otherwise idle, and therefore costing next to nothing, saving in freight and insurance—all these arguments and many more were duly marshalled. It was shown by a price current from St. Petersburg that the change meditated in England had excited attention in that market. Moreover, all this was not only urged by traders of intelligence and character, but they were led on by one of the most distinguished among the many distinguished men of business in the city of London, thoroughly acquainted with the trade from former connexion, but then, I believe, retaining little or no interest in it. The prophecies of such men made, I confess, a deep impression on my mind, which has become deeper still since I have witnessed their issue.

"However, the stroke descended; and the importations of cordage and cable-yarn, taken together, which had reached 451 cwt. in 1838, and 294 cwt. in 1840, rose to 333 cwt. in 1842-3, and to 1032 cwt. in 1843-4; the trade in the manufactured article thus appearing to be in extent about one six-hundredth part of that in the raw material.

"The case of corks, on some accounts, was still more remarkable, because it was one of those commonly quoted at the time by such persons as chose to cast upon the Government the imputation that, while they dealt gently with great interests, they dealt most severely with small ones; and I am bound to add, because, as I believe, the journeymen employed in this trade were, in some instances, actually dismissed from work in anticipation of the change. They therefore, no doubt, had good reason to believe the predictions that were freely delivered on all hands of the total and certain loss of our trade in cork-cutting; and, I must admit, it was distressing to receive from persons in such a class remonstrances so piteous, delivered in a manner the most candid, simple, and sincere.

"Their case attracted an uncommon degree of attention, and perhaps not less than ten or twelve deputations attended various members of the Government upon it, to say nothing of a voluminous correspondence, while a most lively interest in their favour was excited in the House of Commons.

"But I think it is manifest that three parties, and those who supported them in Parliament, were deceivers, as being themselves deceived. I arrive at this conclusion from the figures before me. The change was postponed until July, 1843, so that there was plenty of time to prepare large importations of the manufactured article. The old duties were on the wood £4 per ton, and on corks 7s. per lb. The uniform declaration of the parties in the trade was, that no duty less than 4s. per lb. would protect them. The rates were reduced to 1s. per ton on the wood, and 8d. per lb. on corks. The importations of the first year, under the altered system, were as follows:—

Corks, 81,683 lbs.	.. ..	364 tons.
Cork-wood .. ..	.. ..	4271 ..

Or the import of the manufactured article from abroad was about the one-hundred-and-eighteenth part of the import of the material to be manufactured in this country. But there is much refuse in cork-wood. If, then, we allow each ton of corks to represent in value two tons of cork-wood, still the proportion remains one to fifty-nine. If, further, we ought to allow for the excess in the delivery of cork-wood for the period in question, because of the reduction of the duty charged on it, then we find the average delivery of two years—from July, 1842, to July, 1844—to be only 2973 tons,\* instead of 4271 tons; and the proportion of the trade in the manufactured article becomes one in forty-one, or somewhat less than 2½ per cent. of the whole. This is a change, no doubt; but, if it be a violent and cruel one, then it is difficult to conceive what change is not violent and cruel; and it remains a memorable example of the difference, in such matters, between anticipation and experience.

"I must add, however, that I had long ago been informed that the trade was in a small number of hands, and was conducted with something of the manner of monopoly, and that English corks were very inferior to those of French manufacture. I learn, upon recent inquiry, that the price of wine corks has been reduced from 8s. to less than 6s. 6d. per lb. by the change; but the bulk of the trade, it is manifest, has been retained in British hands.

"I shall draw a concluding illustration from the occurrence of last year. The same words, I might almost say the same formulae, of sinister prognostication were then used, *malum mulieris*, by the manufacturers of vinegar, including persons of the very highest respectability, which had been employed in 1842 by many scores of other classes. I ventured to refer, at a conference, to the falsification of the previous omens in so many instances. I was answered by a distinguished member of Parliament (friendly to the abolition of the Corn Law), who accompanied the deputation, that it would be no consolation to the vinegar manufacturer, when he should

find his apprehensions realized, to know that other traders had discovered theirs to be baseless. It afforded, however, some presumption that his demonstrations and his prophecies might prove to be of the same family as theirs, and to be destined to the same limbo.

"The trade declared a duty of 1s. per gallon on foreign vinegar to be necessary in order to enable them to subsist. It was reduced (from 1s. 6d.) to 4d. I subjoin the result:—

#### "Quantities of Foreign Vinegar entered for Home Consumption.

In the year 1841 .. ..	22,205 gallons
In 1842 .. ..	18,139 "
In 1843 .. ..	14,144 "
In 1844 (new duty from June 6) ..	49,574 "

"Now, the quantity of British vinegar charged with excise duty appears to have been about 3,000,000 gallons,—so that the foreigner has at most obtained (up to the present time) but one-sixtieth part of the trade, and fifty-nine parts remain with the British manufacturer.

"That in some few instances, among alterations so numerous, the British producer may have been subject to inconvenient pressure, I can readily believe: that increased importation has produced benefit to the public almost follows, as a general rule, from the fact that it has taken place. That the degree of increase has ordinarily been so limited appears to me, on the whole, to be a fact full of instruction: and gives rise not only to the supposition that foreign competition has often stimulated improvements which have enabled the British producer to repel or to endure it, but also to the inference I have already named,—which, if true, is very important,—namely, that British industry—even when it is not supported by superior machinery, by the application of capital on a large scale, or by great physical advantages—is able to meet the industry of foreign countries upon a footing of less inequality than we have been apt to suppose."

After reading this passage we were anxious to discover by what argument Mr. Gladstone would justify the continuance of protecting duties on important articles of consumption. All that we can find is the following passage:—

"I am a deliberate adherent of that policy which is described in contemptuous terms as halting between two opinions: between the opinion which regards commercial restriction as being permanently and essentially a good, and the opinion which deals with it as an evil necessarily greater than that of a sharp and violent transition to freedom; as the source of all our economical difficulties; and even as a violation of the laws of God. Nor is it a fearful and languid mean, a mere neutrality, of which the observance is here implied: it is only that reasonable circumspection, that regard to the lessons of the past, in their detail, as guides for the future—that just comparison of conflicting considerations and care to elicit their compound result, which in almost every branch of legislation constitute the universally acknowledged rule of statesmen, and which have alike marked the genius of the institutions of this country as a whole, and the character of its people.

"For the desire to realize, under these conditions, a just liberty of trade, I can deem no apology requisite from any adherent of a party which follows in the main Mr.

Burke and Mr. Pitt as its guides among the luminaries of a former generation, and which has reckoned Mr. Caning, Lord Liverpool, and Mr. Huskisson among its members within the memory and the experience of our living statesmen. The disposition, by which that desire is balanced, is a disposition to respect the subsisting distribution of capital and labour, to preserve it from all violent and sudden shocks, and from the worrying agitation of incessant change; to maintain a confidence, not in the absolute immobility of law, but in the determination of the Legislature to deal temperately and dispassionately by all; to adopt no change except for some good and positive reason, and to confine it when adopted within the limits which such reason prescribes. For this disposition I find an ample defence, alike in the writings of economists, in the acts of commercial statesmen and in the analogies which all legislation, and especially which all British legislation, supplies."

Now, the arguments which Mr. Gladstone has used respecting cattle apply with infinitely greater force to corn. The English farmers would have no reason to dread foreign competition if they had fair opportunities of applying skill, industry, and capital to the cultivation of land; but the landlords, in order to keep them politically subservient, refuse to grant them any security for their investments, and maintain the Corn Laws to obviate the necessity for a better system of tenure. We do not wish here to enter into a full discussion of this question; but we wish to show that Mr. Gladstone's principles, if consistently maintained, must lead to the abolition of those monster monopolies which so severely press on the energies of Great Britain. He has himself demolished the common argument for maintaining these taxes as a retaliation for the duties imposed upon our manufactures by foreign states. In reference to these, he says:—

"There remains, I think, only one course—it is to use every effort to disburden of all charges, so far as our law is concerned, the materials of industry, and thus to enable the workman to approach his work at home on better terms, as the terms on which he enters foreign markets are altered for the worse against him. I do not believe that this will be a losing game; but, on the contrary, that if we steadily pursue it, then although the prohibitory policy of foreign states, or, as I should rather say, although the forced concessions of foreign governments to the anti-commercial spirit of particular classes of their subjects, may indeed and will diminish the aggregate trade of the world, they will not diminish the share of it which falls to the lot of England. They may smite, from time to time, some branch of our commerce, and it may fall as a lily tree falls in the forest. We hear the crash, and we deplore the void; but we forget that a thousand more are lifting their heads and spreading forth their arms with an insensible but constant growth. Even so it is in our commerce with other nations. If a new tax is laid in Germany upon the iron which our bounteous earth yields

us in profusion, that tax cripples the power of the country imposing it to compete with us in every one of the hundred branches of trade to which iron is an accessory. If France doubles the duty on our linen yarns, she stimulates us to economy, and bids the smuggler thrive; she taxes her consumer, and fetters that ingenuity and taste on the part of her weavers, which are the main support of her commercial strength.

"I do not mean that what is undoubtedly injurious to us is to be viewed with satisfaction because it is yet more injurious to others; but let other nations come to be convinced that such is the tendency of their present policy, and they will spontaneously save us the trouble of expostulation, and will hasten to reverse it, for the just and natural reason which alone would warrant their reversing it—namely, not our interest, but their own. How are they to be brought to that mind? As I think, by seeing that although we may, by one act and another, be crippled in detail, yet our aggregate commerce even with them maintains itself, and even gains further augmentation; that while they obstruct the channel at one end, yet, as we clear it at the other, the waters find their way in reflux as well as flux: that their purchases from us, in despite of adverse legislation, have increased with their sales to us, and that with a rapidity that none but the most sanguine would have ventured to expect. Let us have a few more years of experimental instruction, such as that which is afforded by the figures of the statement I have given of the relative growth of our trade with Europe and the world: such results cannot fail to exercise a powerful influence on the intelligence and the will of governments, and of the nations whom they rule.

"It is this regard to the course of commerce and of commercial legislation in the world at large which convinces me of the wisdom of pushing further than might otherwise be necessary, or even desirable, our efforts to relieve the materials of industry from fiscal burdens, and also of endeavouring to diminish (as is just now being done in the case of sugar) the impositions upon articles of consumption, as the state may be able to afford it, and our own industry and capital, immediately engaged, to bear the operation, I do not say without alarm, but without real and substantial derangement."

But we are adopting a worse policy than that which Mr. Gladstone denounces in France and Germany. Food is the most important raw material of all manufactures, for it is wrought into the thews and sinews of the manufacturers; we must provide our workmen with bread or they will seek support as a remuneration for their industry in foreign lands. To one branch of the Free-Trade argument Mr. Gladstone gives decided confirmation: he shows that our imports must be the measure of our exports, and that we cannot sell our goods to foreign nations unless we are prepared to take the payment which they have to offer.

## AGRICULTURE.

### PROTECTION THE BANE OF AGRICULTURE.

When, some seven or eight years ago, the Corn Laws began to be subjected to that close examination which has nearly led to their repeal, it was commonly believed that the farmers as well as the landowners were benefited by the monopoly at the expense of the rest of the community. A wrong so obvious called into existence that now powerful body the League. The leaders of that body having gained their experience of the working of the Corn Laws in the manufacturing districts, naturally directed their first efforts to the exposure of the injuries inflicted by the landed interests upon the commercial, manufacturing, and trading classes. The farmers were tacitly assumed to be partakers of the spoil, as they were clearly active in upholding the injustice.

But when the movement became a national one, and was joined by Free-Traders whose opinions had been formed by observations made exclusively in the rural districts, it was found that, great as had been the evils inflicted upon the trading classes by the Corn Laws, they were trifling in comparison with those the farmers and farm-labourers had endured from the same cause. This has now become so plain that men wonder they ever overlooked it. That view of the Corn-Law question which affects the farming classes is the only one wherein there is now any opportunity for further exposition; and one course that exposition must take was indicated in Mr. Cobden's admirable speech of the 13th instant. We propose to assist the farmers of the empire in, to them, the most vital inquiry of how much they lose by restrictions on the corn trade, and artificially high prices upon those articles which enter into their own consumption; and, for the benefit of Mr. Sydney Herbert, we will begin with the class of farmers who may be represented by the tenants of South Wiltshire. These may be called light-land farmers, for though there is some deep strong land in the valleys, the prevailing characteristics of the district are those of the chalk formation. Moreover, we find in the recent Prize Essay of the Royal Agricultural Society, on Wiltshire farming, some authentic published statistics of that district. And further, we have, by the aid of Mr. Pusey's article on the Agricultural Improvements of Lincolnshire, in a previous number of the same society's Journal, the means of comparing the low farming of Wiltshire with the high farming of Lincolnshire, upon soils of very similar natural character. The farms of South Wilt are generally

\* The mean delivery of 1838 and 1840 was 2933 tons.

large, the majority of them varying from 600 to 1200 and 1500 acres, while a few reach as high as 2000 acres. The rotations and plans of cropping vary with the natural qualities of the soil, though the system of farming, allowing for the difference in the land, is the same upon all. On the deep soils, which are clay marls and sandy loams, or what the writer of the prize essay calls "heavy white lands," the course is a three-field one, namely:—1st year, wheat; 2nd year, clover, beans, oats, peas, and swedes in certain proportions; 3rd year, clover, —fed, summer-tilled, or sown to green crop; early turnips or rape; and rape, summer vetches (tares), or a naked fallow. Beans and oats used to be grown for sale more than at present, railroads having greatly diminished the number of coach horses, and little more of either is grown than is required for the farmer's own use. It is clear that, even where he grows all the oats and beans he consumes, protection upon those articles is at most useless to him; while, wherever he has to buy them, the extra price caused by the Corn Laws is just so much direct loss to him.

On the lighter lands the four-course rotation is adopted; and on the lightest, called "down, or beak-land," a five and six field course prevails. Here wheat and barley are grown for sale, and the horse corn, a heavy item, is usually purchased. Now, let us take the case of a farm of 800 acres, a very common size in South Wilts, of which perhaps one-fourth, or 200 acres, may be down or natural hill pasture land, on which the flock of sheep is fed during the day, to be folded on some part of the arable land at night. As three horses are commonly used in each plough, at least twenty horses will be required for the 600 acres of arable land. Now, if each horse has only a bushel and a half of corn per week, the extra price paid upon the farmer's horse corn alone will amount to little less than £100 a year, equal to an increased rent of 3s. 4d. upon every acre of his cultivated land. So, again, upon his seed wheat,—being at least two, and more frequently three, bushels to the acre,—his seed barley, his seed tares, his household and farming consumption of flour, cheese, bacon, and so forth, the farmer pays the monopoly prices exacted by means of protective duties. Let him fairly calculate the amount of all such items, and let him add to them the additional rent he pays in consequence of his rent being estimated according to act-of-Parliament prices, and the increased burden of the poor from enhanced prices, and he will find that, even when he gets his monopoly price—which has been only about three years out of five—for the grain he sells, he is an actual loser by high prices. But the greatest disadvantage to the South Wiltshire farmer from the high cost of pulse and the inferior grains consists in deterring him from a higher system of farming. At present, a vast mass of straw is either trod down by the cart-horses into mere rotten straw, or carried out at once into the fields and spread abroad in the sheepfolds; whereas, if cattle food were cheap, this straw would be consumed by beasts in the yard, and an immense force of rich manure obtained. The Wiltshire farmer employs too little capital per acre to farm successfully, and nothing but a conviction that prices of wheat will be permanently low can force him into a better system. A little corn given to the breeding flock would not only improve the size of his sheep, but would wonderfully enrich the corn land of the South Wiltshire farmer, and, if he adopted the plan of fattening off a portion of his wethers and draft ewes, he might cultivate all that tract of down pasture which now serves merely for a sheepwalk.

This is not in any degree speculative, for it is all in practical operation in Lincolnshire, on land certainly not superior to the now almost waste downs of South Wilts. Mr. Pusey says that the Lincolnshire farmers cannot spare their turnips from their sheepfolds by reason of the weakness of the land; so, instead of drawing home turnips, "they purchase large quantities of oilcake (80 tons, perhaps, on a large farm, costing £600), by the aid of which their beasts thrive on the straw, and the manure is at the same time enriched." Now, bean or pea meal, or barley, would be at least as good for this purpose as oilcake, and the admission of pulse and common grain without duty would lower the price of oilcake in the same proportion as that of beans and peas. Whichever kind of food the farmer preferred, he would be equally benefited by Free Trade.

Mr. Pusey says, that on a farm of 1000 acres in Lincolnshire, from 70 to 100 or more beasts are thus wintered. If cattle food could be bought at one-third less than its present price, as it might with a Free Trade, what a saving would not such spirited farmers as those of Lincolnshire effect, and how much more easily might other farmers follow their example. At present these cattle only just pay, when sold out in the spring, for the cake they have consumed, even if they do so much; but the manure repays the cost tenfold, even if only one-half of the expense of the oilcake is got back by the additional value of the cattle when sold. That high farming can become general without the most free importa-

tion of cattle-food is out of the question; and none but high farming, in some form or other, can ever again be profitable farming. Let us conclude by presenting to our readers Mr. Pusey's picture of the striking contrast between the high farming of the north-east and the low farming of the south-west of England. He, speaking of a farm in Lincolnshire of 700 acres of a light yellowish sand only six inches deep, says:—

"The peculiarity is in the number of dressings purchased and successively applied to the crops of turnips, barley, clover or grass seeds, and wheat. The ordinary number of dressings varies in other districts where the four-course system prevails. Thus, on a farm of my own, the land during the four-year rotation only received a little poor dung, or rather rotten straw, at wheat sowing. The turnips, if any turnips grew, were fed off by breeding ewes, who sometimes obtained rough hay, and who in one season, as I found, obtaining only mouldy pea-straw, had lost one-half of their sucking lambs, which they could not sustain. A better treatment (in the west) is to give dung to some of the turnips, and to buy woollen rags for part of the wheat. A further step would be to fatten off the young sheep when they are a year old, giving them corn with their turnips; and this could not be called bad farming, if the soil had any depth or natural strength. But the farm at Temple Bruer has neither depth nor natural strength; and I will state how those two defects are supplied by its tenant, beginning with the turnip crop as the foundation. This crop is sown with sixteen bushels of bones, and it is fed off on the land by sheep receiving oilcake, which may be regarded as a dressing for the following barley crop. In the next year, after the barley is mown, follows a dressing which will surprise many farmers. The dung of the whole year, which I saw in a vast mass, cleared out of the yard in October, enriched with the oilcake that had been purchased for sixty beasts wintered there, is laid at Christmas on the barley stubble, for the benefit of the artificial grasses which follow. Of these grasses only one-third is made into hay and carried off, two-thirds are depastured and return again to the ground.

"Observing, too, that troughs were set out upon these seeds last October, I found, on inquiry, that they contained oilcake for fattening ewes; and that this is a growing practice, the ewes receiving each a pound of cake daily. Last follows the wheat-sowing; and not content with having spread the whole of his oilcake dung upon the seeds at the previous Christmas, or with having fed off two-thirds of these seeds upon it in the summer, and so restored to the ground what it had brought forth, or even with having given oilcake to his ewes in October upon it, this practical farmer buys rapeseed, which he throws on his land at the rate of four cwt. to the acre, when he has ploughed the ground and pressed it for wheat-sowing. The result is noble crops upon land from which a few years since the rent was paid by two rabbits an acre. The yearly outlay, indeed, on manures may well amount to a second rent; but the tenant (who occupies other farms also) is regarded as a prosperous man."

Another tenant-farmer had bought 80 tons of oilcake to feed 110 beasts through the winter.

"This expenditure," says Mr. Pusey, "is not in diminution of the investment in sheep, the ordinary stock of such land. Indeed, it appeared to me, on the contrary, that the flocks of sheep were unusually numerous; and the following statement seems to bear out that impression:—A farm of 500 acres, having 125 acres of turnips, is said to winter from 10 to 12 sheep per acre, that is, from 1250 to 1500 sheep. The breed, too, is the improved Lincoln, which, though inferior to the Down sheep in quality, exceed them in weight, and consequently in their demand for food, in the proportion of five to four."

Now, let any practical farmer say, whether the precarious and occasional high price gained upon their wheat can be any compensation to these Lincolnshire farmers for the loss sustained upon the purchase of artificial food? Mr. Lattimore, who feeds pretty much in the same way as these example farmers mentioned by Mr. Pusey, estimates that the loss he sustains by the monopoly-price of food for stock amounts to 14s. upon every quarter of wheat he sends to market!!

#### FALLEN FROM THEIR HIGH ESTATE.

"Now every puny whipsnapper takes my sword."

That those farmers who have been really deluded into the belief that they were ever benefited by the Corn Laws should be most indignant with the monopolist members for counties is but natural. The honest—that is the ignorant—protectionists have been made most vile "utensils" by their political landowners, and, now having served their turn, the monopolist M.P.'s give the farmers the go-by. Mr. Sydney Herbert, who is a "farmers' friend" of the first water down in Wiltshire, while giving Mr. Stafford O'Brien a hint to pocket his amendment on Mr. Cobden's motion, sneered at "the delicate nerves of the agriculturists," and lectured them for "coming whining to Parliament for protection." In the House this was of course completely successful, for Mr. Stafford O'Brien, like a good boy, said no more about his amendment; and all the rampant protectionists of the Central Society divided with the Minister against an inquiry into the depression of agriculture with the meekness of pet lambs. Truly might Mr. Bright say that the Prime Minister had no supporters in the House more docile than the protectionist county members. But this sort of thing cannot last long. Farmers are getting irate, and are beginning to see that they have been made cat's-paws for the political squires. At the West Surrey Protection Society, Mr. Trotter, M.P., one of the county members, was rather roughly pulled over the coals for his support of Ministers; while Mr. Denison, the other member, did not venture to show at all. Poor Mr. Trotter tried to make excuses, but he was

thus extinguished by Mr. Goldhawk, a farmer, who, as reported by the *Morning Post*, said:—

"He firmly believed that all the distress the farmers of West Surrey had now to complain of arose from the support Mr. Trotter and other gentlemen similarly situated had given to Sir R. Peel. (Hear, hear.) At a meeting held at Guildford some time since, to resist the Anti-Corn-Law League, he (Mr. Goldhawk) had stated that everything depended on the members they sent to Parliament to represent their interest. (Hear, hear.) He believed the present rate of protection wholly inadequate, and he declared his opinion openly, that the member who had supported Sir R. Peel in his recent measures affecting agriculture, was no longer a fit representative for West Surrey. (THIS LATTER OBSERVATION OF THE SPEAKER WAS LOUDLY CHEERED BY THE MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT.)

"Mr. Currie urged the necessity of unanimity among the farmers, and said a few words in defence of the Premier."

And a petition strongly condemnatory of Peel's policy was agreed to, which Mr. Trotter and Mr. Denison, the members for West Surrey, were earnestly requested to support. This is significant. The members for Cambridgeshire, too, have a rather unpleasant meeting with some of their duped protectionist constituents hanging over their heads. We wish them a pleasant vacation! But, perhaps, the richest scene in which the prostration of the once powerful and fierce Parliamentary monopolists has hitherto been exhibited was when, on Friday week, Mr. Miles gave notice that he would move a *real* amendment in favour of agricultural protection. Laughed at by the House, he was patronised by Mr. Ferrand, and sharply rebuked as a deluder of the farmers by Mr. Borthwick!!! Is there a "lower depth" for the champions of the Central Protection Society? Let our agricultural readers see what sort of a figure the redoubtable Mr. Miles cut on this occasion. He said, "All sorts of aspersions had been thrown out against that bench" (on which the Parliamentary "farmers' friends" sat), "and he, and those who agreed with him, had been accused of acting a sham fight," at which the House assentingly shouted "Hear, hear." "Now," bravely said Mr. Miles, "he, at any rate, wished to show that there were at least one or two individuals who really wanted to have a fair stand-up fight." At which bravery the House again cheered derisively, and "hear, hear"ed vociferously.

Now, if Mr. Miles had really intended to have gone into the question of agricultural distress in spite of the wishes of the Ministry, he ought to have persisted in some amendment on Mr. Cobden's motion, which, had it gone for inquiry in almost any shape, would assuredly have been carried against Sir Robert Peel. But, then, the valiant Mr. Miles was dumb. Now, he knows Sir Robert Peel will be assisted by the whole Opposition, besides his own adherents, Mr. Miles pretends to make "a stand-up fight." Farmers, will you be deluded by

such nonsense? Why, the protectionist members themselves admit that, if Sir Robert Peel would assent to a total and immediate free trade in corn, there would not be more than 70 members, out of the whole 638, found to divide against him. Mr. Hume naturally asked Miles the brave, "What his stand-up fight was about;" when up rose Ferrand, and expounded the approved protectionist objections to the tariff and the Canadian Corn Bill, and called on his friend "to stand firm, and not allow her Majesty's Government to taunt him with coming whining to the House." But it was reserved for Mr. Borthwick to give poor Mr. Miles his quietus. After stating that he (Mr. Borthwick) had offered a single-handed opposition—he could not accomplish a division—to the Canada Corn Bill, he said:—

"Why did gentlemen, who supported the Government on that occasion, now come forward with motions which they knew it was impossible to carry? These were the gentlemen who told the farmers of the country to look to them for protection. (LAUGHTER.) It was now too late—it was a day behind the fair—to bring forward this question. Did they not all vote with her Majesty's Government on the occasion alluded to? What, then, was the meaning of the resolution which the member for Somersetshire had proposed to the House? He might as well propose that two and two made four. The resolution merely proposed that in any scheme for adjusting the taxation of the country due deference should be had to the agricultural interest. Now, the hon. member for Stockport might affirm—and it was probable that he would affirm—that proposition. It was also probable that her Majesty's Government would affirm that proposition. It was a vote that might be unanimously carried by the whole House. What, then, did the hon. gentleman mean by that proposition? Was it meant for any practical purpose under heaven? (Hear.) He (Mr. Borthwick) had voted with the hon. member for Somersetshire on every motion brought forward in favour of the agricultural interest, and he (Mr. Borthwick) was prepared to vote in behalf of that interest whenever a practical motion should be submitted to the House. He was sure the right hon. gentleman (Sir R. Peel) would give him credit, at least for this, if for nothing else, that he was not addicted to whining, cringing, or flattery. (LAUGHTER.) If the hon. member for Somersetshire intended to support the agricultural interest, he should recollect that he was now proposing a proposition which the hon. member for Stockport would affirm. Suppose the hon. member for Somersetshire carried his resolution, what would be the effect of it? The House of Commons would have affirmed that, whenever the budget was before the House, the agricultural interest was deserving of consideration. What would be gained by such a motion? Not one practical result. On that account, although he should continue to support the agricultural interest on practical grounds, he should vote against the proposition. Whatever might be the intention with which that proposition was brought for-



ward, he (Mr. Borthwick) was sure it could have no other effect than to mystify and delude the farmers and the people of England. Alas! for the poor farmers of England, they were perishing through the assistance of their friends. (Hear, hear.) On all the mockeries that had ever been thrown against the farmers of England, the most consummate mockery would be a resolution of the House of Commons in the form proposed by the hon. gentleman. (Laughter.)

This was followed up by Sir Robert, who, with ludicrous mock gravity, said:—

"He did not intend to put the same construction on it as his hon. friend behind him—that it might be understood as conveying a truism in which he (Sir R. Peel) could concur. He thought it would be impossible for the House to affirm that resolution, without implying an opinion that the measures proposed by her Majesty's Government might not be carried. (Hear, hear.) Although the resolution might appear to be abstractedly true, yet the construction put upon it by agriculturists out of doors must certainly be, that there ought to be some remuneration of taxation immediately bearing on the agricultural interest. If the House voted that resolution without following it up by measures of that nature, it appeared to him they would be practising a deception. (Hear, hear.) As he intended to adhere to those remissions of duty proposed on the part of her Majesty's Government, on cotton, wool, glass, customs, &c., it was totally out of his power to confirm that resolution, whether abstractedly true or not."

Now, if Mr. Miles can persuade himself that his motion could be anything but a "sham," surely he must be the only man in the three kingdoms gifted with such an amount of credulity.

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 22, 1845.

"Monopoly exposed by the Monopolists" would be a very proper title for a narrative of the proceedings in the House of Commons on Wednesday night. Never did any member of the League charge the protectionists with such mean and mercenary motives as they themselves unwittingly avowed; never did we conceive that any Legislature could exhibit such a scene of peddling, huckstering selfishness, confessing its preposterous purpose of limiting the food of the poor in order to swell the purses of the rich, as was displayed in the debate on the Customs duties. Grease and lard were the subjects for which the monopolists claimed the continuance of protection, because the removal of the duty on these articles might possibly limit the demand for their kitchen-stuff and their dripping. Mr. Bramston opened the debate by expressing a fear that the removal of the duty on grease might afford an opportunity for the introduction of butter under that title,—butter, in the opinion of the Bramston class, being far too great a luxury for the stomachs of operatives and labourers. With amiable simplicity, so perfect as to be beyond the consciousness of the ridicule it provoked, Sir George Clerk expounded the paternal care which the Government exercised in the abridgment of the food of the labouring classes. He assured the House that when butter was imported under the name of grease, it was immediately mixed with tar, so as to render it utterly unfit for human food. In this state, however, he declared that it was very fit for greasing the backs of sheep; and he dwelt with great complacency on the scientific merits of the process which thus kept butter from the stomachs of the poor to improve the flocks of the wealthy sheep-owners. Poisoning of food seems to have become an important part of our financial system ever since Gladstone expressed his approbation of the policy of the Chinese in poisoning their wells; the senior Gladstone, in the name of the West India interest, demands the adulteration of sugar; Sir George Clerk dwells upon the filthy process by which butter is rendered unfit for food, as if he were describing not merely the most innocent but the most laudable thing in the world. Artistic starvation and scientific famine are the avowed objects of the policy of monopoly. As arsenic is to be imported duty free, and as the use of it is about as cheap as tar and rather more effectual, we suggest to the friends of the labourers and the patrons of the distressed needlewomen, that the mixture of arsenic with foreign butter would be an improvement on their plans for confining the labourers to limited quantities of dry bread, and preventing the needlewomen from adding a relish to their taxed loaves.

The bleatings of the sheep-owners, which might have been mistaken for those of the sheep, softened those hearts which were steeled against the supplications of the labourers and the needlewomen. Full assurance being given that the beneficence of the Legislature had no reference whatever to humanity, and that the policy of starvation should be preserved in tact so far as grease was concerned, Mr. Bramston withdrew his opposition, in which he and his class would undoubtedly have persevered if they thought that one atom of the grease would be abstracted from the backs of the sheep to feed the English peasant.

This favour shown to English sheep led some gentleman who rejoices in the euphonious name of Grogan to appeal to the House on behalf of Irish pigs. The reporters have cruelly burked the arguments by which this gentleman maintained the cause of Irish pigs versus the English people; but they must have been of some weight, for they won him English support. The hucksters of kitchen-stuff and dripping declared that the admission of lard would deprive them of the pence and twopences which they obtain from the sale of their culinary refuse to the distressed peasantry; and they contended for the preservation of this petty, miserable source of gain with as much zeal as ever hero showed for the success of his cause, or martyr was their zeal, that it quite ran away with their logic. Sir John Tyrrel, who very appropriately set himself forth as the patron of the kitchens of Essex, replied to Mr. Villiers's indignant denunciation of such petty cheating of the poor, by charging him with the possession of a sinecure. If the charge were as true as it is notoriously false, no animal possessing intelligence above the average of the calves of Essex could find out any earthly connexion between a place in Chancery and the abstraction of lard from the poor man's bill of fare, that he might be forced to purchase the squire's kitchen-stuff and dripping. Mr. Villiers's reply was crushing. But infinitely more galling to the protectionists was the reproof which they received from Mr. Peter Borthwick—this was the ass kicking the dead lion with a vengeance; it was a proof of their fallen estate infinitely more galling than the castigation which they received from Major Wyndham.

A desperate effort to retrieve his party was made by that lady-like gentleman, Mr. Stafford O'Brien; he avowed that the object of the Protection Society was to prevent cheapness of provision. Now, as cheapness is the result of abundance, and dearthness of scarcity, the obvious meaning of the worthy member's words is that the Protection Societies have been instituted to produce high prices by artificial starvation.

From the proposition thus nakedly stated by Mr. Cobden the protectionists loudly dissented, and thus exposed themselves to the bitter taunt of supporting a system of policy so palpably and detestably bad that they could not dare to face a definition of its principles. The patrons of the Irish pigs and English kitchen-perquisites felt themselves so completely damaged that they would not venture on a division; and so lard is to be admitted for the use of machinery in the north and men in the south of England. It would have been too great an elevation for the peasants and agricultural labourers to be placed on a level with the sheep of the Cheviots: let them be grateful for being raised to the same rank as the wheels and turning-shafts of the mills of Lancashire.

When Mr. Disraeli tauntingly asked on Monday night "where are the country gentlemen of England now?" he could not have anticipated that on Wednesday night their condition would be not merely deplorable, but utterly contemptible. From our souls we pity them; our sorrow over their fallen estate is too potent for our indignation. They have been the victims of "the organized hypocrisy" which established a Government of false pretences, a tariff that has unsettled everything and almost settled nothing, a system of protection the existence of which its author refuses to guarantee for a single year, and a social condition of uncertainty which has destroyed all confidence in public men and almost in public principle. Raised to power for the purpose of maintaining monopoly, Peel has loosed its foundations by peddling with minor articles which may serve as clap-nets for popularity, while he conserves the giant monopolies of corn and sugar. The protectionists see "the handwriting on the wall" in this abandonment of principle: the menace of the Premier on Mr. Miles's motion "that he is not prepared to maintain the present amount of protection" was received as an ominous hint of future change. The protectionists have acted like rogues servants escaping from a falling house, each striving to carry off the bit of plunder most convenient to his hand: Mr. Bramston seizes the butter-bait, Mr. Stafford O'Brien the dagger, and Sir John Tyrrel the dripping-pan; and spectators fail to raise the cry of "Stop thief!" because they are choked with laughter at the ridiculous figure which the fugitives cut while wielding such implements.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The *Journal des Débats* states that a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation between France and the Imam of Muscat was signed on the 17th of November at Zanzibar.

THE LATE FATAL DUEL IN PARIS.—The Paris papers publish the details of the funeral of M. Dujaquier, one of the *gerants* of *La Presse*. From those particulars it appears that a very large concourse of persons, friends of the deceased, including nearly the entire corps of writers and editors of journals and other periodicals of Paris, were present on the melancholy occasion. The pall was held by MM. Emile de Girardin (member of the Chamber of Deputies, and editor in chief of *La Presse*), Alexandre Dumas, De Balzac, and Mery. The coffin, having been lowered into the grave, M. Emile de Girardin, in a voice which betrayed the deepest intensity of feeling, pronounced over it an affecting discourse, in the course of which he quoted the words of the deceased: "I am about to fight a duel for the most absurd and futile of causes," written with a firm and unshaken hand an hour before he was mortally wounded. I well know," said the speaker, "that to me belongs less than to others to use here the words 'religion' and 'reason'; and I am not about to employ that elevated language, but that which becomes me." What I may here say is, that neither this duel (of which I had no previous knowledge) nor other duels not less grievous, would ever have been to be deplored, if it and they had been prefaced by a statement, precise in its details, going back to the origin of the pro-vocation, and containing all the explanations given by the two parties, and such statement, well digested and drawn up by the four customary seconds, had been deposited in the hands of a third party." It is worthy of note that it was Girardin who, in 1836, fought a duel with and killed Armand Carrel, the celebrated republican editor of the *National*.

THE CONSULATE AND THE EMPIRE.—The first edition of the "History of the Consulate and Empire," by M. Thiers, which appeared in Paris on Saturday, was completely exhausted in the course of a few hours. At four o'clock 10,000 copies had been sold, and 6000 of a new edition, then in the press, were bespoken.

DREADFUL CALAMITY AT ALGERS.—The *Moniteur Algerien* of the 10th inst. announces the occurrence in that city of a dreadful catastrophe. At ten o'clock in the evening of the 8th, the gunpowder deposited in the stores of the park of artillery took fire, blew up that building, and occasioned the destruction of various others situated between it and the Admiralty, which was fortunately spared. Those magazines contained but a small quantity of gunpowder, which could not have produced so destructive an effect, and it was supposed that some unknown depot of gunpowder, buried there previous to the conquest, may have contributed to give additional intensity to the explosion. 43 workmen of the artillery, 31 pontooners, 10 artillery soldiers, and 2 engineers, were found dead in their quarters, and 30 were more or less desperately wounded. The sergeant-major of the armours and his wife and child equally perished. The controller, M. Piron, expired after undergoing the amputation of his leg. Five other sub-officers suffered the same fate. Commander Palard was also among the victims of the terrible accident.

BRUSSELS, March 16.—In consequence of the continuance of the cold, vegetables are extravagantly dear, and so scarce that many persons, residing in the distant quarters, find it difficult to procure any. The farmers sell their cattle, being unable to feed them. The supply of milk in the city is insufficient; great fears are felt for the crops; as for statistics of pauperism, we dare not touch on that subject. The average price of wheat in the week ending the 22nd of February, was 16s. 30c., and that of rye, 10s. 28c. per hectolitre.—*Brussels paper.*

PORTUGAL.—The Government *Diario* of the 6th inst. gives an account of some serious disturbances which have taken place in the neighbourhood of Felgueiras, in which the military have come into collision with the country people, and some blood has been spilled. The affair grew out of the resistance of the people and the wine-growers to an additional impost upon green wines.

The *Times* correspondent, writing from Lisbon, says:—"In the midst of the wonderful impetus which the forward movement has undeniably taken in this country, and which is so unlooked-for that many very worthy but old-fashioned people are still incredulous and shake their heads, the price of agricultural produce alone are keeping on their downward and ruinous course. Here we have a country, comparatively speaking, untitled, and with high protective duties, yet, with such a lavish abundance of grain in the market, that it has turned unsaleable, holders being driven to re-export, and the agricultural classes left penniless. How can they pay their tributes? It is a subject which calls loudly for the investigation of the Legislature—enlightened and untiring investigation, not the lazy 'thank Heaven for cheap bread and all its other blessings!' Hitherto the attempts made to sound the depths of this mystery have been most futile, and left it in more vexatious perplexity than ever."

Official intelligence had been received at Madrid by the Spanish Government, from Portugal, of the breaking out of an insurrection, supposed to have a political tendency, at Felgueiras, in the province of Mino, which borders on Galicia and Old Castile. The insurgents and the troops had had a contest, and it was reported that there were several killed and wounded on both sides, but no further details had transpired.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 26.—Information was received here by the last steam-packet from Trebizond, of the expulsion of the Capuchin missionaries, sent by the French Propaganda into Georgia. The alternative was offered to, but rejected by, them, of submitting to the authority of the Greek Patriarch. Dr. Wolff arrived here by the same packet from Trebizond. The rev. gentleman has, in great measure, recovered from the fatigues of his journey. He has been accompanied here by an ambassador from Bokhara, whose original destination was to the Court of London, but who, having been informed by Colonel Shiel that he would on no account be received there, will proceed no further than Constantinople. He is the bearer of letters to the Sultan and the Grand Vicer.

UNITED STATES.—The *Hibernia* arrived at Liverpool on Monday, bringing news from Boston to the 1st inst. Mr. Polk, the new President elect, had arrived at Washington. He was to deliver his inaugural address on the 4th inst. The Texas question has engrossed nearly all the attention of both houses of Congress; but, besides





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No. 79.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1845.

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The League Bazaar will be held during the month of May next, in the Theatre Royal Covent Garden.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

### NEGLECTED GUARANTEES OF PEACE.

It is no part of our business to discuss questions of foreign politics. The matters, in particular, which form the subject of the recent intelligence from America are such as we could be quite contented, so far as their intrinsic importance is concerned, to pass over in silence. Whether the Government of Oregon be administered by Lord Charles Fitz, or Sir John That, in the name of Queen Victoria, or by plain Mr. or Messrs. Somebody in the name of the people and state of Oregon itself,—and whether Texas shall remain a separate and independent member of the family of nations, or enter into federal alliance with the adjacent states of the American Union,—are questions, in themselves considered, of very subordinate moment. The only interest which Great Britain and humanity have in connexion with them, is that Oregon and Texas should be governed by the power that can govern them best—should possess the internal institutions, and be placed in the external relations, best fitted to promote the development of their natural resources, and to render them the abodes of happy, well-ordered communities of human beings. With the special arrangements most suitable for this end we have, as Free-Traders, no immediate concern—as Englishmen, no concern worth the thought of a moment, in comparison with the vast national and human interests involved in the maintenance of the peace of the world.

It is impossible, however, to receive such tidings as those which this week has brought, and to contemplate their menacing aspects with regard to the highest interests of Christian civilization, without being bitterly reminded of the monopoly against which we are leagued. Landlord legislation has now brought us, to all appearance, on the very brink of the most fearful calamity that could befall Great Britain and humanity. That we are, at this

moment, in danger of war with the United States; that there is a real, and a not remote, probability of two of the first Christian nations of the earth—nations the most closely allied in blood, language, interests, laws, and religion—rushing into the mad wickedness of wholesale and organized fratricide, is the doing of monopoly. But for the Corn Law, such a war would rank, by this time, in the highest class of moral and political impossibilities. Were the commercial relations of Great Britain and America what they might be, what God and nature plainly designed that they should be—what, without the Corn Law, they infallibly would be—such questions as those of Texas and Oregon might arise, indeed, from time to time, but they would be utterly incapable of imperilling the peace of the two countries. Any sort of settlement or unsettlement of such matters would be cheerfully acquiesced in by either people, as preferable to the crimes and horrors of a conflict ruinous to both.

What are the natural commercial relations of Great Britain and America? We cannot better indicate these than by simply copying the figures of the occupation returns made by the census commissioners of each country. They stand thus:—

	Agriculture.	Commerce, Trade, and Manufactures.
United States, 1840 .. ..	3,719,951 ..	909,356
Great Britain, 1841 .. ..	1,215,264 ..	3,110,376

Can anything more palpably show that these two countries are made for one another—made each to be the complement of the other's existence. Granary and workshop; plough and loom; boundless natural fertility, and boundless mechanical skill and invention; agriculture and manufactures, whose respective powers of production and capacity of consumption may be said to be practically infinite;—was there ever, since the world began, such a case of fitness for mutual help, service, and dependence, such a provision for perpetual amity and brotherhood? That war between two countries so posited and related, so deeply pledged, by the fundamental conditions of their respective modes of existence, to peace and friendship, should war become so much as a possibility, is a burning disgrace to that legislation which has done its uttermost to convert a civilizing and humanizing mutual dependence into mutual "independence" and isolation. Which country is right, and which wrong, in the particular questions now at issue, we care not to ask. That any such questions should involve the hideous possibility of a bloody issue is our wrong. The trembling anxiety with which we now await every arrival of news from America is the penalty—Heaven grant it be the worst penalty—of our slavish tolerance of landlord legislation, with its savage and stupid dogma of "Independence of Foreigners."

Nothing can be more disastrously complete than the way in which we have rent asunder, to the utmost of our power, those securities for peace provided for by the natural relations of the two countries. We have called into existence, in the northern and eastern states, a monopolist manufacturing power directly interested in war and high prices. We have left the central and western agricultural states without any visible and strong interest in peace. And the cotton-growing states of the south—the only section of the Union which has still a vital commercial interest in the maintenance of peaceful relations with us—we have grievously irritated, by our unjust, offensive, palpably hypocritical, and pitifully futile devices for the repression of slavery and the slave trade. As our corn monopoly has raised up rivals in the north, and left us without friends in the west, our sugar monopoly, with the pretences on which it is founded, has, so far as commercial interests allow, cooled and alienated the south.

While we cannot overlook the fact that the connexion of the Texas question with the anticipated extension and perpetuation of slavery gives it an importance far beyond what attaches to any Oregon or boundary dispute, we must also express our conviction that the evils which humanity has to apprehend from the meditated annexation are fatally aggravated by our own monopolist policy. By protecting free labour against the competition of slave labour, we tell all the world that slavery is good industrial economy—that we, who have tried both, and are therefore able to speak from experience, have discovered slave labour to be the better of the two. We at once confess an economical blunder, and boast a moral superiority. By one and the same act we confirm the slaveowner in his prejudices and wound him in his pride. Is it possible to provide with more deadly effect for the extension and

perpetuity of the detestable institution, in whose favour we thus enlist both the cupidity and the passions of its defenders? This Texas question need have no terrors for philanthropy, if philanthropy would but have faith in the doctrine which it once so strenuously preached, of the intrinsic economical superiority of the labour of freemen over that of slaves. Only demonstrate that—and Texas and the States may do as they like. Abolish the West Indian monopoly; rescind that "protection" which all our recent information shows to be the "bane" of colonial as it is of home agriculture; demonstrate, in the facts and figures of the London Price Current, that freedom and science can grow cheaper sugar than slavery and barbarism,—and slavery dies a natural death. Do this, and we may recall our cruisers from the African coast, burn our right-of-search treaties, and look on with perfect complacency while the two independent powers of Texas and the Union enter into such federal relations as they may deem mutually advantageous.

Notwithstanding the alarming complexion of the intelligence of this week, we still cherish the hope and belief that war between Great Britain and the United States is at present morally impossible. The wide, deep, various, old-established interests created and cemented by that commercial intercourse, which not all our miserable monopolist restrictions have been able to put down, constitute a power which, in conjunction with the intelligence, civilization, and Christianity of the two countries, will, we trust, be strong enough to avert so horrible a calamity. But let the friends of peace beware. The danger is real, permanent, and growing. Of late years, questions more or less imperilling our pacific relations with the United States have arisen with ominous frequency. Some of these have been set at rest by diplomacy—others have died away in the course of events: but new ones continue to make their appearance, and each successive crisis of hostile discussion seems to bring us nearer to war than the one that preceded it. It is hardly in the nature of things that this perpetual talk of war, this mischievous and perilous familiarity with the idea of war, should always be found consistent with the actual

maintenance of peace. We much fear that, without the timely administration of that corrective which free commercial intercourse can alone supply, out of all these recurring and accumulated irritations war will come at last—a war more disastrous to the interests and more disgraceful to the character of the belligerent nations—more ruinous to the best hopes of civilization, freedom, and humanity—more outrageously foolish, and more horribly wicked than the worst war yet known to history.

### THE GREAT KITCHEN QUESTION.

Monopoly, always odious, has become utterly contemptible: Sir George Clerk's description of the filthy process by which butter is rendered unfit for human food has disgusted every man, woman, and child in the empire unconnected with the base interests of protection. He has rendered the injustice of monopoly level to the meanest capacity,—we beg pardon, it was not obvious to his own; but official capacities and natural capacities, however mean, are not always convertible terms. There is what Mr. Gladstone calls "a great principle" in the monopolies of sugar and corn: they have the grandeur of Jack Sheppard or Claude du Val; but the petty peddling in butter and lard descends to the level of Bill Smees or Ikey Solomons;—we come down from the highway-robber to the pickpocket. "Where is our 60s. per quarter?" had something of majesty in the melancholy of its interrogation; but "where is my penny on the dripping and my farthing on the grease?" is so utterly mean and despicable, that contempt actually overcomes indignation, and we cannot hate because we thoroughly despise. The stolid complacency with which Sir George Clerk assured the country gentlemen of England that he would continue to gratify them by limiting the luxuries of the nursery, and the gusto with which he described the disgusting process of pollution by which the policy of artificial famine makes infancy contribute to swell the luxuries of monopolists, have revolted the common sense and good feelings of all classes. It has been asked, what must have thought of the hearts and heads of the persons whom he hoped to gratify by his filthy revelations? If such policy is to be consistently carried out, Tawell instead of being sent to the scaffold, should have been appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer. Venetian is said to have consoled himself for the unpopularity of a dirty tax by declaring that the money did not retain any scent of the source from which it

was derived; and a similar consolation may be used by those who eke out the enjoyments of the drawing-room by the sale of the petty savings of the kitchen. If butter were admitted free there would be little sale for kitchen-stuff and dripping. The old story of the "Three Bears" has been whimsically realized:—"Who has been meddling with my porridge, and taken away the promised 56s. per quarter?" shouts Lord Beaumont; "Who has been meddling with my porridge, and lowered mutton a penny a pound?" roars Mr. Miles; and "Who has been meddling with my porridge—the kitchen-stuff and dripping—and eaten it all up by admitting lard?" whines Sir John Tyrell. But, while we cannot forbear laughing at the absurdity of the farce which the newspapers have reported under the title of "the grease-and-lard debate," we cannot but feel vexed at the utter disregard for public opinion manifested by the actors. Plotting in the face of the nation to raise the price of food by an admixture of poison or disgusting trash with supplies of provisions, would, we should have thought, have been considered too odious a performance to be hazarded in public. We have been mistaken: a Minister of the Crown takes credit for skilfulness in poisoning food, and more than one member for a county claimed the honour of becoming the champion of the greasy perquisites of kitchen-stuff and dripping. When Sinbad had the Old Man of the Sea on his back—that lively prototype of Monopoly bestriding a nation—he suffered most pain when the monster was in one of his farcical moods and inclined to display a little humour; we, too, must confess that monopoly has become more intolerable since it has become utterly contemptible, and that the Corn Laws have become to us tenfold more odious since Sir George Clerk has explained their connexion with the mixture of tar and butter. A bad punster ascribes this policy to Peel's anxiety to become an imitator of Canning: the liberation of classic Greece was effected by a British tar—Sir Edward Canning; and Peel has applied the precedent by requiring British tar for the liberation of that *grease* which is anything but classical.

In the next discussion on the tariff we trust that some member will raise the question of the admission of cheese and butter. No ogres will be more dreaded in the nurseries than those who enforce upon the children the eating of dry bread. Monopoly in juvenile imaginations will take the place of Blue Beard; Sir George Clerk will be the wolf in the tale waiting for Little Red Riding Hood's pot of butter, and his taking the place of "the Grandmother" will be explained by his occasional contributions to the *Morning Herald*; what old foggy shall become Old Bogie we do not venture to predict.

It is impossible to discuss the great kitchen question with seriousness; ludicrous associations beset us on all hands. The figure of Sir John Tyrell scraping off the butter from the bread of a squalling child; the image of Mr. Stafford O'Brien dealing out pennyworths of dripping; Sir George Clerk armed with the tar-stick; Mr. Bramston deliberating on the perquisites of the cook; and Peter Northwick reading them all a moral lecture on the shabbiness of such petty pickings, force themselves upon the imagination, and form themselves into grotesque groups more ludicrous than all the combinations of Gilray's caricatures. The Premier can neither keep his face nor his temper when the reminiscences of the "great kitchen debate" rise in his mind; for he knows that when protective policy becomes a scramble of hucksters, no plausibilities can ever again raise it to the dignity of a principle. Amusing as was the spectacle afforded by the representatives of the kitchen interest, we cannot avoid regretting that such a degradation befel the country gentlemen of England. "How are the mighty fallen!" Pity appeals against scorn; and we are therefore induced for the present to bestow upon them the charity of silence.

#### THE BAZAAR.

"DEAR SIR,—I am happy to say at last there seems to be getting a right feeling respecting the intended Bazaar, here; and I have just had a friend of mine with a very curious Indian hammock, a most beautiful article, that he wishes to send to your Bazaar; and I intend to exhibit it in my shop to try and induce others to send curiosities. Please let me know when it will be necessary to forward it, and any other things that can be got. Waiting your reply,  
"I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,  
"G. Wilson, Esq." "R. ANDREWS."

"DEAR SIR,—My object in writing you just now is, to say that I regretted that we had no movement here to aid the Bazaar which is to take place in London in favour of the League; and to endeavour to remedy this lack of zeal—which arises not from indifference to the cause, but from parties being mostly of one way of thinking as to the repeal of the Corn Laws—I communicated with some of the woollen manufacturers in this district, suggesting the propriety of having a table with goods of their manufacture: they would consist chiefly of woollen tartans, shawls, plaids, dresses, vest pieces, blankets, &c. For this object we had a meeting at Alton yesterday, at which it was agreed to take up subscriptions in goods or money;

and local committees were appointed to carry the resolution into effect. I am, &c. &c."

"George Wilson, Esq." "ROBERT SMITH."

"DEAR SIR,—We have received offers of aid from various quarters, principally in pecuniary donations. Last week I sent a note to Dr. Lingard, with whom I have the honour to be privately acquainted, suggesting that a work of his, with autograph, would be acceptable; and I had the gratification to receive in answer a copy of his "History and Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Church," 2 vols. 8vo., with autograph in each volume. It is no small fact for the League, that one of the most honest and learned divines of the age has thus again recorded his approbation of the course they have taken for the promotion of Free-Trade principles. Yours, very faithfully,  
"J. Hickin, Esq." "THOS. JOHNSON."

"SIR,—I have much pleasure in forwarding my annual subscription to the League; also in informing you that my son (who is a shipbuilder here) is employing his leisure hours in preparing a draught for a ship, to register about 400 tons, which he intends to present to the League Bazaar. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq." "THOS. TURNBULL."

"SIR,—I have observed in the letters of several of your Bazaar correspondents that autographs and papers of celebrated men, to some extent, are promised to be forwarded to you. I have prepared a variety of ornamental coloured borders, which, if approved, may be used to mount such autographs, as well as any choice drawings, &c. The designs are my own, and, being all coloured and finished by hand, they all vary.

"As a humble contributor to the great national cause, I beg to present sufficient designs for one book, which, when bound, I flatter myself will be found worthy of a place amongst the numerous and more valuable productions of British art and industry.

"I shall be happy to take charge of any selection of autographs, &c., for arrangement and mounting, if you so wish.

"I also beg leave to add that, should any parties feel inclined to make similar donations, I shall readily submit additional specimens, to the extent of three or four books, for their inspection.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"RICHD. A. HARRISON."  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq., Chairman, &c. &c."

[From the kindly offer contained in the above letter we beg to remind those friends who have promised to send valuable autographs to the Bazaar, that now would be the appropriate time for so doing, as the promised assistance of our correspondent would enable us to present them to the public in the most tasteful and elegant form.]

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

##### REVIEW OF THE DEBATES ON THE BUDGET.

The "Budget" is a term at once familiar and expressive. It is now becoming superseded by the less significant but more verbally correct phrase of "Financial Statement;" and therefore young politicians (who are apt to be as puzzling in their questions as young metaphysicians) will no longer be in danger of supposing that, on Budget night, the Chancellor of the Exchequer enters the House of Commons with a wallet on his back, or carrying "a little coffer or trunk of wood, such as the women of old time carried at their saddle-bows containing their jewels, attires, or trinkets when they rode into the country; or as the box or till of the cabinets of the gentlemen, wherein they keep their money." Nevertheless, we are partial to the use of the term "Budget." It has an old English sound about it; and in a single word conveys the idea of that opening of the state of the country which is revealed when we learn how much money we collect, and how much we expend; what taxes are to be remitted, or what laid on; how it fares with commerce in the returns of the customs; how with the consumption of the people in the state of the exchequer: in short, whether, as a nation, we are commercially and pecuniarily prosperous, or are incurring the risk of being unable to maintain our establishments and sustain our credit.

The financial year closes on the 5th of April; and it is usually a few days, or even a week or two, after that date, before the Budget is opened. But this year it has been brought forward unusually early. It having been announced in the speech from the throne that the income-tax would be proposed for renewal, in order to afford the means of making reductions in indirect taxation, the First Lord of the Treasury very judiciously resolves on making his "financial statement" on an early day, in order to set speculation at rest; and Friday the 14th of February was fixed for that purpose.

Ordinarily the Budget is an affair interesting only to politicians and commercial men; the rest of the world professing indifference to a dry statement of figures and accounts, the nature of which they very imperfectly comprehend. But this year the anxiety and the interest respecting the Budget have taken a much wider range. There seems to be a much larger number of people who feel a sharper concern in official facts and figures. A vague notion is afloat that something extraordinary is to be proposed; and members are literally besieged with applications for orders of admission to the strangers' gallery in the House of Commons. At four o'clock on the appointed day the lobby is crowded; depend upon it there are two or three hundred more in that crowd than the little gallery can accommodate. Even members are not indifferent to the necessity of coming down early in order to be in their places; and the absent have already

secured their seats by affixing their cards. Along the side gallery facing the Treasury bench there is a throng who prefer it because it enables them with greater comfort and facility to hear the statement, which is to be made by the First Lord of the Treasury, instead, as is usual, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Public business is to commence at half-past four; and it is now five-and-twenty minutes to five. Sir Robert Peel enters, and takes his place. A member carries a little square scarlet-covered box, which he hands to the Prime Minister, who places it on the table; it contains his official documents. Sir Robert Peel rises, and, addressing the SPEAKER in an under tone, moves the first "order of the day," which is, that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Ways and Means. The question is put,—*"As many as are of that opinion say Ay, on the contrary, No; the ayes have it."* The SPEAKER then descends from the chair; a clerk rises, and lifts the mace, which is placed under the table; and a member, in plain clothes, takes his seat in a chair in front, but on the right side of the Speaker's chair, which is left empty; and the House is in committee.

Sir Robert Peel rises, and addressing the chairman of committees by name—Mr. Greene—commences his financial statement. He tells you what the Government had calculated on receiving into the Exchequer during the past year, and what they actually did get; how much they have expended; what they expect, and what they mean to expend; the reasons for increased expenditure; and why there can be no reduction in our establishments. The national debt is so much, and faith must be kept with the public creditor. The Civil List is a contract, and cannot be touched: nay, her Majesty deserves credit, for, with four children, and much additional expense in receiving the visits of Sovereigns, she contracts no debt, and makes no new demand. The Army is also unassailable: our colonies are now forty-five in number, and require adequate protection, and our troops are under the amount requisite for effectual relief; while, instead of diminishing the Navy, we are going to increase it, in order to protect our commerce adequately, and to enable our steam marine to keep pace with improvements. There will, therefore, be little or no money in hand at the end of the year. But renew the Property and Income Tax, and we will have a surplus; and with it we will reduce the duties on sugar; abolish duties on exports; take away import duties on raw materials; let the cabinet-maker and the cooper have their wood and their staves at a cheaper rate; permit oils, minerals, dye-stuffs, and drugs to come in without paying dues at the Custom-house; enable the cotton manufacturer to get his cotton wool free of duty; take off the auction duty; and, by abolishing the excise on glass, set a beautiful manufac-

ture entirely free from inquisitorial inspection and the payment of heavy rates, and you may thus rival the glass-manufacturers of France, Belgium, and Bohemia, make glass springs for chronometers, or glass pipes to convey water; and with our coke, our alkali, and our capital, supply the world, benefit science, improve the habitations of the humbler classes, and immensely benefit all classes. "I will lose nearly four millions of revenue by the experiment," says the Prime Minister; "but give me the Property and Income Tax for three years more, and I will do it."

He sits down; the House rings with cheers; you look at the clock, and are amazed at the fact that the speech to which you have listened has occupied nearly three hours and a half. In itself, this is a great physical effort; yet it has been gone through without much apparent distress to the utterer, and without tedium or pain to the listeners. This is the great charm of Sir Robert Peel's eloquence. He neither startles nor tires you; he does not work you up to enthusiasm, but he preserves you from all consciousness of fatigue. Whenever, as on this occasion, it is his purpose and his wish to make his meaning clear, the object is accomplished by the *ars est celere artem*—the art which conceals its art. There is not a man who has listened to that speech of more than three hours—dealing with dry facts and figures—who does not go away with a perfect comprehension of it all. No member of the present House of Commons surpasses Sir Robert Peel in that artistic management of his topics, and that level clearness and facility of expression, which imprint on the mind a *fac-simile* of the speech. He is continuous without monotony, fascinating without fire, and calm (at least on all ordinary occasions) without feebleness. Rarely ascending, he scarcely ever descends; when he attempts the higher flights of oratory he becomes turgid, and therefore fails; but he may be said never to open his mouth without addressing himself to the apprehension of his hearers, and gathering together, in business-like order and lucid arrangement, the scattered topics of a debate. There are, indeed, times when it is his object to speak *beside* the question; or when he desires to direct attention from a particular topic; and then he can confuse nearly as well as he can enlighten. But his great quality is that combined uniformity of mind and voice which carry him through a long statement at a sustained level, without exhausting his own powers, or those of his auditors.

Lord Stanley has far more fire, is much more rapid, and is quite as clear, but his oratory, though it be higher, is more fitful and less continuous. Sir James Graham can make what is called "a heavy pounding speech," when the topic is a party one, and he is excited; but in delivering a calm official statement his manner is tame, and



his voice is frequently indistinct and low. Mr. Macaulay is grand and stately in his diction; but his nervous anxiety in every speech to keep himself up to the mark hurries him too impetuously on, and a huskiness of voice combined with rapidity detract from his orations, which read better than they are spoken. Mr. Sheil is nothing unless he is artistically rhetorical; when speaking in ordinary phraseology, his shrillness, littleness, and mercurial movements are amusing rather than striking. Lord John Russell is very greatly improved as a speaker, and frequently throws out sententious phrases, which arrest, and leave an impression. Though Lord Palmerston has a fine figure, a good presence, and can deliver a speech which will rise higher in oratorical pretension, he is the inferior of Sir Robert Peel in readiness of mere elocution, and promptitude in command of topics and words. Mr. Gladstone might rival the Prime Minister in business-like clearness of style, did he not frequently overlay his subject with too many words.

Official men have a great advantage over independent members of the House, in opportunity for exhibiting and establishing a reputation. Heavy, uphill work it is, to "conquer a position"—to compel an unwilling assembly to listen to topics ungracious to its ears—to compel it not merely to listen to the subject, but to treat the subjecter with decent respect. Mere oratorical power is not enough, though without that it cannot be done. There is no happier detector of a fallacy or readier retorter in debate than Mr. Villiers—his pleasant sarcasms (sarcasm free from any taint of the malignant) animate sometimes a discussion drooping from want of vigorous opposition. With what felicity does Mr. Cobden seize on all the topics of his case, exhibiting the old in new lights, bringing out the question in fresh and novel aspects, and sustaining a continuous interest in it! Yet the terseness and humour of Mr. Villiers—the perspicacious felicities of Mr. Cobden—the unflinching courage of Mr. Bright—or the telling manner and spirit of Mr. Milner Gibson—even though aided by the explicitness of Howick, or the practicalism of Ricardo—would not have sufficed to give the Anti-Corn-Law League its present position in the House of Commons. Talent can command respect: but moral power is the result of faith in earnestness and singleness of purpose—a purpose which will never swerve from the pursuit of a great object, believed to be as necessary as just.

#### THE RESULTS OF THE BUDGET.

In the first week of the session, two leading men uttered their *dicta* on the subject of Protection. "I believe," said Lord John Russell, "that protection is not the support but the bane of agriculture." "The restoration of protection," said Sir Robert Peel, "is impossible." These were the heralds of the new state of things, which the discussions on the Budget more fully disclosed.

The Budget was brought forward on Friday the 14th; and on the following Monday the Free-Trade view of the sugar duties was opened by Mr. Milner Gibson, in a speech admitted by all who heard it to have been delivered with great vigour, and to have thoroughly exhausted the question. In this debate Messrs. Ricardo, Villiers, Cobden, Bright, and Lord Howick were the chief speakers, feebly opposed by Sir George Clerk, Mr. Gladstone, and one or two West India proprietors. On the following Wednesday, Mr. Macaulay pronounced that brilliant oration which so completely disposes of the moral argument. But though large majorities disposed, in their arbitrary way, both of arguments and amendments, the sugar duties afforded opportunities, none of which were lost, for renewed illustrations of the folly, the absurdity, the uselessness, and the mischief of differential duties; and the public, which some two or three years ago scarcely comprehended the nature or the meaning of a differential duty, has become so familiarised with the idea and the fact as to require no farther enlightenment on the subject. The debates on the sugar duties, therefore, constitute a part of that education of the public mind which forms a main portion of the public duties of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Through the Legislature it is acting on the public opinion of every mercantile country in the world; for there cannot be a doubt that these sugar duties debates are exercising an influence wherever sugar is grown as an exportable commodity—and that constitutes no small portion of the habitable globe.

But though sugar may be termed the staple of the Free-Trade discussions produced by the Budget, abundant opportunity has not been wanting for other exhibitions of its principles. Mr. Bright's committee on the Game Laws is not treble on two grounds—an evidence that the League is not exclusively devoting its attention to one view of one topic, and a proof that it now occupies an important position in the Legislature as well as in public opinion. Mr. Charles Buller's amendment on the income-tax also furnished evidence of a disposition to take a large view of the question; while Mr. Cobden's memorable motion for a committee to inquire into the causes of agricultural distress elicited who are the true farmers' friends. The number, variety, and interest of the discussions raised so early in the session would afford signal demonstration of the progress of public opinion; if more were wanting, it has been amply furnished by the agricultural interest themselves, on whose prostrate condition a generous antagonist need not press.

Whiskey attracts men's decision from the right; persecution rivets it upon the wrong.—Col. Thompson.

#### GAME LAWS.—TESTIMONIAL TO MR. JOHN HORNCASTLE.

A very important display of the feelings with which the tenant-farmers regard the existing rigorous game laws took place on Wednesday at St. Alban's. A numerous assembly of the tenant-farmers of Hertfordshire was held for the purpose of entertaining Mr. John Horncastle, of Gammon's Farm, at a public dinner, and presenting him with a testimonial of the admiration with which they regard the independent and truly English spirit in which he expressed his opposition to the very stringent preservation of game, within the last few years adopted by his landlord, the Earl of Essex, on his estates in Hertfordshire. The feeling of opposition to the game laws which was evinced by the farmers present was of the most decided character. They see clearly that their interests are in this matter not sufficiently attended to; and they are beginning to feel that in other matters which affect their prosperity it is necessary for them to look to themselves. Mr. Bright, M.P. for Durham, attended by the invitation of the committee, and was loudly cheered on his entrance.

At half-past five o'clock about 120 sat down to dinner in the Town-hall, Mr. C. H. Lattimore, of Wheathampstead, in the chair.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been proposed,

The CHAIRMAN said he rose to propose the toast of the evening, and in doing so he felt it necessary to preface the health of their guest with a few observations relative to the purpose for which they had assembled on that occasion. They had met to present a testimonial to Mr. Horncastle expressive of their approbation of the course which he had pursued with respect to a subject of great importance to the farmers, namely, the game laws, and it was worthy of remark that not a single landlord or land-agent had subscribed to that testimonial (hear, hear), so that it might truly and fairly be taken as an expression of opinion on the part of the farmers of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire on the subject of the over strict preservation of game. He found that the testimonial, which they were about to present to their respected guest, was subscribed to by 316 persons, of which number no less than 241 were tenant-farmers (hear, hear), and those farmers occupied an area of land covering an extent of at least 65,000 acres, so that the assembly might be justly looked upon as an indication of the opinions entertained by the farmers on this important subject. (Cheers.)

In alluding to the cause which led to this expression of feeling towards Mr. Horncastle he should, he trusted, avoid any personal or unnecessary allusion, as nothing could be farther from his intention than to give pain to the feelings of a single landowner or preserver of game; but he should at the same time feel himself unworthy of the position which he occupied if he for a moment shrunk from discharging, in a faithful manner, the duty which devolved upon him on that occasion. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He should discharge that duty fearlessly, and without giving expression to the slightest degree of bad feeling towards any party. (Hear, hear.) In 1831, Mr. Horncastle became the occupier of Gammon's Farm, which he still held. It was rather an extraordinary, but they would find it a very appropriate, name. (Laughter.) The farm, which contained 250 acres, was taken in 1831 from the late Earl of Essex; and when Mr. Horncastle took it, at that period, the game was moderately preserved, the tenant being allowed for his own amusement to keep greyhounds, and also permitted to have the privilege of ferreting and shooting rabbits. (Hear, hear.) Things thus went on until the death of the late earl in 1839, when the present Earl of Essex became the owner of the estates; but no sooner had that nobleman come into the possession of his property than a new order of things took place, Mr. Horncastle being deprived of those privileges with respect to game which he formerly possessed, orders having been given for the strict preservation of the game upon the noble earl's property. In 1840, Mr. Horncastle found the increase of game so injurious to his interests that he, in conjunction with two or three other tenant-farmers, who were similarly situated, caused a survey to be made in order to ascertain the amount of injury done to their crops by the game, as they felt that such a course was absolutely necessary in justice to their families. The result of that survey was, that Mr. Horncastle ascertained the injury to his property from game in that year to have been of an extent equal to £63. 10s. in money; and, after some squabbling and objection on the part of Lord Essex, that nobleman consented to pay £40 to the farmer as a remuneration for the losses that year; but it was accompanied with a remonstrance and an intimation that if he brought forward such a claim again his rent would be raised. (Hear, hear.) The effect of this intimation naturally was, that he forbore to press his claims for compensation in the following years, although he continued to suffer injury to his property from the damage done by the game. In the year 1844, however, the damage from the game becoming still more oppressive, or at all events more conspicuous, than it ever had been before, Mr. Horncastle got a survey made of about forty acres of his land, consisting of twenty acres of wheat, and twenty acres of clover and rye; the survey left an estimate of a loss of £71. 10s. on those forty acres from game alone. (Hear, hear.) The remaining portion of his farm was not surveyed; but it was very easy for the practical farmers assembled in that room to calculate the loss which must necessarily have been caused on the whole farm, when forty acres left an average of loss to an amount of £71. 10s. (Hear, hear.)

The next point worthy of attention, in connexion with this subject, was a correspondence, which was published in the local papers, between the Earl of Essex and Mr. Horncastle, and with the contents of which all those around him were doubtless perfectly acquainted. The noble earl certainly in those letters displayed a good deal of courage in defending the system on which he acted; he expressed his opinions fearlessly and openly; but to attempt to defend the practice of such a strict preservation of game was in reality a kind of forlorn hope (laughter): it was a very clear proof of the truth of what he (the Chairman) stated, that there was only one other man in England found willing to come forward in defence of the system in addition to the Earl of Essex, he meant Mr. Granville Berkeley. (Laughter and cheers.) The letters of Mr. Horncastle in reply to the Earl of Essex, his landlord, reflected upon him the highest credit, and had earned for him the approbation of the tenant-farmers of Hertfordshire; but the result of their being published was, that he at length received notice to quit his farm. ("Hear, hear," and

"Shame.") He mentioned these circumstances briefly because such a statement of them was appropriate to the occasion; and because he felt that it was impossible such proceeding could take place without calling from the tenant-farmers of Hertfordshire an expression of their opinion on the subject. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) They had now assembled for that purpose, and he was sure they all felt with him that it was quite impossible a system, fraught as that was with injustice to the farmers and demoralization to the peasantry, could be perpetuated. (Loud cheers.) It was high time that the tenant-farmers of England spoke out on the subject of the game laws (cheers), in order that their landlords should not labour under any mistake, either as to the effect of the stringent observance of those laws on the property of the farmers, or the feelings with which the farmers viewed the injustice of their operation. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Lattimore then dwelt on many of the evils inflicted by the preservation of game; and again reverted to the correspondence which had taken place between the Earl of Essex and Mr. Horncastle. The Earl of Essex admitted the mischief that was likely to arise from a very stringent preservation of game, but the defence which his lordship set up was, that the preservation of game on his estates was not so strict as to cause any mischief to the farmers. That was, however, answered by Mr. Horncastle, who clearly proved that the preservation of the game on the estates of the Earl of Essex was of that strict nature which was calculated to cause loss to the farmer. It was a remarkable admission from the noble earl, although he attempted to throw the blame of the loss of property which occurred on the bad farming which was practised in Hertfordshire, and he went on to give an instance of two fields in which corn was sown, one of the fields being in good heart and well cultivated, and the other in poor heart and badly cultivated. He said that in the latter case no sooner did the corn come over the ground than it had to commence a struggle for existence, its growth being checked by various circumstances, besides having it exposed to the attacks of the enemy. He (the Chairman) thanked the noble earl for that admission—he thanked him for admitting that the enemy was permitted to attack the corn, and he should say that it was an important admission. Mr. Lattimore then rebutted the earl's allegation that the abolition of the game laws would cause the landlords to absent themselves from their estates in the country. He ably exposed the *battue* system; and alleged that the farmers were not averse to sporting, but to that strict preservation of game which proved so detrimental to their interests. The recent alteration in the game laws had increased the evil. They had made game the property of the landlords, and the result of that was, in some cases, most unjust to the tenant. He knew one case in which a Mr. Hailey took a farm, on condition that the landlord should not sport upon the ground, but after the change in the law the landlord came on his ground and sported in spite of him. Mr. Hailey had no redress, for it was the landlord class that had legislated upon the subject (hear, hear); and so anxious were the landlord class to secure their own privileges that they trampled under foot the rights of the farmers. The landlord, therefore, sported on Mr. Hailey's ground in spite of Mr. Hailey, who was obliged to resort to a measure which gave him great pain, namely, digging pitfalls and setting traps in the fields to prevent the possibility of sporting over his grounds. The game laws had now been some time without alteration, but there was a storm brewing in this country with respect to them, and he was quite sure that the tenant-farmers of the country felt deeply indebted to the honourable member for Durham (Mr. Bright) on his left, for the exertions which he made to bring forward that subject before the House of Commons, and for the eloquent speech which he made in moving for the committee on the question. (Cheers.) Mr. Lattimore then proceeded to give further details of the injury caused by game. In one case with which he was acquainted the loss upon 100 acres of wheat by the ravages of game was £100 in one year; and he had been informed that in another case the loss upon 36 acres had been £10 an acre, or £360 in one year. (Hear, hear.) That statement appeared to describe an extraordinary amount of loss, but the man who suffered the loss was prepared to verify it on oath. He was acquainted with another case in which a man who held a small farm of 180 acres lost for several years no less than ten shillings an acre by the ravages of game. That was an immense loss to a man who had merely a small farm—it was so very large an amount in proportion to the man's property that he calculated it, and found he must have lost in that manner £1800 in twenty years. (Hear, hear.) What a different condition would not that man and his family have been in if they had now in their possession that £1800 which they had so lost! He would mention one other instance of the great loss which had been sustained by the same cause. Mr. Bates, of Luton Farm, took 843 acres, at a rent of £200 a year, and it was stated, when he was about to enter on the farm, that the game were not preserved, which was strictly the fact at the time at which he took it; but Mr. Bates was only two years in possession of it when the Duke of Wellington, happening to go on a visit to the Marquis of Dute, asked the marquis if he preserved his game; having answered in the negative, the duke said it was a pity that the game was not preserved in a place so well calculated for its preservation. It was a strange thing how little persons thought of any loss which did not immediately affect themselves. It could not hurt the Duke of Wellington to have the game preserved on the estate of the Marquis of Dute, but it was seriously injurious to Mr. Bates. The game was accordingly preserved on the estate, and the damage to the agricultural property became so great in consequence that Mr. Bates gave notice to quit in order to avoid a recurrence of such losses. The speaker next adverted to the evils of poaching. In the village of Wheathampstead several young men were absolutely trained to poaching, and the effect upon the labourers around them was very injurious. Not only was such a pursuit of an evil nature, but it had a most injurious influence on the mind of the honest industrious labourer, who often must compare his condition with that of the poacher, who had frequently more money to expend than the humble, honest labourer. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Lattimore then went on to show that of the number of prisoners in various agricultural districts the greater number, in comparison to other crimes, were for offences against the game laws. The chairman concluded a very able speech by presenting a handsome testimonial to Mr. Horncastle. It consisted of the following tributary inscription, beautifully executed with the pen, and ele-

gantly framed, and of a purse of 60 sovereigns:—"Testimonial presented to Mr. John Horncastle, of Gammon's Farm, Watford, in the county of Hertford, testifying the esteem and regard entertained by a large number of friends and farmers occupying many thousand acres of land in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, more especially to mark their high approbation of his public character and private worth, and the spirited, manly, and intelligent manner in which he, in a public correspondence with his landlord, the Earl of Essex, exemplified the evils of excessive game-preserving, and its ruinous results—Nov. 16, 1844. This testimonial, in conjunction with a sum of money, invested for the benefit of his younger son, when he comes of age, was presented to Mr. John Horncastle at a dinner at the Town-hall, St. Alban's on Wednesday, March 26, 1845." The chairman then proposed the health of "Mr. John Horncastle."

The toast was drunk in a most enthusiastic manner. Mr. HORNCASTLE returned thanks. It afforded him the most sincere gratification to find that his conduct had met with such a flattering approval. He disclaimed all feelings of a personal nature in the course which he had taken with respect to his landlord's views on the subject of the preservation of game, but he considered it his bounden duty to protest against the mode in which that nobleman thought fit to preserve the game on his (Mr. Horncastle's) farm, and he perceived by the flattering testimonial which he had that night received that his conduct was in consonance with the opinions of the tenant-farmers and the public at large. He would not cast any reflection upon the course which his landlord had pursued, for that nobleman had, he had no doubt, acted in the manner which he thought most correct. He begged sincerely to thank them for the high compliment they had paid him, and to assure them that it should never be forgotten by him.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the health of the hon. member for Durham, who, though he had often been malignantly as the enemy of the farmers, had done more for them than their professed friends—"Mr. Bright, M.P."

This toast was drunk with immense cheering, which was reiterated again and again.

Mr. BAIGER, upon rising, was again greeted with rapturous applause. The hon. gentleman said:—Gentlemen, I need scarcely say that when I received the invitation to be present at this meeting I felt it as an exceedingly gratifying proof that the trouble I have recently been taking in connexion with the question of game-preserving had not passed unnoticed by the farmers of this district of the country. But, whatever pleasure I felt at receiving the invitation, I may acknowledge with the utmost sincerity, that it has been far surpassed by the gratification I have had in being present here to-night. I have been delighted to see so many of the farmers from this part of the country assembled for the purpose of expressing their opinion of the conduct of one of their brother farmers in connexion with one of the most important questions which can bear upon the prosperity of the agricultural portion of the community. I was delighted to see, from the public papers, the spirited manner in which Mr. Horncastle came forward for the purpose of speaking what was known to be the opinions of nineteen out of twenty of the farmers of the kingdom; and not to the public only, but in direct opposition, and with personal application, to the very man upon whom a farmer is generally supposed to be most dependent. (Cheers.) But it must now be a matter of satisfaction of the very highest kind that the effort which he then made,—and which hundreds of farmers ought to have made, and which, I believe, hundreds will soon be prepared to follow,—that the efforts which he has made have been so highly appreciated by his brother farmers. (Hear, hear.) I think a farmer ought not so much to cultivate the good opinion of landowners as that of farmers; and though I have no wish that there should be that class spirit amongst us which would lead to the supposition that we hold together for peculiar privileges or party interests of our own class, yet I do think that man is a craven-hearted and mean spirited man who, when his own class is attacked, as the farmers have been through the operations of this system of game-preserving, would not come forward and speak on behalf of his own class and of that vast body of men with whom he is constantly associated, and whose interests are so bound up with his own. (Cheers.) It is well that you should testify your high estimation of such men as your brother farmer whom you have met to-night to honour. Independent farmers, men who dare speak and dare come out, are not so abundant in this country as that you can afford to think lightly of any of them. (Cheers.) Probably under no conceivable circumstances can it be expected that there should not be somewhat more dependence between the occupiers and the owners of land than there is between some other classes in society; but it is of the utmost consequence that a system like this,—which was against the prosperity of the farmers, which blights all their hopes, and makes it utterly impossible that their industry should procure its reward,—it is, I say, of the utmost possible consequence that there should be men who dare speak out, and that when such individuals are found they should receive honour, and be repaid with the gratitude of their brother farmers in every part of the kingdom. (Cheers.) We have heard a good deal within the last year or two of farmers' friends (laughter); but I take it that Mr. Horncastle is a true farmers' friend, and, if it were not that fortunate circumstances have placed him in some degree independent of those who would be likely to injure him, he would not only be the farmers' friend, but he would be likely to become a martyr for farmers. (Cheers.) I am delighted to see this meeting, because I take it to be a sign of the times, and a sign of better times,—an evidence that farmers are about to think, act, and do something for themselves. (Loud cheers.) I conceive there is no delusion so great as that of believing that the great and the mighty of the earth will ever be the true, sincere, and disinterested friends of the middle classes, either in this or any other kingdom. (Cheers.) I have heard men say that there is no spirit amongst farmers;—I never believed that statement. I have felt that there has always been spirit, but that it has been slumbering. It has not been dead, but it has been less active on account of many circumstances; but circumstances may arise, and now I believe have arisen, to make that spirit appear not only existent, but to show it active, resolute, and determined. (Cheers.) The real object of this meeting is to give an expression to

the opinions of the farmers in this district with respect to what is now commonly called the game nuisance. (Hear.) It is a protest against a mischievous and unjust system. The time will come, and that, too, before the children of some of our present aristocracy are old as we are, when people will look back with astonishment at what farmers have suffered in connexion with this question of game. Look at the position in which you now stand. The landowner lets his land, and the farmer, a capitalist to some amount, takes it. Well, every body who was not acquainted with the circumstances of this country, and who was not puzzled with the extraordinary things he sees round him, would suppose that, when the landowner lets his land, then, for the term for which it was let, he gave up its ownership. That is, he let the land to the tenant, the tenant having the right to possess fully all the produce of the land, and the whole of the animals and stock which live upon it. (Cheers.) Now, look at the position of the farmer when he takes his farm. It is said he himself makes half his bargain; he is uncommonly fortunate if he does so. (Hear, hear.) Is it not notorious that in every county of Great Britain there is, and has been for years past, a competition for land so fierce that nearly all the bargain is in the hands of the landlord? (Cries of "True, true.") The effect of this competition is to bid up rent to the very highest point at which it can be hoped to be paid, and to bear down every covenant and right which, under other circumstances, the farmer might reasonably expect to be granted to him for the preservation of his interests. (Cheers.) Now, the farmer gets possession of his land; it becomes the centre of the hopes of himself and his family; his capital is more or less invested in it—some sunk in permanent improvements, and some in the stock, implements, and materials upon the surface of the farm. He hopes that it may turn out well for him; he gets up early, works hard and late—thousands of farmers with their hands, and thousands more with their heads. He gives his skill, industry, and perseverance to the soil; he is subject to the vicissitudes of seasons, against which no human foresight can altogether prevail, and he stands the chance and hazard of the markets. He has to contend also against the effect of the ignorance of landowning legislators, in which ignorance, unfortunately for him, there are no vicissitudes. (Enthusiastic cheering.) The result is but a very moderate compensation for his expenditure and labour, and that compensation is in many cases altogether destroyed, and in very many more very much lessened, by a system which does no good to any human being whatever, which exists solely for the amusement of the rich and powerful class at the expense of the interests of the tenantry and peasantry, and at a very great and enormous sacrifice to the whole community. There can be no success to the farmer under a system of game-preserving. (Hear, hear.) In moving for a committee in the House of Commons, two or three weeks ago, I brought forward cases which were laughed at in that assembly, and which I was told were not true. I did not bring before them my worst cases, for I was afraid that had I done so they would not have believed them; but, now we have obtained that committee, I will produce cases infinitely worse than the very worst of those I then cited. (Cheers.) I would call before them farmers, who would prove, on oath were it necessary—which it is not before a committee of the House of Commons—that they had sacrificed at least £500 a year for a succession of years. I can bring forward a tenant who can show that for a number of years he has expended £1000 annually in the purchase of artificial manure, and yet so completely was his farm ravaged by game that he found it useless to toil and sacrifice his capital, and to farm in this manner, and he therefore discontinued this large purchase of artificial manure, and thus to a very great extent diminished the employment of labourers, and consequently lessened their chance of a fair remuneration in the parish in which that farm was situate. By this system of game-preserving the landlords are made the greatest enemies of a class in whose real well-being they have the truest and greatest interest; for of all men in the world the landlord is the most interested in having his tenants contented and prosperous (hear); not only because he lives among them, occasionally meets them, and hears from and about them, but his own pocket interest is involved in it, if he could but see it in its true light; for where you find the tenants most prosperous, enlightened, and satisfied, there you find the soil best cultivated, the amount of its produce the greatest, poor-rates the lowest, and rent invariably highest, paid with the greatest certainty and security. (Cheers.) But the landlords take extraordinary means to make their farmers suspect them. (Hear.) I maintain that there is not, and never has been since the time when man first peopled this earth, if history may be relied on, any race of beings so unsuspecting and confiding as the tenantry of this country. (Hear, hear.) During the last year the landlords have been asking the farmers—nay, in some cases threatening to compel them—to employ more labourers. A landed proprietor, a member of the House of Commons, told me only a week ago, when discussing this very question, that he forced all his tenants to employ a certain amount of labour upon each of his farms. (Hear.) Why, if a man preserves game, refuses security of tenure, talks all sorts of nonsense to his tenants if he ever gets them round him, and discourages about everything but their real grievances and the true way by which a man can become prosperous, and then, when he finds that some labourers are not employed, and that there are not sufficient means for the farmer whereby he can pay a high rent and a high rate of wages also,—and he comes and forces them by covenants in their leases, that they shall employ an amount of labour over and above that which they would otherwise be willing to employ,—I say that all this introduces a system which is most destructive to the interests of the landowners themselves, and most degrading and ruinous to the independence and interests of the tenantry. (Cheers.) Capital must yield profit, or labour will not thrive. Men do not take farms merely for the pleasure of paying rents or employing labourers. (Hear.) I am a manufacturer in a considerable way of business, but I never professed to keep on my manufactory for the benefit of my work-people, or for the sake of clothing my customers. My object is, by the expenditure of capital, and by giving labour to a business, to procure for myself and family a comfortable income, with a hope of realizing something like a competency at a late period of my life. (Hear, hear.) I apprehend that the tenant-farmer takes his farm with a precisely similar view; and yet I am convinced that there is no class of capitalists in this country who, for the last

thirty years, have obtained so small a return for the amount of capital and labour they have employed as have the cultivators of the soil. (Hear.) If the landowners are interested in the well-being of their tenantry, the tenantry are also interested in the prosperity of the landowners. I have been in some of the northern parts of this kingdom, where I have seen a very different condition of the agricultural labourers to that which is to be noticed in the southern counties: a state in which the labourers seem to be interested in the success of the farmer and the prosperity of the soil. The same condition might exist all over the kingdom. Get rid of this infamous trifling with the interests of the farmer; do not let the amusements of a small class be put in competition not only with the prosperity, but with the very existence of a much larger class. (Cheers.) Let us, if possible—I say "us," for, although I am not a farmer, I am deeply interested, as every man must be, in the prosperity of agriculture—I say, let us get a system of farming, of agreements, of managements, from one end of it to the other, placed on the same understandable, rational, business-like footing, and then we shall have landowners respected because they are just, and tenants independent because they are prosperous. (Enthusiastic and prolonged cheering.) I have said that by this system the amusements of the rich are put in the balance, and actually weigh down considerations of much greater importance—the prosperity of farmers, the well-being of the labourers, and the true interests of the community. (Hear.) Why, who does not know that from 1838 to 1842 we had, for nearly five years, harvests which were under the average; that the consequence was great scarcity of provisions with very high prices? Some men may think that this is a very desirable state of things. I will not argue for a moment with any individual who maintains that scarcity can be beneficial either for individuals or nations. (Hear.) During that period we had an importation from abroad to a considerable extent, such as the law allowed; but we had at the same time millions of heads of game of every description—game which, in a country densely peopled like this, must soon come to be considered as vermin; and yet there they were throughout the whole of that period devouring probably as large a quantity of the produce of the soil of England as the whole amount that we imported from abroad. (Hear.) The community, then, have a claim upon the landowners, if not upon the tenant-farmers. They have made themselves by law, though we are not here to discuss that law, and we should very likely greatly differ, and you might not agree with us, on that question; but they have made themselves the purveyors-general—that is they supply the food, or profess to do so—for the 27,000,000 of people who inhabit Great Britain and Ireland. If they do thus think it desirable for state purposes that the population should be restricted to the food they are willing to supply them with, they are not to deem it unreasonable if some portion of the population, who sometimes do not get enough, should ask them why it is that while they maintain this system of restriction they also maintain a practice by which a large portion of the produce is devoured by game kept solely for their own amusement? I believe—indeed I know—that at the end of last session, when I gave notice of my intention to bring forward this question of the game laws in Parliament, it was thought to be rather an odd and somewhat impertinent meddling with a matter not precisely within my province. (Laughter.) I remember, when I read the notice that I should move the House upon the subject of the commencement of the present session, that there was a little titter, a little derisive laughter, from the opposite side of the House. The landowners were not well acquainted with the condition of the farmers, or the state of the country in which they live. (Hear.) I believe they do not know much about the mischief which game does to their tenants and themselves. I think I may venture to say that I know more about the state of the tenantry of this country than the majority of those to whom the tenants pay their rents. (Hear.) When this case was brought forward, unless my statements could have been altogether denied, it was utterly impossible for the House to refuse the committee. There were the cases of damage well authenticated—injury to the tenant, destruction to the allotments of the labourers, the insolence, depredations, and irritation caused by gamekeepers (loud cries of "Hear, hear"), the demoralization of the labourers, the thousands in gaol, the hundreds transported, and the scores murdered—by the House of Commons would have been infinitely worse than its greatest calumniator or enemy has ever dared to brand it, had it refused the investigation which I demanded, founded upon the cases which I was then able to submit to them. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) The committee which has been appointed, I believe, will be a tolerably fair one. I chose seven of its members myself, and the Government selected the remaining eight. I am bound to acknowledge that throughout the whole of this matter Ministers have behaved in the most honourable and handsome manner (hear, hear); that there was not the slightest objection to any one person proposed by me as a member of that committee; and I believe that, if the Government had dared to have done it, they would have put upon it from their side of the House men more favourable to the interests of the tenantry than those who were eventually placed there. (Cheers.) Well, we are going to meet next week, for the first time, for evidence. (Cries of "We wish you success.") I have had an amount of correspondence which it is almost impossible to get through. I have written for the last fortnight or three weeks not unfrequently from thirty to fifty letters a day, nearly all of which have been to persons connected, more or less, with the cultivation of the soil, and having reference to the question of game. I have here a large number of names of persons who will come up and give evidence before the committee. (Hear.) I do not think the other party will call many witnesses (hear); for he would be a very bold man who would come up and say that game-preserving was advantageous, or not positively injurious, to agriculture. They will probably content themselves by cross-examining the witnesses that we shall bring up. But what we want is specific and accurate statements of damage, and opinions formed upon experience of the past, by men who have had the best possible opportunities of judging. I do hope that when this evidence is brought out to the public, as it will be before or about the close of this session, that we shall then have this grievous abuse fairly exposed; and when that is done we may be certain that there is no man out of bed-lam, no individual who does not wish to bring down upon himself the ridicule or, what is worse, the execration of



the public, will ever say another word in favour of this grievance of preserving game, which has been practised for so many years past by a great portion of the landed proprietors in most parts of the kingdom. Now, what I want is, that farmers everywhere should seriously consider their position. There are farmers who yet believe that I am their enemy, inasmuch as I have been prominently connected with the agitation of another question. It may be that those farmers are right and that I am wrong. I believe they are honest; I am quite sure that I am. (Cheers.) Upon that question we must agree to differ until one or the other be converted. (Laughter.) I trust that all discussion upon it may be carried on in a rational and kindly spirit, such as becomes men who wish only for the truth, and then I am quite sure that the time is not far distant when that which is true will be discovered, and not only discovered, but established. (Hear, hear.) But upon this question of game ninety-nine farmers out of every hundred would shake hands and agree with me entirely. (Cries of "All, all!") I had a letter from Wiltshire the other day, from a gentleman connected very closely with farmers, and whose family are all similarly situated. He says, "Your name is a household word with the farmers in this district; and they literally swear by you!" (Laughter.) If we agree upon this point we will work harmoniously; we will go together as far as we can, and do all the good we can in company. I wish the farmers in this county—and there are some who are well able to do it—would put themselves still more in communication with me upon this question. (Hear.) Let us have from every county where game-preserving has been carried to any serious extent, a body of witnesses who shall for ever settle the question, as respects the particular county. It is not sufficient that I should prove that game-preserving has done alarming mischief in Suffolk or in Wiltshire, for to prove that there is a local malady would not perhaps justify Parliament in applying that which may be termed a general remedy; but what I want is to bring out as much as possible the truth from every county where this nuisance has been oppressive. They should come up now before the committee, and that will be infinitely better than petitioning Parliament. (Cheers.) Let them come up now and state before the committee what they know and what they have seen, and you may rely upon it, such is the intelligence and determination in the public mind of England, that when an abuse is fairly exposed and brought out to demonstration so that nobody can deny that it is an abuse, the time is near at hand when Parliament will be forced to abate it. (Cheers.) It will be a fine thing for this country when farmers lose a little bit of that overweening confidence they have in the farmers' friends. (Cheers.) I would not to-night say a syllable against any landed proprietor—I believe in my conscience that many of their errors are errors of judgment and not of heart. (Hear, hear.) I believe that they have been living amongst circumstances the most unfavourable to a discovery of what is their true interests (hear, hear, hear); and their ignorance of their own affairs has made them most officious in offering advice, which was wholly valueless to their tenants when assembled at dinners and meetings of various kinds. What I want farmers to do henceforth is this, to take nothing upon credit. (Cheers.) I would not take anything for granted. Do not believe anything that I say, or which my friend Mr. Colclough may utter (cheers); do not, for a moment, think it worth anything, until you have reasoned it out and examined the facts, and made yourselves sure; but apply the same rule to the landowners. (Cheers.) I want you to apply it to all. Candidates come before you at the hustings, and they pledge themselves to all sorts of impossible things. (Laughter.) It is notorious that half the things which men say they will do when they go to Parliament that assembly has no more power to perform than it has to prevent the sun rising to-morrow. (Hear, hear.) These men come, and they promise a variety of impossible things; they go to Parliament and cannot perform them, and then those who sent them there are disappointed, and fancy they are betrayed. Why, if the tenantry of this country, powerful as they are now in numbers on the county registers, would look a little to their own rank, and not quite so much to another rank and order, they would find more real attention to their true interests on behalf of county representatives than they do at present. (Enthusiastic cheering.) I bought the *Times* newspaper at the station as I was coming down, and I find a paragraph in it which may be worth reading. It is extracted from the *Western Times*, a Devonshire paper. It states, "A regulation is actually determined on, to invite three eminent renting farmers to stand as candidates for the next Parliamentary election. The farmers of Devon are determined to have men who pay rent to look after their interests in the House of Commons. We do not anticipate much immediate success from such a step, but it will teach the aristocracy a lesson, and open the eyes of the tenant-farmers to their power, if they choose to act in concert." (Cheers.) How would it be if a tenant-farmer were to put up for some county? In my neighbourhood there used to be a little jealousy about manufacturers. They had a notion that nobody should go to Parliament but a man who had no other occupation to fill up his time, and who had moreover a great deal of money to bear the expense of a life in London, which was supposed to be enormous. But now they have found out their mistake, and they take a man here and another there, who is not a Lord, and whose ancestors we do not know exactly what they were, but a man who has common sense and common honesty (cheers); and those two things I suppose are called "common" for the very reason that they are so rarely to be met with. (Renewed cheers.) We have heard frequently—I have read repeatedly, at the proceedings of agricultural meetings of various kinds, that the toast has been proposed of "agriculture and commerce" by men who despise commerce but yet sell game ("Hear, hear, and laughter"); they have had the audacity to toast commerce and agriculture together. There is and ought to be a real union between these two great branches, by which nations subsist, but heretofore it has been only nominal, and never real; legislation has prevented its being so, for legislation has been foolish in commerce as it has been in agriculture. Speeches made at meetings such as I have referred to have also had the effect of making this union unreal. I hope that to-night is the beginning of a new era. ("Hear, hear, and cheers.") No man here will believe for a moment that individual in this country, who is the possessor or the cultivator of a single acre of its soil. There never can be any country prosperity while all the numerous

cultivators of the soil are permanently depressed and injured; there can be no doubt that under all circumstances the vast bulk of the subsistence of our people must be derived from our own soil, and from the direct labour, as cultivators, of a vast portion of our own countrymen. There can be no doubt whatever that any law passed in Parliament for any particular benefit of commerce, unless it be a just law,—and being just, which can be permanent,—must be injurious to the prosperity of agriculture itself. In the county from which I come, Lancashire, the most prominent in the world for manufacture and commerce, there is at this time a condition of prosperity, when contrasted with what we saw three years ago, so remarkable that it appears to be nothing less than a miracle. I say it is that miracle which we see every day, and yet are unobservant of it: the miracle that the sun shines, and that the showers fall in due season, the earth is prolific, and the great and bountiful Benefactor of our species gives abundance to the people; and that abundance having come for two or three years in succession, the prostrate millions of workmen who were idle and pauperised are now standing erect, and are employed and well paid, and independent, as much so as I have ever seen them at any former period. (Loud cheers.) Whilst I see that with this abundance there is that prosperity in the most numerous classes of the people, I cannot for a moment suppose that the prosperity of a nation can in any degree depend upon the foolish fallacies which ignorant men of all parties have spread in connexion with these subjects. (Cheers.) But with reference to this game movement I must ask this meeting to bear in mind that when a man connected with the district which I come from—having no claim by long standing in the House of Commons, nor by lengthened service anywhere—when he comes forward upon a question like this, you must be certain that to carry it to a successful issue it needs far more than my own individual efforts: it requires the assistance of intelligent, independent, and experienced men in all parts of the country. (Hear.) There are some in this meeting who within the next month will give evidence on your behalf before the Game Committee, and I trust that the names I already have down here will be increased before that time, so that—at least—half-a-dozen good witnesses may go from this district, I mean from this particular county. (Hear.) So far with respect to this Game Committee. There is one more topic to which to call your attention. An attempt was made only a fortnight ago to procure a committee to inquire into other distresses of the agricultural portion of the community; that committee was refused; but from the altered tone which I have seen in the House, even within the very short time that I have been a member of it, I am persuaded that the time is hastening on when all parties in that House—the highest protectionist and the most active and prominent Free-Trader, with all that are between those points—will be anxious to come to a real and honest investigation into the circumstances which do affect the prosperity of the cultivators of the soil. When once there comes that spirit over the minds of men,—a spirit which repudiates party—which seeks not to gain advantage here by the spoliation of somebody there—but a spirit which wishes the truth to be fully discovered and established;—when once that spirit prevails upon both sides of the House, as I believe it will before long with reference to some of these matters, then the farmers of this country, and every class, may look upon that day as the dawning of a better era, when the cultivators of the soil, the honourable, ancient, numerous, and most necessary of all classes of the community, shall no longer be made the shuttlecock of political parties, but be treated as rational men, and their interests considered in a rational manner. (Vehement cheering.) I will say, in conclusion, that I am delighted with this meeting. I have met now, for two years past, with large bodies of farmers in different parts of the country; many have been friendly and others hostile to my views; I have always gone from them with this conviction, that wherever they have erred, as I believe they have often done, it has been from mistaking their way, and because either they have followed blind leaders, or are themselves unsuspectingly blind. (Hear.) But I come more and more to this conviction, that there is no class of men in this country who, if they know what is right, and have the power to follow their convictions, will make a more unanimous and determined effort for the attainment of that right than will the tenant-farmers of this kingdom. When I see what my friend Mr. Horncastle has done, and the manner in which you have received his services, and expressed your approbation of his conduct, I cannot but think that, as there are thousands who can applaud his conduct, there must be great numbers ready to imitate it. (The honourable gentleman resumed his seat amidst enthusiastic and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. WELFORD, in a brief but forcible speech, proposed "The health of the Vice-President, Mr. R. Bailey Smith, the first tenant-farmer who subscribed to the testimonial." In the course of his speech the learned gentleman stated that the farmers must take their political affairs out of the hands of the men to whom they were at present intrusted, or else their county members must act upon different principles. (Cheers.) He would, with all sober, serious earnestness, recommend them to turn their attention to selecting such a talented, business-like man as their present chairman as their future county representative—a man of their own class, and understanding and zealously promoting their interests. (Vehement cheering, and cries of "We will, we will.")

The Vice-CHAIRMAN in returning thanks said, that he was very desirous of avoiding giving offence to any nobleman or gentleman; but he felt bound to come forward, notwithstanding his disinclination to take any part in public matters, and declare that excessive preservation of game, and the system of the six months notice to quit, were two of the greatest bars to the improvement of agriculture.

Mr. JOHN BRYCE, in responding to the toast of "Success to the tenant-farmers of England," entered into an interesting detail of the treatment he had received from the Marquis of Bute's agent. In 1831 he took a farm under that noble lord; and in 1842, after having, in the meantime, brought the land into a high state of cultivation, and sunk £6000 in its improvement, he suddenly received notice to quit, without any alleged reason, but, on the contrary, coupled with an admission from his lordship that he was the best tenant on his estate. He considered that nothing short of a twenty-one years' lease would give the farmer a fair security of tenure.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed "The health of Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.," which was drunk with the most vehement applause, renewed again and again.

Mr. BRIGHT (having been loudly called for) returned thanks on behalf of the hon. member for Stockport, and expressed his deep satisfaction at the altered tone of feeling of the farmers of England towards that hon. gentleman and himself. He believed that they now considered them not as the enemies but the friends of the farmers. (Cheers.)

The toast of "Success to Mr. Bright and his Committee" having been proposed, and responded to by a young farmer who avowed himself a Conservative, the meeting separated at half-past ten o'clock.

#### NOTES OF A TRAVELLER.—No. XIX.

Berlin, Nov. 8, 1844.

Two subjects of conversation attract all the attention of the politicising public. The report of a coldness between the courts of Hanover and Prussia, arising from the offence said to be taken by the King of Prussia at the treaty of commerce recently concluded between Hanover and England; and the sufferings of the poor labourers in Silesia and the adjacent districts. On the former point the public has rather felt itself mystified than satisfied by the appointment of new Ministers at both courts in the place of those that were recalled; nor does the conversion of the former Hanoverian Minister to the Catholic Church, which is ascribed to the Berlin Puseyites, appear to the public at large a sufficient reason for his recall. They insist upon pitting King Ernest against Frederick William as the champions of two distinct lines of commercial policy.

The writers of Dr. List's party, who form a powerful body in the service of the daily press, are fond of representing the King of Hanover as under ties to his party in England, which bind him to facilitate the introduction of English manufactures, by hook and by crook, into Germany. Some of these lights of the age ought to know that the party in England which his Hanoverian Majesty swears by has very little sympathy with manufacturers, and is inclined to undervalue their co-operation both in raising rents, and in providing employment for the labouring classes. The experience of the last session of Parliament must have shown all Europe that our corn monopolists look to agricultural societies to improve their revenues, and to ten hours' of labour bills to ameliorate the workman's condition, far more than to the opening of new or the extension of old markets for the sale of English manufactures. Nevertheless, must the King of Hanover abroad bear all the obloquy that can be poured upon him as a traitor to the interests of German manufacturers, and the firm ally of his industrious countrymen.

Whether the indirect satire that such a false position was likely to arouse was justly dreaded, or the "sweet breath" of these stentors of the scribbling host was deemed worthy of a conciliatory step to gain, the court of Hanover has taken a very wise step, and one that, for the moment, has had the desired effect of silencing the obnoxious clamour. It has published the official correspondence that took place between the Ministers of Prussia and Hanover during the late negotiations on the subject of the junction of Hanover with the Zollverein. From this document it is apparent to all the world that the King of Hanover had no occasion to seek sympathies with his fellow-subjects in Leeds and Manchester to cause him to hesitate before he abandoned the commercial system adopted by his predecessor. The royal revenues have alone been appealed to in the course of the negotiation, and the fear of diminishing them has alone influenced the decision that has been come to.

The document in which the financial problem is solved by evidence taken from experience, that by raising the duties on many articles of consumption the revenue would lose, is a valuable contribution to financial science, and is the more valuable to the world at large as giving ground to hope that Kings and Ministers will eventually adopt as a standard in these matters the calculations that promise the best yield for their coffers. There will be some hope for humanity when its interests are identified with correct calculations of any kind. This state paper is addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Berlin, which did not attempt a reply in detail. It proves, from official sources, that the consumption of most articles of necessity that are imported into Germany have a far greater consumption in Hanover than in the Zollverein.

Wine, it states, is returned in the Prussian lists as being only consumed to the extent of 96-100ths cwt. per head in the Zollverein; whereas in Hanover and Oldenburg the consumption is 4 54-100ths cwt. per individual of the population. The duty now charged in the Hanoverian League is 3 dollars per cwt. In Prussia, foreign wine pays 8 dollars per cwt., and home-grown wine an excise duty.

The consumption of coffee in Hanover and Oldenburg is 3 62-100ths cwt. per head, and in the Zollverein but 2 41-100ths cwt. per head. According to the Prussian tariff, coffee would have to pay 6½ fl., whereas the Hanoverian duty is but 3 dollars. The duty on sugar is lower in Hanover than in Prussia; but this does not appear to have made much difference in the consumption, a circumstance that may be accounted for by the extreme poverty of great part of Hanover; whereas Prussia counts, in its Rhenish provinces, in Saxony and Silesia, some of the most fertile districts of Germany. Treacle is, however, mentioned as being more extensively consumed in Hanover than in Prussia.

From the circumstance of the respective resources dif-

fering so much in Hanover from the rest of Germany, it might reasonably be expected that to impose heavy duties upon colonial productions in so poor a country would be tantamount to prohibiting their consumption. On the other hand, the experience to which all would refer led to the conclusion that a reduction of the rate of duty in the Zollverein would cause an increased consumption that would infallibly raise the revenues of all the united states. Hanover, therefore, proposed, as one of the conditions of joining the Zollverein, a reduction of colonial duties on the following scale:—

	Proposed duty.	Zollverein duty.
Wine .. ..	4 dols. per cwt.	8 dols. per cwt.
Coffee .. ..	3 do.	6½ do.
Tea .. ..	6 do.	11 do.
Refined sugar ..	5 do.	11 do.
Raw sugar ..	4 do.	9 do.
Do. for refining ..	2½ do.	5 do.
Treacle .. ..	2 do.	5 do.
Tobacco .. ..	3 do.	5½ do.

The Hanoverian Government, it was further suggested, would be no gainer by the adoption of this moderate tariff; whereas, Prussia would unquestionably gain by the increased consumption that must ensue. But as Hanover would have, in case of a junction, the benefit of all duties that it now raises on its inland frontier, a demand of a *præcipuum*, or extraordinary allowance of half-a-million of dollars, was added on this account, and on account of the transit duties, which Hanover then would also lose.

The year 1839 was chosen for the comparison above made, the new data down to 1842 not having then been officially made public. Had the Hanoverian Minister been furnished with more recent data he might have made his case still stronger. A Frankfurt correspondent of the *Angsbury Gazette* has played that paper the trick of getting it to print a comparative statement of the importations into the Zollverein in the first quarters of the years 1843 and 1844, from which it appears that the importation in the present year of many important articles had a tendency to diminish. The following are some of the instances:—

	1843.	1844.
Wine .. ..	17,315 cwt.	15,602 cwt.
Coffee and cocoa	130,576 "	123,473 "
Rice .. ..	36,172 "	27,421 "

From these statements it would indeed appear, that even the Zollverein had overstrained the point at which its duties are likely to be most productive.

Besides the figure of the rate of duty in the Prussian tariff, Hanover in the paper before mentioned, protested against the severe measures adopted by Prussia, in its frontier districts, as a preventive against smuggling. The Hanoverian Minister justly remarked that such

severe control, which places a large district under martial law, was induced by those high duties, which showed themselves as unproductive, and which were of themselves a penalty for the consuming population, without subjecting them to a vexatious control.

Again, the utility of a union between the two states would be nugatory if an assimilation in the excise duties on articles of domestic production did not take place. Foremost amongst these stands salt, which is a royal monopoly in both countries, but under very different circumstances. The Hanoverian Government furnishes salt at a price that admits of its being distributed at 1½ dollar per cwt.; in the remotest parts of the kingdom the price does not exceed 1½ dollar, or 5s., per cwt. In Prussia, on the other hand, the Government demands 3½ dollars per cwt. for salt, being a charge equal to 10s. The Hanoverian Minister on this point remarked that, even if the King desired to introduce so serious a change in the taxation of the poor, the Estates would probably refuse to assent to such a treaty.

The last proviso demanded by Hanover, in the event of a junction, related to the State duties, which it was remarked was a part of his Majesty's pocket money, and could not be abandoned without compensation. One would have thought that this must have proved the relating point, and that Prussia would never consent to have its chief avenue to the sea blocked up by a toll that was abolished by the treaty of Vienna. How differently diplomatic agents view these matters from persons accustomed to use common sense in judging them, appears from the fact, that on this point alone has an agreement been concluded, and the treaty concluded between England and Hanover only recognises the toll agreed to last year by Prussia and Saxony in the congress at Dresden. Although no answer was returned by Prussia in detail to the statement of the greater consumption in Hanover, yet the demand of an extraordinary allowance was rejected, and the negotiations were broken off.

Thus, in the whole matter, English manufactured goods, on which the Hanoverian duty is very much lower than the Prussian, were never once alluded to, and would have been given up as of no importance to any party, if Prussia had consented to lower her duties on colonial wares, and to grant the *præcipuum* demanded.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that our Ministry has let another opportunity slip of at once uniting all Germany into a prosperous commercial league, and of establishing the policy which our own conduct and the

of a few charlatans keep up.

We needed no treaty with Hanover, and have gained nothing by the negotiations but the recognition of

the State duties, which we never ought to have recognised, and which can only be looked upon as the price paid by the party in power for the votes and support of the Duke of Cumberland. But, if we wished to mark our recognition of the liberality of the Hanoverian tariff, we ought, unasked and without any stipulation, to have granted to Hanoverian vessels, not the paltry concession of bringing German produce from the Baltic and Dutch ports to England, but the acknowledged right to trade from all parts of the world to English harbours in the same manner that English vessels can trade to Hanoverian harbours from all parts of the world. This species of concession, freely granted to Hanover and the Hanse Towns, would long since have given weight to that sound party in Germany which sees that the interests of all parties would be consulted by the adoption of the Hanoverian tariff by the Zollverein; and this party, I am happy to say, is strongest at Berlin. The Hanse Towns under such an arrangement might be left as free harbours, such as they ever have been and desire to continue, and Prussia would have the merit of consolidating all Germany, excepting the Austrian states, with a powerful commercial union. When the last treaties were made by Lord Melbourne's Cabinet with the Hanse Towns, this view of the matter was suggested, but was rejected by the Cabinet; and it has not been taken up by the present Ministry on the present occasion. It would be worth an observation, when the Hanoverian treaty is laid before Parliament, if it were only to show that the commercial world follows these Ministerial proceedings with anxiety, and to record a protest against thus sacrificing the prospect of a good understanding with Germany to the anxiety to replenish the privy purse of a peer of the British Parliament.

Some of the pleasantest hours I spent in Berlin were those in which I had an opportunity of discussing these matters with men high in office; and it was with real pleasure that I found just and reasonable views entertained by the majority. Almost the last remnant of the advocates of restrictions on trade is still in a very influential position. I allude to M. Beath, who has long filled an office in some respects analogous to our President of the Board of Trade. There is some talk of the establishment of a Ministry of Trade and Manufactures, and there is no want of able men well fitted for the office. It was easy to see, without a direct confession on the part of any one, that all would have rejoiced if a little tact and knowledge of the ground had been displayed by our Ministry on the occasion of the Hanoverian treaty, and the liberal party in Prussia had thus been strengthened in its resistance of the clamorous demands of the South Germans for what they so absurdly call protection. A refusal on the part of the House of Commons to sanction this treaty would do more to forward a good understanding with our German neighbours than all the intrigues that diplomatic cunning could devise. The reduction in the State tolls is of so little importance, in comparison with the principle which is conceded in their recognition, that the one will not for a moment weigh against the other.

This publication on the part of the Hanoverian Government has induced other countries which the Germans were desirous of persuading to join their league to look at the matter from the same point of view. Denmark has long been an object of singularly marked attention on the part of that side of the press which covertly represents the "Jeune Allemagne." The efforts of these writers have gone near to sow the seeds of civil war in Denmark; and their professed object is to unite, politically and commercially, Schleswig and Holstein with Germany. The reply to this strange solicitation cannot be very flattering to those who deemed that they were holding out offers of advantage to their neighbours across the Elbe. As far as the consumption of many imported articles is allowed to indicate the state of prosperity of a country, the Danes have reason to be better satisfied with their condition than the states of the Zollverein, although they sacrifice nothing to force premature manufactures.

Iron is admitted in bars at a moderate duty into Denmark, and the duty on forged iron and parts of machines is 2½ dollars R.B. per cwt.; whereas in the Zollverein it is now 5 dollars for the Danish weight. Cast iron is successfully manufactured in Denmark for local use without a protecting duty. The cotton manufacture consumes annually a large quantity of yarn, which is imported at a low duty, cheaper than it can be spun at home.

The following are the results of a comparison of the duties levied on, and the consumption of, colonial wares in Denmark and the Zollverein:—

	Duties per lb. in R.B. shillings.		Consumption per head.	
	Danish.	Zollverein.	Danish.	Zollverein.
Raw sugar ..	2.5	6.4	10 lbs.	4.5 lbs. Danish.
Refined do. ..	6.4	12.8	4 lbs.	2.1 lbs. "
Coffee .. ..	2.8 & 3	8.3	0.23 lbs.	0.13 lbs. "
Tea .. ..	10.0	14.1	0.83 lbs.	0.37 lbs. "
Rice, in bulk ..	0.98	2.86	1.87 lbs.	0.60 lbs. "
Rice, shelled ..	1.5	3.36		
Tobacco leaf ..	1.5	7		
Do. prepared ..	5.76	14.08		
Wine .. ..	4.81.92	10.21	1.38 pott.	0.33 pott.

The Danes, as well as the Hanoverians, have no consuming power to throw away in order to enjoy the luxury of trying venturesome systems of political economy. While the figures retain the above proportions, there is little chance of their abandoning their present policy, even if the project of extended unions between several states could be adopted without sacrificing the end for

which duties ought alone to be levied—that of raising a revenue.

To these interesting illustrations of the effect of low duties on the revenue of a country a highly interesting contribution has been added by the Austrian Government, which has just published a survey of the foreign trade, and customs duties levied, in the last ten years, ending with 1842. As this work is official, the following passage, with which one of the first chapters commences, is an important declaration.

"The internal industry of a country cannot possibly be forwarded by the aid of high duties and prohibitions. These render articles of consumption expensive; and the raising the price of such articles is a burden that falls heavier on the consumer than on the foreign merchant or manufacturer."

As a proof of this, the following statement from the customs accounts is added. It shows a considerable increase in the duties levied on *manufactured goods only*, exported and imported since the slight relaxation of the prohibitive system that took place in 1836.

Year.	Import duty.	Year.	Import duty.
1831 ..	514,530 florins.	1836 ..	568,285 florins.
1832 ..	574,042 "	1837 ..	633,957 "
1833 ..	557,094 "	1838 ..	823,781 "
1834 ..	557,327 "	1839 ..	974,741 "
1835 ..	538,465 "	1840 ..	744,430 "

2,741,458 florins. 3,745,194 florins.

In the relaxation allowed in 1835 no reduction of the duties on cottons, woollens, or silks was made; the increase here noted is, therefore, to be sought in the improved consumption of a few articles of secondary importance.

The high duty on coffee (although not exceeding 6d. per lb.) caused so great a difference as the following in the consumption between Austria and the Zollverein:—

	Inhabitants.	Consumption.
Austria ..	33,000,000	10,938,400 lbs.
Zollverein ..	27,000,000	56,728,500 lbs.

In the consumption of sugar a similar disproportion reigns:—

	Consumption.
Austria, 1836 ..	43,832,634 lbs. raw.
" .. ..	282,200 " refined.
Zollverein, " ..	98,681,000 " raw.
" .. ..	797,000 " refined.

The difference to the revenue caused by the prohibitive duties in Austria was the following:—

	Duty paid.
Austria. Cotton wares, 1836 ..	105,914 fl.
Linen do., " ..	6,412 "
Silk do., " ..	2,620 "
Woollen do., " ..	17,568 "
Zollverein. Cotton wares, one year's average, 1836-7 ..	1,107,633 fl.
Linen do., " ..	36,885 "
Silk do., " ..	365,765 "
Woollen do., " ..	950,997 "

When a government voluntarily publishes such evidence against itself, it must be seriously disposed to mend its ways. We may therefore hope that our diplomatic agents were more alive while M. Hummelauer was learning his lesson with us in the last two years than they were in 1838; and that the new Austrian tariff, that is looked forward to, will not prove a "pendant" either to the treaty of Milan, or to our recent Hanoverian treaty, with respect to the concessions that it contains.

## BAZAAR MEETINGS.

### CAMBERWELL.

A special meeting of the Camberwell Anti-Corn-Law Association was held on Wednesday evening, at the Romney Branch, Southampton-street; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq., of North-terrace, in the chair.

The Secretary informed the meeting that a Ladies' Committee for the League Bazaar had been formed for Camberwell and Peckham; that Mrs. Poulter, of Hards-road, Peckham, had consented to act as secretary, to whom contributions might be sent; and that, as the district was very extensive, another lady would probably assist her in Camberwell. The Secretary also stated that a very considerable collection, consisting of articles both useful and ornamental, including some pecuniary contributions, had already been made.

It was resolved that the following gentlemen of the Committee of the Association shall form a Bazaar Committee for Camberwell, to receive contributions, and to communicate with the Central Committee of the League. Mr. W. A. Wilkinson (Chairman of the Association), North-terrace, Camberwell. Mr. Clarke, 1, Grove-villa, Camberwell-grove. Mr. J. Doukin, C. E., Old Kent-road. Mr. J. Poulter, Hards-road, Peckham. Mr. J. A. Lyon (Hon. Secretary to the Association), Old Kent-road.

### CARLISLE.

Colonel Thompson and Mr. Robert R. Moore visited Carlisle on Saturday last. In the afternoon, at two o'clock, they held a farmers' meeting at the Athenæum, over which George Saul, Esq., of Braustock, presided. In the evening there was a well-attended general meeting in the same place, when John Dixon, Esq., presided. The principles of the League, and the objects and claims of the Bazaar, were ably set forth by the deputation, and resolutions in accordance with those objects were passed with acclamation.

At the evening meeting, on rising to acknowledge a vote of thanks, Colonel Thompson said:— "Let me take the opportunity to remark on the debates which have lately occupied our minds. First, then,



came lard; it was wanted to strike lard out of the Prime Minister's list of liberated articles. But when it was urged on the agriculturists that nobody but their own labourers ate lard, because the manufacturing operatives could eat what was better (loud cheering), they admitted the tender appeal, and lard was permitted to be free. Next came a weightier question. Inferior butter was allowed to pass, under the denomination of grease. (Laughter.) An agricultural member rose in an agony to say that people would eat it. A great officer of state, the President of the Board of Trade, rose and protested that they should not eat it, because care should be taken to mix tar with it. (Cheering and groans.) The House of Commons laughed out, and the great officer of state could not comprehend the reason. One piece of advice to the manufacturing interests. When the act-of-Parliament schools are established throughout the factory districts, and the rising generation have answered to "Who was the strongest man," and "Who was the wisest man," let them be asked, "What is a government for," and let them pipe out in reply, "To put tar into our butter." (Much cheering and laughter.)

#### NEWCASTLE.

On Thursday evening, the 20th inst., a very numerous meeting was held in the Lecture-room, Nelson-street, to hear addresses from Colonel Thompson and Robert R. Moore, Esq., a deputation from the Anti-Corn-Law League, in support of the Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre. Sir John Fife was called to the chair, and briefly stated the objects of the meeting.

Colonel Thompson, who was received with great applause, then addressed the meeting in one of his telling speeches, concluding with an appeal on behalf of the Bazaar. He said:—We come here to invite you to send something towards our successful forage. What you will send must be best known to yourselves. I don't know whether you can send coals; I dare say you may. But it has occurred to me that you might send samples. I really do not know why you should not send a large sample of beautiful coals, and on it a written order for fifty chaldrons. (Laughter and applause.) A lady—an economical housekeeper—may go there, and, seeing this sample, buy the coals, which might be visible in their proper person in some of the outskirts of Covent-garden Theatre. But that is for you to consider of. I am quite sure you will find yourselves able to send something that shall be inviting and assistant. If you were in so desperate a case that Newcastle really produced nothing that could be taken, there is one thing you could send: you could always send them money. (Laughter.) You could not, for instance, send a coal barge out of the Tyne, nor could you send them one of your merchant brigs; but, if you sent them the price of one, you would set their vessel afloat just as effectually as if you had transmitted them the other. I am sure you have at home those counsellors who will earnestly impress upon you the desirableness of showing that you are not behind other towns in this great race of generosity. And let me beg of you to hear their "gentle counsel sweet." Let them have their way, as they often have had before. Don't let this be the time when you shall undertake to check them with grave, masculine airs of importance, as how you cannot exactly afford it—you must wait till you are better off—and so forth. Take the present moment to make times better. And I wish they would also recollect and bring you to confession, when the time shall come that we shall all rejoice in liberty of trade, and the consequent happiness, whether they were not right when they counselled you to such a proceeding. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Moore followed in an able address, which was loudly applauded.

Captain WEATHERLY moved a vote of thanks to the deputation, and "that the meeting pledge itself to do the best it could to furnish the Bazaar in the most efficient manner." (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. BROWNING said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Colonel Thompson briefly returned thanks, and proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Mr. Moore, and carried amidst loud cheers.

Mr. BLAGBURN, of Gateshead, rose in the body of the hall, and moved, "that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Richard Cobden for his able exhibition of the hypocrisy of the pretended 'farmers' friends' in Parliament, in his unanswerable speech when introducing his motion for an inquiry into agricultural distress; and also to Mr. Bright for his speech in moving for a committee to inquire into the game laws." Mr. Blagburn said, that protection reminded him of a man who used to chalk his face to keep the cold out. Once or twice it created an artificial heat, but in the end it rubbed the skin off. (Laughter.)

Sir JOHN FIFE, in returning thanks, said that he did not intend to make any observations, as he wished the important facts they had heard to remain impressed upon their minds. He assured them that on all occasions he would be ready to forward and support their cause. (Loud cheers.)—The meeting then separated.

#### GALASHIELS.

Colonel Thompson and Robert R. Moore, Esq., as a deputation from the Council of the League, had a crowded and enthusiastic meeting at Galashiels on Monday night, in the Relief Church, the Earl of Buchan in the chair. Resolutions were unanimously passed for supporting the Bazaar. Towards the close of the meeting the Hon. John Elliot was called upon by the audience; and commended with much force on the inconsistency of members of the Government in defending the admission of foreign corn on the ground of the benefit to the consumers, and opposing the application of the same principle to the more important article of corn. The Earl of Buchan, after the meeting, gave £2 for a contribution towards the Bazaar; and said he was preparing to send a miniature carriage.

#### THE NEW COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH CHINA.

(From the *Manchester Guardian*.)

For some time past the public have had no satisfactory information respecting the working of the commercial arrangements made with the Chinese Government under the treaty concluded by Sir Henry Pottinger. For a short time after the trade was opened under the new regulations we heard, as might naturally

have been expected, some complaints of difficulties experienced in consequence of the trade having been driven into fresh channels; but, for some months past, little or nothing has been said upon this subject in the communications from China which have been made public in this country. We have now, however, the satisfaction of being enabled to state, on the best authority, that, for some months prior to the date of the last advices, these difficulties had been entirely overcome, and the regulations had been found to work exceedingly well. Not only had the moderate duties established been cheerfully paid both by British and native merchants, but they had been found profitable by the Chinese Government, whose interests appear to have been not quite so well cared for formerly as those of the functionaries who were employed in the regulations of the trade. We learn that, notwithstanding the reduction of duties, and the removal of a portion of the trade to the northern ports (more particularly Shanghai), the amount of duties paid through the British consul at Canton into the Imperial treasury during the first six months of 1844 exceeded 800,000 taels (£250,000 sterling); being more than had been paid in during any one entire year when the duties went through the hands of Hong merchants and subordinate Chinese officials. And this cannot be considered a mere temporary augmentation, as the amount has since been increasing, and will most probably be doubled in a short time. Indeed, there is every reason to believe that the good effects resulting from the treaty will be of a permanent character, as the Chinese authorities are neither uninfluenced by the additional receipts in the Imperial exchequer, nor insensible to the zealous and sincere efforts made by the British consuls and other officers to preserve order and to enforce a due compliance with the established regulations on the part of their fellow-countrymen. Probably, after a longer experience of the advantages of these regulations, a still more extended commercial arrangement with the vast empire of China, and a more intimate and confidential diplomatic intercourse between the two nations, may result from the working of the treaty concluded by Sir Henry Pottinger.

On one point, at least, something like European courtesy appears to have extended itself to a Chinese diplomatist. We learn that Ke Ying, the Chinese commissioner who negotiated the treaty, has sent his portrait, painted by an eminent Chinese artist, to Sir Henry Pottinger, as a mark of his friendship and esteem. This picture, which was shipped by the Duke of Bedford from Canton, has not yet reached this country. When it arrives, no doubt the portrait of an eminent Chinese statesman and diplomatist, painted by the Lawrence of the Celestial Empire, will excite no small degree of interest and curiosity.

#### A CHEAP TRAIN TO LONDON IN MAY.

(From the *Eastern Counties Herald*.)

On Whit-Monday, the 12th of May, cheap trains to the metropolis are to be started from all the principal towns of the midland and manufacturing districts. Measures are already taken for securing cheap trains from Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, Birmingham, Nottingham; and, although no definite arrangements are yet made with the directors of the Hull and Selby Railway, there is no doubt whatever that a cheap special train will start from Hull in conjunction with the above, at a cost for going and returning not much greater than the ordinary fare by one way.

This great movement is set on foot by the Anti-Corn-Law League, in order to increase the number of spectators and customers at their Bazaar for the exhibition of National Manufactures, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in May. Inasmuch, however, as it is not pretended that taking a seat in this train identifies the traveller with the opinions of that body, or places him under any obligation to them, we may reasonably expect that these special trains will convey to London thousands of persons on various errands of pleasure and business. The Chartists, who are not particularly friendly to the League, will avail themselves of the cheap trains to attend the conference of the consolidated trades' unions. The religious world will go up to the May meetings, to celebrate the anniversaries of societies with the varied objects of home benevolence and discursive philanthropy. And as the agriculturists are under no compact, either express or implied, to go to Covent-garden when they get to London, the special trains will doubtless take their proportion of honest well-fed farmers, who will go up to look about them, and return to the joys of a country life with a new zest after a fortnight's sojourn in the great wen. The interior of Covent-garden Theatre will doubtless present an attractive and splendid sight, filled as it will be with the countless products of English manufactures and industrial enterprise, arranged with taste and with an eye to effect. Our country friends will probably go to town with the firm determination not to go to the League Bazaar. But we warn them beforehand, that if they take a wife or daughters their resolutions will be void, and of none effect. They will be glad to escape under cover of Paley's expediency maxim, that the sin is in making and not in breaking such rash vows. For, in the first place, all the world will be there. Do not the Leaguers tell us that there never were so many people in London before (the coronation no doubt drew together great crowds) as there will be during the Bazaar in May? Then the papers will be filled with astonishing accounts of the brilliancy of the scene. Fairy land will be ransacked for comparisons, and Aladdin's palace be declared poor and mean by comparison with the interior of Covent-garden. And what female head could stand out against such temptations, on a bare question of principle? Or how can Mr. Bull reasonably expect to convince his wife and daughter that it can make the smallest difference to the fate of the Corn Laws, whether they go to Covent-garden or stay away. It is easy to see that Mr. Bull will go, and that the particular shape which the sophistry will take will be, that a national exhibition of British manufactures is a very proper thing; that the manufacturers of this country are, after all, very fine fellows, so far as industry and ingenuity go (although of course sadly mistaken on the question of the Corn Laws). In the end John Bull will be so pleased with what he sees that he will long to take every man in the theatre by the hand who looks like a Leicester-lacemaker, a Nottingham stocking-maker, a Birmingham hardware or paper machine workman, a Wolverhampton smith, a Dudley nailmaker, a Leeds cloth-dresser, a Sheffield cutler, a Coventry ribband-weaver, a Manchester cotton-mill operative, or even the employer and directing intelligence of any of these. Bull will be so delighted that he will loudly exclaim that no other country in the world could parallel a similar display of the products of human industry and

material excellence, and that our manufacturing artisans are men to be proud of, and who deserve to eat the very best beef and mutton and wheaten bread that he, Bull, can produce for them. The end of these transports it is easy to foresee. Mr. Bull's pockets will be emptied, and clean swept, unless he take the precaution of leaving his purse at home, and even then he may reckon upon the ignominious fate of being sent to the hotel in a cab for it. Thus we see no hope for an agriculturist who may set out for the metropolis by these trains preserving his equanimity unimpaired until his return. Perhaps, however, the worst that may be looked for as the result of his trip may be a stupendous perception on his part that the feuds between agriculture and manufactures are amazing mistakes on both sides, and that the sooner the two great interests of the country shake hands and be friends the better for both. "God bless the manufacturers!" he will say to his neighbours when he returns. "Fetch that splendid Paisley shawl you bought at the Bazaar, my girl! and mother! show us that clothes-basket full of table-covers, damasks, lace pillow-cases, woollen, silk, and cotton hosiery, ribbands, and other gimeracks that you brought away with you! There! should not we be proud of having the manufacturers for fellow-countrymen? For my own part I am determined never to abuse the manufacturers again as long as I live. Let them only give us time (he will add) and they shall be fed with plenty of beef and bread and eggs and butter and cheese, as such industrious and ingenious fellows deserve to be fed!"

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

(From the *Times*.)

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I am the wife of a county member of the old school, and little did I think 30 years ago, when I married one of the first "landed properties" in the county, that I should live to hear it said, "It is ruinous to possess land;" yet it is proved to me every day that the land has been our ruin; to be sure it is mortgaged for more than its value, and that may have something to do with the matter, but I do not understand political economy; my husband says none but "radical rascals" do; if that means that they get their canvassing, and dinnering, and all that, done for nothing (to say nothing of votes for nothing), I only wish Sir T— did understand it, and restricted himself to it. I have practised domestic economy rigidly for years, and we managed to get on very well till the land only brought in two per cent., and Sir T— borrowed at five per cent.,—which shows how unfairly land must be burdened. Now, every weekly check he draws is done grumblingly; I only wish Sir Robert Peel had to ask for the checks instead of me.

Domestic economy is not a man's province, they never think of it at the dinner table; nor, to do him justice, did I ever hear Sir T— grumble about venison and turbot, and the delicate little *entrées* we have at our own table; but it is, as he says, those extravagant kitchen joints that mount up so. He told me that Sir Robert's tariff would reduce these things one-half, but in fact no perceptible difference can I find, except in his reducing my house-keeping allowance in proportion to what he fancied the difference would be.

How he got his information I know not, but to my horror he has grown very learned about "grease;" it is enough to make one ill to hear such subjects discussed, as if "grease and dirty butter" were things used in my kitchen. I am afraid he will shorten my allowance again on this farthing per pound in lard passing the House; but we never use it—none but poor people do; and really I do think Sir Robert Peel need not set a whole parcel of gentlemen disputing about things which concern none but the poor. What can the House of Commons have to do with the poor? The unions manage their affairs.

Upon my word, if Sir Robert makes any more trouble with his tariffs, we country members' wives must give up house-keeping altogether, in order to set a good example of distress; what with mortgages, and fortunes for daughters, and keeping up game and other county duties, I am so straitened I have been obliged to give up all my little charities, because that is the only way I ever spent money unnecessarily. I cannot give up what I have been used to, nor can Sir T—. I think sometimes we might do without the Opera-box, but my daughters cannot; they think their brothers need not keep so many hunters, to say nothing of Newmarket and Ascot; we cast about from one to another the duty of retrenchment, but find we are all so economical there is nothing to retrench. I cannot introduce board wages in—shire, though the servants are on them in town; my cook is never satisfied with the wages I give, and if she (I have discharged the man) did not sell her grease (as I often tell Sir T—, who thinks they might eat it instead of butter in the kitchen), I must pay her £10 per annum more—so I am the true economist there, for we could not for shame sell our own dripping! A rich banker near us sells his skim milk to his own labourers, and in the mandatories I suppose this is illegal; but, as Sir T— says, "Thank God! we are not so mean?" we only sell them our butter, and out of charity 1d. per lb. cheaper than the farmers can. I assure you I have no profit from the dripping except its saving the cook's wages. I can add no more, as I have a large dinner and ball to the county this Easter. Really, when a member like Sir T— spends £1000 at once in this way, from a sense of duty to his country, he deserves himself and his party to be supported by the Minister—a good old Tory Prime Minister would do it—and not suffer country gentlemen to be browbeaten in dirty disputes about farthings' worth of grease. Yours, &c.

CONFERENCE OF TRADES' DELEGATES.—A numerous body of delegates from the various trades met together on Monday afternoon at the Parthenon Club-room, St. Martin's-lane, for the purpose of forming an association for their mutual protection. T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., was called to the chair, and opened the proceedings. On the conclusion of the chairman's address, Mr. Barratt, the secretary, read the report of the committee, which stated that they were deeply sensible that such an organization was necessary, in order to resist oppression from any legislative enactment; also to promote a good understanding between employers and employed, which was the main object of that conference. The meeting was addressed by several of the delegates; and it was finally agreed that an association should be formed for the protection of their rights, and to prevent any advantages by legislative enactments from again taking place.





Treasury: your landlord members have all these to secure, touching them much more nearly than the concerns of the tenant-farmers. They want your votes, indeed, to make them important with the Ministry, and put them in the way to get these good things; and your votes they have by asking for—through their stewards, perhaps—"or else—"

That you have been grossly deceived and abused is certain. The present Parliament and Ministry are of your making. How the promises of the hustings have been kept in the House I need not tell you. A more barefaced violation of pledges the world has never beheld. Perhaps you were not less duped in the promises so liberally made than in the performance so unceremoniously forgotten. Be that as it may, you must be very confiding indeed if you trust any more. Trust yourselves only, for the future; or you will be greener than your own grass.

Mark the conduct of your self-appointed patrons. Have they battled for any one measure that can benefit you? Did they not refuse the inquiry that might have thrown light upon your actual condition and the means of its improvement? Was not their squabbling about grease and lard calculated to render you as ridiculous and contemptible as themselves? While they terrify you by threats of "the untaxed foreigner," have they relieved you from any taxation? And what would become of the cash had they done so? How long would it have taken to squeeze the surplus out of you by the rent screw? Have the Corn Laws enriched any of you? What farmer's profits have doubled while the landlord's rents were doubling? With members of your own in the House of Commons there would be a chance of getting at the truth. There is none now. It is essential to the cause of agricultural industry that you should be there. It is due to you, as a distinct body with peculiar interests, that you should be there. The landlords know this. Have they ever moved a finger to send any of you there? Not they: and you may reckon upon a fiercer opposition from that quarter than from any other whatever, when you begin the attempt at having a representation.

This fact alone is a test of their sincerity when they affect to identify themselves with you. They put lawyers and soldiers into their pocket boroughs; any clever adventurer whom they can keep dependent will serve their turn. But see how they will look when it is suggested to them that a tenant-farmer would be an acceptable candidate for a county. You have a tough job before you. The endeavour to work it out will teach you many a lesson yet unlearned. That ugly thing called notice to quit will soon be flying over your grounds, and perching on your homesteads. The battle will be a long one, and many of you must be martyrs. Consider whether you have pluck enough. The leaders of the rebellion will never be forgiven. Ruin stares you in the face. Had you not better pay up your rents quietly out of your capital, as long as your capital will last, and then go to New Zealand or the poorhouse? The power of habit in yourselves will be against you. It has always been your way to vote for or with your landlords. You are traitors to yourselves by long custom, whose chains are hard to break. Look before you leap, and then, if you do resolve to spring, God speed you.

Not that I imagine any of you will go into Parliament Free-Traders. At first you may, perhaps, be more protectionist than your landlords: but you will not stifle investigation, as they do; you will not emit about being the guardians of others' interests, as they do; you will not confound high rents with profitable cultivation, as they do; you will not mask the real objects of policy under false pretences, as they do; you will not look one way and row another, as they do; and you will not, by departing from the avowed, simple, and manful championship of your rights and interests, bring the very name of agriculture into odium, as they do. That is why every Free-Trader would rather see you there than those who are as unfaithful to you as they are unjust to society at large. Try it, then; by all means try it. If Corn Laws are to be maintained, you are the men by whom alone the country can be reconciled to their continuance; and if not, it is well that your stout hearts and strong arms should help to strike down a pernicious monopoly by which you are victimized in common with the industrious millions of your fellow-subjects and fellow-sufferers.

#### A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

A FACT.—A requisition is actually determined on to invite three eminent renting farmers to stand as candidates for the next Parliamentary election. The farmers of Devon are determined to have men who pay rent to look after their interest in the House of Commons. We do not anticipate much immediate success from such a step, but it will teach the aristocracy a lesson, and open the eyes of the tenant-farmers to their power, if they choose to act in concert.—*Western Times*.

THE ANNUAL AVERAGE PRICES OF GRAIN.—In the year ended 1844, wheat was 51s. 3d. per quarter; barley, 35s. 6d.; oats, 20s. 7d.; rye, 33s. 11d.; beans, 34s. 3d.; and peas, 32s. 3d.

#### TO MOTHERS OF FAMILIES.

A "dust of sugar for baby."

No. 2.—To the Wives of Charles Cooke, Thomas Dummer, John Chevis, John Gravatt, Edward Goble, Henry Eade, John Carver, Henry Glazier, James Larbey, Nicholas Souter, Thomas Trusley, Elijah Glazier, Harry Quinell, Thomas Glazier, and James Knight,—all of the parish of Easebourne, near Midhurst, in the County of Sussex.

WIVES AND MOTHERS.—Besides your husbands, there are several men with motherless families, and some men with no families, working at parish work in Easebourne; there is also a considerable number of young men in the workhouse, who, not costing so much to the rates in the house as they would cost out of the house, are kept within the walls on the same principle that the men with families, your husbands, are kept out of the house, because, having families, they would cost more in than they cost out. The average expense for each individual was last year in the house 2s. 6d. a week. Some years 3s. and 3s. 6d. is the weekly expense per head; but, food being cheaper this year than usual, the workhouses are more cheaply furnished, and provisions are lower than usual.

None of you wish to go into the house. You dislike it—despise it—hate it. Knowing this, the guardians offer your husbands work on the roads, which is paid for out of the poor-rates. Knowing that you will almost suffer anything rather than break up your homes and go into the house to be separated from your husbands and children, they offer relief to your unemployed husbands by giving them one week's work in the fortnight at 9s., which is, so far as you are concerned, nothing more than 4s. 6d. a week, out of which you have to pay house rent, buy food to eat, clothing to wear, and fuel to burn. The whole of the husbands and fathers who were thus employed under the waywarden at Easebourne last autumn numbered, with their families, one hundred individuals.

This number of persons is a portion, but only a fractional portion, of those inhabitants of Sussex who are numbered and published to the world as labourers in agriculture. You are the best judges yourselves of the extent to which agriculture maintains you. You may not know so well how far you contribute to the maintenance of agriculture; nor how far those great national interests called the "sugar trade," the "tea trade," the "cotton trade," the "home market for English manufactures," the "revenue of the Government," and such like, constituting the greatness of the British empire, are maintained by you.

It is curiously worthy of remark that, when we speak to your rich neighbours the Duke of Richmond, and Lord Egmont, at your own doors, and regret that all the sugar you buy, as one of you expresses it, is only "a dust on Saturday night to baby to sweeten his sop, poor little dear, for he really cannot live on the crust of dry bread and the potato,"—or when we regret that most of you have no clothing, but what is on you, and that what is wholly insufficient for winter weather, and that the children are shirtless and shoeless, and that at night the clothes of the day must be put on the beds to supply the place of better covering,—when at, or near, your own doors, to your own rich neighbours we express such regrets, they tell us that you are not used to anything better, and do not feel the want of sugar and abundant changes of clothing.

But when the same rich men come to London to Parliament to make laws, they tell all the other lawmakers that you are the supporters of the "home market" for manufactured cloth, and many other things; that you are the support of the commercial imports—to wit, sugar, tea, and other articles that come from abroad; that, if the monopoly which they possess of being the sole dealers in corn and cattle is taken away from them, agriculture will not support you, and you will not support the "home market." They forget all about the "dust of sugar for baby" being the extent of your support of the great West India sugar interests; and they, so forgetting, tell the West India members of Parliament that if the Corn Laws, which are intended to make corn dear, are not kept up by the assistance of the West India members, they, the English landowning members, will not keep up the sugar laws which make sugar dear.

And thus they go on telling it to the world that agriculture supports you, and that you support the great national interests. You cannot get employment in agriculture at home, yet your husbands and selves and children are proudly published by the Protection Society of Sussex as persons maintained by agriculture.

Also your sons, the young unmarried men, who have been compelled to go into the union-house or starve, or be tempted to commit a crime to keep off starvation,—they are numbered and published to the world as workers in agriculture.

Also the men who refuse to go into the house, and because they refuse get no relief out of it, and who live without work and without—God in his mercy or the devil in his mischief only knows how they live! they are numbered as agricultural labourers, and published as such.

Also those of the married men, who, being willing to go into the house, and who, having few children or none, are admitted within, instead of being sent to the roads at 4s. 6d. a week with your husbands,—they are set down as

agricultural labourers, and published as such to the world.

Also the aged of both sexes taken into the house because they cannot labour, they are published to the world as labourers in agriculture, and as "residue" dependent on agriculture.

And in addition to all these, that society which has its head-quarters in Sussex, and which has for its object the making corn scarce and dear, or what they call "protection to agriculture," and "protection to the labourers in agriculture," that is to you and your families and neighbours,—protection to you by making your bread scarce and dear!—that society which has the Duke of Richmond, your neighbour of Goodwood at its head, and a gentleman, Stafford O'Brien, Esq., M.P., whom none of you know, but who is a great friend of yours, so he says,—that society, in addition to all who have been numbered and published in the Government tables of the population as labourers in agriculture, has set down a great many more as labourers—above one million more!

Now, you good women of Easebourne are not likely to know much about this subject. Corn Laws and sugar laws, and population tables, and "occupations of the people," and protection societies, and chairmen of the societies, and secretaries who publish the documents of the societies, and gentlemen who falsify Government returns in support of the societies, to say that agriculture employs one million of persons more than it does employ,—you are not likely to know much of those things and of those persons.

You, perhaps, do not know what agriculture is. But I will tell you what it is; and when I have told that you shall hear something more.

Agriculture is the employment of those who plough and sow and reap the land. It is also the employment of those who hire men to do those things. It is also the employment, or profession, or means of living of those who own the land, and who let it to those tenants who hire men to plough and sow and reap.

But agriculture is not the employment of those who fill the workhouses, or who job on the roads at 4s. 6d. a week, as your husbands have done this winter and last to keep them out of the workhouses. Neither is agriculture the employment of the million of imaginary beings whom the secretary of the Protection Society has made on paper for the sake of "protecting" them.

And now for the other things which I am to tell you.

Some of you have pieces of land—small allotments, rented at the rate of £3 per acre, tithe and rates included, on which you plant potatoes and a few other vegetables; on which you would plant more vegetables, and certainly gather more for household use, were it not for Lord Egmont's game, which lives on you and on what else the game can get at the expense of the farmers.

Now, some of your husbands who have allotments have kept an exact account of all the work they have performed, or which you, their wives, and your children have performed on each allotment; and rating the produce at the common market price, as it sells in Petworth, Midhurst, or Chichester market,—rating it by the same rule as the farmers rate their produce,—each allotment has returned *four shillings a day* for the labour devoted to it; and paid all its local taxes and rent, amounting to £3 per acre.

Indeed, it would have been impossible to have lived on your income of 4s. 6d. a week without the allotments. And this will doubtless make many people exclaim, "How blessed is the allotment system!"

Yes; an allotment of land is good for a family, if there be good wages along with it. But to you it is not one whit better than a substitute for wages. The allotments are made a substitute for poor-rates by those who pay the rates. And this is so far good. I believe that all paupers, save the helpless young, the helpless old, and the sick, might, in all rural districts, such as that part of England where you dwell, be maintained by the allotment of land, or by their employment on the land by others.

But if this be true—and your own allotments prove its possibility—there need be no paupers at all of an age and strength of body fit for work. All other land of the same quality of your allotments might be made equally fruitful. But it will require very different treatment from what the farmers now give it.

On this point I refer you to a letter which will appear in this paper, addressed to the farmers of your parish. In addressing you, the wives of the working men, I shall adhere to other topics. Your allotments of land were mentioned here to show the readers of this letter who do not know you, how you manage to make both ends meet—both ends of the 4s. 6d. per week.

You are not worse, those of you who have the ground, than the farm-labourers in full employment who have none. In estimating your income and expenditure, your support of the great interests of sugar, tea, home manufactures, Government revenue, and last, not least, the interests of the dealers in cattle and sheep, I should only express the condition of the majority of the labourers throughout Sussex. But to take you as illustrative of their condition might be deemed unfair. So, having addressed myself to your case merely to show that all who are published to the world as labourers in agriculture are not really what they are said to be, let us turn to some one who is in full and constant employment as a real labourer on a farm.

(On looking to notes of information, carefully collected in your parish, I find the average expenditure of families

In full employment to be within a fraction the expenditure of the family of the Horlocks, in Dorsetshire, mentioned last week in this paper; because, though 9s. a week is the sum of a labourer's weekly earnings with you, and 8s. that of Francis Horlock in Dorset, the latter had no cottage rent to pay, while the labourers of Easbourne pay from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week.

The average expenditure for tea and sugar, in support of the great West and East India interests, is, per family of six, 9s. per annum. Mrs. H.'s account for these articles stood thus:—

	Tea.	Sugar.
January .. .. .	8d.	2d.
February .. .. .	8	0
March .. .. .	0	0
April .. .. .	8	0
May .. .. .	8	2
June .. .. .	8½	0
July .. .. .	8	0
August .. .. .	8	4
September .. .. .	8	0
October .. .. .	8	2½
November .. .. .	8	0
December .. .. .	8	0
	7s. 4½d.	10½d.

This being for a period exclusive of the last three weeks of December, add 4½d. to the sugar amount and 4½d. to the tea amount for Christmas, and the sums will stand—sugar, 1s. 3d.; tea, 7s. 9d.—together, for the East and West India interests, 9s. per annum. Where coffee is used tea is dispensed with.

Let us suppose the full extent of all the labourers, and of their wives and families (called in the census "residue"), to be 95,000 in Sussex, which includes paupers and all such as those working on the roads at Easbourne, the consumption of sugar in that county among that class will be, per annum, 33,928 lbs. at 7d. per lb. Taking the whole of the labourers in agriculture, with their "residue" of wives and children, in England and Wales at 2,700,000, which is certainly above their actual number, their consumption of sugar at the rate of Sussex will be, at 7d. per lb., 414 tons 16 cwt. 74 lbs.

This is about the cargo of one ordinary West India brig or barque. The whole of the great agricultural interest of England and Wales—protected for the sake of its labourers! protected because it supports other interests; protected for the benefit of commerce and that West India interest which clings to it for help, saying, "Help me and I'll help you"—supports the sugar trade to the extent of the cargo of one vessel under 450 tons burden.

The consumption of tea by the whole of the labourers in agriculture and their families in England and Wales amounts to 321 tons 13 cwt. 54 lbs., at the retail rate of 5s. per lb. This is a patronage of the East India and China interests to the extent of about one-third of the cargo of one ship, such as is called an East Indiaman, and that not one of the largest ships.

Captain Shirley, at a meeting in Midhurst in 1841, when Lord John Russell made a hopeless effort to reduce the price of sugar, told you that sugar would not be one farthing per pound cheaper were there no duty upon it at all than it was then; and farther, that if it were cheaper nobody would be benefited.

The captain was applauded for saying this; and being a respectable gentleman and a very amiable man, save that he ventured to assert such things on a topic of which he was evidently uninformed, he was believed. Some of your husbands were at the meeting; and, if I am rightly informed, they signed a petition to Parliament, praying that the proposals of Lord John Russell might not be carried into law: in other words, that you might not have cheaper sugar; that you might not have more than a "dust for baby;" that the whole of the labourers in agriculture in England and Wales might not do more for commerce than employ one middling-sized West Indiaman, and a third part of one East Indiaman, each one voyage in the year, to bring home their tea and sugar.

The petition which some of you signed at the same time prayed also that corn might not be more plentiful and bread cheaper than it was at that time. If any of you really believed that dear bread was good for you, there could be no harm in thus petitioning; but you know very well that your "dust of sugar for baby," and your tea without sugar for yourselves, were 1s. when bread was dear, than now when it is cheap; you know, and none know better, that high prices do not raise your ability to buy. You get no more work and no more wages. If Captain Shirley and the other gentlemen who led that meeting, and who got some of you to sign their petition, really believed, as doubtless they did, that any alteration in the corn and sugar laws would injure them and their friends, they did right to sign their own petition with their own hands, but not to compel others to sign it.

But a change of circumstances has come over them since that time. The farmers of Easbourne parish are not so happy with their "friends" as they were then; and I do not despair of being able to convince them that they would have been better with no Corn Law at all.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

A LETTER TO G. G. HARCOURT, ESQ., M.P.  
(From the Patriot.)

SIR,—Though the following letter is long, you will, I am confident, make room for it. Its contents are of no

ordinary character. A word or two in explanation, and I have done for the present. I published some letters in the month of December, 1844, through the medium of the *Patriot* and of the *Oxford Chronicle*, calling attention to the real condition of too many of the peasantry in our own county. Mr. Harcourt, who is, I believe, a worthy and feeling gentleman, saw these letters, and felt anxious to inquire into the truth of my statements. He paid a visit to Bicester, in order that he might see and hear for himself. I was out at the time, and therefore did not see the honourable member; but he left his address at the inn. I wrote to him, and received a very polite answer. I am now immersed in domestic afflictions, and consequently have neither the time nor the inclination to address a private letter to the worthy gentleman, and to prepare a manuscript copy of it for the press; and, therefore, I am resolved to put our representatives and the public in possession of my sad tale of woe through the same medium. I have not attempted either to argue upon it, or to clothe my statistics in light drapery; but simply to state naked and incontrovertible facts. They are of age, and will speak for themselves. Many heartfelt thanks to certain friends through whose kindness I have been enabled to assist many of the poor in our neighbourhood.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. FERGUSON.

Bicester, King's-end, Feb. 28, 1845.

"TO G. G. HARCOURT, ESQ., M.P."

"HONOURED SIR,—Your kind letter addressed to me on the 8th of January, 1845, in relation to the condition of the field-labourers in our district, must be my apology for the liberty which I have taken by calling your serious attention to the following statistics, which are confined to the state of things in two parishes in our own neighbourhood. I shall begin with the hamlet of Arncliffe, in the parish of Ambrosden, Oxon. But in doing so I beg, in justice to others, to say that I do not blame either the farmers or the tradesmen for the state of things which I am about to describe. It is well known that tradesmen in districts purely agricultural are not doing well at present; and farmers, many of whom are groaning under an absurd system of yearly tenancy, in general have enough to do to pay their rents, rates, and taxes. They cannot, therefore, be expected to employ more labourers than they can afford to pay. The truth is the labour market is glutted, and must remain so—especially in the rural districts—under a system of partial and unequal legislation.

"The following facts will demonstrate the extent to which too many of the labouring poor are suffering in the very county which you, Sir, in conjunction with others, represent in Parliament. Many of the mud hovels in Upper Arncliffe have been built, from time to time, by the peasantry themselves. The height of some of these hovels, from the floor to the ceiling, is from four feet eight inches to five feet six inches. They are cold and damp. In several of them from five to nine persons sleep in the same low attic! The poor inmates of these wretched habitations have no other water to drink than what they take from the ponds, in which ducks swim, and from which cows and horses may drink their share! I have no doubt that the muddy and filthy water which the poor of Arncliffe drink is more than prejudicial to their health. I am not alone in this opinion.

"On the 15th of January, being the day on which our beloved Queen arrived at Buckingham, I took an experienced tradesman with me, and we visited a number of cottages, occupied by field-labourers, in our own neighbourhood. We took an inventory of all the beds, bedsteads, chairs and stools, &c., which we found in the cottages at which we called.

"In the first cottage there was something in the shape of a bed and bedstead, and another bed on the same floor, and some straw in a corner of the room. Six or seven persons sleep there, two of whom were ill and confined to their beds when we called. Their furniture was made up of three broken chairs and one table. In the second cottage at which we called we found three broken chairs, one small table, and a pot. There was something on the damp floor in the shape of a bed, but not a bedstead, on which four persons sleep! In the third cottage visited by us we found two chairs, two stools, and two small tables. The poor man has a wife and three children to provide for. They pay 1s. 3d. a week rent. They had a bed and some bedclothes, but the sober and industrious man had not a day's work to go to. In the fourth cottage we found three stools, some chairs (but they were useless), and two small tables; there were two beds and bedsteads, such as they were, and another bed on the floor. Eight persons sleep in the same room. In the fifth cottage we found a mixture of boiled flour and water on the table for dinner! The quantity of flour was one pennyworth! The family are eleven in number, and they all sleep in one room or attic. They pay 1s. 6d. a week rent. They had only one young man in work: his wages were 4s. 6d. a week. In another cottage visited by us the inmates are seven in number. They pay 1s. 3d. a week rent. The poor man had no employment, but they had some old beds and a little furniture in the house. We visited another cottage on the 17th of January, 1845, the miserable inmates of which are six in number. The man had nothing to do. They pay, or rather have promised to pay, 1s. 3d. a week rent. They had one straw bed on a low bedstead, and some straw in a corner of the room, covered with coarse sackcloth, on which the children sleep. They had neither food nor firing in the house when we called. I said to the man, 'Why do you not go into the workhouse with your family?' His answer was, 'I have my hands to work, and I am willing to work; but if I cannot get work, sooner than I shall submit to be shut up in that house and separated from my wife and children, I will go to the Oxford Gaol!' I called a few days afterwards at the same cottage, and found the children in bed at one o'clock at noon! They had no firing, nor yet the means of procuring any; and, consequently, the children were kept in bed to keep them warm. I have since had the poor man employed for a few days in my garden, and a more skilful and industrious labourer I have never had about my premises. Is not this fact a proof that the labour market is glutted, and that the labourers are suffering? The poor, whose miseries I have attempted to describe above, were not receiving any parochial relief at the time we visited them.

"On Thursday, the 20th inst., my friend the tradesman and myself visited some of what are called parish cottages or houses, in villages near Bicester, and in the county of Oxford. The facts which I am about to state will serve to show the wretched and degraded condition of

many of the working class in that parish. The first house at which we called is without a roof. Three poor creatures, including an old woman, live there, and sleep just behind the door, on a damp floor, to catch the rain-water which falls during a wet day through the broken ceiling. The broken ceiling is the only roof over their devoted heads! I declare solemnly and emphatically that I never entered so wretched a place, inhabited by human beings, in any part of the Highlands or Islands of Scotland, as I have visited in the above village. The second hovel, at which we called is so small that a man, his wife, and their four children are compelled, for want of room, to do with one bed and bedstead; and their attic is so low and narrow that one of them must get into bed before another can follow. Some of their children sleep on the floor close to the bed. All the light glass about six or eight inches square. In the third hovel, and three children; they have no attic in the hovel; and, as there is no room within its humble walls for a single bedstead, they are compelled to sleep in another hovel. Eight iron bars fixed in a hole in the end of the hovel, and about one quarter of an inch apart from each other, make up their only window. In the fourth hovel we found a poor, though not an old, man, who has been ill for twenty weeks. He suffers from pains in his arms, &c.; and those who have seen his damp habitation do not wonder that he is afflicted. Both he and his aged mother receive parochial relief; and they might take shelter in the union workhouse, but they will not enter the house; no,—they hate it. In the last hovel at which we called there is a family of eight or ten persons. They have not a sufficient number of either chairs or stools on which to sit by the fire, when they have any; and, consequently, they have taken some stones out of the inside of the wide fireplace, and thus have made themselves holes in which they sit by the fire. The poor people live rent-free in these dens of woe and wretchedness, but, like the poor of Arncliffe, they drink the muddy and filthy water with which the ponds supply them. The general rate of wages paid in our province is: boys at from ten to fourteen years of age, 2s. to 2s. 6d. a week; single young men receive from 3s. to 5s. a week; married men who have no children, 6s. a week; and married men who have families, 8s. a week.

"The following statement of facts will give you an idea of the way in which some of the most frugal of the field-labourers lay out their money.

"J. has a wife and five children. He is in constant work. His wages are 8s. a week. He has neither a garden nor any potato land. His wages are laid out as follows:—

	s.	d.
To house rent, per week .. .. .	1	4
To half a hundred weight of coals, per week ..	0	9
To potatoes, per week .. .. .	0	6
To ten loaves of brown bread, per week, at 5½d. per loaf .. .. .	4	7
To lard, per week .. .. .	0	2
To coffee, per week .. .. .	0	1
To sugar, per week .. .. .	0	3
To bacon, per week .. .. .	0	2
To soap and candles, per week .. .. .	0	2
Total .. .. .	8	0

"Thus we see, Sir, that seven persons must be content, if they can be content, with less than a loaf and half for each for seven days! Or, if they should get more bread, the baker must be the sufferer. The sober and plain truth is, the poor people are, to use a homely phrase, frequently put to their shifts. They are driven sometimes to leave the baker or the landlord, or both, unpaid, that they may have a few pence to buy beer or a few yards of cotton, to drown their sorrows or to hide their nakedness. Many of the peasantry earn a shilling or two weekly by lace-making. But what they earn by lace-making is not half sufficient to furnish them with shoes and clothes. I asked a labouring man the other day, how much bread he could consume in seven days? His answer was, 'Three loaves and a half, if I had potatoes and some vegetables.' What, then, must be the state of those labourers who cannot get a loaf and a half for seven days to support nature? And what must be the condition of those labourers who have but a few days' work now and then, during the winter half-year,—just work enough to tempt them successfully to keep out of the workhouse, but not half enough to save them from starvation and ruin. I was told by a respectable gentleman, a few weeks back, that there are thousands starving in Oxfordshire.

"We have kind and charitable persons in our town, among whom are the worthy magistrates and the bankers, who do much to alleviate the sufferings of their poorer brethren. But charity can never reach an evil which has its seat, life, and strength in the heart of legislative enactments. And, therefore, those who are the real authors of the evil, and who have inflicted the curse of poverty, are the proper persons to provide a remedy. I have felt it to be my duty to communicate these facts to you, Sir, because I have thought, and because I still think, that those who represent our counties, &c., in Parliament should be well acquainted with the real state of things in counties of which they are the representatives. You will, I doubt not, excuse the liberty which I have taken in addressing this letter to you, and do what you can to alleviate the miseries of those whose prosperity you are pledged to promote. In making the inquiries which I have made into the present and real condition of the peasantry in our neighbourhood, my own conscience has been my prompter, and the motives by which I have been swayed may be found in the example set before us by Him who said 'I was hungry and ye gave me food, naked, and ye clothed me, sick, and ye visited me.' I do not, however, take any credit to myself for the humble efforts which I have made in the cause of humanity; neither shall I be disappointed if others should throw upon me. The naked facts which I have stated in this letter are terrible, but true; and therefore I court the most searching and unflinching investigation into my statistics, the strict accuracy of which I am prepared to verify upon oath before a committee of the House of Commons. I have taken the liberty to add to this letter the attestation of one who knows more of the real state and condition of the peasantry of our province than any other man in the county.

"I have the honour to be, honoured Sir,

Your humble and obedient servant,

W. FERGUSON,

Minister of the Independent Congregational Church,  
Bicester, Feb. 28, 1845.



"P.S.—The bedsteads and beds of which I have said so much in this letter are stump bedsteads, and the beds are almost all made up of straw. The cry of the field-labourers will soon become an eclipse upon the prosperity of those who despise the poor and uphold the laws which stand between them and their daily bread. "W. F."

"I do hereby certify that I visited the cottages described in Mr. Ferguson's letter, in company with him, and that his statements are perfectly correct; and, as a dealer in furniture, &c., I further declare, that I would not give more than £2. 10s. for all the goods found in twelve cottages occupied by able-bodied men. "SAMUEL ROLLS.

"Bicester, Feb. 24, 1845."

"TO THE REV. W. FERGUSON.

"DEAR SIR,—You have requested me to state my opinion as to the state of the field-labourers and poor in this neighbourhood at the present time. I beg respectfully to inform you that I know numbers of them are ruined in their morals, and in a most deplorable state of wretchedness and poverty. The wages of those who are in constant work are not more than half sufficient to support their families; what, then, must be the condition of those (and there are many of them) who go many weeks, and some even for months together, without any work, and that in the depth of winter? And what must be the condition of those who, finding their homes so miserable and wretched, go and spend a part of their earnings at a public-house, to escape for a little while the miseries of their own fireless and wretched habitations? Numbers of young girls, many of whom have been taught in our Sunday-schools, and consequently know better, are driven to prostitution for a morsel of bread; and many have pledged all they have got, so that they have nothing left. Some come many miles to pledge for a very trifle; the trade, too, of those who deal in goods such as the poor usually buy, is very much decreased. I sincerely hope your efforts will be crowned with success; and that you will go on in your praiseworthy endeavours to do the poor good, and to save them, and those who live by them, from impending ruin. "I am, yours respectfully,

"Feb. 21, 1845."

"SAMUEL ROLLS.

It is not generally known, in some parts of the country, that boys at from ten to fifteen years of age leave their wretched homes at this season of the year soon after four o'clock in the morning, and return about seven or half-past seven in the evening. They have to assist the men who feed the horses before they are led out to the fields. Thus, it will be seen that boys receiving 2s. or 2s. 6d. a week wages, and young men who are paid at the rate of 5s. a week wages, are engaged during fourteen or fifteen hours every working day,—when they are fortunate enough to get work,—and some of them have to attend to the horses, &c., a part of the day on Sundays. Many of these boys and working men have nothing but a piece of dry bread to eat during the many hours they are from home. I add no more. W. F.

FREE-TRADE LECTURE AT BLACKROD.—On Thursday evening last, a lecture, on "Sugar and other Monopolies," was delivered by Mr. Pinnigan, of Manchester, at the Red Lion Inn, Blackrod, about four miles from Wigan, to a more crowded audience than probably was ever witnessed before in the township. The large room of the inn was crowded to overflowing. Mr. Pinnigan was very frequently and warmly applauded. The interest excited may be judged of by the fact, that the lecturer has been particularly requested to deliver another lecture on the same subject, which he accordingly announced.

ANTI-CORN LAW LECTURES IN SUSSEX.—Mr. Falvey lectured at Hurst, in the large room of the White Horse Inn, on Tuesday evening last. The room and passages were quite full of farmers and farm-labourers, and the greatest interest was taken in the proceedings. At the close of the lecture several questions were put by Mr. Davey, an extensive and intelligent farmer, and answered satisfactorily amid the cheers of the audience. Mr. Falvey then moved a Free-Trade resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Vallance, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Falvey lectured in the Town-hall, Worthing, on Wednesday evening, to a numerous and respectable audience. There was a fine Free-Trade feeling manifested throughout; and a resolution to that effect was carried without a single dissentient.

A "GAME" INTERPRETATION OF DOING AS YOU WOULD BE DONE UNTO.—A *Lover of Justice* says:—"As Mr. Bright, by his indefatigable exertions, has succeeded in obtaining a committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the effects of the game laws on the interests of the farmers and the morals of the rural population, I beg leave to send you the following facts for publication, which will tend, in some measure, to illustrate the pernicious effects of those laws on the interests of the farmers, and the narrow-minded selfishness engendered by their unbalanced influence on some of the owners of the soil in South Lancashire. In the neighbourhood of Rainford there is a certain farm, and whether the different occupants of the said farm retired from the business after having acquired an independence by their industry, or lost the capital they had invested in its cultivation, is foreign to my present object; suffice it to say that the owner thought proper to take it into his own possession and cultivate it, and, as the farmers say, during the last 'back end,' when the turnip crops were in the ground, and the farmers were expecting to reap the reward of their industry, lo! there was a man employed to go about the farm from six o'clock in the evening until six in the morning, driving the game on to the neighbouring farms. Thus the poor farmers in the neighbourhood of Rainford were compelled quietly to witness the destruction of their crops to fatten the game for a splendid *battue* for the amusement of the *élite* of the aristocracy, whose health, no doubt, was improved, and their purses rendered more valuable, by the murderous onslaught on the Rainford game. Surely, if the farmers are compelled to feed the game, they ought to be allowed to destroy it." Our correspondent gives the name of the farm and that of the master employed, as well as his own address; and yet we are unwilling to believe such a story to be true, though we have heard of similar doings in other places.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

A *Good Book*.—A good book is the precious lifeblood of a nation's spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life.—*Milton*.

## REVIEW.

### Third Annual Report of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association. Liverpool, Baines.

This association is too intimately connected with the League to allow of our neglecting to notice the good service which its members have rendered to the cause of Free Trade by their exertions collectively and individually. The report which they have just issued is replete with valuable matter, and had we not so many urgent and pressing calls upon our space we should republish it at full length. The following passage ably states the circumstances which have given to our cause a rapidity of progress such as was never before witnessed in any political movement:—

"Events have spoken trumpet-tongued in our favour. Every fallacy which a selfish policy had endeavoured to impress on the public mind is at this passing moment in process of refutation. Cheaper food was to lower wages! We have had cheaper food, and in a great number of trades even money wages have been actually increased, in some cases voluntarily, by the employers; in others, at the demand of the operatives, and the combinations of the latter have, in almost every instance, been successful. Everywhere *real wages*—the amount of comforts for which money wages stand as only the representative—have advanced; and we believe that the working classes are becoming more and more convinced, that the only permanent and true protection for the labourer is in the active demand for his labour.

"Our late distress was said to be owing to over-production of manufactures and the use of machinery! Returning prosperity has been accompanied by increased production; while an unexampled extension of machinery has led to a like extension in the employment of manual labour.

"Cheaper food was to injure the revenue! The revenue, which had declined in years of scarcity, has flourished in seasons of abundance.

"We turn to the agricultural districts with the like result. The Corn Law was said 'to gild the thatch of the cottage and the dome of the palace!' Its lingering beams may, indeed, be still seen to brighten the latter, but the former lies in the deepest shade. It is proved beyond controversy, that the interest of the agricultural labourer in agricultural protection is comprised within 6s. or 7s. per week, while capable of labour, and the reversion of the parish workhouse in his old age! Can we wonder at the natural discontent that prevails?"

The association pays the following well-deserved tribute to the services of our meritorious contemporary, the *Economist*:—

"There is yet one other instrument in producing this change to which we would gratefully refer: it is the successful continuance of that most able weekly paper, the *Economist*. To the *Economist* we are indebted for a great number of the most valuable facts contained in this report. This journal supplies a want which had long been felt in the commercial world. Earnestly devoted to the cause of Free Trade, it supports it by the inductive

method of an appeal to facts as the only sure test of truth. The laborious research displayed in its management, and the singular talent with which the most intricate calculations are wrought into the clearest results, by which it is shown that all national interests are suffering from our restrictive policy, are above all praise from us. It is quite evident that profit is only a secondary consideration. Its efforts are rather inspired by the conviction that no permanent improvement can take place in the condition of the people but through extended trade, and, consequently, better remunerated labour; and hence it is patiently treading the successive steps of evidence which demonstrate that these two objects must ever be inseparably connected with each other. Its monthly tables of exports and imports, drawn from official sources—its reviews of the current commercial questions of the day, and its practical application of politico-economic science to their solution—render it a most valuable guide to the mere trader; but it is yet more valuable to the philanthropist, who knows that it is upon the right and speedy settlement of the Free-Trade controversy that so much of the happiness or misery of his country must depend."

The concluding paragraphs of the report contain an able exposition of the present state of the Free-Trade question, too simple to need any introduction, and so complete as to render comment superfluous:—

"From the point of time on which we now stand, we regard the aspect of European affairs as most encouraging. If we look backward with a shudder at the exterminating wars which twenty-nine years of peace have almost obliterated, save from the page of history—we look forward with the more exulting hope that the adoption of Free Trade will render their recurrence impossible. National jealousies will be extirpated, interests created utterly incompatible with war, and hostile nations knit into one wide brotherhood of humanity. Free Trade will thus be the herald of peace and the guardian of civilization!"

"And if we look at our own internal condition, we are not the less encouraged. While our powers of production are as great as ever, the problem of a wiser distribution is forcing itself upon the attention of all thinking men. There is a growing conviction that the productive classes must be better fed—better clothed—better housed—and, above all, their social and intellectual wants more amply supplied. Society is stirred to its very depths by the discussion, and every scheme and every failure are but as the waves that mark the heaving of the mighty ocean!"

"We know, indeed, that there is much that is evil in the structure of society—that its charity is too often a cold substitute for justice—that its benevolence too frequently aggravates the suffering it was intended to remove. But we know also there is much that is good—which is even now visible and tangible to us—how much more that is latent and concealed! It is the inevitable tendency of trade rightly pursued to repress the evil and elicit the good."

"Of all the influences which regulate society, that of trade is naturally the most democratic in its character—the most conservative in its results. It is the most demo-

cratic, because it recognises an equal right to its privileges in all men. It is the most conservative, because all men feel their best interests promoted by this recognition, and dread changes which may by possibility disturb it.

"Hence freedom of commerce becomes another term for mutual justice. The superfluities of each supply the wants of all, and in this interchange of commodities is found the strictest bond of union."

"But let monopoly be admitted, and all the relations are disturbed. The union is thenceforth dissolved. On one side range the privileged classes, on the other the oppressed: discordant elements distract the peace of society, and the rights of property and the rights of industry become antagonistic words."

"The order of Providence in the history of human governments has indeed been the reverse of our proposition—Monopoly has been the rule, Freedom the exception. The Free-Trade agitation of the present day is but a later chapter of the same work, that records the struggles of our forefathers against feudal tyranny. Engaged in the peaceful pursuits of industry, they united for mutual protection against aristocratic aggression. Towns and cities arose. Civil freedom—liberty of the press—law and order—a deeper and a warmer glow of purity and power to our Christianity—in a word, modern civilization—have emanated from civic association."

"But feudalism still exists—has only changed its weapons—wields an act of Parliament instead of the sword, and seizes its 'black mail' by legal process, instead of open violence. Thank Heaven, the spirit which banded together the burghers of old also survives in the hearts of their descendants. It is the spirit which has animated the League in their six years' unwearying struggle with the Corn Law—it will sustain them till they witness its final abrogation—it will never die out but with the last remnant of our class legislation."

"There is a constant dependence—a ceaseless interchange in the material world. Air, sea, and land exchange their elements, and the thousand forms of beauty and life which everywhere surround us, are manufactured from the great storehouse of nature, and diffused in the spirit of a free commerce throughout the globe. The laws of trade are not less inflexible in their operation, or beneficial in their result. Prices not less surely tend and struggle to their level, than do the waters returning to the ocean. Let them flow on in their natural course—they irrigate and bless. Interrupt or tamper with their great law, divert them into the narrow channels of a selfish monopoly, and the banks, which would otherwise have smiled with fertility and happiness, become the scene of desolation and dismay."

### The Royal Phraseological English-French and French-English Dictionary. By J. C. Tarver, Esq. London, Dulau and Co.

This is more than a dictionary: it is a comparative analysis of the structure of the French and English languages, exhibiting the correct equivalents of their phrases, idioms, and peculiarities; it is the only existing dictionary which can guide an Englishman to write colloquial French, or a Frenchman to write the English of ordinary life and business. The greatest difficulty which English students have to

encounter is the ascertaining of the right case or mood governed by the verb or adjective they have occasion to use; former lexicons furnished them with little or no assistance in this constantly-recurring perplexity, and they had in general no other guide than the loose analogies suggested by their recollection of the phrase-book. It is only when we converse with foreigners that we recognise the difference between grammatical and idiomatic English: the former then appears to us stiff, pedantic, and inflexible, while the latter possesses a flexibility and power of adaptation which fits it for all the purposes of life. To Frenchmen this difference between abstract language and colloquial language is far more striking and more painful: the genius of the French language is essentially conversational, and therefore it is strongly idiomatic. But the difficulty of French idioms is increased by their having rigid rules pervading all their apparent anomalies,—rules which, though seemingly capricious, have a real foundation in the philosophy of language; this is peculiarly marked in the laws that regulate the use of particles, and more especially the prepositions. Locke, in his "Essay on the Human Understanding," declares that the right use of particles is the very essence of good writing in all languages: it is so in French more than in any other; but until the publication of Mr. Tarver's work students had no guide whatever to this most essential element of composition. It is not easy for a reviewer to convey an adequate notion of the value of such a work as the present, for a quotation would be as imperfect a specimen as the brick which the old Greek displayed as a sample of the house he had to sell. It must suffice to say that, in addition to the mere verbal significations, which Mr. Tarver has given more completely and accurately than any former lexicographer, this work contains guidance for the structure of sentences and the purport of phrases. The difference between the old dictionaries and that of Mr. Tarver may be described best by comparing composition to building: they gave the materials of an edifice rough from the quarry, to be put together as best we could; he supplies the stones smoothed and squared, with the artistic marks that point out their proper places.

### On the Application of Electro-Metallurgy to the Fine Arts. By Messrs. Elkington and Co. London: Elkington and Co.

We are induced to notice this brief description of a new and important process, not only in the orn-

mental but the useful arts, by the proof it affords of the philanthropic results of science. Economically viewed, electro-metallurgy seems likely to confer the same advantages on workers in metal that improvements in machinery have produced in other industrial pursuits; the metallic coating deposited by galvanic agency covers the inferior substance more perfectly than the old process of plating, and, so far as it has been tested, appears to possess much greater durability. The cost of production is not as yet lessened to an extent that greatly enlarges the consumption; but one element of that cost, the sacrifice of the life and health of those engaged in the old process of gilding, has been completely removed.

Before the introduction of electro-deposition, the only method of gilding was by forming an amalgam of gold and mercury, which, at the consistence of a thin paste, was brushed upon the articles over a strong heat; the mercury being gradually dissipated, the gold remained fixed upon the articles. This process is most pernicious, and destructive to human life, the mercury, volatilized by the heat, insinuates itself into the frames of the workmen, notwithstanding the greatest care, and those who are so fortunate as to escape for a time absolute disease, are constantly under salivation from its effects; paralysis is common among them, and the average of their lives very short: it has been estimated as not exceeding thirty-five years. It is difficult to believe how men should engage in such a business, reckless of the consequences so fearfully exhibited before them, and it would naturally be thought they would hail with pleasure the introduction of any process which would put a stop to such a dreadful sacrifice of human life; but interest and prejudice, in many cases, seem yet too strong, even where the alternative is so fatal.

As many other metals could be amalgamated with the mercury in this process, the temptation was great to use the inferior metals mixed with the gold, and which accounts for so many different tints and colours in mercurial gilding. In operating upon richly-chased articles, the gilding being brushed on whilst in a semi-fluid state, the more prominent parts (those most exposed to wear) were least covered with gold, whilst the indentations received an unnecessary quantity, sometimes to the injury of the work.

We merely design to call attention to this new illustration of the important fact that science is the true friend of the operative, and that every improvement in manufactures, whether chemical or mechanical, serves to advance the general cause of humanity.

*The Old Forest Ranger.* By Captain C. Campbell, H.E.I.C.S. London: How.

This handsome volume very appropriately appears at a time when there seems a probability of England being disforested and delivered from that remnant of feudal barbarism which commanded the preservation of wild animals to the prevention of cultivation. Captain Campbell consoles the lovers of true sport by opening to them "fresh fields and pastures new," where the sportsman will be welcomed as the friend of the husbandman, and where preserves are jealously guarded by the heat of gamekeepers—the tiger and the boa constrictor. His exciting descriptions of oriental sport make us ashamed of our *battues*, which are no better than slaughter in a poultry yard, and our coursing matches, in which war is waged against helplessness and timidity. Now that steamers regularly traverse the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean, and that the transit of the Egyptian desert presents no little difficulty as a journey from London to Edinburgh some twenty years ago, we may be allowed to hope that tiger-hunting will occupy the place of the fox-chase, that the encounter with the wild boar will be preferred to the pursuit of the timid hare, and that a few heads and skins of bears will be regarded as more honourable trophies than brushes and scents. Captain Campbell's spirited descriptions of oriental sport are so inviting, that we should not be surprised to hear of parties being formed in London for Bengal jungles instead of Scottish moors, and the monthly mail being waited for with the same anxiety to hear of the locale of wild elephants as Scottish letters are expected to tell the prospects of grouse.

*The Game Laws.*—Our worthy member for East Suffolk, Lord Rendlesham, is wise in his generation.—An order has been given to destroy and extirpate all hares and rabbits off the Rendlesham estate. It is a pity that the noble lord should have waited to issue such an order till Mr. Bright had obtained a committee of inquiry—till a searching investigation into game-preserving in Suffolk should have been at hand, and till Sir Robert Peel had thrown out the hint that the best way to defeat Mr. Bright would be for gentlemen to assume the appearance of a little moderation, and to "extirpate" their rabbits and hares. Lord Rendlesham is a very good tactician. He is quite prepared for the inquiry now. It will look very well in evidence that an order has been given to destroy and extirpate all hares and rabbits off the Rendlesham estate. Pray let the date of the order be added to it.— *Ipswich Express.*

## AGRICULTURE.

### A SECOND CHAPTER ON LEASES.

#### WHAT A LEASE SHOULD BE.

We resume the important subject of leases in continuation of our article of the 15th instant. We have shown that the leases now in use are in substance identical with those of 1792, and they are nothing better than fetters on an intelligent agriculturist. Even farmers of eminence still recommend the insertion of minute regulations as the means of improving the system of particular districts. Thus, Professor Low, in his excellent work "On Landed Property," says:—"It has been sometimes contended that the real interests of the landlord and tenant being the same with respect to preserving the productive state of the farm, it is unnecessary to lay the tenant under any restraints during the first period of his lease; and that restrictive covenants should be confined to the latter years of it, when the interests of the parties become different. The tenant's interest, however, is not in all cases a sufficient guarantee to the landlord that a farm will be properly managed; we cannot know what the condition of a tenant may become during the course of an extended term, and no power ought to be given to the lessee of injuring at any time the subject intrusted to him." And he afterwards adds—"And there can be no hardship in binding the lessee to follow a suitable course of management;" and he then goes on to prescribe various modes in which stipulations enforcing good and restraining bad courses of cropping, according to present notions, may be framed. Now, doubtless, this looks, at first sight, somewhat plausible; but, notwithstanding the eminent authority from which it proceeds, it is mere fallacy. On this point we must go a little into detail. The great difference between the old form of lease and that recommended by Mr. Low is, that the one attempts to prescribe a course of good husbandry by positive regulations, the other attempts the same thing by negative rules. The former required so many ploughings to be given, so much lime or manure to be spread on particular portions of the land, or at particular times, and so on; while the latter directs that the tenant shall not have less than a certain quantity of grass or fallow, or other than a certain succession of grain crops, and so forth. Now, the principle of these plans is the same; the mode of carrying them out only being different. Both seek to induce, by minute regulations, what the framer of the lease deems to be good farming, and both are founded upon the

same apprehension that some permanent injury can be done to the land by a tenant during the currency of the lease. We freely admit that the negative regulations are in most respects far better than the old positive rules; but that is simply because they are practically less restrictive. We say distinctly, that all restrictions as to the course of cropping, except during the last four years, or perhaps, in some cases, during the last six years of the lease, are quite unnecessary for the landlord's protection, and are positively injurious to the tenant. If the tenant is bound during each of the last four years of the term to have one-fourth of his arable land under a proper state of fallow cropping, the landowner is amply protected. Without such a stipulation it is just possible that during the last two years—it could scarcely be longer—the tenant might have all his land under corn crops, and for a year or two afterwards there would be no land in proper course for grain. We shall presently show that this is the only consequence which by the present scheme of leases can be guarded against. Except for the last few years of a term, no tenant can, with the slightest prospect of benefit to himself, scourge his land by too frequent repetitions of grain crops; and nothing but the chance of an extravagant price, promised by the Corn Laws, could have ever induced occupiers so far to forget their own interests as to make such attempts. Now, however, no reasonable man would undertake a lease without assuming that the Corn-Law delusion is at an end, and that none but moderate prices can henceforth be expected. Quantity of produce is now on all hands admitted to be the farmer's only security; and to grow a large quantity by a system scourging to the land is impossible.

But a little reflection will show those acquainted with practical farming that none of the regulations by which it is attempted to bind "the lessee to follow a suitable course of management" will protect the land from any injury it can receive from bad farming, or induce a bad farmer to farm well.

Mr. Low says:—"A general rule to be inserted in every lease is, that no two crops of white corn, or any two crops of the same kind, shall follow one another in immediate succession." And other modern agriculturists have proposed that the tenant shall be simply required in every case to grow a corn crop and a fallow or green crop alternately. Upon the greater part of the soil of this country, and in the lands of the great majority of occupiers, such a course of alternate husbandry is that which the tenant's own interest would

dictate. But the rule is by no means invariable, nor is the absolute superiority of the alternate system of husbandry so proved to be universally applicable, as to make its adoption a binding "rule to be inserted in every lease." We will give two instances, which have occurred within our own observation, on soils of a directly opposite character, in which the rule has been departed from with great advantage.

Upon a stubborn and tenacious clay soil a very skilful farmer has adopted the following rotation with most complete success:—First year, wheat; second year, oats—one-half of which is sown with clover; third year, one-half clover, the other half fallowed for turnips; fourth year, the clover ley is sown with winter tares, which are fed off with fatting sheep, and then follows a bastard fallow; the turnips having been fed off by fatting sheep and cattle, are followed by spring tares or coleseed, also eaten off by sheep. Then the land is ready for wheat again. The peculiar advantage of this rotation is that most of the working of the land is done in the autumn, and the action of the atmosphere through the winter effects that disintegration of the soil which alone can ensure the fertility of tenacious land.

The other case is that of a farm on a light gravelly soil, but which is farmed highly. By means of high farming and heavy dressings of chalk and clay it has assumed the appearance of rich garden ground; and there the tenant—following in other respects the four-course system of turnips, barley, grass, and wheat—often, though not always, takes a crop of oats immediately after the wheat. Here are two instances in which first-rate farmers find it to their interest to depart from this assumed general rule of alternate cropping; and in each case the landlord is not injured, for both farms are immeasurably higher in fertility than any others in their respective districts, on which the alternate system is strictly observed.

Again, on the light-land farm last mentioned, its skilful tenant intends this year to sow barley and clover-seeds in the same field on which a moderately good crop of barley was grown last year; and the particular scheme of the farm in connexion with its high state of tillage, renders such a departure from a rule generally binding, not merely justifiable, but affords proof of the farmer's knowledge of his business. Here we have distinct violations of each particular comprised in the rule Mr. Low thinks should be "inserted in every lease;" and we hesitate not to say that in each instance the non-observance of his rule would meet the approval of that able writer.

On the other hand, the grain crops, the grass, and the fallows may follow each other in the most approved order, and by the most scientific proportions, yet the fertility of the land shall be low, the soil full of weeds, and altogether out of condition; and still all the express regulations of the old lease and the implied rules of its modern prototype shall have been observed. It is quite obvious, therefore, that, though leases at present in use may restrict the operations of tenants injuriously, they do not secure, or even promote, good farming. Does not this indicate that the principle on which leases have hitherto been framed is erroneous? Let us try this by an inquiry as to what are the objects and wants of modern husbandry? These will all be found to be comprehended under the term capital. The great want of agriculture is larger capitals than are usually applied in working farms; the main object of all successful farmers is to increase the acreable produce. The man who farms with a capital of £5 to the acre would probably farm at a loss the same land on which a farmer with £10 to the acre would make a fair profit; while a man bringing £15 to the acre would obtain gains beyond the other greater in proportion than the amount of his capital. This is not a matter which admits of dispute; it is not disputed. The problem, then, is, how to attract capital to agriculture.

The frame of a lease will do much either to advance or retard that object. It should contain no restrictions which are not indispensable for the security of the owner of the land; and these will be found much fewer than are commonly supposed. First, the provisions for payment of rent may be made as stringent as is consistent with the ordinary course of business; as, for instance, if not paid within a month after the fixed day of payment the landlord might be entitled to resume possession. So, if the buildings be allowed to fall into dilapidation, the landlord might fairly be entitled to eject the lessee. Again, if the land be permitted to become waste, or in bad condition, it would be only equitable to enable the owner to determine the term. In either of the above cases it would be the withdrawal of capital from the land, which would give the owner a title to put an end to the lease. But, besides relieving the lessee from restrictions which prevent him from freely applying his capital to the soil, it is desirable that the land in his hands should have a commercial value. He should be able to sell, or to mortgage, or to settle his interest in the term; and if it were made a condition in the lease that every ac-



ignee of the term, whether absolute as a purchaser, or qualified as a mortgagee, should enter into a direct covenant with the landlord for the due performance of the stipulations of the lease, the performance of the lease would be benefited rather than injured by landlord would be benefited rather than injured by repeated transfers of the lease, because he would obtain the guarantee of each successive assignee for the strict performance of its conditions. This is analogous to what takes place with respect to house property in populous towns. Leases of land might thus become objects of speculation and investment. Mr. Hayter, M.P., in the fourth volume of the "Royal Agricultural Society's Journal," gives details of improvements effected by him on a farm of his own in Buckinghamshire, where, by an outlay of something less than £2000 on 250 acres of land, for which 20s. an acre had been asked without finding a tenant, he obtained an increased yearly value of £117. Now, suppose a tenant had taken that farm, and, in order to effect the improvements, had wanted £500 or £1000 above his own capital, there would have been a beneficial interest available as a security. And this, let it be remembered, is besides and beyond the improvements which would be effected by a long-continued course of good husbandry. In all other businesses many of those who have skill and activity borrow some portion of their capital from those who merely wish for interest without personal exertion; and why should not this take place in agriculture? Such transactions would be universally beneficial. Farmers would have opportunities of increasing their profits, landlords would find their rents secure, capitalists would have a new and secure field for investment opened, while the public would benefit by the general increase of production.

#### FARMERS ACTING FOR THEMSELVES.

A very remarkable meeting took place at St. Albans on Wednesday last, which denotes most forcibly the waning influence of landlordism. Our readers will recollect a correspondence between the Earl of Essex, a game-preserver, and Mr. John Hornecastle, one of his lordship's tenants, a victim to the game nuisance, with reference to the damage done by game on his lordship's estate in Hertfordshire. And no one who adverts to that correspondence—which appeared in the LEAGUE of the 28th of December last—can fail to observe the contrast between the shabby sentiments and disingenuous sophistries of the peer, and the straightforward and convincing statements of the tenant-farmer. Probably nobody felt this more than his lordship, for he forthwith served Mr. Hornecastle with a notice to quit his farm.

The tone of Lord Essex in defending the game laws and the practice of game-preserving was peculiarly offensive, not merely to the occupiers of his own farms, but to the tenant-farmers of the county at large; and Mr. Hornecastle's spirited exposure of his lordship was therefore deemed, and justly deemed, by the tenant-farmers of Hertfordshire to be a service rendered to their order. They accordingly commenced a subscription for the purpose of presenting to Mr. Hornecastle a testimonial of the esteem in which they held his right yeomanly service. No less than 241 tenant-farmers of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, occupying altogether 65,000 acres of land, contributed to this testimonial, which was presented to Mr. Hornecastle, on Wednesday, at a public dinner.

That true friend to agriculture, and ornament of his order, Mr. C. H. Lattimore, occupied the chair upon the occasion; and in his practical speech will be found some striking illustrations of that most noxious remnant of feudalism—the game laws.

Mr. Bright, too, was present, having been invited by the committee. A report of the proceedings will be found in another column, and to which we must refer the reader for details. But the composition of the meeting, and the spirit which animated it, require to be especially noticed. First, then, it must be noted that the subscribers to the testimonial consisted of men of every shade of opinion. Protectionists and Free-Traders, Whigs, Tories, and Radical politicians, cordially united to do honour to the tenant-farmer who had with so much credit to himself vindicated his order from the aspersions of a haughty landed magnate. This sentiment pervaded the meeting. And although such men had some tale to tell of wrongs endured by himself or his connexions, or his neighbours, at the hands of the landowners, not a syllable indicative of personal hostility, spleen, or irritation was uttered. Nothing approaching to vituperation appeared in any of the speeches. On the contrary, the utmost anxiety to render a full share of respect to rank and station, wherever accompanied by any personal qualities worthy of respect, was manifested. Even the Earl of Essex himself was referred to with that tone of abstinent moderation which declines to visit upon an individual the indignation a vicious system has excited. And no sentiment was more generally responded to than that the farmers as a body would with pleasure maintain enough game for real sport, provided their land-

lords would confide in them by not making reservations of the right of sporting. Yet this very moderation only rendered the determination of the meeting to think and act for themselves the more conspicuous. They felt that by doing honour to their spirited neighbour they proved their determination to emancipate themselves from the thralldom of landlordism; and they exhibited that feeling in a manner which gave the lie to all the calumnies uttered by the landlords, their agents, and their tools against the class of tenant-farmers. The meeting was composed of men of experience and intelligence, most of them occupiers of large farms, men not easily led to join in public agitation or political conflict. There was scarcely a man present who did not regret the existing necessity for denouncing the system of feudalism they were met to put down. It was a body of men compelled to assert their own rights against the oppressions of the landowners, for whom they entertained an instinctive reverence, which they regretted to discover their reason could not sanction. We have reason to know that amongst those present there were some who did not regard the presence of Mr. Bright altogether without misgivings. They had listened to the landlords' aspersions of the League, and they did not feel absolutely certain that there was not a little truth in the political landlords' assertion that the Free-Traders sought to advance the interests of their own class at the expense of the industrious agriculturists. But Mr. Bright had not spoken twenty sentences before these doubts and misgivings cleared away like mists before the sun. The earnest, direct, ay, and the business-like reasoning of the middle-class legislator carried conviction to the honest minds of the tenant-farmers, that the interests of those who employ their capital and their industry in manufactures are identical with those who by their skill and capital seek to gain a competence by the cultivation of the soil.

We never saw such a decisive effect produced upon an audience as by that speech. It was certainly a masterly effort—lucid, eloquent, and earnest. But its power over the meeting arose mainly from its obvious truthfulness. The farmers saw at once that the game-nuisance by which they suffered so severely is only part of a system of wrong founded upon the dominancy of a landed aristocracy; and that the tenant-farmers have been the main instruments in upholding the wrong, and the first victims of its oppressions. So palpable was this, that though Mr. Bright strictly abstained from direct reference to the Corn-Law question, yet, in proving the case against the game laws, the incidental application of the same reasoning against the Corn Laws as another part of the same system, became so strict that the audience instantly drew the right conclusion. A great number of gentlemen distinctly declared that they entered the room protectionists, but should leave it Free-Traders. And this is the conclusion to which the game-law question will ultimately lead farmers. They are beginning to see that the landlords, who, having ravaged their tenant's crops to support game, compensate them by a paltry present of the dead vermin; and those who, by means of a Corn Law, secure for themselves permanently high rents, though the tenants get only occasionally high prices, are guilty of wrongs in principle the same. Nor will this meeting—which was the spontaneous act of the tenant-farmers, one in which, as the chairman remarked, neither a landlord nor land-agent had taken part—prove fruitless. Nothing was more warmly responded to than the suggestion made by more than one speaker, that the farmers must act for themselves in public affairs, and elect some of their representatives in Parliament from their own class. We believe that this will be done or attempted to be done in more than one county at the next election; and when the first tenant-farmer appears at the table of the House of Commons as the representative of an agricultural constituency, the emancipation of rural industry from the oppressions of landlordism will be at hand. That will, indeed, "be a day of jubilee and rejoicing for the tenant-farmers." The political and social fate of the tenant-farmers of England is in their own hands. Are they equal to the emergency? Having marked the spread of sound opinion amongst them during the last six months, and bearing in mind the temper of the late meeting at St. Albans, we say deliberately they ARE.

**WEEKLY HALF HOLIDAY IN A MILL.**—Messrs. G. and J. Smith, silk manufacturers, Lower Mosley-street, Manchester, have commenced giving their workpeople a holiday on Saturday afternoon. We are informed that the greater part of the hands, 900 in number, are paid weekly wages.

**GAME PRESERVING ABANDONED.**—We are informed that our late High Sheriff, Joseph Yorke, Esq., of Northampton-court, near Towkesbury, has abandoned game-preserving and broken up his staff of keepers. This is a tribute to the "spirit of the age," which we are happy to have an opportunity of recording. The horrible conflicts which the preserving system has lately given rise to make one shudder; while there can be no doubt that the land can be made incalculably more valuable in a cultivated state, which, both to the owner and the public, is worthy consideration.—*Gloucester Journal.*

#### NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW-LEAGUE.

**GRAND FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.**—The Ladies' Committee for promoting the success of the FREE-TRADE BAZAAR begs respectfully to announce that a MEETING of LADIES will be HELD in the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, Regent-street, on FRIDAY next, the 4th of APRIL, at one o'clock precisely, to hear addresses from W. J. Fox, Esq., and GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq. Tickets of admission may be had on application at the Offices of the League, 67, Fleet-street.

MARIANNE TAYLOR, Hon. Sec.

#### GREAT LEAGUE MEETING IN COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

**THE NEXT AGGREGATE MEETING** of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be HELD on WEDNESDAY SE'NNIGHT, the 9th of APRIL. GEORGE WILSON, Esq., will take the Chair at SEVEN O'CLOCK precisely. The Meeting will be addressed by RICHARD CORDEN, Esq., M.P.; COLONEL THOMPSON; and W. J. FOX, Esq. Tickets of admission to all parts of the House may be had as usual at 67, Fleet-street. Seats will in future be reserved for all Farmers who may make application at the Offices of the League, up to the hour of meeting; and their attendance, whether favourable or opposed to Free Trade, is especially requested.

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, March 29, 1845.

The preparations for the Bazaar are now in a state of forwardness which enables us to announce positively that it will open about the first week in May; and we therefore earnestly recommend our friends to exert themselves vigorously during the brief interval that is available. The ladies of the London Committee report very favourably on the general interest which the prospect of the Free-Trade Bazaar has excited; and though the size of the metropolis offers great difficulties to anything like a general canvass of all the friends of our cause, yet so eager have been the several persons engaged in the task that we believe there will be few metropolitan districts left unvisited by those ladies who have volunteered their services. They feel that they are engaged in a work of true charity and genuine philanthropy; they know that the removal of restrictions on commerce will bring employment to those who are reluctantly idle, and food to those who are inadequately fed; and they are thoroughly convinced that the Corn Laws inflict a double curse, by increasing the price of food, and diminishing the means of earning its price. The reports which these ladies give of their reception in the houses they have visited are very gratifying; the recent exhibition of monopolist rapacity in the grease-and-lard debate has confirmed the zealous Free-Traders, has fixed the wavering, has won over many opponents, and shaken the confidence of more. The approaching demonstration has thus assumed an interest and importance as great as ever attached to any former movement of the League. It will be a manifestation of the strength of sympathy for those whose labour is cheap and whose bread is dear; of anxiety for the welfare of a generation rising into active life with restrictions placed on the means by which that generation is to be maintained and subsisted, and of honourable zeal for the general prosperity of their common country.

The mission of woman is the establishment of peace, love, and unselfishness; it is, therefore, opposed to a system of incessant strife for paltry and petty gains, which wars against humanity for the sake of a penny on the poor man's loaf, or a farthing on the infant's butter—it is opposed to a system which prevents the growth of affection by permitting one class to profit by unjust exaction, and fills the other class with just resentment against such preposterous injustice—it is opposed to a system which trains the children of monopoly into a selfishness that stoops to investigate every item in the poor man's larder, to complain that his flour is too cheap, his meat obtained at too low a rate, and the farthing he uses as a substitute for butter, exonerated from the tax it paid to support the hounds of noble dukes and illustrious squires. In any way, in every way in which God and man can be served, it is the mission of woman to serve gracefully, peaceably, and efficiently. God points the way; His angels have declared that "Glory to God in the Highest" is conjoined with "Peace on earth, good will towards men." Let His missionaries follow; let them seek peace and pursue it—let them by their example stimulate, by their energies advance, by their sympathies comfort, and by their influence save. It is the cause of human nature; it is the cause of their own children claiming their birthright at their hands.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

**SWITZERLAND.**—A despatch from Prince Metternich had been received by the President of the Swiss Diet, after its sitting of the 20th, intimating the intention of Austria, in conjunction with France and England, to interfere in suppressing any further insurrectionary movement which might threaten to disturb or annihilate the act which constituted Switzerland a body politic recognised by Europe. The Diet had, on the 19th, adopted the first only of the four articles proposed by the commission relative to the free corps, the forming and arming of which, without the consent and co-operation of the cantonal governments, was declared to be inconsistent with the sense and aim of the Federal Compact. The Diet, having closed its deliberations, stands adjourned *sine die*. According to the *Nonnulliste Vaudois*, the free corps stationed in the neighbourhood of Aarau, in Argovia, had ten pieces of artillery, and would certainly invade the territory of Lucerne, if the Diet should separate (as they have done) without decreeing the expulsion of the Jesuits. In the canton of Vaud the Methodists were "cruelly" persecuted by the Protestants, and at L'Aigle, Morges, and Lausanne they had even been expelled from their meeting-houses.

**CONSTANTINOPLE.**—Letters from Constantinople of the 7th inst. mention that a serious mutiny had broken out among the Albanian recruits who had recently arrived in that city, in consequence of their pay having been withheld. The mutiny was at length put down; but not until several of the regular troops had been wounded. Five of the mutineers were ordered to receive five hundred strokes of the bastinado upon their feet.

**ACCOUCHMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHESS OF RUSSIA.**—Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess of Russia was safely delivered of a prince on the 10th instant, at St. Petersburg. This happy event has been productive of unmixed joy to the Imperial Family. The infant prince has received the name of Alexander.

**THE LATE ACCIDENT AT ALGIERS.**—The *Akbar* of Algiers, of the 13th instant, states that the clearing of the ruins of the late disastrous explosion was still going on. On the 11th the labourers in this sad duty discovered a party of nine soldiers, who were crushed while playing at cards. Some of them still held the cards in their hands. *Galliani*.—The *Débat* publishes a letter from Algiers, which throws a sort of confirmation over the report that the explosion was a wilful act. It is stated that the body of an unknown Moor or negro was found in the ruins. If this be true, this man must have devoted himself to destruction under the influence of fanaticism against the French.

**UNITED STATES.**—The packet ship *George Washington*, which left New York on the 6th instant, arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday afternoon, bringing important intelligence from the United States. The bill for the annexation of Texas passed the Senate on the 27th of February, by a majority of two only; the Representatives on the 28th; and was returned, with the signature of the President, on the 1st inst. It seems to have created but little excitement, and all parties are awaiting the result of its reception by the Texas Government. The Mexican Minister has, in the interim, declared his intention of protesting against the measure. An express has been forwarded to his Government to announce the passing of the bill. The Oregon Occupation Bill was moved in the Senate on the 3rd, and on a vote was lost by 24 yeas and 21 nays. The cause of this is stated to be the intimation from Mr. Tyler, that matters were in a fair way for a speedy settlement with Great Britain. The Reduction of Postage Bill has passed both Houses amid a perfect storm of opposition. The rate for letters is fixed at five cents under 300 miles, and double that sum for a farther distance. Florida and Iowa have been admitted formally into the Union as states, swelling the number of states to twenty-eight, and, as the papers remark, "not including Texas." On the 14th of March, James K. Polk, in the presence of some 30,000 people, entered upon his career as President of the United States. His inaugural address is tempered with moderation, and has evidently been written to gain favour with both parties. He goes for Texas, Oregon, and every other territory that can be gained constitutionally. A revenue tariff is recommended, protection to be the contingent only; but no specific alteration is threatened. He goes against abolition and a national bank, and condemns repudiation, expressing a hope that the defaulting states will "pay up" as the late pressure of circumstances under which they have laboured shall have died away. The concourse of people at Washington is stated to have been greater than on any previous occasion.

**HAYTI.**—The brig *Republic*, Captain Smith, arrived on the 5th instant at New York from Port Republic, whence she sailed on the 21st ult. It appears that Hayti cannot remain quiet. With elements enough to become a comparatively wealthy republic, she is rapidly going to ruin. Another revolution was on the eve of breaking out when the Republic sailed. It was expected that the ex-President Riviera Herard would return from Jamaica, in order to regain the power he once possessed. Preparations were making to receive him with open arms by his friends, and on bayonets by those opposed to him. If taken, he will of course be shot.

**WEST INDIES.**—The royal mail steam-ship *Severn* arrived at Southampton, from the West Indies, on Saturday night. Her dates are, from Jamaica to the 23rd of Feb., Hayti the 25th; St. Thomas the 1st, and Falmouth the 15th, of March. From the very favourable season, as well as from the improving cultivation, a larger crop of sugar will be produced in the West Indies than has been obtained for many years. Jamaica, it is said, will make 50,000 hhds., Dominica 15,000, and the other islands one-third to a half more than usual. Agricultural improvements are paid considerable attention to, and the plough and other implements of husbandry are fast coming into use, beneficially replacing manual labour, and no doubt will in the end enable the West India planter to compete with slave-grown sugar.

**INDIA AND CHINA.**—The intermediate Indian mail, bringing dates from Calcutta to the 8th ult., and from Madras to the 21st of December, has arrived. The political news is exceedingly unimportant, being confined to an announcement that a rather considerable British army is concentrating near the Sutlej, to provide against any contingencies which may spring out of the present disturbed state of the Punjab. The mercantile accounts continue unfavourable, especially from Calcutta, where the prices of English manufactures were still low. Great loss and

inconvenience have been experienced by parties engaged in the opium trade, from the flagrant adulterations practised by the growers of, or the dealers in, Malwa opium. These have been carried to such a length that the article is almost entirely unsaleable.—In Seinde some abatement had, happily, taken place in the ravages of disease and death. According to a writer in the *Friend of India*, the authorities have prohibited, by the severest restrictions, any officer from communicating the amount of loss to which the British troops have been subjected by the diseases peculiar to that land of pestilence.—Reports received, *via* Lahore, represent Afghanistan, which was recently infected by the plague, as now visited by famine. Dost Mahomed had recently narrowly escaped assassination. When out riding a band of conspirators suddenly fell upon him; they wounded him severely, but he escaped with life.

## DOMESTIC.

The execution of John Tawell, for the murder of Sarah Hart, took place yesterday (Friday) morning at Aylesbury, in the presence of an immense concourse of people. He appeared not to have died for at least five minutes after the fatal drop had fallen. It was expected that the wretched man would be received with groans and execrations by the crowd, but we are pleased to be able to say that no such disgraceful proceeding took place. On the contrary, a most decorous and becoming silence was observed, and not a word escaped to distract him in his last moments. It appears that Tawell drew up a confession some days since, of which he made a copy at a quarter to five o'clock on Friday morning. This statement he placed in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Cox, the chaplain, which he begged of that gentleman to keep, but said that he had no objection to the substance of it being made known to the public. The statement will be so far satisfactory to the public that it takes away all doubt as to the guilt of the deceased. He confessed that he was guilty of the murder of Sarah Hart, and also that he was guilty of the attempt to murder her on the previous occasion, in September last, as stated on the trial. He also confessed that he did not commit the murder from pecuniary motives, but from the dread that the relation in which he stood towards Sarah Hart would transpire and come to the ears of his wife.—*Sun*.

The increased grant to Maynooth will be proposed by Sir R. Peel on the 3rd of April. Mr. Ward has given notice of an amendment, "That all further money grants for the purpose of religion be made out of the funds appropriated for the maintenance of the Protestant Episcopal Church."

On Saturday afternoon an explosion took place in the manufactory belonging to Messrs. Robeson and Highams, patent signal-light manufacturers, near Poplar, by which a fine young girl, and a young man named Henry Jones, lost their lives.

A butcher at Nottingham has succeeded to a fortune, variously estimated at from £4000 to £16000, by the death of his mother, who was transported for uttering base coin about 30 years ago, but afterwards reformed, married again, and amassed considerable wealth.—*Globe*.

The Council of Manchester, on Monday last, resolved, by a unanimous vote, to purchase of Sir E. Mosley, the lord of the manor of Manchester, all the manorial rights and properties, for the sum of £200,000; of which £5000 only is to be paid down (as a deposit), and the corporation is not to be compellable to pay in liquidation of the purchase-money more than £1000 a year, but with an option on their part to increase that payment to £6000 a year. The corporation is to pay interest on the unpaid amount, at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum; the payment of the principal being secured by mortgages.

The first cargo of Java sugar with a certificate of origin has arrived in London from Batavia, imported by Messrs. Thornton and West. Under the new act this will be admitted at a duty of 23s. 4d. per cwt., instead of 35s. 9d., as regulated last year. A destructive fire broke out on Thursday evening, in the Apothecaries-hall, Colquitt-street, Liverpool. The story in which it broke out was filled with an immense quantity of castor oil, almond oil, and balsam of capivi, all highly inflammable substances. In the top story there was a large quantity of empty castor-oil picking cases, whilst the other stories contained a vast variety of chemicals and drugs more or less inflammable. It need scarcely be wondered then that the flames progressed with the greatest rapidity and intensity. The loss is roughly estimated, including building, stock, and machinery, there being a graining-mill and steam-engine on the ground-floor besides other valuable pieces of machinery, at £50,000.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

Saturday the wretched man, Thomas Jennings, suffered the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of his daughter at the village of Thatcham, in front of the new gaol, Reading, Berkshire, in the presence of nearly six thousand persons.

Some day a lengthened inquiry took place in the board-room of Chelsea workhouse, before Mr. Wakley, on view of the body of Mary Ann Murray, aged 32, who destroyed herself by cutting her throat whilst in a state of phrenzy, having been detected in the act of shoplifting on the premises of Mr. Saunders, haberdasher, of King's-road, Chelsea. Verdict—"Temporary insanity, from the dread of prosecution."

On Monday morning the unfortunate young man, Jas. Topping, who, at the last session of the Central Criminal Court, was convicted of the wilful murder of Emma Whittier, at Bethnal-green, by shooting her with a pistol, expired his offence by suffering on the drop in the front of Newgate, in the presence of a concourse of some five or six thousand persons. During some of his conversations with the Rev. Mr. Davis, the Ordinary, he expressed his deep regret at having frequented the beer and singing houses, in the neighbourhood of Bethnal-green, and said he was convinced that to them were to be attributed the misfortune and ruin of both himself and the unhappy girl. The present destitute state of the culprit's family has excited a feeling of much commiseration, and a subscription has been set on foot amongst the tradesmen in Bethnal-green to in some way alleviate their sufferings.

The Rev. R. Toxley, a native of Lancaster, and who was ordained a minister of the Church of England about four or five years ago by the Bishop of Chester, has lately left the Church, and, it is said, taken nearly the whole of his congregation with him. The sect to which he has joined himself are called *Salomonites*.—*Liverpool Chron.*

A society is about to be established for the purpose of raising the condition of governesses, and of improving the means of preparatory education, which is to enable them

to undertake the instruction of others. Among the ladies of rank at the head of this society are the Countesses of Mount Edgumbe and Rosebery, Dowager Lady Lyndalton, Lady Noel Byron, and the Hon. Miss Murray.

At the Middlesex sessions, on Wednesday last, an indictment was preferred by Mr. Wakeling, on behalf of the parochial authorities of Clerkenwell, against the persons engaged in the perpetration of the outrages on public decency at the Spafelds burial-ground, which are at present exciting so much attention. The grand jury returned a true bill against Robert Vinnal, William Lang-Green, Francis Green, William Charles Bird, William Green, Tom Smith and Stephen Bishop, labourers, for opening the graves, removing the dead bodies, destroying the coffins, and interring in the burial-ground a greater number of deceased persons than the place could decently contain, in violation of public decency, and against the public health. The trial, it is understood, will not take place this session.

The *Dublin Evening Post* says:—"Our London correspondent informs us in a letter dated Saturday, that Sir Robert Peel does not at present contemplate the abolition of bank notes under £5 in Scotland or Ireland, but that the banks in those countries are to be strictly limited in their issues of small notes to an average of three or five years up to the end of 1844."

A memorial has been received by the Lord Lieutenant from the grand jury and magistracy of the county of Tipperary, praying that some effective measures may be taken to check the outrages at present prevailing to such an alarming extent.

A Repeal banquet was held at Kilkenny on Tuesday, which was attended by Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Smith O'Brien, and other leading Repealers, who all appeared in the new costume of the '82 Club.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE CORN LAWS.**—An important and interesting return, as regards its bearing upon the operation of the laws affecting the importation and consumption of corn, grain, meal, and flour, has been printed by order of the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. W. Miles, M.P. It appears from this paper that during the year 1844, ending the 5th of January, 1845, the gross total quantity of wheat and wheat flour imported into this country amounted to 1,381,875 quarters; viz., 1,145,883 quarters of foreign, and 235,992 quarters of colonial, produce and growth. The quantity entered for home consumption during the same period amounted to 1,026,976 quarters, of which 791,385 quarters were of foreign, and 235,591 quarters of colonial, growth and produce. The quantities remaining in the warehouse at the close of the year 1844 amounted altogether to 439,823 quarters. The largest importations of wheat and wheat flour appear to have taken place in the months of May, June, July, August, and September, and the smallest in the months of February and December. The quantities thrown upon the market, or, in other words, entered for home consumption, amounted in the month of July to 427,623 quarters, and in that of August to 187,504 quarters, or about two-thirds of the whole quantity entered for home consumption in 1844. The monthly average price of wheat in England and Wales was, in January, 1844, 51s. 1d.; in February, 53s. 5d.; in March, 56s. 3d.; in April, 55s. 4d.; in May, 55s. 6d.; in June, 55s. 8d.; in July, 54s. 4d.; in August, 50s.; in September, 46s. 4d.; in October, 46s. 2d.; in November, 45s. 11d.; and in December 45s. 3d. per quarter: thus showing that the price of wheat was never higher than 42s. 16s. 3d., nor lower than 42s. 5s. 3d. per quarter, giving opportunity for a difference between the two extreme prices of only 11s. a quarter. The total quantities of barley imported in 1844 amounted to 1,022,076 quarters, of which 1,029,021 quarters were entered for home consumption; the total quantity of oats and oatmeal imported to 301,757 quarters, of which 264,854 were entered for home consumption; the total quantities of rye and rye-meal imported to 26,591 quarters, and the total quantities entered for domestic consumption to 28,777; the total importation of peas to 109,176 quarters, and the quantities entered for home consumption to 122,984 quarters; and the total importation of beans to 154,552 quarters, and the total quantities entered for domestic consumption to 225,680 quarters. It further appears, according to this return, that the total quantity of corn, meal, and flour, the growth of Ireland, imported into Great Britain from the former country, amounted to 2,801,206 quarters, of which 410,153 quarters consisted of wheat and wheat flour, and 2,424,310 quarters of oats and oatmeal alone.—*Times*.

**IRISH WHEAT.**—We have been informed of a new branch of trade, which has of late sprung up in this country, and one which threatens to be of vast injury to the country at large. We are told that it is carried on to a great extent throughout all Ireland; and if it be true, of which we have no doubt, having means of proving the fact, it demands the most serious attention of the Government and all agriculturists. It is said that there are certain parties who make a trade of buying up wheat in its pure and unadulterated state in the markets. They at the same time purchase from the great mill-owners, who deal so extensively in flour for exportation, all their mill screenings, which is the small wheat, and dirt and offal of the wheat, for the purpose of mixing it up with the pure wheat, and sending it over to England. There can be no doubt that this is a downright swindle, and that they who practise it ought to be made, if they are not, amenable to the laws.—*Dublin Evening Mail*.

**THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.**—The times behind us are junior: the times before us, senior. The seniority of the world is to come; the juniority of the world is passed. Why do we attribute perfection to the world backward, and to a man, forward?—*Witcher's Aphorisms*.

**LORD HOWICK.**—As a further proof of Lord Howick's attachment to sound commercial principles, we may mention that, in a letter on another subject addressed to a gentleman of this town, his lordship thus writes:—"I am happy to hear that my constituents approve of the part I have taken in the debates on the sugar question, and upon Free Trade generally; and I trust the time is approaching when public opinion will be strong enough to get rid of all those mischievous restrictions upon the freedom of industry which are misnamed protecting duties."—*Sund. Herald*.

**THE FALLOW MINN.**—The mind that lies fallow but a single day, sprouts up in follies that are only to be killed by a constant and assiduous culture.—*Addison*.



**REDUCTION OF THE HOURS OF FACTORY LABOUR.**—The proceedings at the meeting of Mr. Gardner's factory hands have created, as we expected, a lively interest not only throughout the whole of the manufacturing community, but among members of the Legislature. We also hear that Mr. Horner, the inspector of factories for this district, is about to visit Preston, to inquire into the circumstances, so that it is probable an official statement of the results of this important experiment will be laid before Government. We understand that Messrs. Horrocks, Jackson, and Co., of this town, are about to reduce the hours of labour in their mill to eleven daily, as Mr. Gardner has done; and we believe some others of our influential manufacturers will speedily follow in this march of improvement.—*Preston Chronicle*.

**BEETROOT SUGAR.**—Beetroot sugar is now manufactured at Portaferry, and the produce last year (its first attempt) was 115 cwt., subject to 25s. per cwt. duty, same as colonial sugar.

**REVOLUTIONS.**—The most disastrous revolutions are produced by the extreme of physical want; the most happy by wants of a moral kind, physical want being absent. There are many reasons why this should be so, and this amongst others: that extreme physical want is unnatural; it is a disease which cannot be shaken off without a violent and convulsive struggle. But moral and intellectual cravings are but a healthful symptom of vigorous life: before they were felt no wrong was done in withholding their appointed food, and if it be given them when they demand it, all goes on naturally and happily.—*Dr. Arnold*.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—The influx of company at this place shows that the public are not unacquainted with the merits of the exhibition provided by the proprietors, or with the intelligence which is to be gained by the attendance at the lectures of Dr. Ryan and Professor Bachhoffner. The galleries were crowded during the week by an assemblage not only of the common holiday makers, but by that class of persons who, having but a few hours to spare, take the proper advantage afforded them of visiting places in which the useful and the agreeable are united. There was the exhibition of innumerable specimens of scientific and artistic skill; machinery and models almost without number, and lectures on subjects intelligible to all. For those who went there for mere amusement there were the diving-bell and the experiments connected with it, which, leaving science out of the question, were sufficiently odd to astonish and delight; there was the physico-mathematical, the chromatope, and the dissolving views, all good in their kind; the electrical machine, and so many novelties of a smaller scale that it would be tedious to enumerate, and bad taste to dismiss with a hackneyed quotation. This institution has been gradually rising in reputation; it has deserved its success; and the more it is visited by the inquirers after science, the more extended will be the benefits derived from it by the general community.

**THE PREMIER AND THE FARMERS.**—At a late market dinner at Wickham, Mr. Godrich, of Wickham-mill (in the chair), and 42 farmers and others interested in the land being present, after the usual loyal toasts, one of the party proposed the health of Sir Robert Peel, when all the company, excepting the chairman and the proposer, turned down their glasses and refused to drink it! The chairman remonstrated in vain; he said he himself had intended to give the toast, knowing that four-fifths of the company voted to place Sir Robert Peel where he was; still, however, the agriculturists were inexorable; they would recognise their idol no longer.—*Times Telegraph*.

**CENSURE.**—Censure is the tax a man payeth to the public for being eminent.—*Swift*.

**NORWICH WEAVERS.**—On Saturday evening, the handloom weavers of Norwich met at the Bath-house, St. Martin's-at-Oak, to hear a further report of the deputation appointed to wait upon the manufacturers relative to an advance on the present rate of wages. The report set forth that the deputation had waited upon Mr. Willett, who declined to give the advance of 2d. per dozen, but expressed his willingness to give a penny. It was unanimously resolved to accept Mr. Willett's offer, not only as respected him, but the other manufacturers.—*Norwich Mercury*.

**REDUCTION OF THE GLASS DUTY.**—A proposal has been made in Manchester to roof with glass two streets, in the neighbourhood of the Exchange, for the convenience of the congregated merchants.—*Newcastle Journal*.

**QUEBEC.**—SHIP-BUILDING.—Great efforts are making to keep up the mercantile interest of Quebec, particularly in ship-building. In consequence of the cheapness of the quality of timber, as well as of labour, vessels are now building at that port by orders from England. There are now 27 vessels on the stocks, estimated at 1,250 tons, and 2300 men employed. It is supposed that ships are built in Canada at a third less than they are in England.—*New York Sun*.

**CORN MARKET.**—We regret to learn that a large failure has occurred in the Corn-market, the liabilities being estimated at £30,000 in Mark-lane, and £20,000 elsewhere. The firm was very extensively engaged in the flour trade, and is said to have suffered considerably by the speculation of 1841. Some parties think that the amount of the liabilities, from the known magnitude of the business done, must be higher than above stated.—*Globe*.

**THE INCOME-TAX.**—In spite of a score or two of well-founded remonstrances, the income-tax is thrust down the throat of the nation in one hard, unbroken, globular mass, with as little delicacy as a bolus is driven down the gullet of a sick horse.—*Times*.

**FACTION.**—A great faction is many persons, yet but one party, and that is but one opinion. Such a faction is but one man in point of judgment. One free-spirited man is, in this particular, equal to a whole faction.—*Wicksford*.

**INCENDIARISM.**—A fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary, was discovered in a barn belonging to Mr. Harris, of Bletchley, four miles from Drayton and Hodnet, Shropshire, about eight o'clock on the night of Wednesday, the 12th inst., which in a very short time destroyed the barn and some cow-houses attached. Fortunately, there being but little wind, the cattle were all saved. A man in custody, supposed to be the person who set fire to the premises.—*Shropshire Conservative*.

—(4) Thursday the 6th inst., a thatched outhouse in the occupation of Mr. I. Baker, Bovey Tracey, was maliciously set fire to, and but for prompt discovery the consequences would have been most disastrous.—On Thursday last, a shed near the wayside at Huxham, near Mr. J. Heyward's, was set on fire, but fortunately soon extinguished.

**LARGE BREAD.**—We observe by our market note, that Mr. Hughes, Donegall-street bakery, has added 8oz. to his shilling loaf, and has reduced the price of his second quality 4lb. loaf to 5d., thus giving the public the advantage of the recent reduction in the price of flour.—*Belfast Commercial Chronicle*.

**IMPORTATION OF CATTLE UNDER THE TARIFF ACT.**—From the operation of the Tariff Act, from the 19th of July, 1842, to the 5th of January last, there were imported into the United Kingdom 7980 oxen and bulls, 2561 cows, 164 calves, 3645 sheep, 33 lambs, and 1042 swine and hogs.

**PRE-REQUISITES AND CAUSES OF SOCIAL AMELIORATION.**—Private "repentance," individual moral energy, deep personal faith in some great conception of duty or religion, are the pre-requisites and causes of all social amelioration.—*J. Martineau*.

**A FAIR OFFER.**—Sir Robert, we will change with you, if you please. Instead of Free Trade in 430 articles, let us have Free Trade in four only, and we will not bother you any more for a long time to come. These are corn, animal food, butter, and cheese. We ask no more, and we beg to say, we will take no less.—Yours truly, —*TWENTY-SEVEN MILLIONS OF PEOPLE.—The Struggle*.

**MACHINERY.**—The importation of machinery into Russia has augmented, in the last three years, from the value of half a million to one million of roubles, which serves to show that the industrial activity of Russia is greatly advancing.

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. Mar. 23	Mon. Mar. 24	Tues. Mar. 25	Wed. Mar. 26	Thurs. Mar. 27	Fri. Mar. 28
Bank Stock for Ac.	—	216	—	216	216	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	100	100	100	100	99	99
3 1/2 per Ct. Red. Ann. ex d	—	—	—	—	10 1/2	—
Long. An. Ex. 1850	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cons. for Acct.	100	100	—	100	99	99
Exc. Bills, p.m.	62	61	60	53	58	—
Ind. Rds. u. 10007. p.m.	—	—	72	—	72	—
India Stock.	284	284	—	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds.	102	101 1/2	100	—	—	—
Brazilian Bonds.	91 1/2	92	91 1/2	91 1/2	91 1/2	—
Buenos Ayres.	—	—	42	—	—	—
Chilian.	103	101	—	—	—	—
Columb. ex. Venes.	14 1/2	15	15	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Dutch 4 per Cent.	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63 1/2	63 1/2	—	61 1/2	61 1/2	61 1/2
Mexican.	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2
Peruvian.	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Portug. conv.	64	67	67 1/2	67 1/2	66 1/2	67
Spanish 5 per Ct.	29 1/2	30	30 1/2	30	30 1/2	30 1/2
Do. 3 per Cent.	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	—	40 1/2	40 1/2

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

**MARK LANE, Monday, March 24.**—A moderate quantity of Wheat, Barley, and English Oats, and a good supply of Irish Oats, have arrived since this day week. There is not much activity in the Wheat trade, and the advance noted last Monday is barely supported, except on the best qualities. Barley supports the prices of last week. There is no alteration to notice in the price of Oats; to effect extensive sales rather lower rates must be accepted, but holders are not generally willing to submit to a reduction. The arrivals of Beans and Peas are short, but higher rates are not obtained. The frost has broken up, and a good deal of rain fell yesterday, but to-day the weather is fine.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 40 to 54
— Ditto New	42 to 48
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 to 48
— Scotch	42 to 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed	23 to 26
— Ditto ditto .. Potatoes	23 to 26
— Scotch Feed	22 to 24
— Limerick	22 to 23
— Ditto	22 to 23
— Cork	21 to 22
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black	21 to 22
— Sligo	21 to 22
— Galway	20 to 21
Barley	28 to 35
Beans, Mazagan Old 34 to 36	New 34 to 38
— Harrow .. do. 38 to 41	do. 34 to 38
— Small .. do.	42 to 44
Peas, White, New	34 to 38
— Grey	31 to 32
Flour, Town-made	per sack of 280 lbs. 36 to 43
— Norfolk and Suffolk	34 to 36

	PERK. IN MOND.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed	48 to 56
— Rostock	47 to 54
— Stettin	44 to 52
— Hamburg	42 to 48
— Odessa	42 to 48
— Ditto	47 to 50
— Russian	42 to 48
— Ditto	40 to 44
— Spanish	45 to 49
— Ditto	50 to 54
— Australian	56 to 58
Barley, Grindling	26 to 28
— Distilling	29 to 31
Oats, Archangel	22 to 23
— Stralsund	23 to 24
— Dutch Brew	24 to 25
— Poland	19 to 20
Beans, Egyptian	33 to 34
Peas, White	33 to 34
— Ditto Boilers	36 to 38
Flour, Canada	per barrel of 100 lbs. 23 to 26
— United States	26 to 30
— Danzig	26 to 28
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs.	33 to 35

	Wh. Mar. 23	Bar. Mar. 23	Oats. Mar. 23	Beans. Mar. 23	Peas. Mar. 23
English	39 1/2	38 1/2	14 1/2	7 1/2	3 1/2
Scotch	65	11	12 1/2	8 1/2	—
Irish	—	—	19 1/2	—	—
Foreign	—	—	—	—	—

**FRIDAY, March 28.**—The supplies of English Wheat and of Irish Oats since Monday are considerable. Of the former 11,000 quarters have arrived, most of which having gone direct to the millers, the show here is not great. The business doing is quite on a limited scale. Prices remain the same as on Monday. There is still a good deal of English Barley left over from the beginning of the week, and the value is nominally unaltered. 65,000 quarters of Irish Oats, more than appeared in Monday's return, have come up to this day's market. To effect sales a reduction of 6d. to 1s. must be taken. In Beans nothing doing. No alteration in the duty on any article.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	11380	—	—
Barley	4860	—	1020
Oats	4050	55300	—

	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	3916	49s. 0d.	Rye	— 00s. 0d.
Barley	3354	33s. 7d.	Beans	1227 33s. 3d.
Oats	21603	21s. 10d.	Peas	882 34s. 11d.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
15th Feb.	45	4.32	3.21	7.39	6.35	0.35
22nd "	45	2.33	4.21	7.30	2.35	0.35
1st March	45	0.32	3.21	7.33	6.34	9.35
8th "	45	0.32	2.21	7.30	5.34	8.35
15th "	45	1.32	2.21	4.31	1.34	7.35
22nd "	45	5.32	4.21	8.30	5.34	6.35

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 21.

**BANKRUPTS.**

W. HONE, Reading, Berkshire, coach proprietor. [Webb, Lad-lane.]

G. J. CARTER, Hornsey-road, carpenter. [Chambers, Basinghall-street.]

C. S. SWENEY, Chester-place, Hyde-park-square, apothecary. [Wade and Pennington, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.]

P. GROUND, Donnington, Lincolnshire, tallow chandler. [James and Son, Ely-place.]

H. TURNER, Theobald's-road, cowkeeper. [Messrs. Robinson, Queen-street-place.]

B. V. DE BEAULIKU, Regent's-terrace, Commercial-road East, soap manufacturer. [Barren and Cullen, Bloomsbury-square.]

J. L. MACHU, Macclesfield, Cheshire, silk trimming manufacturer. [Cox, Pinner's-hall.]

C. SMITH and B. J. CHAPMAN, Bradford, Yorkshire, and Birkenhead, Cheshire, civil engineers. [Sudlow and Co., Chancery-lane; Lee, Leeds.]

A. V. FULLJAMES, Bath, auctioneer. [Gray, Bristol.]

T. M. EPPERSTON, Nottinghamshire, miller. [Shilton and Son, Nottingham.]

T. ROBINSON, Eccleston, near Prescott, Lancashire, lime burner. [Norris and Co., Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn; Taylor, St. Helen's.]

W. FERGUSON, Liverpool, draper. [Wilkin, Furnival's-inn Wardle, Liverpool.]

W. H. ROBINSON, Leicester, wine and spirit merchant. [Dimmock and Hurbey, Stace-lane; Ludlow, Birmingham.]

R. WOOLFALL, Warrington, Lancashire, butcher. [Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row; Rowe, Liverpool.]

**DIVIDENDS.**

April 11. R. Swansborough and H. Oake, Bread-street, Cheap-alde, warehousemen—April 11. J. S. Christophers, Leadenhall-street, merchant—April 11. C. F. Warran, Houndsditch, china dealer—April 18. J. Ayling, Leeds, cabinet maker—April 16. T. Burton, Bramham, Yorkshire, shoemaker—April 25. C. A. Bradbury, Stockport, Cheshire, draper—April 18. T. Hodgson, Manchester, calico printer—April 16. T. Slater, Burnley, Lancashire, pawnbroker—April 12. T. Beech, Newcastle-under-Lyme, grocer—April 17. J. Morris, Birmingham, victualler—April 17. T. Pretty, Bilton, Staffordshire, grocer—April 16. J. Newbold, Nottingham, tailor—April 12. J. Clarke, Rope-maker-street, Fishbury, carpet manufacturer—April 12. J. Potts, Stoke-upon-Trent, grocer—April 12. M. Hadley, Walsall, Staffordshire, chemist.

**CERTIFICATES.**

April 15. J. B. Rayner and T. S. Carter, Coleman-street, City, lamp manufacturers—April 11. S. Wesley, Long Buckley, Northamptonshire, baker—April 12. R. Harris, Newgate-street, tailors' trimming seller—April 12. B. W. Palmer, Daventry, Northamptonshire, wine merchant—April 11. H. M. Waller, Foulham, Norfolk, merchant—April 14. W. Newton, Bath, coat merchant—April 15. J. E. Vardy, Portsmouth, draper—April 11. N. J. Kempe, Liverpool, shipowner—April 11. R. Bratton, sen., Shrewsbury, cabinet maker—April 11. J. W. Wood, Charlton street, Vauxhall-bridge road, wine merchant—April 11. J. Dine, Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, builder—April 11. J. Smith, Liverpool, draper—April 11. J. Mackay, Liverpool, merchant—April 11. F. E. Blyth, Colchester, Essex, porter merchant—April 11. J. S. Harrows, Wimbledon, Surrey, coal merchant—April 11. S. Parsons, Manchester, paper hanger—April 11. E. Brentnall, Cold Harbour-road, North Brixton, builder—April 11. C. Carter, Saddington, Leicestershire, miller.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.**

The Cambuslang Co-operative Society, Cambuslang, near Glasgow.

## TURSDAY, MARCH 25.

## DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

J. PRITCHARD, Littlehale, Shropshire, builder.

**BANKRUPTS.**

J. CHRISP, Tower-street, wine merchant. [Treherne and White, Barge-yard Chambers.]

W. HODGES, King's Head-yard, Duke-street, Bloomsbury, hide and skin dealer. [Dale, Furnival's-inn.]

S. MAY, Myddleton-street, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer. [Thwaites, Lyon's-inn, Strand.]

T. OVEREND, Watcot-square, Surrey, maltster. [Milne and Co., Temple.]

W. E. JARMAN, Exeter, confectioner. [Stogdon, Exeter; Keddell and Co., Lime-street.]

C. MARTYN, Durham, huedraper. [Abbott, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square; Thompson, Durham; E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.]

J. JONES, Chester, Cheshire, fellmonger. [Bridger and Blake, London-wall; Dodge, Liverpool; Gnocchi, Liverpool.]

M. COFFEY, Liverpool, victualler. [Holmes and Co., London; Booker, Liverpool.]

J. RIKY, Liverpool, merchant. [Bridger and Blake, London-wall; Dodge, Liverpool.]

W. LEDHARD, Wellington, Shropshire, coach proprietor. [Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]

B. ROBINSON, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, draper. [Messrs. Richardson, Burton-upon-Trent.]

**DIVIDENDS.**

April 18. I. J. B. Isaac, Topsham, Devon, shipowner—April 16. J. Norbury, Macclesfield, Cheshire, innkeeper—April 15. H. D. Watkins and J. Innes, Manchester, lease merchants—April 15. A. Wise and Co., Newton Abbott, bankers—April 15. A. Wise, Bantail, and Co., Totnes, bankers—April 15. R. Allison, Whitehaven, Cumberland, ironmonger—April 16. D. Bagg, Freemantle's-buildings, Winchester, whitewash.

**CERTIFICATES.**

April 17. J. W. Robson and Co., Limehouse, patent pump manufacturers—April 17. C. Brooman, Clerkenwell, licensed victualler—April 18. W. Chandler, Minors, druggist—April 14. R. Allison, Whitehaven, Cumberland, ironmonger—April 17. J. Whitlow, Manchester, lace-maker.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**

J. WILSON and CO., Edinburgh, general merchants—J. McALLUM, Newburgh, Fife-shire, shipowner.





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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 82.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quinlan Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Gough, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,  
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return answers pledge themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR MAN, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn-Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE BAZAAR.

Our readers will have observed, from time to time, with much satisfaction, the signs that our columns have afforded of the heartiness and energy with which the conductors of the Free-Trade portion of the country newspaper press interest themselves in the undertaking. Particular acknowledgments of the services rendered by individual members of this most important and influential class of our contributors will be least desired by those to whom they are most due; where the obligations are so numerous and varied, selection would be embarrassing, and distinction invidious. But we must beg to assure our friends of the Free-Trade press in general, that we are deeply sensible of the worth of the aid they have rendered us by their labours as journalists, and (in places where this kind of assistance was especially requisite) by their personal services in charging themselves with the receipt and transmission of contributions. The knowledge that their co-operation is both valuable and valued will, we trust, induce them to improve to the utmost the brief period of time that remains, in stimulating the zeal and quickening the activity of their several localities. We are greatly dependent on them. They speak

directly to thousands and tens of thousands, to whom we can only speak indirectly, through them. The brilliant success which will attend the great national demonstration of next month—and which it is even yet not too late to render more brilliant still—will be very largely owing to the ability and vigour with which we have been throughout supported by the directors of the local organs of Free-Trade opinion. We thank them most warmly; and earnestly invite them to crown their and our common work by an industrious use of the very few opportunities that are now left.

To our friends generally we have little to say on this subject, except to renew our recent appeal for prompt and active exertion, with the increased emphasis required by the rapid contraction of the interval during which exertion will be available. There is now little more than a fortnight remaining. The evening of Wednesday, the 7th of May, will be the term of those efforts which are to render this exhibition worthy of the cause which it is designed to promote, and of the nation whose million-handed industry is about to protest, in the face of the world, against the oppression that chains and starves it. On the morning of the 8th, our Free-Trade Bazaar will open for public view, and on the Monday following the sale will commence. We trust there is not a Free-Trader in Great Britain who will consent to inflict on himself the future mortification of having neglected to aid, either by personal effort or pecuniary contribution, the grandest demonstration of the rights of our national industry, and the most effective and imposing assertion of its rights, that this country has ever witnessed.

One exceedingly desirable species of contribution we can scarcely believe it necessary to solicit very strongly. It will, we cannot doubt, wherever practicable, be rendered spontaneously. We speak of the personal attendance of our friends from the country. All contributors, whose avocations allow of their visiting London next month, will, we hope, complete their services to the good cause by contributing themselves. Let them come and see that magnificent success for which they have laboured

with us, and which they have a right to enjoy with us. We assure them it will be worth their coming to see. That "British Museum" of the products of the industrial genius of this island, which has been accumulating these many months past, and will in a few weeks be dispersed for ever to the four corners of the empire, will, during the brief period of its entireness, afford an exhibition worthier of intelligent curiosity, tasteful admiration, and delighted national pride, than any other that this metropolis offers to the gazing and wondering stranger. A collection of specimens of the very best of everything: that the looms, forges, farms, mines, and drawing-rooms of Great Britain have to show—exhibited to view in that temporary Aladdin's Palace into which artistic taste and talent will convert one of our noblest metropolitan edifices—will be a spectacle worth coming to behold from the farthest west and the remotest north. It is without parallel or precedent in the history of public spectacles, and may be long without a successor. That, in several of the large towns which have contributed to our Bazaar, local exhibitions of the articles about to be sent have been found highly attractive to the public, may be taken as some presage of the splendour of that aggregate collection which will next month be displayed to the world in Covent-garden Theatre. We trust that the facilities to be afforded to visitors, by the arrangements which will be made with the different railway companies, will be very largely improved by the Free-Traders of all parts of the country. We have never looked on the Bazaar only, or even chiefly, as a pecuniary resource. We would make it the occasion of a national Free-Trade jubilee. We would have a grand congress of Free-Traders from north, south, east, and west; that those who are labouring together in one common cause may see and know each other, may rejoice in witnessing the victorious strength of a principle which has all the best heads and hearts of the country on its side, and may mutually give and receive stimulus to redoubled exertions in the great work of industrial emancipation. Nor can there be a fitter occasion for family gatherings, and meetings of old friends under hospitable roofs, than that which will be afforded by the opening of the Free-Trade Bazaar. With peculiar appropriateness may domestic reunions and rejoicings celebrate the triumphant success of an effort consecrated to the aim, not only of making life in England easy, but of uniting closer the bands of universal human brotherhood, widening and deepening

the foundations, and strengthening the securities, of peace on earth and good will among men.

For such is the great and sacred object for which we are working—which, by franchise and registration machinery, aggregate meetings, bazaars, and other modes of action, the Free-Traders of Great Britain are aiming to realize. It is no narrow sectional and class interest—no merely national interest even—that we are labouring for. Our cause is that of humanity and civilization. Monopoly and Free Trade may be respectively characterized in the words with which Miss Martineau has entitled the initial and closing chapters of that volume, the manuscript of which she has munificently contributed in aid of the cause already so deeply indebted to her pen—"NATURE AND MAN AT WAR"—"NATURE AND MAN AT PEACE." The words are there used with reference to another class of topics than those with which we have to do in these columns: but they are most aptly suggestive of the opposite characters and tendencies of the wrong against which we are struggling, and the right for whose assertion and realization we are leagued. Monopoly is "nature and man at war;" human ignorance and selfishness intercepting Divine bounty, obstructing the flow of nature's benefactions to humanity, dooming half the earth to artificial barrenness, smiting fruitful fields as with a curse of perpetual desolation—ready and willing, had they the power, to prohibit fertilizing April showers, and put out bright August sunshine, as authors of "depression" and "distress." Free Trade will be "nature and man at peace;" nature's resources developed to the uttermost by man's industry, her best gifts thankfully accepted, skilfully improved, freely and widely diffused—the earth replenished with the works of man's hand, and subdued into peaceful obedience to man's will.

## MR. MACGREGOR'S SCHEME OF COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL LEGISLATION.

It is not in the nature of governments to increase the production of wealth, except so far as they may protect others whilst producing it, and thus, by securing every man in the enjoyment of his property, give a stimulus to its acquisition and accumulation. It is the legitimate province of governments to afford this kind of protection to the pursuits of industry, and it is the interest of the people to pay for it, taking care that the expenditure of the government is not larger than it need be; but, unfortunately, governments are not satisfied with the only protection which it is their proper province to afford: they impose restrictions in the shape of protective duties upon some trades, and they give bounties for the encouragement of others, and by thus taking from one to give to another they irrationally suppose the national welfare is promoted.

It is incalculable the enormous sacrifices which the people of this country (especially the working classes) have been called upon to make to the ignorance and folly of our rulers. Here is a country such as the world never saw, producing every year an amount of wealth of which history affords no parallel, but owing to its unequal distribution, the consequence of unjust and selfish laws, the great mass of the people are pining in ignorance and poverty.

The social evils resulting from our unwise commercial and financial legislation have recently presented themselves in such an alarming aspect as to excite the anxious interest and inquiry of all who love their country and value its institutions. Like causes produce like effects: a vast body of our people have long been sinking into a state of wretchedness resembling that of the people of France previous to the Revolution, and, probably, nothing but the relief to the destitute afforded by our poor laws has saved us from social convulsions. The returns of the poor-law commissioners for 1842 show that there were no less than 1,429,356 paupers in England and Wales alone (besides Scotland and Ireland), and of these 407,576 were able-bodied adults. We fearlessly assert that there exist means of employment and comfortable subsistence for every able-bodied labourer in England, provided all restrictions on the free exercise of his industry be abolished, and the burdens of taxation be equitably apportioned to every class. Mr. Pitt is the only Minister who appears to have understood and acted on the principles of Free Trade. In 1786 he negotiated with France the most liberal treaty of commerce and navigation which has ever before or since been entered into by this country with any other. The ignorance of our statesmen on this important question subsequently sufficiently accounts



for the appointment of Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Board of Trade, with one or two bright exceptions (Huskisson and Thomson), possessing no information or experience to qualify them for the posts in which they were placed by the Minister of the day for the mere purposes of political support.\* The mischief arising from these appointments during the last twenty years would have been much more extensive had not the subordinate officers of the Board of Trade, the working men, fortunately been men of sound views, great intelligence, and independence of character. Their labours have probably done more to advance the principles of Free Trade than those of previous writers, because they have brought home to the apprehension of common minds such a variety of practical details, illustrative of the evils of monopoly, as to render plain a subject on which the public had previously very confused notions. The letters of H. B. T., on the Corn Laws, by the late James Deacon Hume, Secretary of the Board of Trade; "The Progress of the Nation," by G. R. Porter, of the Board of Trade; and the elaborate "Commercial Statistics of the Resources, Commercial Legislation, Tariffs, &c., of all Nations," by John Macgregor, the present Secretary of the Board of Trade, do the greatest honour to the intelligence and independence of their authors, since nothing can afford a stronger condemnation of the ignorance exhibited by their masters, in their policy and practice in matters relating to trade and finance, than the above works, together with the celebrated evidence of these gentlemen before the Committee of the House of Commons on import duties, in 1840.

Mr. Macgregor has recently published a pamphlet for private circulation, of which we have been favoured with a copy, entitled "Commercial and Financial Legislation," containing his views on a question of no small importance, viz., on the manner in which the necessary taxation of the State can be levied with least injury to the people. It may be that Sir R. Peel has taken some hints from Mr. Macgregor, for we observe that every duty which he proposes to repeal in his budget is suggested in the pamphlet; but, as will be seen hereafter, Mr. Macgregor does not confine his repeal of duties to hides, hocks, beefwood, divi-divi, and a host of other articles which the people cannot eat, and of which they never before heard the names: he proposes the total repeal of the duties on corn, butter, cheese, and meat of all kinds. The following observations are very apposite to our present relations with the United States. The repeal of our Corn Laws will be the best security for peace with America.

"A great nation is a great community, and all the nations of the earth, if the intercourse and trade between them were as free as between the individuals of a municipality, would then actually enjoy a peaceful and profitable system of common intercourse, based upon common interests, which it would be ruinous to any one of the nations concerned to disturb. The greater the commercial relations between the nations, the more disastrous would be the consequences of a war which would interrupt their reciprocity of interests. In proportion as this commercial and reciprocal interest has been of long standing and of great extent, the greater would be the securities for the maintenance of peace, and the more disastrous would be the calamity of continuing a war between two or more countries so circumstanced.

"A WAR OF MATERIAL INTERESTS, or, more properly speaking, of MATERIAL INJURIES—that is, a war of custom-houses or fiscal forts, with their garrisons of revenue officers and servants, has long been declared and carried on between most European nations. This warfare of interests or injuries has not ceased with the wars of bloodshed, and, if we may ever expect security against a recurrence of the calamities attendant on and consequent to the latter, it will be in destroying the elements of the former,—in short, by the extension of Free Trade between all nations."

This war of material interests has unhappily been kept up not only by every state in Europe, but even by the United States; the policy of each country appearing to be founded on the selfish and mistaken idea that they could best benefit themselves by injuring their neighbour. There can be little doubt that the course pursued by the greatest commercial nation in the world has led other countries to suppose that our wealth was the result of the restrictions we placed upon our intercourse with them, rather than of the peculiar advantages we enjoy.

"Other countries (says Mr. Macgregor) either did not understand, or would not admit, that England attained her prosperity, not by the aid, but in defiance, of her illiberal commercial system; that England owed her wealth and power, and even her liberty, to her geographical position—to her many commanding harbours—to the vast power of production yielded by her mines of coal and iron interstratified, and conveniently disposed for cheap use and transport,—and to the enterprising and industrious character of her people. England also escaped, on her own soil, the perpetual wars which devastated, and prevented the manufacturing industry of, the continental

\* It is not long since a merchant waited upon a Vice-President of the Board of Trade, then recently appointed, to consult with him upon an important question; he found an utter ignorance of the commonest commercial principles on the part of the official, and to his surprise the candid acknowledgment that his mind on the question under discussion was like a blank sheet of paper, and that he would be glad of any information that could be furnished to him.

states of Europe; and although her taxation and her public debt have been carried to an incredible height, and her people compelled to pay far higher for maintaining existence than those of any other country, yet her earlier invention of more perfect machinery, especially of the steam-engine and spinning-jenny, and other circumstances which existed during war, enabled her, in defiance of Napoleon's wars and decrees—in spite of high taxation and dear food—to enrich herself so far as to bear all her war burdness. Her people were enabled to do all this, and to pay those high prices for bread and butchers' meat, which served to yield high rents to the landlords of the United Kingdom; not by restrictive legislation, but by a most profitable carrying trade, and by throwing her manufactures with great gain into all the markets of the world, while the industry of other countries was paralyzed by the insecurity occasioned by desolating invasions."

Mr. Macgregor lays down the following as the just principle of imposing taxes on articles of consumption:—

"If commodities which enter into home consumption are to be taxed, the equitable scale of levying this tax would be, to levy exactly the same duty upon an article produced at home as upon a similar article imported from abroad.

"There can be no other equitable scale of taxing commodities, whether produced at home or imported from abroad, for domestic consumption.

"The difference between the natural price of an article imported from abroad, and the higher price of a similar article produced at home, is a tax imposed upon the whole community in order to put the amount of that difference into the pocket of the producer of the home-made article; it is also a far greater burden upon the nation, which is further taxed to the value of so much of the labour production, trade, and navigation, which the protective tax restricts."

Mr. Macgregor proposes to abolish all the assessed taxes and the income-tax, and assigns, we think, very satisfactory reasons for substituting in their stead a direct tax on all realized property, which he thinks in equity should be extended to Ireland. The stamp duties he proposes to retain, except those on fire and marine insurances, but acknowledges that they require an equitable adjustment. The Post-office, he thinks, "should be regulated not with a view to revenue, but to the purposes of covering all the expenses required to convey letters and intelligence with security and with rapidity." The present rates of postage to be continued, but any surplus revenue to be applied to increasing the number of mail steam-ships.

The whole of the Excise duties he proposes to abolish, except those on malt and spirits. The whole of the Custom duties, including the abolition of the corn and provision laws, are also proposed to be abolished, except those on eight articles.

The following is Mr. Macgregor's

#### "PRO FORMA FINANCIAL SCHEME:—

"Pro forma view of equalizing the annual Revenue and Expenditure, presuming that the Excise and Assessed Taxes, and the Stamps on Marine and Fire Assurances, and also the Duties of Customs (except on eight articles) should be abolished, and adding Distilled Spirits and Malt, now under the Excise, to the Customs, and Excise, Licenses to the Stamps: abolishing all other of the Assessed Taxes, and the whole Excise establishment.

First. Assuming the total annual expenditure, not to exceed .. .. .	£50,000,000
Revenue necessary to meet this expenditure, to be raised as follows:—	
I. From uniform duties on (1) Tea; (2) Sugar and Molasses; (3) Coffee and Cocoa; (4) Tobacco; (5) Distilled Spirits; (6) Wines; (7) Dried Fruits; (8) Spices .. .. .	£21,500,000
II. Home-distilled Spirits .. .. .	25,000,000
Malt, whether made at home, or imported from abroad (5,000,000) .. .. .	10,000,000
III. Stamps, leaving out Marine and Fire Assurances, and including Licenses now under the Excise .. .. .	7,500,000
IV. Unredeemed Land Tax .. .. .	1,200,000
Deficit to be provided for during the first year .. .. .	9,800,000
	£50,000,000

"This deficit to be levied, not by doubling, or rather more than doubling, the present income-tax, but by the less inquisitorial and more direct and equitable plan of an annual assessment, in the pound, upon the annual value of all realized property. And surely £11,000,000, including the unredeemed land-tax, out of £50,000,000 of total taxation, forms but a small proportion of the total sum to be levied directly. But if we may form an estimate, founded on the experience of the past, the ordinary sources of revenue would annually increase; and the amount of direct taxation would be proportionally diminished, at least so long as peace shall continue.

"The reason that we include only eight articles, in the Customs Duties, is on the sound principle, that, if an article is to be taxed when consumed, it should be so taxed without any difference being made as to the place where produced: the consumer always paying the full market price of the article he consumes, including every tax upon it."

Several other modified schemes are given in addition to the above, but none present the like simplicity, which we think its great recommendation: it reminds us of the penny-postage scheme. The proposed abolition of duties on the multitudes of articles of all kinds which encumber our tariff, and which impede industry in every shape, would doubtless be a great benefit; and that this scheme is practicable is sufficiently apparent if it be once decided to

levy a tax on realized property of about five per cent., instead of the existing mode of taxation.

Another advantage attending this scheme would be the great saving in the cost of collecting the revenue, which in 1844 amounted to no less than £4,362,225, besides the expenses attending the national debt.

Mr. Macgregor's scheme is founded on an expenditure of £50,000,000 per annum. Now, we are of opinion that this expenditure might be very considerably reduced without at all impairing the real efficiency of our national establishments. When the question of Free Trade is disposed of, those will render an essential service to the country who will undertake a searching investigation into the enormous expenditure of the Government. How is it that in 1832 the expenditure only amounted to £46,300,000, and in 1844 to £55,704,709? Our limits prevent us from entering into the consideration of the important question of adopting direct in preference to indirect taxation. Mr. Macgregor appears in favour of the former, and we think would be inclined to extend it if the public were prepared to sanction the principle. This is a question that needs discussion. The equitable principle of taxation is that every man should pay to the State for the security of his property, in the same way that he pays for its insurance from fire, in proportion to its amount.

Mr. Macgregor has earned additional claims to the thanks of Free-Traders for his important and excellent pamphlet, especially for the sound principles which pervade every page; and we hope he will be induced to make it public.

#### RELIGIOUS ASPECT OF FREE TRADE.

While every political party in the State manifests signs of disruption and disunion, it is gratifying to find that the Free-Traders, who belong not to party but to principle, are at once increasing rapidly in numbers, and becoming more perfect in unity. Free Trade is not a question between one set of men and another; it is not even a question of one community, one nation, or one age: it belongs to all time and to all mankind. It was admirably said by Mr. Fox, in his most eloquent address at the late Covent-garden meeting:—

"Our principles are not merely as old as political economy, they are, in truth, as old as the history of mankind, the facts of which are the materials of political economy. They are intertwined with the records of the prosperity and the calamity of nations. We can trace them through the long annals of ancient and modern times. We trace them

back beyond this even to the very constitution of nature and the globe itself. They are the dictates of philosophy, interpreted by the system of things in which we live, and of which we form a portion; for when that mighty Power who spread abroad the heavens fixed suns in their central position, and rolled the planets in their orbits, surrounded them with belts and satellites, measuring the course, limitless as it seems, of the wandering comet, which, in its wild career, moves from the intensity of light to the deepest darkness; binding all together by the principle of gravitation, and thus united it to other systems through all the infinity of being,—when that Power fashioned this earth of ours, it made a reflex of the combined, harmonized, and mutually dependent system which is exhibited to the astronomer when he gazes on the heavens,—it endowed one climate with one species of fertility and another with another, and surrounded the earth with those zones—temperate, torrid, and frigid—constituting climates, sunny or moist, in all their diversities, and gave the luscious vine to grow upon the banks of the Rhine and the Rhone, and enriched the spice islands with their fragrant products,—it spread the broad and vast prairies of America, sufficient to grow corn for the whole world's consumption; planted the tea groves of China; endowed the sugar-cane with its sweetness; and gave to Britain its coast, minerals, and industry: and by these, as by the mutual dependence of the heavenly bodies, it said, 'All these belong to each other! Let their influence be reciprocal: let one minister to another: be the interest of each the interest of all, and let all minister to each: they are one in wisdom and beneficence, and show forth as resplendently as the starry heavens the glory of a benevolent Providence.'"

To the great truths developed in this magnificent passage, sufficient attention has not been paid. A monopoly in food is an audacious interference with the Divine government of Providence; it is an open revolt against the ordinances which the wisdom of the Creator has affixed to the rule and constitution of that nature which He called into being; it is a setting up of the stunted intellect of selfishness as a rival to Omnipotence. There is a feeling of horror which creeps over the mind instinctively when we look upon the ranks of the monopolists, and see how are the creatures that proffer us a better system than

that which was devised by "the Father of lights, in whom there is no variableness nor shadow of turning;" in them there is indeed enough of "variableness;" for they have shifted their Corn Law from one form to another as miserable interests seemed to dictate; and their sliding scale is one vast "shadow of turning," presenting to us all the vicissitudes of of turning," from the faint twilight of partial prosperity gloom, from the faint twilight of partial prosperity gloom, to the dark midnight of absolute despair. The legislation of the monopolists is virtually an effort to take the moral government of mankind from the hands of Providence, and transfer it to the traders in famine and the traffickers in starvation. The Christian refutes the atheist by pointing out the evidences of benevolent design in the physical and moral universe; the monopolist arms the atheist with fresh weapons of scepticism when he declares that the Divine arrangements for the mutual dependence of the saved masses of mankind require to be amended by protections and restrictions. "If God bless us, the earth shall yield her increase."—"No," exclaims Lord Beaumont, "the earth shall not freely yield her increase to Englishmen, or where is my promised 56s. per quarter?" If the nurturing soil, the invigorating rain, and the ripening sun confined their genial influences to one land, Nature might then be said to have furnished a precedent for protection and restriction; but Providence has diffused the vegetative principle over all the countries of the earth, and appointed ocean to be the highway of nations that they might interchange their mutual products. Those who stop the interchange of merchandise on the Queen's highway are punishable as criminals; but it is a far greater evil to interrupt the interchange on God's highway, and to place barriers of protective duties to close the roads over the waters as effectually as the feudal castles of titled banditti closed the commercial highways in the middle ages. Monopoly is unnatural; it stands in broad and open contradiction to the whole order and course of nature; and he who supports it adopts the blasphemy of the Portuguese monarch, who said, in reference to the Ptolemaic system, "I could have constructed a better world than the Almighty Creator." Well might we exclaim with the Psalmist, "O God, how long shall the adversary do this dishonour; how long shall the enemy blaspheme Thy name for ever?"

But, "verily there is a God that judgeth the earth;" this rivalry of legislation to Providence has brought its own punishment by exposing us to wars and rumours of war, for monopoly is itself a declaration of hostility. We cannot refuse to ourselves and our readers the pleasure of reperusing the eloquent and convincing proof of the peaceful tendencies of Free Trade given by Mr. Fox in reference to a question which now occupies a large share of public attention: it forms a part of the memorable address from which we have already quoted. After referring to the brutal complacency with which some pious scribe in the *Morning Herald* described the probable massacre of our brethren in America, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh," if any dispute should arise about the Oregon territory, Mr. Fox continued:—

"Why, what is this territory they are disputing about? There are some 350,000 square miles of it, of which it seems we are claiming a barren 100,000 or thereabouts. What are they worth? What is the value of all the land that exists without man upon it, with his industry and products? Much of this Oregon territory is a desert; the great Sahara of America; the Botany Bay of the red man's banishment. There are now upon it some few hundreds of Indians and half castes connected with the Hudson's Bay Company; there are certain trappers, hunters, and squatters from the United States. Then there are some Indian tribes there who rejoice in such names as 'Flat-head,' 'Siltnose,' 'Pointed-heart.' The buffaloes are the lords of the soil, unless when the game laws of these Indians interfere. A great portion of it is mere lava, the overflowing of volcanoes; a 'city' is talked of; but scarcely any settlement makes it, as territory, of any value. Quarrel about this! Why, we might just as well be invited by Peel and Polk to fight about mountains in the moon. But let men have something to do with it; let those who have found no preferable home go there, and see what effect they can produce upon the best portions of the soil; as their numbers increase, and their exertions tell, it will soon become more valuable. And when man has occupied it, when industry has driven its car, of peaceful conquest around the borders of that vast land; when towns have arisen and cities appeared with their thronging numbers; when the rocky mountains are tunnelled, and rail and canal have united the Atlantic and Pacific; when the waters of the Columbia swarm with steamboats;—why, then will be the time to talk of the Oregon territory. Then, without a regiment or line-of-battle ship, without bombarding any town whatever, Free Trade will conquer the

Oregon territory for us, and will conquer the United States for us also,—as far as it is desirable either for us or them that there should be any conquest whatever in the case,—Free Trade will establish there all the insignia of conquest. When their products come here, and those of our industry return, there will be scarcely a labourer upon the pine forest that he is clearing but will wear upon his back, to his very shirt, the livery of Manchester. The knife with which he carves his game will have the mark of Sheffield upon its blade, as a testimony of our supremacy. Every handkerchief waved upon the banks of the Missouri, will be the waving of an English banner from Spitalfields. Throughout the country there will be marks of our skill and greatness, and tribute paid for us, received not by warriors or governors, not coming directly into the national treasury, but flowing into the pockets of the industrious poor and toiling, refreshing trade, and enriching those who pursue it, giving them an imperial heritage beyond the wide Atlantic. Why, they will be conquered, for they will work for us; and what can the conquered do more for their masters? They will grow corn for us, they will grind it, and send us the flour; they will fatten pigs for us upon the peaches of their large wooded grounds; they will send us whatever they can produce that we want, and without asking us to put our hand in our pocket in order, by taxation, to pay a governor there for quarrelling with their representatives, or soldiery to bayonet their multitudes. There is nothing upon earth worthier the name of empire than this; it is a nobler kind of dominion, less degrading both for the one party and for the other, less debasing, than any sovereignty that was ever won by armies; and, being so won, reluctantly awayed by sceptres."

We make no apology for reprinting this long extract from our last week's report: its eloquence, its truth, and its everlasting importance more than justify the repetition. Would that all those who profess themselves the friends of peace were influenced by its sentiments! The peace of nations cannot be secured by parchment treaties; the bonds of union between separate countries are not formed of red tape. Mutual harmony is the result of mutual interest; universal peace can come only from universal freedom of intercourse. Every restraint on commerce is a provocative to war, every relaxation of restriction is an invitation to unity. To obtain this brotherhood of nations is the great object for which the League was formed: Nature invites to it, God has ordained it; when the Saviour was born into the world it was proclaimed, when he was taken away it was bequeathed. "Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King," and that His royalty must not be contravened by an aristocracy either of acres or sugar-hogsheads; "He bringeth forth grass for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, that he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart." The object of the League is to restore the administration of Providence, with which the selfishness of man has interfered; and we may therefore with hopeful confidence exclaim, "Show Thy servants Thy work and their children Thy glory; and the glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper Thou the work of our hands upon us, O prosper Thou our handwork!"

### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Tenth Week, ending Saturday, April 19.

FREE TRADE was to have raised great and important discussions this week; but they have been postponed, as all other business has been, in order to allow the debate on the second reading of the Maynooth Bill to be carried on continuously. But though, in devotion to one paramount object, we restrict our Parliamentary survey to Free-Trade debates, it would be almost fatality not to "point the moral" of what is now transpiring in the House of Commons while we write. With the bill itself we have, as Free-Traders, no direct concern, and distinctly disclaim the expression of an opinion; it may be wrong or it may be right to endow the College of Maynooth with a permanent grant of money out of the Consolidated Fund—that is, out of the taxes; but we cannot help calling the attention of the advocates of Free Trade to the marvellous scene now passing before their eyes, and to bid them hopefully "lift up their eyes," for assuredly the end "draweth nigh."

In the House of Commons "chaos is come again." There is, as Lord John Manners termed it, a general "shipwreck of parties." No man knows his political antagonist or his political friend. Like those irruptions of land and ocean which are said to precede a new formation, the House is in a state of volcanic excitement, heaving with a strange and wild frenzy. The people out of doors have broken away from their political leaders;

and in doors the cry is—not "Who shall lead us?" for in the excitement of the hour that has sunk to a very minor consideration—but "Where shall we be led, and whither are we going?" The moral which we draw is, that out of the confusion worse confounded we can discern a brighter and a better prospect for the community at large. If parties are broken up, it is to be hoped that the party pretexts and hypocrisies will perish with them; and in that case there may be nearer at hand than we imagine a "new (political) heavens and a new earth," in which sound PRINCIPLE will reign predominant over mere personal considerations, and the first thought of a legislator will not be, "How will it affect my party?" but "What real good will it do to the country?" Let the Free-Traders be prepared to take advantage of the opportunity, in order to assert the adequate importance of their views, and the necessity for their immediate and complete realization. The fitting moment is coming when it will be in their power to say to COMMENCE, "One step more and thou art free—free as the air!"

What the Maynooth Bill is our readers very well know. In substitution for the annual grant of £3000, Sir Robert Peel has proposed a permanent one of £26,000, with an addition, for the first year, of £4000 (that is, £30,000 for the first year), in order to put the buildings of the College of Maynooth into a proper state of repair, and to enlarge and improve them. The introduction of the bill was carried by a large majority. Meantime the country began to stir. And in the House of Commons there was a danger of Ministers being signally defeated, owing to a somewhat singular circumstance. Mr. WARD, who approves of the increased grant, but thinks that it should come out of the revenues of the Irish Protestant Church, gave notice of an amendment to that effect—this being in accordance with his well-known views on the subject. It would be necessary that the House should go into committee, in order to pass a resolution declaring that the increased grant should be paid out of the Consolidated Fund. The question would be put by the SPEAKER, "That I do now leave the chair." To this, even while approving of the increased grant, Mr. Ward and his friends would have said "No." But then all those who disapproved of the grant, whether on high church or on voluntary principles, could have said "No," also. That this course was determined on, and would have been pursued, shows how completely the Ministerial party especially is breaking up—how thoroughly the estrangement between the men and their masters, begun by tariffs and Canada corn bills, carried on in "grease" and "lard," is consummating by such questions as this of Maynooth. Mr. Ward, who very good-humouredly avowed that, though he had been many years in the House, he was, in this particular instance, "scandalously ignorant" of its forms, was forewarned, it is said by Lord John Russell, of the way in which his amendment—or rather the technical form preliminary to his amendment—would be used. Now, Mr. Ward, whatever may be thought of his views respecting the Irish Established Church, has at least the merit of having always avowed them, and always acted on them. Rising superior to party considerations, he resolved to postpone his amendment, rather than make it a rallying point for politicians of the most opposite principles. So the "ministerial crisis" was averted for the moment; and the debate of the last six days has been on the simple question of whether the second reading of the Maynooth Bill should be affirmed or negatived.

The debate was commenced on Friday week. Nothing noticeable occurred on the first night, except the peculiar speech of Mr. Gladstone. But by Monday night the result of the excitement out of doors was manifested within the House. Members attended in crowds, loaded with piles of petitions. Thus has it been in the early part of each night's sitting during the entire week. But not alone for the presentation of petitions have members attended. Each man knows he has a constituency; and therefore almost every man has been anxious to address his particular constituency, through the medium of the House of Commons. Night after night have expectant orators sat patiently through the lvelong hours, in the anxious hope that they might be lucky enough to catch the SPEAKER'S eye. The sounds indicative of the close of one speech were eagerly waited and watched for; and the gesture which marked sitting down was the signal for twenty or thirty hats to wave in twenty or thirty hands, and twenty or thirty voices to shout out "MR. SPEAKER!" The orators lost almost all sense of that politeness which characterizes gentlemen, in their nervous anxiety to outstep one another. The dexterity, too, with which members tried to eclipse one another was most amusing—the tall men overtopping their neighbours, the shorter ones projecting forward. Men spoke, who seemed never to have spoken before, whose oratory, as yet unknown to fame, has been inspired by the Maynooth question. Not seldom, also, have speeches been rudely interrupted in the very middle by the loud calls of rival claimants for the "attention of the House." A man busily engaged in arranging his own thoughts may be excused for not paying attention to the words of another; and may therefore have no other clue to the conclusion of a speech than the cessation of voice. Yet there were many speeches of which it was difficult to say which was the middle and which was the end; when a man paused, whether to gather breath, or to recollect an argument, or to look at



a note, one could not tell whether he was half done or whole done; and this inartistic treatment deceived even the wary eye of the SPEAKER himself. For once, at a pause in a member's speech, there was immediately a flock of jumpers, like leaping fish on a sunny day; and the SPEAKER, deceived into the notion that he who was addressing him was done, singled out another from the crowd, and named him. But his time was not yet come; the other had still to finish. All this, however, has been taken very good-humouredly; cheers and laughter covering over the amusing interruptions.

But where are now the Ministerial and the Opposition sides of the House? Not on the right, not on the left, of the Speaker's chair. There are individuals who have a passion for betting; and they cultivate their equivocal art with so much assiduity as to be able to decide, almost with precision, on the particular spot on which a fly in movement will alight. They would be puzzled in the House of Commons. No man but a man's own self can tell which way he is going to vote; and no man can tell with what companions he will be associated when it goes to a division. Both sides, for and against the Maynooth Bill, will be a Noah's ark. On one side are the highest churchmen with the most decided advocates of the voluntary system, the staunchest Tories and the truest Liberals. On the other side will be found Liberals as true with Tories as trimming; Whigs faithful to their old principles, and considerate Conservatives, who have come round, or have always been of the same way of thinking. How varied, too, the arguments on both sides of the question! One votes because the question involves a great principle; another, because no principle at all is involved. The bill is, indeed, a puzzler and a perplexer to the House, whether it be advocated on expediency, or necessity, or justice, or principle; whether it will destroy the Church, or save the Church; destroy Protestantism, or propagate it; confirm the Irish Roman Catholics in their faith, or allure them to the Reformed; endow Popery, or ultimately subvert it; bring the Pope into amicable relations with England, or lead him to think that by-and-by England may be made over to him in perpetual fee. All these consequences have been deduced; and on the same side and on both sides. Marvellous, too, is the scene which finds Mr. Bright in reluctant but necessary association with Sir R. Inglis; which dissociates Lord Ashley and Lord John Manners; which throws Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham on Lord John Russell and Mr. Macaulay; and separates Mr. Fox Maule and Mr. P. M. Stewart from their party. The Tories are split; the Conservatives are split; the Ministerialists are split; the Whigs are split; the Free-Traders even, on this question, are split; the House of Commons is split; and "a House divided against itself cannot stand."

The circumstances attending this remarkable debate offer the most convincing proof of the wisdom of the plan upon which the League was founded: viz.—an uncompromising adherence to the principle of Free Trade, asking no pledges on any other subject, and requiring no uniformity in any other particular. On this perplexing question of the Maynooth grant, we believe men equally intelligent and whose perfect honesty is above suspicion, will vote for and against the grant; and it is to us a matter of rejoicing that amongst so large a number of individuals so perfectly independent, while they differ widely on many important subjects, there is complete harmony and unity of action in all questions connected with Free Trade, and on every part of the policy to which the League is pledged. From the temporary excitement of such a subject as the one now under discussion, the question of Free Trade will emerge, and, as heretofore, will go on ever strengthening in its progress; and the very dislocation of parties which is now taking place will serve more and more to prostrate those who have opposed it.

#### SATURDAY MORNING.

We just stop the press to announce the Division on the Maynooth Bill, which took place this morning:—  
For the second reading..... 323  
Against..... 176  
Majority ..... 147

**BIRMINGHAM DENUNCIATION OF MONOPOLISTS.**—A correspondent calls our attention to the following passage from the works of Bishop Hall:—"How few Agurs are there who pray against too much! Hence it is that ye courtiers grate upon poor trades with Aard monopolies. Hence ye great men wring the poor sponges of the commonalty into your private purses, for the maintenance of pride and excess. Hence ye cormorant cormongers hatch up a dearth in time of plenty. God sends grain, but many times the devil sends garners. The earth hath been no niggard in yielding, but ye have been lavish in transporting and close in concealing. Never talk of extreme frosts; we see God's hand, and kiss the rod. But if your hearts were not more frozen than even the earth was, mean housekeepers should not need to beg, nor the meanest to starve for want of bread. Hence, lastly, our loud oppressions of all sorts cry to Heaven, and are answered with threats, yea with variety of vengeance. Take this with thee yet, thou worldling, who hast the greedy worm under thy tongue, and never hast enough. Thou shalt meet with two things as insatiable as thyself—the grave and hell; and thou, whom all the world could not satisfy, there be two things of which thou shalt have enough—enough mould in the grave, enough fire in hell."—*Hall's Works*, folio, p. 381.

#### CORN AGAINST CATTLE; CATTLE AGAINST CORN.

Resuming the pursuit of the question, farmer against farmer; corn-grower against grazier; grazier against corn-grower; right-hand pocket against left-hand pocket; one end of the purse against the other end of the purse; or whatever the mutual impoverishment of the farmers may be called, let us take a glance at food for cattle for the graziers, and manure for the corn-growers.

Here we are in 1845, past the middle of April, in a cold backward spring. This year has not yet given a leaf nor a blade of grass. Last year produced deficient hay and turnips, which makes the denial of early vegetation this year all the worse. "There is corn in Egypt;" beans, plenty of them, which would have brought our cattle over the winter, and sent them fat to market; but no, they must not come. And the manure must not be made to produce heavier crops of corn and heavier turnips for the ensuing season.

Instead of sending for beans to Egypt and for oats to Poland, the cattle must be sent to market only half fattened; and many farmers must sell, as perhaps one-half of all the renting tenants in England have done during the last autumn and winter, a large portion of their live stock at a dead loss to save a greater loss. And while doing this they must buy guano for manure. They may buy from one part of Africa the manure ready made to fertilize the land at home; but they must not bring from another part of Africa food for cattle to manufacture manure for themselves and get the profits of it to themselves!

If they completed the fattening of their cattle on Egyptian beans, and paid thereby all expenses of purchase and labour, and had the manure for nothing, would it not, saying nothing of actual profit on the cattle and sheep and the saving of the actual losses, be a great advantage over their present condition?

In the last number of the *Mark-lane Express* the complaint—unfortunately too well founded—is reiterated of the heavy losses sustained from deficient winter food for cattle. And a correspondent of that paper, who joins in the cry of hard times for farmers, has the following passage:—

"Sir Robert asks the agriculturists what they want. He is a modern Isaac, who blesseth, not Jacob, but the manufacturers; and says, 'Yea, and they shall be blessed.' The agriculturists say unto him, 'Bless us also, O our father.' He answers, 'Thy brothers came with subtilty and stole away thy blessing.'"

Now, if Sir Robert Peel were to quote the words of Jacob when he himself was a patriarch and gave law unto his sons, and apply the words to the distressed farmers, viz., "Why do ye look one upon another? Behold, I have heard that there is corn in Egypt; get ye down thither, and buy for us from thence, that we may live, and not die."

That our cattle and our sheep may be fed, and that the millions of our population who do not now taste of their flesh may eat, and repay you abundantly. Such should be Sir Robert's addition to the admonition of Jacob.

What would the farmers who "stand and look one upon another," say to this? In all likelihood they would say, "It requires a large outlay of money to buy food for cattle. Though we might have more manure by so doing, we would have to be at the expense of more labour to prepare it. As it is, the money paid for guano gets it for us direct and ready for use." And they might add most consistently and truthfully, "It would do us no good to produce manures ourselves; we lose the greater part, certainly all the best, of what we now produce."

Suppose a manufacturer of cottons took the same position with regard to his business that a farmer takes, who would rather have the ammonia of the excremental offal of the birds of Africa brought to his land, than the ammonia of the excremental offal of his own bullocks fed on the beans of Africa, that manufacturer would say, "Cotton costs me money; it is bulky in ships; it takes carriage expenses from me; I must pay for coals for a steam engine; and for the engine and all that expensive machinery which is its offspring; I must pay for many people to make all these things, and for many people to work them, and to spin and weave the cotton. No; I will not send to Egypt (or America) for cotton. I will rather sell off such of my looms as are now standing, and such of my premises as are now empty."

The position of the farmer selling off his half-fattened cattle as he now does, and of this manufacturer as he would then be, is the same.

Let not the farmers deny it by putting forth the plea that manufacturers' profits from the use of an imported raw material to make cloth are larger than his would be from the use of an imported raw material to make beef. Were the question of profit or no profit on the importation of Egyptian beans and Polish oats raised, it would be easily demonstrated to be a real profit, and that too not a small one. Such food with grass cut in summer, and with turnips, and straw in winter,—for hay should then be sparingly made, the grass being more valuable as grass joined with corn-feeding than as hay,—such food, I say, would produce an undoubted profit.

But our protectionists halt at an earlier stage than the question of profit. They deny the soundness and practicability of the principle of getting food from foreign shores even for cattle. Yet strangely enough they will let all their liquid manures run to waste, let the precious gases escape into the air from their manure heaps, and yet they

will buy the same substances that they have themselves wasted from a foreign shore.

For the present I leave them to turn this matter over in their own minds.

#### ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE FLOUR.

[The following letter was written soon after the Ladies' meeting in the Hanover-square Rooms, in London, to a daily paper, in which, from the pressure of Parliamentary debates and other matter, it has not found an early place. If it is of any use at all it must be of use now. I offer it to the *Lancet*. You have the writer's name in private. I beg to draw notice to a note which I have added to the letter. More especially I ask the attention of a certain party in Stroud, who has been sending printed circulars to some of the ladies whose names are upon the published list of the Bazaar Committee, purporting to be printed by "J. P. Britley, Stroudwater Printing-office," and bearing the Stroud post-mark of April 13.]

#### A LETTER ON THE DUTIES OF ENGLISH WOMEN TO ONE ANOTHER.

To Maria Frampton, of Woodvates, Dorsetshire.

Mrs. FRAMPTON,—What is your opinion of the duties of Englishwomen to one another? The people of London cannot agree upon an answer to this question. Can you afford any answer? Let us see.

You are William Frampton's wife, and his wages are 7s. per week. He is one of Mr. Goddard's men, on one of the Earl of Shaftesbury's farms. You have six children:—George, who earns 1s. 6d. per week for seven days' work, from four in the morning to eight at night each day. Maria, who goes out stone-picking with yourself, to gather and carry flints for the parish roads at 4d. per load; the two of you earning, in the winter days, in which season only this is your work, about a load and a half, or the price of one loaf of bread, or one pound of sugar. Next is Jane, next William, next Sarah, lastly James—your "little dear baby James."

These four are left at home, Jane having the charge. She puts on the kettle to have boiling water when you and Maria come home to make your tea. You have no money to buy sugar, and your tea is drunk without sugar. You have no money to spare to buy tea, save four pennorth of very doubtful leaves, called tea, once a fortnight. So your tea is in most cases made without tea. You come all home cold and wet, and want something to warm you, and in the absence of tea and sugar you make the best shift you can, pour some boiling water over some bread in a basin, with a little salt to give it a taste. Happy you when a bit of lard comes in your way; but that is seldom. Dorset is a butter county, but you do not presume to eat butter; for this reason, that you cannot get it. You therefore take bread and hot water and salt for your tea.

Maria, having no clothes but what she wears, goes to bed when she comes in, because she is tired gathering stones all day, and because you are desirous of getting her clothes dried for her in the morning.

Your own are as wet and as much daubed with mud as hers; but you have no change and cannot go to bed so soon. When I saw you the mud was above your ankles, your poor shoes turned and twisted until the soles were nearly uppermost; a piece of old sacking thrown off your shoulders pinned in front, in the same fashion as the ten-guinea shawls of London, to keep the drizzling rain from your skin; which, however, did go to your skin.

I was told that neither you nor your daughter (your Maria, aged 12) need stay out on such a day unless you chose: nobody compelled you. But you told me that, though nobody compelled you to stay out, you were compelled nevertheless. Your potatoes were all done. You had four children at home—Jane, William, Sarah, and "the dear little baby James." You had no bread at home. You had divided the only loaf you had in the morning, giving each a share, and taking with you and Maria a piece which, with a drink of water from the ditch, was to last you until evening.

So there you were compelled to stay out by "nobody," yet compelled because there was no bread in the house, because the potatoes were all done, and it was only the last day of December—the winter no farther gone—the potatoes all done so early in the winter; compelled, too, because there was no fuel at home to make a fire. I went to your house and saw your four children all huddled together among the ashes on the hearth, the redness of fire not visible, though it was dusk outside and nearly dark within; you were compelled to stay out to be wet and bedaubed with mud and chilled just because, in addition to an empty cupboard, there was no fire to warm and dry you at home.

"Nobody" compelled you to stay out; yet you stayed, and rose from the bed on the floor in the corner of the room where all the eight of you were nightly laid together under the only dry spot of the roof of your house,—every morning you rose from this and went out shivering with your breakfast of hot water and bread and salt ("thank God," said some of your neighbours to me, all of them as poor as yourself, "salt ben't dear"); you went out and stayed out day after day, "nobody" compelling you. And you said that with all that toll you would be a happy woman to get enough of bread for your dear children, but you could not. As for butcher's meat of any kind, or bacon, you never dreamed of getting such a thing. If you got a little "taste" of sugar for the dear little baby, it was all the sugar you could hope for, it is so dear and your money is so scarce. And if you could get an ounce

of tea once a fortnight it was a great relief to your headache; for stooping down so much to pick up stones day after day affected your head, and you "were none of the strongest of women."

Well, there you were, "nobody" compelling you to stay out at such work in such weather, yet compelled by something—a tyrannical necessity which would take no denial. And there you were, when I saw you, carrying your basket of stones from the centre of the field to such places as the waggons or carts would get them without coming on the ground to cut it up.

Poor Maria was not able to carry the basketful, so you carried it, the heavy basket against your side, your body went to the other side to preserve the balance; your feet sinking in the mud, your ankles twisting, your shoes almost worn off your feet, the soles uppermost, your clothes wet through; your piece of sacking over your shoulders falling off in your struggles to get along: and all this from morn to night, from day to day, to get a loaf of bread by your united labour—Maria's picking and your carrying—one loaf of bread and a penn'orth of lard for two loads of stones; more by the penn'orth of lard than the day's work of you both.

But you thanked God piously that bread was so cheap as to get a loaf and a penn'orth of lard for two loads of stones. They were only paid 4d. a loaf when flour was nearly double the price of what it was last December. And when it was nearly double the price your husband, and all such as him, had only 1s. a week more wages. So you thanked God piously that there had been a good harvest and bread was cheap.

You could not get your house thatched to keep out the rain, so had to put up a bit of canvas in one corner to keep out the rain, and under that all the eight of you slept huddled together.

You could get no straw for thatch. The house was held on a life. The farmers had combined together to prevent any straw being got for thatch to such houses. No straw nor timber could be got for love or money to repair such houses. Lord Shaftesbury, to whom you paid your quit-rent, would not repair them because they were held on lives and only brought him a nominal rent. And all were resolved not to let them be repaired that they might fall to pieces and the poor inhabitants might be compelled to leave them and go out of the district, and thus reduce the population; you did not get your house repaired because you only paid a nominal rent for it. Yet, when complaint was made to the head steward that on some farms on Lord Shaftesbury's estate 8s. a week were paid as wages, and only 7s. a week in this parish, which entirely belonged to his lordship, the reply was that you had no house rent to pay in this parish; therefore, 7s. was as good to you as 8s. elsewhere.

Your stone-picking in the field, hard as it may seem, was a privilege granted to you. Other women, who would have been glad to have gone out to the same kind of work, were not permitted, because their children were fewer, and if they went to the workhouse they would not be so expensive as your family.

All the parish belonged to one landlord, and in his own time had been taken from the common called Cranbourne Chase. Your husband and others had been possessed of common rights, but all was taken from them. Most of the land was good; some of it rich, growing four quarters and a half of wheat to the acre, though choked up with weeds and foulness; and choked up with weeds and foulness because too few labourers, far below the proper number, were employed. I saw them ploughing down weeds in wide extensive fields in December, that had seeded there and battled and overcome the crops all the summer. I saw the manures of the farm running to waste, and men going idle who should have been employed in applying them to the land. And, deplorable to add, upon all this good land, in a wide parish with two villages, all belonging to the Earl of Shaftesbury,—the father of such an eminent son as Lord Ashley, and within an hour's walk of their residence, and all obtained from Cranbourne Chase at the cheap purchase of an enclosure act of Parliament,—deplorable to add, there was no school, nor provision of any kind for education. Your children were all growing up, among a whole parishful of children, without knowing a letter, save indeed what a thresher, who worked with your husband for 7s. a week, taught the children on Sunday evenings. There was only one service in the church; and many of you were so literally in rage that you could not go to that one church service.

And save, perhaps, the absence of all education, and the single church service, the condition of your family and of your parish is characteristic of the whole county in which you live, and of all your class in many other counties.

Now, Mrs. Frampton, what is the duty of one English woman towards another?

On Friday last, upwards of 1000 women met in a well-known place in London, called the Hanover-square Rooms. They were called together to listen to the speeches of two gentlemen, who proposed to tell them how they might lead you, and such as you, some assistance in getting something else than hot water and salt for your tea, or your tea, when you do get it, without sugar.

Many of them knew, personally, what it was to have families, and high-priced bread and flour, high-priced tea and sugar and butter and cheese, though none of them had ever suffered what you suffer; but they had heard of such as you, and, grieving for such sufferings, they met in

the Hanover-square Rooms by the thousand to give their countenance and support to the struggle now going on, not to give you some single loaf of bread, or single pound of sugar, or single calico sheet, or small shoulder of mutton, or half-pound of raisins (you understand what I mean by these items)—not to give you these once in a year, some of them only once in two years—but to procure for you, daily and permanently, a supply of all these—to procure the abolition of the cruel monopolies which make all these things dear, and work scarce and wages low,—the absurd monopoly, to maintain which such a slovenly system of agriculture as Mr. Goddard's is perpetuated, to the detriment of all the population of your parish.

Some of those who are nearest and dearest to me went to the meeting at the Hanover-square Rooms, but they have been attacked in certain newspapers in London—papers which tell us of your great comforts, your enjoyments, of your fresh, flowery felicity in rural England—these papers tell us that our wives and sisters are engaging in politics unbecoming to women, and they try to frighten the timid yet generous-hearted women of London from letting themselves be seen in this matter.

They say it is political, and therefore discreditable to our wives, sisters, and daughters to take any practical steps towards helping such as you into a position not to be obliged to carry stones, not to be obliged to drink your tea without sugar, and oftentimes your hot water without tea. They might have met in Hanover-square Rooms, or at Exeter-Hall, for any other purpose without challenge—they might have met and sighed over the tales of distress and ignorance, the degradation of women in other lands, of black women and little black children, and they would have been lauded for so doing;—but the little creatures who call you mother are not black—untaught, half-clad, and half-fed though they be; therefore our wives, sisters, and daughters are assailed by somebody—a man perhaps, or an "old woman" in the disguise of a man, a hard-hearted old woman, a cruel old woman, an impudent old woman—as having done something unworthy of their sex in trying, by fair and honest means, to get more work, better wages, and more bread, and sugar and tea, butter, bacon, cheese, and beef and mutton, and (Heaven send it) may come before another winter!) more clothing for you; they are assailed for this in a way that only an unmanly man, or base "Grandmother" of the press would assail them.

If it be political and wrong for women to try to get those things you are so much in want of, Mrs. Frampton, what do you think of politics?

I am, &c.,

THE HUSBAND OF AN ENGLISH WOMAN.

#### Note to the foregoing Letter.

The writer of this letter shows, at least, one line of good argument why ladies should assist in raising funds to abolish the Corn Law, and enlarge our national prosperity. There are many other arguments. I, for one, admit that it is a fair subject for newspaper discussion whether women are in their proper place in taking part in this Bazaar or not. I blame no person for arguing to the contrary. Their attempts to prove the negative but strengthens our affirmative. They say, in the *Post*, that the London ladies might find something humane to do in trying to shorten the toil of the factory children. I say the more shame to the *Post's* side of the question that factory children should be working for bread and meat, and when they have worked hours enough to get sufficient, the *Post's* people should say, "No, you must work three hours longer to feed us—to procure for us the delicacies and elegancies of life; you shall not get your bread and meat until you work three hours longer."

Moreover, their attempts to prove the negative but stir the question, and we see in its discussion that the farm children on the very estates of the so-called friends of the factory workers are totally uncared for.

I myself was, whatever I may be now, a "farm-child." I know, from bitter experience, what such children and such a mother as Mrs. Frampton, of Wood Yates, in Dorset, have to endure at farm work, poorly fed and poorly clad. What this mother is—and she is only like her neighbours in respect of hardship and suffering, for I have myself seen them,—what she is in 1845, my own mother was years gone by. What her son is—a boy rising at four in the morning, and only getting done with work between eight and nine at night, never off his feet all day, tralling his earthen-loaded shoes after him in the ploughed land or in the muck in the farmyard: out wet and dry; and, whether wet or dry, always hungry when he is out;—what he is I was; I who now write these remarks. The awful recollections of "dear years," which I have heard my father and mother tell of, when we were enduring the famines of other "dear years," and telling of the first because they blessed God that the last were not so cruelly famine-stricken as the first—though even the last were so bad as to fix in me, to write in me—within me—with the sharp point of famine, that which is never to be obliterated but by its consummation—"Repeal the Corn Laws."

In the year that I was born my father's wages were 2s. 6d. a day, the very topmost wages of a day labourer in his district. And the average price of wheat—everything else being in proportion—was 15s. 7d. per bushel, 12s. per quarter. Having had occasion in after years to make inquiry whether my name was in a certain parish register or in another, my father, then broken down to the verge of the grave by his hard and lowly-paid toil, told me, with mournful recollections, "No, you had the

misfortune," said he, "to be born in one of the dear years. It would have been a shilling to have had ye entered with the parish clerk; but, though we had all the rest done so, we had no shilling to spare when ye was born; a shilling was a shilling in that year: bread was bread. I worked hard and did not get enough of it."

Seeing, as I have since seen, that the farmers and even the landowners themselves suffer by subjecting the nation to periodical visits of excessive dearth; and by subjecting their land to the withering influence of that political machinery which mars all good agriculture, and out of which arises the Corn Law, is it any wonder, that I should be somewhat earnest on this subject? Would it not be a wonder if I were anything else?

And if one or more of the females connected with my family should be members of the Bazaar Committee, does it follow that they must be persons involving themselves in political agitation—that they must become politicians, as is charged against them by the writers hostile to us?

The Corn Laws have sprung from a political root and have been sustained by political influence. But the opposition to them has had its birth in empty cupboards, empty stomachs, and empty dishes. Let those who have reasons to offer produce them, and say, the cupboard and the dishes be empty, and children's stomachs be empty too, whether it is not a subject for wives and mothers to take an interest in; or, if we, who have known such wants, tell those who never knew them what it is to endure famine, and they feel humanely for those who do suffer, is it unworthy of generous-hearted women to do so? Still it is a legitimate subject for discussion; and, all the right and the reason being on our side, I for one am always pleased to see something in the shape of an objection from the other side, because the act of contradicting it does good.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### BAZAAR CORRESPONDENCE.

"Bolton.  
"SIR,—I am instructed by the Ladies of the Bolton Bazaar Committee to forward you a description of some of the articles contributed to the National Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar. The amount of money collected up to the present is £240, which is expected to be made up to £300. We have received from John H. Alnworth, Esq., of Moss-bank, 52 plain and fancy muslin dresses, and a number of fancy petticoats; Mr. Walsley, Spaw-lane, 1 dozen cradle-quilts, 1st and 2nd vols. of "The Animal Kingdom," by Swedenborg, and a number of other useful articles; Mr. Cotterill, 6 damask and fancy dresses, and a number of ladies' fancy slippers; Messrs. Jumps and John Bayley, 6 fancy muslin dresses, and 10 fancy petticoats; Mrs. Henry Moss, 2 Chinese paintings on rice paper, small Indian canoe, and a number of Indian curiosities; Messrs. Green and Holme, 3 sets of toilet-covers, 6 fancy muslin dresses, and 2 dozen of ladies' pockets; Miss Bowen, a piece of needlework in elegant gilt frame—"Abraham offering up his son Isaac;" Mrs. Henry Hollins, 1 needlework couch cushion; Mr. David Welch, 2 fancy muslin dresses, 4 shawls, &c. &c.; John Brooks, Esq., a quantity of linen thread in twist and bobbins; R. Heywood, Esq., 2 pieces of fine quilting, 37 yards each; Mr. Henry, 1½ dozen of ladies' French cambric pocket handkerchiefs, &c.; Messrs. Jacob Lomax and Sons, a double super-super counterpane, 14 quarters, with the following wove in the centre—"Presented to the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, London, by the firm of Jacob Lomax and Sons, Bolton, counterpane manufacturers,"—value £5. "I have the honour to be, yours, &c."  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "D. Knott, Secretary."

"G, New Compton-street.  
"SIR,—In reply to your circular, we have to inform you that, as hearty well-wishers to Free Trade, believing that it contains the best principles of civilization, we purpose contributing some articles to the Bazaar, feeling persuaded they will prove full of interest. We have prepared, in neat frames,

Twelve portraits of Mr. Cobden.  
Ten of Mr. Bright.  
Three of the Hon. C. P. Villiers.  
Three of Colonel P. Thompson.  
"Many will, we believe, rejoice to possess these authentic portraits, and feel their principles strengthened by the daily silent influence of these best friends of mankind."

"The retail price of each frame and glass is about 12s., and each portrait is published at 5s. One or two other ornamented articles will accompany them."

"We are, Sir, your obedient servants,  
"CRAWFORD and LEAPARD."

"Park, Crediton.  
"DEAR SIR,—I shall have much pleasure in contributing to your Bazaar at Covent-garden specimens of what I conceive to be the best kind of "protection." Having experienced in the working of my own horses the evils frequently arising from their being galled and chafed, it occurred to me to try the effect of India-rubber as a remedy; and after taking considerable pains in the preparation, adaptation, and application of this material, I succeeded in constructing with it a saddle and collar, which proved such an effectual "protection" against the injury to which I have alluded that I was induced to secure a patent for my invention.  
"I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,  
"A. W. Poulton, Esq." "EDWARD DAVY."

"Pontefract.  
"SIR,—I feel great pleasure in having again to inform you, that I have this morning received from B. Smith and Son, of Knottingly Pottery, a beautiful scent jar of their own manufacture, as a present, to be sold at the Bazaar. I am also glad to state that the Free-Traders of Knottingly have commenced a subscription, and agreed to join the Free-Trade labourers of Pontefract with liquorice cakes. I have received several small but beautiful presents from young ladies in Pontefract, which shall be forwarded to London in due time.  
"I remain, your obedient humble servant,  
"George Wilson, Esq." "W. KIPP."





London market averaged throughout the year 10d. to 13d. per lb. Irish and English sells from 9d. to 11d. only. The dairy farmers in this country had the opportunity, when the 20s. per cwt. duty was first levied, of preventing the increased importation, if not of quite shutting out the foreigner from the London market; but in many counties they preferred turning their pasture into arable land; the dairy was neglected, and the old English farmer's wife that formerly superintended the butter and cheese department is nearly extinct—the dairymaid is superseded by the housemaid.

With these facts, ought the public to be taxed at the rate of about £100,000 a year (the cheese and butter duty), and the poor deprived of these essential articles for their comfort? To call the duty a protective one is perfectly ridiculous; let such protection be tried as an experiment in any business in the city of London, the result would be distracting the attention of the party engaged in it from industrious business habits to theoretical protection, thus producing a sort of sliding scale which he would not understand, and which would ultimately lead to ruin.

Looking to the health and comfort of the poor, experience has shown that animal fat is almost necessary for food in cold climates, producing greater warmth to the system, and enabling the human frame to bear up against cold more than any other description of food. To exemplify this fact, look to the provision of nature in the cold and hot climates—the Esquimaux and Russian will be content with blubber and train oil—the least quantity of fat is repulsive to the taste of the Indian: one meal of fat bacon or butter per diem to the half-fed English labourer would be of greater service to him than all the beer he could obtain, if the duty was taken off malt.

Another great advantage attends the use of butter and cheese—it does not require any expense in preparing; it enables the labourer to take his frugal meal either at home, in the field, or at whatever occupation he may be engaged in without trouble.

The result of high prices leads to the use of unwholesome substitutes, such as common animal fat, rancid lard and other grease, boiled potatoes, and boiled peas, coloured to represent butter: these ingredients are extensively used in common pastry for the poor in the low neighbourhoods in and about London; and, to show the extent of this trade, some individuals engaged in it make 20,000 to 30,000 pies per week. Yet, in the face of this, we hear from Liverpool, no later than the 3rd. instant, that part of the butter now in stock from the United States will have to be "tarred," in consequence of the quality not being good enough to enable the importers to pay the 20s. duty, therefore a large proportion must be cleared for grease, after being subject to the revolting process of destruction by being mixed with "tar," when this quantity, at a duty of 10s. per cwt., would have been consumed for the purpose originally imported—namely, butter.

The effect of the improvement in the trade of the manufacturing districts is shown, as regards importation and consumption, by comparing the stock on hand the past two years. The stock of butter in London—

On the 7th April, 1844, was 23,480 firkins.  
do. do. 1845, was 5,620 do.

So that from this time to May and June (termed by the trade the end of the season), the price of butter will be 20 to 30 per cent. above the usual price at that period of the year; and, with the present state of the meadow-land in this country, combined with the limited stock of butter on hand, were it not for the foreign importation, butter would be worth 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb. between this time and the end of May, which would act as a prohibition to its being used by the middling and poorer classes of society.

The union workhouses are almost all supplied with low-priced foreign cheese, being from 10s. to 15s. per cwt. under the lowest price of home-made.

The following is an abstract of the return to an order of the House of Commons, moved by Mr. Ewart, of the quantity of butter destroyed in the United Kingdom, by the admixture of tar, the past four years:—

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
1841 .. .. .	8,461	1	27
1842 .. .. .	3,373	0	25
1843 .. .. .	5,641	0	17
1844 .. .. .	2,305	1	13

Total .. 19,781 0 26

And, calculating the average as above for the period of ten years, the loss to the revenue will amount to £45,000, being the difference of duty as paid on tarred butter to pass as grease, instead of the original article butter.

W. W.

#### RENT OF SUSSEX.

(From the Brighton Guardian.)

Since our remarks last week on the burdens on agriculturists, we have seen the official returns of the property-tax, which mention the whole amount of the rent paid in Sussex. We can now, therefore, speak with more accuracy than last week on this subject; but we can throw no additional light on the principle. We learn from the population returns that there are in Sussex 4042 farmers and graziers, and 30,679 agricultural labourers, each farmer employing on an average something more than seven labourers. That indeed is a high average; for in the whole empire each farmer employs much fewer labourers, the accurate returns disclosing at once the notion that agriculture gives so much more employment than manufactures to the labourer. From the property-tax returns we learn that the rent of land in Sussex is £455,373, and the amount of tithe £44,509. The total income of Sussex under Schedule A is £1,076,999, the difference between that total and the two sums mentioned being the rent of houses, mines, quarries, manors, &c. We shall, therefore, take as the basis of our remarks only the two first sums, which give us the amount of the rent paid by the farmers of Sussex to the squire and the parson.

Now, the two sums together of rent and tithe make £500,882, paid yearly by the farmers to the owners of land and tithes. Dividing the whole of that amongst the 4042 farmers, it would give to each farmer £233 for his share per year; and nobody, we presume, would say that he might not, were that burden removed, sell his wheat at more than its present price, and still receive an ample reward for his labour. Dividing the whole sum amongst the agricultural labourers, it would give to each one £231 a year; or dividing the sum equally between the two

classes, each farmer would receive an addition to his income of £116 and each labourer of £15. 10s. per year. It is perfectly and unanswerably clear, therefore, that the greatest burdens on the agriculturists are rent and tithe—rent-charge, perfectly clear that the landowners and the titheowners are the causes why the farmers have not sufficient profit and the labourers sufficient food. The rent-owners and the titheowners, then, intercept the bounties of Providence, and keep from the labourer the ordained rewards of industry. To support squires and parsons and their families in splendid idleness is the greatest burden on the working agriculturists, and the greatest curse of both farmers and labourers. The Almighty, we repeat, blesses the labour of the husbandman with a rich abundance; but the two classes who pretend to teach and to protect him carry off his grain and flour, and leave him little or nothing but the husks and the bran.

We would not, we repeat, say one word on this important, delicate, and tender subject, would the squires and the parsons only allow us to have freedom: Free competition would give them and other men their rights, and their rights only. Free competition, the unlimited higgling of the market, would make every penny they might get a plain and palpable free-will offering. However much it might amount to, we should regard it, like the gains of the merchant and the manufacturer, as the due and proper reward for some services rendered to other men, of which they alone are the proper judges, and for which they are willing to pay. Perfectly free competition would preclude any one from having an advantage over another, and it would soon reward every man according to his deserts. As long as the parsons and squires resolutely stand in the way of free competition, as long as they uphold the law to extort high rent and starve the labourer, so long shall we speak of their income as an unjust extortion, and hold up its amount as the chief burden and curse on the industrious classes.

#### REGISTRATION.—CITY OF LONDON.

A preliminary meeting of gentlemen, from the various wards of the city of London, was held on Thursday last, at the League Council-room, 67, Fleet-street. It was attended by members of the Court of Common Council, and other gentlemen who had rendered active support to the Free-Trade candidate at the last election, and also by Messrs. Cobden and Bright and Colonel T. P. Thompson.

On the motion of Mr. W. A. WILKINSON, seconded by Councillor JOHNSON, Mr. P. A. Taylor was unanimously called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN detailed to the meeting the measures which had been in operation for the last eighteen months, to place the registration in a satisfactory position for the return of Free-Trade candidates. The lamented death of their revered friend Mr. John Travers, followed so rapidly by that of their respected and efficient fellow-worker Mr. George Heppel, had effected a breach in their organization which it became necessary to supply

by timely preparation. It was, therefore, thought desirable to call them together, that they might be informed of the state of the labours of the Registration Committee, and have an opportunity of considering collectively what steps it would be desirable to pursue to guard against being taken by surprise on any sudden emergency.

The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Lowe, Gibbs, Tait, Holt, Parker, Johnson, and Read.

Mr. COBDEN, M.P., also made a few observations.

Ultimately, on the motion of Councillor JOHNSON, seconded by Mr. Gibbs, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously passed to the City Registration Committee of the League; and they were requested to continue their labours.

On the motion of Councillor HOLT, seconded by Councillor READ, it was resolved that the gentlemen present from the various wards pledge themselves to organize Free-Trade election committees in their respective wards, and to report the lists of such committees, and of the chairmen and secretaries, to the next meeting.

It was then agreed that the next meeting should be held on Thursday, the 15th of May.

On the motion of Mr. HOLT, seconded by Colonel T. P. THOMPSON, thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE PEOPLE'S HALL, BIRMINGHAM.**—This monument of the enterprise and good taste of the working classes of that town was opened on Monday week. It will accommodate about 1500 people, and is well adapted for the delivery of lectures, meetings, &c. A bust of Major Cartwright is its only ornament.

**TIME.**—Time is like a creditor, who allows an ample space to make up accounts, but is inexorable at last. Time never sits heavily on us but when it is badly employed. Time is a grateful friend; use it well, and it never fails to make a suitable requital.

**LIGHTING BY ELECTRICITY.**—Mr. Weekes's plan for lighting towns by electricity is about to be carried into effect in America. The editor of the *Cincinnati Mechanic* states that an experiment he lately witnessed was perfectly successful, that the apparatus is by no means costly, and that for lighting Cincinnati two towers, if considered, will be sufficient to illuminate the whole city. Mr. Weekes's plan was first published in this country as far back as 1831.—*The Builder*.

**THE TRADE AND COTTON MANUFACTURE OF MANCHESTER TWO CENTURIES AGO.**—In a curious old book entitled "The Treasure of Traffic, or a Discourse of Foreign Trade," &c., by Lewis Roberts, Merchant and Captain of the City of London, published in 1611, we find the following early notice of the cotton manufacture of this town:—"The town of Manchester, in Lancashire, must also be herein remembered, and worthily for their encouragement commended, who buy the yarn of the Irish in great quantity, and, weaving it, return the same again in linen into Ireland to sell: neither doth their industry

rest here, for they buy cotton wool in London, that comes first from Cyprus and Smyrna, and at home work the same and perfect it into fustians and velvets, dimities, and other such stuffs; and then return it to London, where the same is vended and sold, and not seldom sent into foreign parts, who have means at far easier terms to provide themselves of the said first materials."

**EXPORT OF FLOUR FROM IRELAND TO THE WEST INDIES.**—We have seen a letter from a house at Cork, dated Saturday last, from which it appears that flour is at present shipping to some extent from that neighbourhood to the West Indies, on terms which enable the shippers to compete successfully with the Americans. The following is an extract from the letter in question:—"A few of our millers have been working to some extent at barrelled flour, for export to the West Indies, within the last few months; and I do not despair of seeing operations of this nature form a very important feature in the milling trade, under the advantages held out by the Grinding-in-bond Bill. At present flour can be sold here free on board, to the West India merchant, at a price which will leave him a fair margin for profit, and enable him to undersell the Americans in most of the islands. I can speak positively of Barbadoes. One firm connected with that island has lately purchased 1500 barrels from a miller in this city. At first, of course, there is some little difficulty and prejudice to overcome; but, in good harvests, there is little doubt of the Irish millers being able to cut out the Americans, as it goes in free of the imperial duty, and freights are less from Liverpool or this country than from the United States. The flour already sent out from hence is considered in Barbadoes much superior to the American manufacture." Of course it will be understood that the flour so exported is made virtually from foreign wheat, the price of which is often low enough to enable the English or Irish miller to compete with the produce of the United States; especially with the difference of freights arising from the fact that, under ordinary circumstances, many vessels leave England in ballast for the West Indies, whilst American vessels generally earn their freight principally by the outward voyage. Yet this is a trade which the ultra-protectionists would gladly have kept out of the hands of British millers and shipowners, without even a shadow of advantage to themselves.—*Manchester Guard*.

**EDUCATION AND CRIME.**—The calendar for the present Salford sessions contains the names of 48 persons for trial on charges of felony, of whom 18 can neither read nor write, 26 can read or read and write imperfectly, and 4 only can read and write well. There are also 7 persons for trial on charges of misdemeanour, and of these 4 can read or read and write imperfectly, and 3 can neither read nor write.

**NEWSPAPER STAMPS.**—The following return has just been issued by the order of the House of Commons, showing the number of stamps issued for newspapers in Great Britain from Jan. 1, 1842, to Jan. 1, 1845:—

	1842.	1843.	1844.
England, 1d. .. ..	50,145,912	51,282,000	53,933,848
Do. 4d. .. ..	1,474,064	1,893,782	3,738,124
Scotland, 1d. .. ..	4,977,344	5,293,726	5,747,585
Do. 4d. .. ..	113,530	213,150	217,620
Wales, 1d. .. ..	410,200	426,043	440,700
Do. 4d. .. ..	10,830	2,000	7,000
Ireland, 1d. and 4d. ..	6,099,030	6,501,032	7,018,017
United Kingdom .. ..	63,591,156	65,767,033	71,213,408

This exhibits the remarkable fact that, while the aggregate increase of 1843 over 1842 was only 2,175,879 stamps, that of 1844 over 1843 amounted to 5,446,463, or very much more than double the increase of the preceding year. About one-fifth of this increase is due to halfpenny stamps for supplements.

**BARNSELY.—TURN-OUT OF MASONS.**—The masons in this town struck for an advance of wages on Monday last; the advance required was 3s. per week, and the matter was compromised the same day on the masters agreeing to give an advance of 1s. 6d. per week, and work was commenced the next day.

**MR. COBDEN'S SPEECH.**—We are glad to find that upwards of 9000 of Mr. Cobden's speech, in the House of Commons, on Agricultural Distress, revised by Mr. Cobden, and published by Mr. Gadsby, Manchester, have already been sold. Mr. Gadsby states that there has been no demand for any speech published by him equal to this, since Mr. Cobden's first speech in St. Stephen's.

**GOVERNMENT.**—Government is a great good, and essential to human happiness; but it does its good chiefly by a negative influence, by repressing injustice and crime, by securing property from invasion, and thus removing obstructions to the free exercise of human powers. It confers little positive benefit. Its office is not to confer happiness, but to give men opportunity to work out happiness for themselves. Government resembles the wall which surrounds our lands: a needful protection, but rearing no harvests, ripening no fruits. It is the individual who must choose whether the enclosure shall be a paradise or a waste. How little positive good can government confer! It does not till our fields, build our houses, weave the ties which bind us to our families, give disinterestedness to the heart, or energy to the intellect and will. All our great interests are left to ourselves; and governments, when they have interfered with them, have obstructed much more than advanced them.—*Channing*.

**INCENDIARISM.**—On the afternoon of the 3rd inst. a wood, in the parish of Nutley, Hunts, called Oadnaw-copple, the property of Mr. George Patey Jervoise, was wilfully and maliciously set on fire; and again on the night of the following day (Friday), part of Nutley-copple was also set on fire by some person or persons unknown. A reward of 40 guineas, in addition to the reward of ten guineas allowed by the Almshouse Association, has been offered. On the 6th instant some evil-disposed person or persons maliciously set fire to and destroyed about 100 yards of a hedge in the road leading from the Warwick-road to Hay-bull-house, in the parish of Yardley, Worcestershire, belonging to Mr. Edward King, farmer. Early on Thursday morning, the 10th inst., a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Wootton, at Sturry, near Canterbury. The whole of the out premises were destroyed, and with them a cart, two milch cows, two pigs, and various other property. No doubt exists of the calamity being occasioned by the hands of incendiaries, as no light had been taken on the premises during the previous evening, and the fire was not discovered till between two and three o'clock in the morning.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, April 16, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Hodgson, Thomas, Goodman's-stile ..	50	0	0
White, William, Aberdeen ..	10	0	0
Eastington Mills Association, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, per W. Clarke, secretary ..	5	0	0
Reddish, Mrs. Agnes, Cross-hall-mill, Chorley ..	2	0	0
Crabbe, the Rev. George, Bredfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk ..	2	0	0
Taylor, George Edward, cloth dresser, Oatlands Mill, Leeds ..	1	1	0
Powell, Henry, M.D., 25, Finsbury-square ..	1	1	0
Bateman, Henry, 6, Falingdon-green ..	1	1	0
Walls, Arthur, Bartholomew's, Brighton ..	1	1	0
Pickford, J. H., 13, Wiltam's-buildings, Old-street-road ..	1	1	0
Darwin, F., 7, Park-street, Grosvenor-square ..	1	1	0
Baines, W., Croydon ..	1	1	0
Post, Jacob, 15, Lower-street, Islington ..	1	1	0
Pace, J., South-terrace, Hartlepool ..	1	1	0
Levy, Edward, 37, Upper Gower-street ..	1	1	0
Naylor, Abraham, Basinghall-street, Leeds ..	1	1	0
Thackeray, Frederick R., The Cedars, Windlesham, near Bagshot ..	1	0	0
Forrester, Thomas, Ashby-de-la-Zouch ..	1	0	0
May, James, 50, Pond-street, Sheffield ..	1	0	0
"Fair Play," Arbroath ..	1	0	0
Abbott, Robert, 10, Elliot-street, Liverpool ..	1	0	0
Vickers, H. R., William's-court, Boar-lane, Leeds ..	1	0	0
Harr, Peter, Kilbarchan, near Paisley ..	1	0	0
Graves, J., Ludlow ..	1	0	0
Askew, Thomas, Kendal ..	1	0	0
Archibald, R., and Sons, Tillicoultry, N.B. ..	1	0	0
Sheldon, John, Kettleholme, Whalley-bridge, near Rockport ..	1	0	0
Heap, Richard, Cross-hall Print Works, Chorley ..	1	0	0
Sanders, A., 118, Long-acre ..	1	0	0
Chapman, John, 121, Newgate-street ..	1	0	0
Braun, Francis, Denmark-hill, Camberwell ..	1	0	0
"J. H." ..	1	0	0
Crick, John, Maldon, Essex ..	1	0	0
Hennell, C. C., 7, Brickhill-lane, Upper Thames-st. ..	1	0	0
Prowse, J. H., Conduit-vale, Blackheath ..	1	0	0
Goodman, Thos., White Hart, Stafford-street, Wolverhampton ..	1	0	0
Bell, Thomas, Jun., Byker, near Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	1	0	0
Price, Charles, Jun., St. Thomas-street, Bristol ..	1	0	0
G. P., per Mr. Fenton, Dover ..	1	0	0
Browning, John, Farnham, Surrey ..	1	0	0
Smith, Joseph, banker, West Drayton, nr. Uxbridge ..	1	0	0
Appleton, J. M., 45, Curzon-street ..	1	0	0
Graig, John, corn miller and small farmer, Ullock-mill, near Cockermouth ..	0	10	0
Cotton, Andrew, 38, Union-street, Borough-road ..	0	2	6
Chick, George, Stapleton-road ..	1	0	0
Halsall, Edward, Norfolk-street ..	1	0	0
Ferrell, William Henry, Queen-square ..	1	0	0
Ferrell, Frederick, do. ..	1	0	0
Nash, Henry Shute, Great George's-street ..	1	1	0
Kerr, Alexander, Moore-park ..	10	0	0
Black, J. D., 3, John-street ..	1	0	0
Campbell, John, Renton, Dumfries ..	1	0	0
Huchanan, Andrew, M.D., 13, Moore-place ..	1	0	0
Nalanyth, Alexander, 5, St. Andrew's-square ..	1	0	0
Muir, David, wright, Kilmun, Ayrshire ..	1	0	0
Moreton and Langley, Wolverhampton ..	2	0	0
Kennedy, James, Clarence Foundry, Liverpool ..	2	0	0
Atherton, T. and H., Lees, near Manchester ..	2	0	0
Allison, Joshua, 5, Great George-place, Liverpool ..	1	1	0
Parsons, Rev. D., Ebley, near Stroud ..	1	1	0
Roberts, R. R., 5, Derby-terrace, Chester ..	1	1	0
Park, Jas., Stanley-street, Bury, Lancashire ..	1	0	0
Kwart, John, 5, Monument-place, Liverpool, do. ..	1	0	0
Sugar, Thos., 34, Castle-street, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Riley, Joseph, draper, Oldham ..	1	0	0
Kyre, Benjamin, 7, Derby-terrace, Stock-street, Chesham, Manchester ..	1	0	0
Hutchinson, Richard, at Alfred Orrell's, do. ..	1	0	0
Farrar, Jas., bleacher and dyer, Stand, Pilkington, near ..	1	0	0
Farrar, Thos., Nursey, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Farrar, Simon, Stand-lane, Pilkington, nr. do. ..	1	0	0
Wainman, J., Bedford-st., Broughton-rd., do. ..	1	0	0
Kitching, Vernon, 18, Oxford-street, do. ..	1	0	0
Feaster, John, Denton, near ..	1	0	0
Higginson and Coleman, Talbot-lane, Leicester ..	1	0	0
Butterworth, John and Brothers, Chesham-street, Rochdale ..	1	0	0
Simpson, Richard, Yorkshire-street, do. ..	1	0	0
Kershaw, James, Featherstall, near do. ..	1	0	0
Sutcliffe, Thos., Stoney-gate, near Hebdon-bridge ..	1	0	0
Hus, Gaukroger, Bankside, near do. ..	1	0	0
Nicholson, W. and J., Lees, near Manchester ..	1	0	0
Groom, Edward, 115, London-road, do. ..	1	0	0
Bury, J., 3, Bank-street, Balford ..	1	0	0
Johnson, Isaac, Highfield-square, Prescott ..	1	0	0
Patchett, Thos., White Lion, Hebdon bridge ..	1	0	0
Holman, Richard, Barrowford, near Colne ..	1	0	0
Holroyd, Henry, do. ..	1	0	0
Whyte, Alex., Rochdale-lane, Heywood, Lancashire ..	1	0	0
Heywood, William, care of J. Heywood, bookbinder, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Sagar, N. C., druggist, Market-st., do., do. ..	1	0	0
Hill, Thos., boiler maker, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Briggs, J., builder, Rochdale-lane, do., do. ..	1	0	0
Butter, Robert, shopkeeper, Hoo-leigh-bridge, near ..	1	0	0
Fluck, Wm., Vatch-mill, near Stroud ..	1	0	0
Belmead, Richard, Pagan-hill, near do. ..	1	0	0
Lacey, Richard, Middle-street, do. ..	1	0	0
Marling, Wm. and Thos. Walters, Whitehall, do. ..	1	0	0
Dixon, Josh., Tyne-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	1	0	0
Smith, Robert, Collingwood-street, do. ..	1	0	0
Holman, N. R., Bridge-street, Sheffield ..	1	0	0
A Fox to Monopoly, per Jas. Black ..	1	0	0
Rushish, Mr., 9, Tredgar-square, Mile-end-road ..	1	0	0
Adams, Henry, Much Woolton, near Liverpool ..	0	10	0
Thompson, Josh., Coal-yard, Nether Wilton, Morpeth ..	0	10	0
Hayles, Samuel, Longcombe-cottage, near Stroud ..	0	5	0
Evans, John, W. Market-street, Manchester ..	0	5	0
Dickinson, T., 8, Dale-street, do. ..	0	5	0
Ogden, N. R., High-street, do. ..	0	5	0
Parrell, Thomas, 39, High-street, Bow, Middlesex ..	0	5	0
Parrell, Joseph, Fairfield, do., do. ..	0	5	0
Hale, James, High-street, do., do. ..	0	5	0
Hulme, Jas., Clay hall, Old Ford, do., do. ..	0	5	0
Jones, C., Stratford, Essex ..	0	5	0

Those names marked with an asterisk are reserved subscriptions.

### Contributions to the Bazaar.

Benuchamp, Richard, 18, Marine-street, Brighton .. 50 0 0

Mather, Thomas, Glynn Abbott, near Holywell ..	20	0	0
Holland, Edward, Dumbleton-hall, Evesham ..	10	0	0
Felding, Joseph, Leicester ..	10	0	0
Donkin, Bryan, and Co., engineers, Bermondsey ..	5	5	0
A Friend to Free Trade, per Henry Lyons ..	5	0	0
Lowson, John, and Son, Dundee ..	5	0	0
Stuart, William, 17, Cateaton-street ..	3	3	0
Twigg, Joseph, Burslem ..	2	0	0
Pidduck, John, do. ..	2	0	0
Marillier, J. W., Leicester ..	1	1	0
Gover, Miss, 8, Chester-square ..	1	0	0
Barber, Gerard, Bilston ..	1	0	0
Forster, Miss, Green Bat Cottage, Alnwick ..	1	0	0
Monro, Mr., Enfield ..	1	0	0
A Friend to Free Trade, per Henry Lyons ..	1	0	0
Harker, George, Prescott ..	1	0	0
Walmesley, John, Bedford-street, Broughton-road, Manchester ..	1	0	0
Scott, Walter, Bradford, Yorkshire ..	1	0	0
Atherton, T. H., Lees, near Manchester ..	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mrs. Ibbotson, Huddersfield ..	0	10	0
Fisher, George, Hull ..	0	10	0
Whitaker, Mrs., Croft-cottage, Huddersfield ..	0	6	0
Watson and Duckworth, 12, George-st., Manchester ..	0	5	0
A Friend to Free Trade, per Jas. Black, of Haslingden ..	0	5	0
Holland, Mrs. A., The Heath, Knutsford ..	0	5	0

## ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 81, for Rutter, William, Castle-street, Bristol, 21, 1s., read Butler, William. And for Rickard, Matthew, 25, Broughton-road, Salford, 10s., and Rickard, Mrs., do., do., 10s., read Pickard, Matthew, and Pickard, Mrs.

## GENERAL M'DUFFIE.

A bound copy of the LEAGUE having been forwarded to General M'Duffie by George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the Council of the League, the former has returned the following acknowledgment:—

"Washington, March 11, 1845.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have just received your friendly and flattering letter, requesting me, in the name of the 'Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League' of Great Britain, to accept of a copy of the first volume of the LEAGUE, as a testimony of their esteem, founded upon the services I have rendered to the great cause of Free Trade with all nations. In accepting this gratifying token of their consideration and regard, I beg the Council to be assured that none other could have been selected more acceptable to me than this authentic record of the early and successful labours of an association which, from its commencement, I have regarded with the deepest interest, as being destined to produce a fundamental change in the commercial policy of Great Britain, which cannot but be followed by a corresponding change in the policy of all the commercial nations of the earth. Since the Saviour of our fallen race sent forth his chosen apostles to preach the sublime doctrine of 'Peace on earth and good will to all men,' no human association has been formed, in my opinion, better calculated to promote the peace, prosperity, and happiness of all nations than the Free-Trade League of Great Britain. A system of Free Trade, adopted by all nations, would bind them together by bonds of common interest and mutual good will, which the ambition of rulers could never tear asunder. Every nation would rejoice in the prosperity of all nations, as being essential to its own.

"And here the remark may be appropriately made, that there are no political communities on the face of the earth to which these views so forcibly apply as to Great Britain, France, and the other manufacturing nations of Europe on the one hand, and the agricultural staple states of the North American confederacy on the other. As a representative of the great exporting interest of these states, I habitually look upon the prosperity of Manchester with as much interest and gratification as I do upon that of Charleston or New York, and much more than I do upon that of Boston, which I am constrained to regard as the fruits of an unjust and oppressive system of legalized plunder, which confiscates at least one-fifth of the annual income of the cotton-planters to sustain a mercenary moneyed aristocracy of pampered and bloated monopolists.

"In conclusion I beg you to assure the League that they shall have my constant prayers for their success; that the time may speedily arrive when the banner of Free Trade shall wave in triumph over the whole world, and that, beneath its ample folds, 'the nations of the earth may pitch their tents in peace.' Accept for yourself, personally, the assurance of my high consideration and regard.

"Geo. M'DUFFIE.

"Geo. Wilson, Esq., Manchester, Great Britain."

ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURE IN SUSSEX.—Mr. Falvey lectured at Hailsham, on Wednesday evening last, in the large market-room at the Crown Inn. There was a good attendance of farmers and labourers; and the statements of the lecturer in proof of the injustice of the Corn Laws were listened to with the most respectful attention, and frequently applauded. At the close of the lecture, a large number of Mr. Cobden's speech on agricultural distress, and Mr. Bright's on the game laws, were distributed, and eagerly sought for by the assembled farmers.

THE CORN LAWS.—John Villiers Shelley, Esq., writing from Torquay to the editor of the *Sussex Agricultural Express*, says:—"However much it may suit party purposes to conceal the fact from the farmers, few are the persons who have studied the subject, who do not feel that the question of Free Trade is but a question of time. For my own part, as an owner and occupier of some of the poorest land in the county (Sussex), I do not fear the result. On the contrary, I am convinced that Lord John Russell hit the right nail on the head in saying that protection is the bane of agriculture."

AMERICAN WHEAT.—The *Ohio Statesman* estimates the surplus amount of wheat raised in that state the present year, after supplying their wants, at 20,000,000 of bushels.

## NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

The Council of the League, having determined upon holding a Bazaar in the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, London, in aid of the One Hundred Thousand Pounds Fund, beg to announce that it will open on Thursday, May 8th, for exhibition, and that on the succeeding Monday, the 12th of May, the sale of the articles will commence.

Many of the large manufacturing towns having intimated that they intend to furnish their stalls with articles illustrative of their staple manufacture, such contributions will not be removed at the period of sale, but remain on view till the close of the Bazaar.

Contributions may be forwarded, from the present time to the 1st of May, addressed to George Wilson, Esq., Chairman, at the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, London, where all the requisite arrangements will be made for their reception.

As the inquiry is repeatedly made as to whether the articles sent to the Bazaar should have the prices affixed by the contributors, or by the Committee of Management in London, it is respectfully requested that, wherever practicable, the contributors themselves will affix their own prices to the articles according to the known cost of the raw materials, and the additional value given by the labour subsequently expended upon them.

Upon application the Council will be happy to forward to any of the local committees, or individuals, who are preparing contributions, labels, on which may be placed the description of the article—the price—and the name of the contributor.

The Council also would earnestly urge upon their friends in the smaller towns and rural districts, where, from a variety of causes, it may not be practicable to obtain contributions in the shape of manufactured goods, or articles of taste or fancy, that efforts should be made to collect money contributions, and forward them before the 1st of May, as Bazaar purses in aid of the League Fund.

Such of the local committees as intend to furnish a stall, are earnestly requested to communicate with the Council without delay.

By order of the Council.

GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.

5, Newall's-buildings, Manchester,  
April 3, 1845.

## QUERIES RESPECTING THE BAZAAR.

We have received an immense quantity of letters, to which it is physically impossible to return separate replies; but, as the same information is applicable to all, we have resolved to classify the various heads of inquiry, and state under each the arrangements that have been fixed by the Council.

1. Are stalls to be assigned to towns and districts? It is of the utmost importance that the Bazaar, in addition to its immediate purpose, should serve as a classified exposition of the products of British industry, with a sufficient indication of the localities in which the various articles of manufacture are produced. The committees of all the towns intending to furnish stalls should forthwith communicate their intentions to the Council, and when two or more towns combine to furnish a district-stall,—a union which in many cases would be very desirable,—it is of importance to complete the arrangements for the junction as speedily as possible, and to communicate the result to the Council.

2. When will the arrangements made for the administration of the stalls and general management of the Bazaar be announced?

There will be a general meeting of the Ladies' Committee in the Theatre on Wednesday, May 7, when all the arrangements will be detailed; and during the interval the London Secretaries and those of the metropolitan districts will frequently meet to discuss details. It is desirable that local secretaries, as they come up from the country, should attend these meetings, and in the meantime transmit to the general Secretary for London such information and hints as they deem likely to be useful.

3. Have accommodations been provided for ladies attending the stalls?

A sufficient number of dressing-rooms and refreshment-rooms will be reserved for the exclusive use of the ladies attending the stalls; and the number of ladies who have promised to undertake this duty is sufficiently great to allow of their being relieved from time to time, so as to prevent their finding the duty of attending to the sales onerous or inconvenient. On this point it is impossible to lay down fixed rules beforehand, because every day will bring its own special exigencies; but on all sides we find that there is an anxious desire to make every effort for mutual accommodation. We

believe that there will be always a sufficient number of volunteers at hand to take the place of those ladies at stalls who may desire temporary relief from attendance.

4. Have any arrangements been made respecting lodgings?

It is found impossible for the Committee of Management in London to undertake the task of providing lodgings for the ladies who come up from the country. Tastes vary so much respecting the choice of localities, the nature and amount of accommodations, and various other circumstances, that it would be impossible to arrange any general plan. Such members of local committees as have friends in London, would act wisely in getting them to secure apartments, and to make all other preliminary arrangements at their earliest convenience.

The London Secretaries met in the green-room of Covent-garden, on Thursday last, and resolved to commence a canvass for attendants on the stalls, so as to ensure a sufficient number of relays, to prevent fatigue or too much exertion. They expressed great anxiety for the early appearance of their sister secretaries from the country, that they might have the benefit of their advice and assistance.

Great interest was excited by the advanced state of the preparations, which were minutely examined by the lady secretaries, and very much admired.

#### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

We respectfully request our friends in the country, who are forwarding contributions to the Bazaar, to transmit a separate note per post, intimating that their packets have been despatched. If this request be complied with, we shall be able to ascertain whether all the contributions which our friends may kindly forward arrive to hand. We would also further beg that contributors will cause to be marked on the exterior of their packages, either their names or some initials or numbers by which such packages may be distinguished; and that they will state in their letters of advice by what external marks their parcels may be identified.

The following persons have kindly undertaken to receive and forward contributions to the Bazaar in their respective towns:—

Aberystwith—Mr. Josh. Roberts, London-house.

Accrington—Mr. E. Barker.

Ashton-under-Lyne—Hugh Mason, Esq.

Mr. Henry Gartside.

Bacup—Messrs. Robert Munn and Brother.

Barnsley—Messrs. Harvey and Co.

Bedford—E. Master, Esq., Tavistock-street.

G. Gray, Esq., Harper-street.

T. Sander, Esq., Silver-street.

Bilston—Rev. W. H. Bonner.

Bolton—John Dean, Esq., Silverwell-house.

John Bayley, Esq., Newport-terrace.

Thomas Tong, Esq., Bradford-place.

H. Hollins, Esq., Rose-hill.

T. Thomasson, High-bank.

Bradford (Yorkshire)—Mr. J. Farrar, hatter.

Buckingham—W. D. Harris.

Burley—Mr. James Roberts, Tarlton-house, near.

Mr. George Holgate, Spring-hill, near.

Mr. John Moore.

Carlisle—Mr. Fisher, Athenaeum, Lowther-street.

Carmarthen—Henry Norton, Esq., Brewery.

Cambridge—H. J. Foster, Esq., Thompson-lane.

Canterbury—John Brent, Esq.

Chapel-en-le-Frith—Josh. Carrington, Esq.

Chichester—Rev. J. Fullager.

Coalbrookdale—Abraham Darby, Esq.

Cockermouth—Jon. Harris, Papcastle, near.

Colchester—J. B. Harvey, Esq.

James Hurnard, Esq.

Colne—Rev. R. Aspinall.

Mr. Thomas England.

Mr. Aspinall.

Coventry—Mr. Thomas Berry, Ironmoger-row.

Darlington—T. A. Cockin, Esq.

Derby—Thomas Madeley, Esq.

Devonport—Mr. Samuel Oram, Market-street.

Rev. J. Pyer, Nelson-house, St. Aubyn-st.

Doncaster—Mr. R. Milner, French-gate.

Mr. John Hastie, Baxter-gate.

Dover—S. M. Latham, Esq.

Dudley—Rev. John Palmer.

C. Twamley, Esq.

W. C. Wood, Esq.

Dundee—Mr. John G. Baxter, Messrs. Baxter, Brothers and Co.'s.

Mr. John Turnbull, Cowgate.

Mr. George Stephen, Castle-street.

Durham—Mr. Josh. Holmes, Elvet-bridge.

Mr. Geo. Burdon, Claypath.

Mr. N. Oliver.

Edinburgh—Messrs. J. and W. Harrison, 2, Drummond-street.

James Thompson, Esq., 168, High-street.

J. Dalrymple, Esq., 29, Frederick-street.

Exeter—Thomas Beley, Esq., Chronicle Office.

Frome—Mr. Levi Wood, Hapsford, near

Mr. J. Gregory, Vallis Way.

Glasgow, and the West of Scotland—David Murray, Esq., 92, Queen-street.

Halifax—Mr. Thomas Denton, Old Market.

Messrs. Bates and Hootson, West-hill.

Hertford—Mr. R. Shillito.

High Wycombe—Mr. R. Lucas, High-street.

Mr. Geo. Church, White Hart-street.

Messrs. W. T. Baker and Son, Church-square.

Middlefield—F. Schwann, Esq.

Hull—Sir William Lowthrop.

Mr. E. F. Collins.

Dr. Gordon.

Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring, Newport.

Kendal—Mr. J. Thomson, Jun., Stramorgate.

Rev. Edward Hawkes.

Keighley—Samuel Thompson, Esq.

Knarborough—Mr. Thomas Addyman, High-street.

Mr. John Joy, Windsor-lane.

Lancaster—Thomas Johnson, Esq.

George Jackson, Esq.

Landport—Mr. W. Bilton, Union-road.

Mr. Thomas Ross.

Leicester—Joseph Biggs, Esq.

Leighton Buzzard—Mr. M'Cheyne.

Mr. Payne.

Leominster—Mr. J. V. Chilcott.

Liverpool—James Mullenoux, Esq.

J. Taylor Crook, Esq.

Mrs. J. B. Cooke, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

Mrs. Henry Roscoe, Abercrombie-square.

Mrs. Abbott, 10, Elliott-street.

Mrs. C. E. Rawlins, jun., 28, Catherine-st.

London—Geo. Wilson, Esq., Theatre Royal, Covent-garden.

Macclesfield—Mr. Richard Hine.

Mr. Samuel Jasper.

Mr. Joseph Howe.

Mr. R. Wilson.

Mr. J. Rathbone.

Mr. John Ballantyne.

Manchester—Geo. Wilson, Esq., 5, Newall's-buildings.

Nantwich—Messrs. Barker, Pepper-street.

Rev. James Hawkes, Hospital-street.

Newark—Mr. John Tiddaman, Castle-gate.

Mr. Andrew Brooks, Beaumont-cross.

Mr. W. Andrews, St. Mark's-square.

Newcastle-under-Lyne—Mr. Elias Shaw.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Mr. D. Liddell, Carlisle-street.

Newport, Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring.

Northampton—M. J. Jones, Mayorhold.

Northwich—C. Green, Esq.

Norwich—W. Freeman, Esq., London-street.

W. Ladell, Esq., Newmarket-road.

J. Saltzer, Esq., St. Augustine's.

C. Winter, Esq., Upper Market.

J. G. J. Bateman, Esq., St. George's.

C. N. Bolingbroke, Esq., St. Clement's.

Nottingham—W. Cripps, Esq., Mount-street.

S. Beau, Esq.

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Paisley—H. Macfarlane, Esq., jun.

Mr. M. Whitehill.

Plymouth—Mr. Burnett, Bilbury-street.

John Symons, Esq., Kinterbury-street.

Pontefract—W. Kidd, Shoe-market.

Poole—G. R. Penney, Esq.

Preston—Mr. G. Cartwright, Cheapside.

Mr. J. Livesey, Guardian office.

Reading—Mr. Joseph Christy, Crown-street.

Mrs. E. Christy, do.

Henry Hobbs, Esq., Witley.

James Boone, jun., Esq., Mill-lane.

Rochdale—Jacob Bright, jun., Esq., Greenbank.

Geo. Ashworth, Esq., Holland-street.

Mr. Charles Walker, Yorkshire-street.

Mr. T. B. Stephens, South-street.

St. Columb—Mr. W. Northy.

Mr. W. Brown, jun.

Salisbury—John Lambert, Esq.

Scarborough—Rev. Benjamin Evans.

Henry Etherington, Esq.

Sheffield—Mr. George Tucker.

Southampton—Richard Andrews, Esq.

Southport—Richard Johnson, Esq., solicitor.

Staleybridge—Mr. Dakin Cheetham, Rasebottom-street.

Mr. J. Davis, Grosvenor-street.

Stockton-on-Tees—Mr. Thos. Heavyside, Finkle-street.

Stonehouse—Mr. Thomas Backwell.

Stourbridge—William Akroyd, Esq.

Stroud—Thos. Parsons, 2, Granville-cottage.

Sunderland—Thos. Thompson, solicitor, 53, Villiers-st.

Thos. Patterson, commission agent, Bridge-street.

N. C. Reed, solicitor, 64, Fawcett-street.

Henry Ogden, doctor in medicine, Dunning-street.

Edward Capper Robson, miller, 37, Frederick-street.

Anthony J. Moore, solicitor, 8, Bridge-st.

Geo. Hardcastle, auctioneer, 3, Norfolk-st.

Swansea—Mr. J. Jenkins, Wind-street.

Mr. J. Rutter, Strand.

Todmorden—Mr. Veevers, Kilnhurst.

Mr. R. Chambers.

Wakefield—Mrs. James Micklethwaite, Rishworth-house.

Mrs. Nettleton, Westgate.

Mr. J. Rhodes, Kirkgate.

Mr. Jno. Heslton, Northgate.

Warrington—J. G. M'Minnes, Esq.

P. Rylands, Esq.

Edward West, Esq.

Whitehaven—Mr. R. Gordon.

Mr. Backhouse.

Thos. Alnsworth, Esq., the Floss.

Wigan—Mr. J. J. Finnigan, Buck-l'-th'-Vine Inn.

Yarmouth—Mr. D. A. Gowlay, Market-row.

J. Bayly, Esq.

York—Messrs. Fletcher and Noddings, Clementhorpe.

The Messrs Noddings, Mount-parade.

The Messrs Lyons, Lendal.

R. Taylor, Esq., Park-place, Monkgate.

had already canvassed several inhabitants of the ward with great success.

J. SORRELL, Hon. Sec.

#### PRESTON.

The contributions in Preston are going on well. The town has been partially canvassed this week, and donations and promises of aid have been made by persons of all classes. The Ladies' Committee are zealous and active, hold their meetings regularly, and have received some handsome gifts, which will be hereafter specified. Among the contributors this week are—Mr. Blackhurst, North-road, four dozen of smelling salts; Mr. Livesey, articles to the value of £10; Mr. George Smith, articles to the value of £20; Mr. Jacobs, a box of fancy bread; Mr. Ascroft, articles to the value of £10; Mr. Charnley, twenty autograph copies of Dearden's "History of Teetotalism;" Mr. Penny, corner of Lune-street, £1; Mr. Hargreaves, Salmon-street, goods, value £1; Mr. Cliff, Hill-street, £1; Mr. Ord, £1; Mr. Croft, to the value of £1. 5s.; Mr. Bromfitt and others, a beehive, value £3; Mr. Brotherton, Cross-street, a piano workbox; Mr. Atkinson, chain and other fancy articles; Mr. Brown, Church-street, a drum of figs; Mr. and Mrs. Critchley, Church-street, bottles and a French workbox; Mr. Maudo, three German lucifer-boxes; Mr. Huffman, some clogs; Mr. James Starkie, a handsome birdcage; Mr. Bradley, a model of an improved hose; Mr. Swindlehurst, a crimping machine, value £5. 5s.; Mr. Jones, an improved power-loom, recently patented, expected to sell for £20; Mr. Dawson, brass-founder, brass ornaments, value £5; Mr. Higson, fancy knives and other articles, and donations in money of sums less than a pound, £4. 13s.; Miss C. Wright, Kirkham, a splendid rug, value £4.—*Preston Guardian*.

#### WHITEHAVEN.

We remind the Free-Traders of this locality, that the time during which they can prepare to aid the great Free-Trade demonstration—an act which they will look back to with satisfaction through all their future lives—is very brief. Though it is not required that the carriage of contributions be paid, yet this should be done, and, by a number of parties in the same locality arranging together, the expense will be very small. We shall be happy to receive contributions at our office.—*Whitehaven Herald*.

#### THE POTTERIES.

We understand that contributions, amounting to nearly £1000, have been promised to the earthenware and china stall of the League Bazaar, by manufacturers and residents in the Staffordshire Potteries.—*Staffordshire Mercury*.

#### PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT.

We are glad to find that both Plymouth and Devonport will be represented in this great and important gathering. From Plymouth there will be many models of the Breakwater and Lighthouse, composed of some of the finest specimens from the Breakwater marble quarries; models of the Eddystone Lighthouse of the same material; engravings and drawings, among which will be some contributions from the most celebrated men of the neighbourhood. Besides these there will be letter presses, slabs, wafer presses, rulers, wafer stands, all made from a collection of some of the finest marble that Devonshire produces, and they are remarkable for their extreme beauty and neatness of manufacture; vases of serpentine stone; fossils, shells, and minerals of Devon and Cornwall; ladies' ornamental and fancy work in great variety, besides pecuniary contributions. Many ladies are working silently, but most industriously, in promoting this great object in our own locality.

The Free-Traders of Devonport are working well; they have already a number of models of ships quite rigged and ready to put to sea for the great mart in Covent-garden Theatre. We have no doubt on their arrival in town they will meet with a gallant salute. It will be seen from what we have stated that this locality will do its duty. It cannot boast, perhaps, of its individual residents, who, like those in the north of England, ask for a Bazaar stall for a contribution of goods to the value of £500; but it does boast of men and women who are hearty in the cause, and ready to give to it the aid of their purse, and the labour of their hands. Those who may be desirous of contributing to the Bazaar, may forward their articles to Mr. Symons, the Secretary of the Plymouth Free-Trade Association, who will be most happy to receive them. We hope he will have to put on an extra waggon for their conveyance to town.—*Plymouth Journal*.

#### LEEDS.

We have much pleasure in stating that there is every prospect of the Leeds stall, at Covent-garden, being creditable to this important town; but we hope this announcement will not slacken the zeal, or diminish the liberality, of the Free-Traders. In other towns the spirit and energy appear to increase, as the time for exertion diminishes, and contributions come in with accelerated rapidity. We beg to remind our readers that all may serve the cause who will.—*Leeds Mercury*.

#### BIRMINGHAM AND SHEFFIELD.

A manufacturer, writing to the *Manchester Guardian*, says:—"I have had occasion to visit Birmingham and Sheffield, and have been surprised and delighted at the magnificent preparations making by various manufacturers in those towns for that event. Instead of contenting themselves with presenting articles out of their stock, many of them are at a very considerable expense, really exhausting their skill and ingenuity, and that of their workpeople, in the production of articles which, for design and execution, shall be exhibited to the scrutiny of all who visit the Bazaar, as productions upon which they are willing to stake their reputation. I had the pleasure of seeing one or two of the articles so prepared, and certainly, judging from these as specimens of the rest, I shall not grudge a visit to London for the purpose of inspecting the contents of these two stalls alone."

#### NOTTINGHAM.

We again remind the friends of Free Trade in this town and neighbourhood, that their contributions to the forthcoming Bazaar, in aid of the League fund, which is to be held in Covent-garden Theatre on the 8th of May, should, on no account whatever, be delayed beyond the 30th of April. Mr. S. Bean, of Clinton-street, and Mr. W. Cripps, of Mount-street, have, we understand, agreed to receive all contributions that may be forwarded to

#### THE BAZAAR.

#### PORTOKEN WARD.

At a numerous and highly respectable meeting of the members of the Anti-Corn-Law and Free-Trade Association of the Ward of Portoken, held the 2nd of April inst.—Mr. Thomas Rhoads in the chair,—it was proposed by Mr. Wilde, seconded by Mr. M. T. Levitt, and unanimously carried:—"That this association pledges itself to carry out to the utmost extent in their power the views of the League with respect to the Bazaar."—Mr. J. G. Rhoads reported that the business committee



them on or before that day. We cannot but think that the Nottingham stall ought to be one of the most attractive and profitable in the Bazaar; and surely the friends of humanity and sound commercial legislation will exert themselves to render it worthy of the town, and of the cause to which it is consecrated. There will, we trust, be a contribution of lace from nearly every manufacturer, the costlier and finer the better; and our hosiery establishments should make a point in forwarding, in addition to the more staple goods, the finest specimens of frame-work-knitting that have been produced. It would be superfluous in us to attempt to argue the desirability of such a course; suffice it to say, that there is no town more interested in the triumph of Free-Trade principles, comparatively speaking, than Nottingham. The manufacturers and artisans of Leicester are alive to this important undertaking; so are the Free-Traders of Derby. Is Nottingham to be left in the rear? A word in season to our fellow-townsmen will not, we are sure, be deemed intrusive or out of place.—*Nottingham Review*.

## BRADFORD.

Many of our townspeople and neighbours intend availing themselves of the special trains to behold this unparalleled sight; there will, indeed, be for a few days quite a depletion of the crowded population of the borough. We should be glad if, in the meantime, some of the intended visitors would become liberal contributors. There is great apathy on the part of many well disposed to the cause of Free Trade, and well able to afford it valuable support, who ought not only to give "in kind," but in effort, to this brilliant enterprise; and we beg respectfully to remind those whose services and contributions to this great national work exist as yet only in intention, to remember that they will be unavailing if allowed to remain in so intangible a form many days longer. Some contributions have already been received; and those who have promised to aid will see that but little time remains for them to fulfil their engagements.

Now, it is not necessary that anybody should decline giving because he has not much to give: it will be the multitude of little things which will make up the great whole; and the shoemaker who sends a pair of slippers or child's shoes, on which he has expended his ingenuity and toil, does virtually as much to help on the good cause as the wealthy manufacturer who gives "of his abundance." We cannot help hoping, notwithstanding present appearances, which are certainly unfavourable, that Bradford will not be behind neighbouring towns in the value and variety of its contributions to the Bazaar.—*Bradford Observer*.

## EDINBURGH.

As appears by an advertisement in the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle*, "It has been resolved to exhibit the elegant collection of articles, supplied by the ladies of the metropolis of Scotland (they are worthy of the taste and fingers that framed them), on Tuesday the 29th, and to send the whole off to London, per steamer, on the following day. Ladies and gentlemen of Edinburgh, Leith, and surrounding district, interested in this Bazaar (who have not already done so), are especially requested to send in their contributions on or before the 28th instant."

## ROSCOMMON.—HUMAN INDUSTRY AND HUMAN BLOOD.

(From the *Morning Advertiser*.)

## TO THE BELIEVERS IN PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURE.

Ireland is at present the scene of a species of human strife, perhaps matchless in the history of the world. At all events, it has never been witnessed in England nor in Ireland. Agrarian outrages have been common in the latter country, and of great variety. So have they been at different periods in England. Last year they took the form of England of stock and farm-yard burning. The disaffected destroyed property to intimidate its owners and occupiers, and some of them were convicted and transported. In Ireland they have seldom set fire to farm-yards, but they have occasionally indulged in "wrecking" the houses of unfriendly parties. They have pulled down gates and fences, or have prevented such from being set up. More frequently they have sought to fulfil their purpose of retaining possession of land, or of renewing possession, or of being revenged when the land was lost, by attacks on human life. But, in whichever shape the outrage may have been committed, the agrarian crime, in England or in Ireland, has been destructive either of life or property.

Not so the new crime now prevalent in the county of Roscommon, in Ireland. Three hundred men associate together to make land worth more than it is lying in grass, without cultivation; they insist on the land being brought into cultivation. The police are sent to hinder them. They will not be hindered. They defend themselves from arrest with the implements of their labour. A collision takes place; the police fire upon them, and some are shot dead and some wounded. The strife is called the *conacre war*, and is common in different parts of the west of Ireland, this being the season for planting potatoes. The latest collision is thus reported in the *Londonderry Journal*, a Tory paper:—

"On Wednesday last an unfortunate occurrence took place at Ballinacra, near Strokestown, in which one man lost his life. A party of six policemen were out on patrol at mid-day, and came on a party of upwards of 300 men, in the act of turning up a large grass field. They ordered them to desist, but they would not. The police then made prisoners of some of the fellows, on which one of them made a blow at one of the police with his toy, and fortunately struck only his cap, and another of the police seeing his comrade in such danger, discharged his piece and shot the fellow dead and wounded two others. The police and military in that district are dreadfully harassed, patrolling night and day, and are still unable to prevent the peasantry turning up whole fields of grass land, they declaring that they must have *conacre*. We have heard that there are to be a hundred additional police, four head constables, and two sub-inspectors sent into the country."

The English reader must bear in mind that the police in Ireland are all armed, armed to the teeth.

The *Roscommon Journal* says, "This county has never been so disturbed a state, owing, unfortunately, to the wickedness of the peasantry, and their anxiety to raise food for themselves and their starving families. Many a time and oft, we told the landed proprietors of Roscommon that their depopulating system, and anxiety

to clear their lands in order to occupy them themselves, or let them to some rich grazier, would create a reaction," &c. &c.

Let us compare this competition for *conacre* (land rented for the potato season, and usually rented at a prodigious price, running in most parts of Tipperary, where the system is at its height, from £7 to £12, and even £14 per acre!)—let us compare this competition for land in Ireland with what some of us do and say in England. I mean those of us who contend for their Corn Law,—or for what we call—most unjustly call—"protection to agriculture."

We say land will be thrown out of cultivation, rents will not be paid, capital will recede from the soil, and fertile England will become one great grass pasture, if the Corn Law be abolished.

I do not now halt to refute this unfounded nonsense in all the ways in which it may be refuted; but I may here remark that nothing but the depopulation of a country can put land out of cultivation. As the population increases, so does the profit of the land. Market-gardens and farms near towns, or in thickly-peopled districts, prove this; not, perhaps, by the amount of profit pocketed by the market-gardeners or farmers, but by the high rents paid from good ready-money markets and excessive competition.

More employment, better wages, and more bread for the people generally, would greatly increase the demand for all kinds of animal food in England, and much of the soil would, with a Free Trade in corn, be profitably used in providing for the fattening of animals for the butchers. The enlarged quantities of manure thus provided (science and good sense saving much of that which is now lost) would make the cultivation of grain crops more easy and more profitable, even at a lower price than they are now selling at.

When there was no further false reed to lean to for support, the farmer would strengthen his own energies. When there was no longer a Corn Law, prices would be kept more equal by the extended sources of supply, and farmers could thus calculate with much more certainty than they can now, what they could afford to give for and do to land. When there was no Corn Law, nor landlord supremacy to maintain in the House of Commons, there would be less disposition on the part of landlords to refuse to give leases to their tenants. When leases become common, capital would flow to the cultivation of the soil. At present it recedes from it: capital shrinks from uncertainty. The agriculture of England is the very essence of uncertainty; it suffers accordingly.

Now, capital, as applied to the culture of land, consists of anything that promotes fertility. It is not necessarily cash. Ploughs are farming capital, so are horses and cows, so is manure, so are drains which draw off the water, and the spades which dig drains, and the hands which wield the spades.

Moneyed capital will procure all these things, but they sometimes exist and seek investment in the land—seek to make the land fertile, when they could not be converted into money.

Thus a farmer may have a family to house, able and willing to work on their farm—they are as good to him as so much moneyed capital. In this respect they are like the competitors for the *conacre* in Ireland.

The latter exclaims, in effect, if not in words, "the land is now thrown out of cultivation. We will give a higher rent for it than it pays now that it is in grass. We will make it produce a greater abundance of human food than it now produces. Let us labour at it—let us devote capital to its cultivation—the capital of sinew and sweat."

The owners of this land, who are amongst those most ready to exclaim that the withdrawal of protection would throw land out of cultivation, say, "No, you shall not give capital to the cultivation of our land. We will not have you. If you insist we will shoot you. We have got rid of you already; we have thrown our estates out of cultivation, and so they shall remain; they give us least trouble this way—less profit, but least trouble. Besides, we have got rid of the Catholics by laying the land in grass: it requires few people to manage it. Stand off; you shall not bring the land into cultivation! Stand off, or we will shoot you!"

The peasantry, or the *human capital* of the land, as they may be called, rejoice, "Then shoot us! We must cultivate the land or die. If we must die either way, slay us now!"

It is not long since an agricultural baronet was telling a meeting of tenants and labourers in England, that if the Corn Law was repealed no rent would be paid. A labourer, in a smockfrock, exclaimed, "Then give I five acres, Sir Charles."

Sir Charles replied, "You could not live on it; you would have no capital to cultivate it."

"Ees would I," rejoined the labourer. "I and my family would make capital of our hands. Us would live on it, and have surmount good to sell also."

Land would never go out of cultivation but by depopulation; and there is no limit to the productive power of land as science and population advance. So far the threats of farms going out of cultivation, in the absence of the Corn Law, are the reverse of true, if trade and employment increase with the increasing population.

But a lesson may be learned from Ireland. From the competition for land there is a lesson of another kind, a lesson which teaches the fearful results of a country having little trade; of the agricultural population so far outnumbering the manufacturing and trading population as it does in Ireland.

What would England be if her trade was as small, and her struggle for *conacre* as much a matter of life and death, as in Ireland?

Above all, if England were in this condition, who would buy and pay for the cattle fed on the grass lands of Roscommon?

Were there no Lancashire, nor port of Liverpool, to swallow up the half million of Irish pigs annually imported, and the whole million of other live animals, what would be the use of the Roscommon county constabulary to protect the grass? Who would pay them? Where would they come from?

Let the landlords of Roscommon try to make it a Lancashire, though at an humble distance, and the grass fields will not be lavished as now by hostile spades. Human industry will not be wasted as now. Human blood will not be spilt as now.

Rhetoric without logic, is like a tree with leaves and blossoms, but no root.—*Selden*.

## REVIEW.

*History of the Consulate and Empire of France under Napoleon.* By M. A. Thiers, late Prime Minister of France. Translated by D. Forbes Campbell, Esq. London, Colburn.

The campaign of Marengo was one of the most interesting in its events, and important in its results, that can be found in the annals of war. It was Napoleon's reply to the ungracious and impolitic letters addressed to him by the English Ministers, when they rejected his proffers of peace. Mr. Pitt believed that the French finances were too disorganized to allow of the Republican Government affording effective relief to its armies in Italy and Egypt; the Austrian Government adopted the same opinion: and it must be confessed that the position of Massena in Genoa, and of Kleber at Cairo, afforded some justification for this error. Napoleon craftily increased the delusion of his adversaries by assembling a mock army of reserve at Dijon, while he secretly brought the entire strength of France to the foot of the Alps by a series of movements which, from their apparent want of unity and system, never awakened the slightest suspicion. The plan of the campaign was based on the possibility of getting into the rear of the Austrians, and enveloping them in a net similar to that in which they actually held Massena; for this purpose it was necessary to force a passage over the Alps, and after some brief discussion it was resolved that this should be attempted by the perilous track, rather than road, which then passed over the Great St. Bernard. Some notion of the difficulties to be encountered may be formed from the following extract:—

"One of the divisions of the army was to pass every day. The operation would, therefore, last several days, especially on account of the *matériel*, which it was requisite to forward with the divisions. While the troops were successively coming up, others fell to work. The provisions and ammunition were moved off first. For this part of the *matériel*, which might be divided, and placed on the backs of mules in small chests, the difficulty was not so great as for the rest. It consisted only in the insufficiency of the means of transport; for, notwithstanding the lavish expenditure of money, there were not so many mules as were required for the enormous weight that was to be carried to the other side of the St. Bernard. However, the provisions and ammunition having crossed along with the divisions of the army, and with the assistance of the soldiers, the artillery at length demanded attention. The gun-carriages and the ammunition waggons had been taken to pieces, as we have said, and placed upon mules. The cannon themselves were still left, and their weight could not be reduced by the division of the load. With the twelve-pounders, in particular, and with the howitzers, the difficulty was greater than had been at first expected. The sledges upon wheels, constructed in the arsenals, could not be used. A method was contrived, tried immediately, and found to answer: this was, to split the trunks of fir trees in two, to hollow them out, to encase each piece of artillery within two of these half trunks, and to drag it thus covered, along the ravines. Owing to these precautions, no collision could damage it. Mules were harnessed to this singular load, and served to draw several pieces to the summit of the Col. But the descent was more difficult: that could only be effected by strength of arms, and by incurring infinite dangers, because it was necessary to keep hold of the piece, and, while holding, to prevent it from slipping down the precipices. Unfortunately, the mules began to be knocked up. The muleteers, also, a great number of whom were required, were exhausted. It was then proposed to have recourse to other means. The peasants of the environs were offered so much as a thousand francs for every piece of cannon which they should agree to drag from St. Pierre to St. Remy. It took a hundred men to drag each, one day to get it up and another to get it down. Some hundreds of peasants came forward, and actually took several pieces of cannon across, under the direction of artillerymen. But even the allurements of gain was not strong enough to induce them to repeat the effort. All of them disappeared, and though officers were sent in quest of them, and made large offers to bring them back, these were of no avail, so that it was found necessary to ask the soldiers of the divisions to drag their artillery themselves. From such devoted soldiers anything might be obtained. To encourage them, they were promised the money which the disheartened peasants would not earn; but they refused it, saying it was a point of honour for a body of troops to save their cannon, and they laid hold of the forsaken pieces. Parties of one hundred men, successively quitting the ranks, dragged them, each to its turn. The hard played culleving airs at difficult points of the passage, and encouraged them to surmount obstacles of so novel a nature. On reaching the summit of the mountain, they found refreshment prepared by the monks of St. Bernard; and they took some rest before they made greater and more perilous efforts in the descent. In this manner Chamberlain's and Monnier's divisions dragged their artillery themselves; and, as the advanced hour did not permit them to descend the same day, they chose rather to bivouac on the snow than to leave their cannon. Luckily the weather was serene; so that they had not its inclemency to endure, in addition to the difficulties of the ground."

But after having crossed the mountain an unforeseen obstacle presented itself: the fortress of Bard blocked the defile through which alone they could pass into Italy; it was strongly fortified, defended by a brave garrison, and the efforts made to take it by storm totally failed!—

The First Consul directed his attention to the fort of Bard. The French were in possession of the only great composing the town, but could only pass through it by such a power of bulls that it would be scarcely possible to get through with artillery, though the distance was but two or three hundred fathoms. The consequence was

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of Vienna, which had kept them under such fatal illusions, and thus plunged them into an abyss."

It was the influence which he obtained by this brilliant campaign that enabled Napoleon to effect the internal tranquillization of France, and thus remove every plausible pretence for foreign powers to interfere with the Consular Government. The British expedition to Egypt, by forcing the French army in that country to a capitulation, removed another obstacle to a general peace; and the restoration of Christianity in France conciliated those who had hitherto regarded the Revolution as inconsistent with all principles of social order. Peace was, however, delayed by the insanity of George III.; that monarch, whose attacks of mania were far more frequent than is generally supposed, was visited by this disease at the moment when the union between England and Ireland was formed. There were persons who attributed this calamity to the eagerness with which Mr. Pitt pressed on the reluctant mind of his royal master the justice of the claims of the Irish Catholics to a full participation in the rights and privileges of the British constitution, while others saw in the obstinacy with which the King resisted these claims, evidence of the continued aberration of intellect from which George III. was rarely, if ever, entirely free. The conduct of all parties at this crisis has won the hearty approbation of M. Thiers:—

"The feeble intellect of George III. was unequal to bear the violence of the political crisis. He was seized with a fresh attack of insanity, and during a month was incapable of fulfilling the functions of royalty. Mr. Pitt had sent in his resignation. Mr. Addington and Lord Hawkesbury were the ministers appointed to succeed him, but had not yet received the seals of office. Mr. Pitt, although he had ceased to be minister, was still, in fact, King of England during this crisis of nearly a month's duration, and was so by the consent of the whole nation. Explanations took place upon the subject in the House of Commons. They were of a very delicate nature; they were demanded by Mr. Sheridan, and given in noble, statesmanlike language by Mr. Pitt. The various motions usually made in the English Parliament upon the state of the country were postponed, and it perhaps occurred to some distrustful minds that Mr. Pitt prolonged, without reluctance, the sort of royal authority which he enjoyed. He trusted it would be believed, to use his own language at the time, that in the event of Ministers being no longer able to receive the commands of his Majesty from his own mouth, they would propose measures to which it was unnecessary to allude more distinctly, but which they should not delay for one single day. They found themselves placed by their duty in an unprecedented situation, which they should not wish, on any account, to prolong one instant more than strict necessity required."

Mr. Sheridan replied to this, by expressing the utmost confidence, that neither Mr. Pitt nor any other minister would ever presume to take advantage of the unhappy condition of the King's health, to prolong, for one moment, a power equal to that of the sovereign himself.

"The most delicate reserve was observed. The word which characterized the real condition of the King, that of madness, did not escape the lips of any one; and the nation waited with anxiety, but with perfect composure, the issue of this extraordinary crisis. During this period, Mr. Pitt induced subsidies to be voted, which no one opposed; the English fleets were got ready for sea, and Admirals Parker and Nelson left Yarmouth with forty-seven sail, and proceeded towards the Baltic."

For the present we shall conclude with a statement of the circumstances that hastened the conclusion of the peace of Amiens:—

"All sensible, reflecting men in England were in favour of peace. This feeling had the powerful support of the King and the people. The pious and obstinate King of England, who refused the emancipation of the Catholics to Mr. Pitt, out of fidelity to the Protestant cause, did not the less rejoice at the restoration of Catholicism in France, a re-establishment which was expected soon to take place. He viewed in that the triumph of religious principles, and was content. He had a great aversion to the French Revolution, and, although General Bonaparte had thwarted and seriously counteracted the policy of England, he was greatly pleased with him for the reaction against that revolution, and, for reinstating true social principles in public opinion. France, which possesses in such an eminent degree the power of communicating to other nations the feelings she herself experiences, being now calmed down, brought back to sound notions, King George III. regarded the blessings of social order as preserved to mankind. If with Mr. Pitt the war had been one of national ambition, as respected George III. it had been a war of principle. General Bonaparte might, therefore, consider him as a friend, but a friend of a very different stamp from Paul I. Having recovered from the attack which had obscured his reason during several months, he was now decidedly inclined to peace, and pressed his ministers to conclude it. The English people, fond of novelty, looked upon a peace with the French as the greatest of novelties; for they had slaughtered each other, during the last ten years, in every quarter of the world; attributing also the prevailing scarcity to the sanguinary struggle which desolated both land and sea, they called loudly for a reconciliation with France. Moreover, the new Prime Minister, Mr. Addington, unfit to aspire to the same glory as Mr. Pitt, to whom he was greatly inferior in talents, in celebrity, and in general administrative capacity, had but one plain intelligible object in view, which was to make peace. He accordingly desired to bring it about, and Mr. Pitt, still powerful in Parliament, counselled him to this step as the most expedient. The events in the north, far from swelling the pride of England, disposed her, on the contrary, to seize a very convenient and very honourable opportunity of negotiating. The new Minister had determined upon this on the day he assumed office; and he was only confirmed in his resolution when the intelligence reached him of what had taken place at Copenhagen and St. Petersburg. Going still further, he decided upon making a direct overture to

the First Consul, which would correspond with the initiative taken by the latter towards England upon his accession to power.

"Lord Hawkesbury, who presided over the Foreign-office in Mr. Addington's administration, sent for M. Otto. This gentleman transacted in London, as we have already seen, the diplomatic business relative to the prisoners, and had been six months before intrusted with the duties connected with the naval armistice. He was, therefore, the natural medium of fresh communications which were about to take place between the two Governments. Lord Hawkesbury informed M. Otto, that the King had confided to him a most agreeable task, the knowledge of which would no doubt cause as much pleasure in France as in England, and this was to propose peace. He said that his Majesty was even ready to send a plenipotentiary to Paris, if it were so desired, or to any other city more agreeable to the French Consul. Lord Hawkesbury added, that the conditions which it was his intention to propose were perfectly honourable to both countries, and as a proof of the sincerity of this reconciliation, he declared that, from that day, every design directed against the present Government of France should be discountenanced by the British Cabinet. He expected a full reciprocity on the part of the French Republic."

"This was disavowing the antecedent policy of Mr. Pitt, who had always pretended to aim at the re-establishment of the Bourbons, and who had unremittingly fomented the attempts of the emigrants and Vendéans by English gold. The negotiations could not have been opened in a more dignified manner. Lord Hawkesbury, however, required a prompt reply."

We do not think it just to M. Thiers to enter into any discussion of his political theories until his work is farther advanced. There is, however, one topic which we shall take an early opportunity of noticing—his decided approbation of Napoleon's policy in invading Egypt, and endeavouring to make that country a colony or dependency of France. Murray's recent publication, "The French in Algiers," will serve as a good text for discussing the value of African possessions to Frenchmen; and we the less scruple taking leave of M. Thiers for the present, as we are certain to have him brought before us as the historian of a period still more exciting than that to which this volume relates, and nearer to our own times.

#### STOCKPORT.

According to previous announcement, the friends of Free Trade, and the promoters of the projected Bazaar, in support of that object, held a meeting in the hall of the Mechanics' Institution, Nelson-street, Park-street, on Friday evening, the 11th instant. The Mayor presided; and on the platform we observed, J. D. Fernley Esq.; T. Carrington, Esq.; J. J. Moody, Esq.; E. Walmesley, Esq., and others. Mr. Moore, Esq., attended on behalf of the League, and addressed the meeting at some length. Having referred to the registration and to other branches of the question, Mr. Moore proceeded to call their attention to the practical object of the meeting, viz., the Bazaar. He said it had been his custom to call upon every manufacturer in the towns he had visited. Leeds would contribute £400 worth of goods to the Bazaar; Nottingham, £500; Coventry and Birmingham, a considerable sum each; Sheffield, £800; Colerbrookdale, £500, and many other places in Yorkshire; Scotland would also contribute very liberally. After mentioning other details in reference to the promised contributions, Mr. Moore concluded by a very eloquent appeal on behalf of the object, and almost immediately left the meeting, having that night to go by the train to London. On the motion of Mr. J. D. Fernley, thanks were voted to Mr. Moore, amidst general applause.—Mr. Carrington afterwards moved, and Mr. Walmesley seconded, a vote of thanks to the Mayor, for his conduct in the chair, which was suitably acknowledged. A contribution of £10 was announced, from the Mayor; and also £15 from the workpeople employed by Mr. Edward Hollins, in sums all under 5s. each, and in less than two hours' time. More money is promised from the same source. LEAGUE newspapers would, it was announced, be sent for every £1 subscribed. The meeting then dispersed; the general impression being that something handsome will be sent from Stockport.

**TURN-OUT BRICKMAKERS.**—The brickmakers of Rochdale and the neighbourhood struck work last week for an advance of wages, of about 7d. per thousand. At some places they have succeeded in obtaining the advance.

**DURHAM COUNTY PROTECTION SOCIETY.**—A correspondent, writing from Bishopwearmouth, gives us some particulars relative to this society. He says:—"The thoroughly rural village of Stalldrop, you will be aware, is almost under the shadow of the princely walls of Raby, the property in it mostly belonging to the Duke of Cleveland, who is chairman of the 'Durham County Agricultural Protection Society,' which so misnamed protection society sent a petition in support of its views for the signatures of the duke's villagers. It arrived last week to the care of a gentleman of independent property residing in 'the hall,' and who married into a titled family. He lost no time in settling about his mission, and quickly found his way into the shop of a Conservative, whom I presumed he made sure of; but he was disappointed: the Conservative reads the LEAGUE every week, and refused to sign. After this rebuff he seems to have suddenly thought a man might be found to procure names; and a decent old man was accordingly sent forthwith round the village, and, what is more, to another village about a mile or so off, and of course to all the farmers in the immediate vicinity; and what was the result? Why, of course, his grace's tradesmen and tenants-at-will would not be expected to refuse; but to their credit be it proclaimed, and Mr. Ackland, who first broached Free-Trade doctrines in this preserve, will rejoice to learn, that on excellent authority I can assure you that about ten persons only could be induced to sign the Durham county protection petition: viz., two squires, the clergyman, the duke's agent, one surgeon, two tailors, a carrier, a shoemaker, and the saddler to the duke's cart horses,—and, as I really believe these were all, and not a farmer among the lot."

## AGRICULTURE.

### SECONDARY SYMPTOMS.

#### RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE ON MONOPOLISTS.

In the body politic as in the natural body, the use of unwholesome and deleterious stimulants for the purpose of preserving a state of unnatural excitement is invariably followed by a painful reaction. The political monopolists will at this moment assent to that proposition, for they are now beginning to reap the fruits of their own misrepresentations and delusions. Everywhere the dupes of the political landlords are calling upon them for the performance of those impossibilities they promised from 1841 downwards. This was strikingly manifested at one of those lugubrious reunions called "protection meetings." The first annual meeting of the "Herts Agricultural Protection Society," held at Hertford, afforded a spectacle which should be a lesson to all public men who trade in political false pretences. It is now pretty generally known that the farmers, upon whom the political landowners called last year to stand between them and the League, are acting, somewhat too literally for the monopolists' case, upon the oft-repeated injunction to act for themselves. At the Herts Society, however, one would have supposed the most timid monopolist squire might have appeared without fear or danger; for full two-thirds of the party consisted of landed magnates, squires, squireens, and land-agents. Moreover, the chairman, the Marquis of Salisbury, is one of those who rule their followers with the strong hand. Yet, in spite of these things, the symptoms of a disruption of the monopolist union were many and urgent. Nor was this altogether unexpected by some of the monopolists, for Mr. Abel Smith was conveniently engaged on a Parliamentary committee, and the Earl of Essex, who was to have performed the part of vice-president, wrote to say he was confined at home by *tic douloureux*! We do not wonder that this monopolist game-preserver should have been visited with painful nervous-twitchings at the mere idea of meeting a party consisting in part of tenant-farmers, even though presided over by the strong-handed marquis. The lesson lately read to the Earl of Essex by Mr. Horncastle's dinner at St. Albans has not been altogether without effect. We are glad of it: a sense of shame is the first step towards amendment.

The speech of the noble chairman, a hard and a shrewd man, showed his belief that his presence would keep down any ebullition amongst the farmers present, for he ventured to address to them some often-exposed falsehoods, and to try to console them with the vaguest hopes. He so far presumed upon his hearers' ignorance of all that is passing around them as to say, "a powerful body, which styled itself the Anti-Corn-Law League, had then (at the formation of the Protection Society) got together, and promulgated the doctrines of what they called 'Free Trade,' but which meant giving a measure of protection to each and every interest except the interests of agriculture." Now, there could not have been a man in the room who must not have known that it is the principle of protection, as applied to any and all interests, which is denounced by the League, and that his lordship was telling a grand untruth. But landlords' assertions and landlords' promises to tenant-farmers have hitherto been of about the same value as lovers' vows. Possibly his lordship may have left the meeting with a notion that new feelings have been excited amongst his hitherto obedient followers.

His lordship congratulated the meeting that the protection societies "had put an end to all hope of repeal of the Corn Laws during the present session!" Cold comfort that for his monopolist dupes. He told them they must not abandon their exertions, and recognised the successful action of the League upon some of the county constituencies. He thought, if the representations of the deputation of the Central Protection Society to Sir Robert Peel "did not produce an immediate effect, which he regretted, they might be assured that they must ultimately have their proper weight." Though the auditors were civil enough to listen to these platitudes of the great man in silence, they afterwards proved that they had drawn their own conclusions on all these matters. Then his lordship thus intimated his substantial adherence to Peel,—the Queen is going to Hatfield, and marquises may be made dukes:—"It would be unfair to say, so early in the day, that the policy pursued by her Majesty's Government might not in the end be the most beneficial to the country." And he afterwards indicated his apprehension of the spread of sound opinion amongst the farmers by saying, "he entreated them not to be led away by the false doctrines of the League," overlooking the fact that the "doctrines" of her Majesty's Government in respect to Free Trade do not differ very materially from those of the League, the great difference being that the League would reduce doctrine into practice, whilst the Government measures mean

to halt between two opposite principles. The next speaker, Lord Grimston,—who has been appropriately designated the representative of the ignorance of the county,—gave evidence that the farmers are giving ear to Free-Trade "doctrines." When he said they wanted subscriptions "in order to prevent the fallacious doctrines of the League from becoming the opinions of the large body of farmers of the county," Mr. Lewis, a land-agent also, ventured to say, "They (the League) had encouraged in their efforts—seeing that every measure introduced by the Government had the effect of lessening agricultural protection;" and he excited the first signs of applause by these remarks:

"They might have expected better things of what had been called an 'agricultural Parliament,' and of a Government said to be their friends (*loud cheering*);—if they were so, he felt they must call them candid friends (*renewed cheering*); and Sir Robert Peel had told them in what light they must consider that description of friends. (*Hear, hear, and loud cheering.*)"

Yet he afterwards said, "This meeting was not called to consider the existing distress of the agriculturists, and the discussion of that subject might lead to a difference of opinion which it was desirable to avoid." Though Mr. Lewis, like a well-trained spaniel, was called in from his too wide range, "difference of opinion," as we shall presently see, was not avoided. Mr. Passingham, a hybrid farmer, said he "was sorry he could not congratulate the meeting on the prospects of agriculture—they were particularly gloomy; and he was the more sorry that their gloomy position had been brought about by what was considered a peculiarly agricultural Parliament, and by a Minister brought into power on the back of the agriculturists;" a statement which was received with loud plaudits. Verily, Sir Robert, the effects of your pleasant political vices are beginning to assume a somewhat threatening aspect. Then followed a genuine farmer, a real dupe, and who, probably smarting under low prices and a monopoly rent, thus gave vent to his wounded feelings:—

"Let them depend upon it, Sir Robert Peel was no friend of the agricultural interest (*vehement applause, and cries of 'true!'*); and unless they collected themselves together in one great mass, and held themselves together in one powerful body, to protect and defend their rights, they must expect to go to the wall. (*Loud cheers.*) Sir R. Peel, at heart, was as much a Free-Trader as Mr. Cobden himself, and so were the party to which he belonged (*vehement applause*); and so should he (Mr. Roberts) be, if he could get Free Trade altogether fairly and fully. (*Hear.*) But Sir Robert Peel was like a cripple on one leg, and fell all on one side (*deafening applause*); he was not a fair Free-Trader, as he (Mr. Roberts) would be, and as they would all be, if they could get a fair and full measure of Free Trade."

And he subsequently intimated that the farmers would deem the repeal of the malt-tax an ample equivalent for free trade in grain; and the suggestion was generally assented to by the farmers present. Next Mr. Delmo Ratcliffe, a squire known to be what the *Post* calls "heavily encumbered," made a fierce onslaught on Peel, and rated the county members for "a desperate fidelity to party;" and his tirade was rapturously applauded. Then a Mr. C. Phelps, an ambitious squireen, volunteered a defence of the Peel Government; and got little but "loud murmurs of disapprobation" for his pains. The speech of Mr. D. Ratcliffe had, however, put the two county members who were present upon their defence, and Lord Grimston got through by reviving some of his school "learning," and talking about Rome, her "sheep pastures and her barbarian foe;" and the audience heard the good-natured simpleton with a laugh. Mr. Dudley Ryder, the other member, however, is a man of more mettle, and he felt it was necessary to say something. And what does the reader suppose he said? Why, he used the following Free-Trade illustration of the utter delusiveness of protection at all:—

"He did not think that the alteration which had taken place in the sliding scale had produced their distress, for when they looked back to 1822, when there was a very high protective duty, the average price of wheat was 43s. per quarter, while in 1844 it was 51s. In 1835 the price of wheat was 39s. 4d., and of barley 29s. 11d., while in 1844 wheat was 51s. 3d. on the average of the year, and barley 33s. 8d. Therefore, it was evident, that, under the higher protective duties, the price of grain was much lower than it is now, under the sliding scale, as modified by Sir Robert Peel. These were absolute and incontrovertible facts, and we must have regard to those in discussions of this kind."

And he showed the absolute impossibility that importations of foreign cattle, meat, or Canada flour could have produced the present moderate price of wheat and other provisions. He justified the measures taken by Government on the ground of the distress which existed in the populous and manufacturing districts in 1842, and thus candidly dealt with "peculiar burdens":—

"When it was understood that the Ministers had a surplus, and that it was intended to remit a portion of the existing burdens of the country, he (Mr. Ryder) and others looked carefully over the list of those burdens, and he confessed that they could not lay their fingers upon one which specifically bore upon the agricultural interest (*hear*).—at least there was but one,—the malt-tax! (*Hear, hear.*)"

Now, this is just what Free-Traders say; yet no

one was more vehement in his promises to protect agriculture at his election in 1841, and at the protection meeting at St. Albans last year, than Mr. Dudley Ryder. And, even after giving utterance to the above really Free-Trade sentiments, he indulged himself in unmeasured and unmeaning abuse of the League. Does Mr. Ryder imagine the farmers are insensible of the pitiful figure he makes by such inconsistencies? He fully admitted that farmers are now suffering, and then concluded by alluding to the "delicate subject" of game. He said:—

"He felt that some landlords had not acted fairly, and with due consideration for their tenants, as regarded the game. (*Cheers.*) \* \* \* He thought that it must be an arrangement between the landlords and the tenants. (*Hear, hear.*) But he must say that the landlord who did not make a full and fair compensation to his tenants for the corn eaten by his game—corn which was the produce of the farmer's anxious labours by night and by day—was not an honest man. (*Loud cheers.*) \* \* \* He would repeat that the landlord who did not make a full and fair compensation to his tenants for the injury done them by his game, was not an honest man. (*Loud cheers.*) He, however, warned them against the interference of the League with this question."

The last sentence looks like that "desperate adherence to party" against which Mr. Ratcliffe protested; and Mr. Ryder may be assured that the farmers not only appreciate the movement made in their favour by the Free-Traders against the game nuisance, but are daily becoming convinced that the Leaguers are the real "farmers' friends." If Lord Essex had got an inkling of what Mr. Ryder meant to say about game-preserving landlords, we don't wonder his nerves were dolorously affected.

Another landlord, Mr. Gausson, an unscrupulous game-preserver, said:—

"He had one remark to make in reference to the game laws; he was fond of sport, but he should be sorry to see his game eating up the crops of his tenants without making them ample compensation. (*Loud cheers.*) He had always said to his tenants, that if ever they could prove real damage he would pay them (*hear, hear, and a cry of 'oh!'*); and he had never had but one application since then, and that was a case where certainly a considerable amount of damage had been done."

Possibly the Game-Law Committee may have some evidence of what Mr. Gausson's "ample compensation" means. The "proving real damage" where the judge is the party who had done the injury, and has to pay the cost, is not a very easy task, as some of Mr. Gausson's game-devoured tenants can testify.

Mr. D. Ratcliffe, in proposing the "tenant-farmers," said:—

"He was sure that the landlords present would join with him in drinking success to the tenant-farmers; for if they had had, as he had had, some of their farms in their own hands, they would not much want that charge to be increased. (*Loud cheers.*)"

Let farmers recollect the truth so naively admitted by Mr. Ratcliffe, and refuse to take or hold farms except upon fair terms, and they may soon bring the landowners to reason. Landlords are far more indebted to tenants than tenants are to landlords.

The last speech we shall notice is that of Mr. Hainworth, who did the fictitious statistics at the formation of the "society at St. Albans;" but he now said:—

"They had been told that they had reaped results from the formation of this society, but he could not himself say that the results had as yet been very great. They had been told that they were not to discuss at these meetings the causes of the distress they suffered, or the remedies that were applicable for that distress; he begged leave to differ from the gentleman who laid down that rule. He conceived that the agriculturists had not been fairly dealt with."

And then he fell foul of the tariff, the Corn Laws, the Canada Corn Bill, the income-tax, and the Tithe Commutation Act. He said:—

"Another thing to which he wished to allude, was the system on which the tithes were exacted. The Tithe Commutation Bill was brought in about the same time as the new Corn-Law Bill, and by the former measure tithes were made payable on an average of the last seven years; so that at the very time when their protection was taken away, and the price of their corn diminished, they were required to pay their tithe on the average of higher prices than they received, which was equivalent to giving five bushels of wheat where there would only have paid three under the previous Corn Law. (*Hear, hear.*) Some little exertion was required on the part of the agricultural interest to make a proper representation of these facts, and he hoped that they would be laid before the House in a decided way, and not in an indirect manner as Mr. Miles had done. (*Hear.*) He begged leave to ask whether, if the manufacturing interest had been in such a condition, their case would have been treated in such a manner; and whether their representatives would not have pressed it upon the House, month after month, till they had obtained a remedy for the injustice under which they suffered? (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*)"

Does Mr. Hainworth not believe that when the agriculturists can go with clean hands to the House of Commons, and by means of representatives identified in interest with themselves, that their complaints will also receive due consideration? But while the bees are represented by the drones, industry has no chance. The mixture of perplexity, dissatisfaction, and groping in the dark which the above passages indicate in the ranks of the best dis-

ciplined band of monopolists is sufficiently instructive to political charlatans. We believe the day is not far distant when the political landowners would gladly bury in oblivion all the absurdities with relation to the Corn Laws to which they have given currency during the last five years. But, as one of their body said in Parliament, the League—ay, and the protection societies—have taught the farmers to think, and they are rapidly arriving at a clear perception of the truth, that the Corn Law forms only one of the subjects upon which they have been bamboozled by their landlord leaders. And the discovery is being made in a way which gives rise to much bitterness, distrust, and alienation.

#### FOOD FOR OUR STOCK.

The following letter, addressed to the *Mark-lane Express* by "A Farmer of Light Land," shows that the monstrous absurdity of imposing duties on grain, of which farmers are themselves the main consumers, is becoming understood. The writer says:—

"Your paper, some months since, contained a very sensible letter on the impolicy of relying on the capricious turnip crop as a means of feeding stock in winter; and for some time past a discussion has been kept up on the supposed advantages of malt as food for stock. No one believes that Sir Robert Peel will lay the revenue open to the risk of fraud by making malt available for cattle-feeding, whilst the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham and Mr. S. O'Brien know full well that they might easily get all duties repealed on the importation of beans, peas, lentils, linseed, oil cake, Indian corn, and anything else that cattle will eat, keeping at the same time their duties on wheat, barley, and oats."

"Instead, then, of pottering about the malt duty, why do they not take the bolder and better course?"

"The growers of beans and peas might, and ought, to consume their own; whilst the occupiers of grass lands and light poor soils would be benefited beyond description by such a measure. Do, Sir, act the part of the real farmers' friend, and enforce this mode of affording relief, or give some good reason against it."

"How are the Norfolk occupiers of poor soils (Mr. Hudson and others) to compete with foreigners in Smithfield? or how are they to grow wheat at 22s. a sack, unless the means are afforded them to fatten their beasts at a cheaper rate, and to grow eight or nine instead of six or seven sacks of wheat to the acre?"

Now, impudent and ignorant as is the class to which the Duke of Buckingham and Mr. S. O'Brien belong, we do not believe they would dare in these days to ask for the repeal of the duties on pulses and Indian corn, retaining those on wheat, barley, and oats; the whole system will, therefore, stand or fall together. Farmers will continue to find one pocket robbed in an attempt to enrich the other, but which, in fact, never has succeeded, because the landlords intercept the extra price, when there is any, on the human food, while the farmers sustain all the loss upon the food for stock.

#### SOFTENING DOWN THE FARMERS.

Our readers will remember the correspondence between Messrs. Acland and Dickinson, the members for West Somerset, and their rural constituents, on agricultural protection; and the following passage from the *Dorset County Chronicle*—Mr. George Banks's organ—shows the childish twaddle with which the squires fancy they can smooth down the angry backs of their deluded tenant-farmer constituents:—

"It would be highly indiscreet on the part of the agriculturists, and be very like the temper we frequently see manifested by a child who, because the piece of toast offered is not so large as it desires, refuses to have any at all. It is better to take the diminished protection accorded, and to abide as patiently as may be the term of suffering transition, until things shall have again attained a level, and in the assurance that improvement will be gradual and certain, than to rush into the arms of those who have loudly and repeatedly declared their determination to remove every remnant of protection. Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Acland, and Mr. Dickinson are, unquestionably, well-disposed towards the agricultural interest. Sincere though mistaken friends, they injure from erroneous impressions, not from wilful desire. Not such are the Leaguers and Free-Traders, who constitute the alternative, and who are, we presume, the 'implacable enemies' spoken of in Mr. Sealey's letter."

"Let the conduct and proceedings of the members for West Somerset be carefully and candidly reviewed from their first appearance on the hustings; and we think there will be little reason for diminished confidence. There may be—doubtless there are—important questions on which they have acted adversely to the opinions and wishes of the majority of those whose votes placed them at the head of the poll. But there is no room to question the integrity of their course, or to doubt that they have been guided by a sincere conviction that they were acting for the best. They have broken no promise; forfeited no pledge; departed from no principle; and it would savour little of justice towards them were those who have hitherto supported them to turn aside under the pressure of temporary impulse, and, on account of differences on questions, not of principle but of degree and detail, to prove unkindly of those just claims to confidence which may be based upon their general conduct and their maintenance of the principles they have declared."

"The position of the agriculturists is certainly a painful and difficult one; and, in whatever direction they look, forbearance is required; but the question to which we have called their consideration is one of easy solution."

It is wonderful with what calm and philosophical minds the political landlords call upon their tenant-farmer dupes "to abide patiently a term of suffering until things have attained a level," while the said political squires are basking in the sunshine of Ministerial patronage!



## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 19, 1845.

A sack of Australian wheat has been sent to us, accompanied by a note requesting us to advocate the claims of the South Australian colonies to be allowed to send corn to England on the same terms as Upper and Lower Canada. On examining the specimen, and comparing it with the corn imported from Germany and the United States, we are convinced that the South Australian colonies could come advantageously into the British market as sellers of corn under a system of perfectly Free Trade. The Australian farmers do not ask for the maintenance of discriminating duties in their favour; they declare that, if they had an open market, they could rival and more than rival the American, the German, and the Russian, in the cheap production of food; and they very naturally ask why the favour shown to Canada is not extended to the British possessions in the Southern Ocean. To the grazing agriculturists of England the Australians proffer an important advantage: they declare that their climate is peculiarly favourable to the growth of maize, an article of the highest importance in the feeding of cattle. Not only does our wicked protective system injure one colony for the advantage of another, but it gives unfair protection to one set of agriculturists at the expense of another: all those who are engaged in the breeding and fattening of cattle are limited in their markets for the purchase of food and fodder. As fatted cattle are to all intents and purposes manufactured articles, the graziers may justly complain of the tax that is imposed on the raw materials of their manufacture.

The agricultural societies of India are also pressing their claims for the admission of Indian wheat into the ports of Great Britain on the same terms as Canadian; but it is the misfortune of our fellow-subjects in India that their voice can only reach the Legislature through the avenues of Lendenhall-street, and there is not a more mercenary body of monopolists on the face of the earth than the Court of Directors. To save their own infamous monopoly of salt, they would without hesitation sacrifice the interests and the honour both of Great Britain and India. It is the obvious dictate of common sense that there should be no differential duties between colony and colony, but that all should be allowed to share alike in the favour and markets of their common country. But the Lords of Lendenhall-street dread the full development of the great agricultural resources of British India, and submit to the preference displayed to Canada from sheer dislike of any improvement in Hindustan.

It used to be the constant excuse for the vast sums of money annually voted to defray the expense of colonies, that these colonies would furnish growing and profitable markets for British manufactures;—we may at some future time expose the hollowness and invalidity of this pretence, but let us admit it for the present, and inquire why this professed policy is violated by preventing these colonies from becoming purchasers of our goods, by excluding their produce from our markets? The Australian colonies purchase chiefly from Great Britain, but they neither can, nor will, continue to do so if their powers of purchase are fettered and restricted by the continuance of discriminating duties. It is not generally known that great numbers of Germans annually emigrate to Australia, chiefly from Mecklenburgh, Bremen, Holstein, East Prussia, and the Polish frontier. These men have no hereditary prejudices and no old associations to render them enamoured of British rule or of British goods; should fiscal regulations render our sovereignty odious, or our articles of exchange inconvenient, they are very likely to look for their supply of administrators and manufacturers in another direction.

It is gratifying to find the principles of Free Trade ably advocated and warmly greeted in all the agricultural associations that have been formed in South Australia. The principles of economic truth are spreading over the whole face of the globe; and the only spot that seems yet involved in gloom is that on which the Houses of Parliament are erected.

REASON AND KINDNESS. The language of reason unaccompanied by kindness will often fail of making an impression: it has no effect on the understanding, because it touches not the heart. The language of kindness unassociated with reason will frequently be unable to persuade: because though it may gain upon the affections, it wants that which is necessary to convince the judgment. But let reason and kindness be united in a discovery, and seldom will even pride or prejudice find it easy to resist it.—*Globe.*

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—A discussion took place in the French Chamber of Peers on Monday, relative to a petition presented from 93 inhabitants of Marseilles against certain doctrines professed in the College of France against the Catholic religion. Count Montalembert said, "M. Quinet, one of the teachers, had published a work in contradiction with history, the Catholic religion, and real Christian philosophy, and when such doctrines were used, was it to be wondered at if the heads of families got alarmed for the instruction of their children?" Another peer accused the Government of being the cause of the scandals on religion. After some remarks by the Minister of Public Instruction, disapproving of the course pursued by certain of the professors, the Chamber rejected the petition, and proceeded to the order of the day. The Chamber of Deputies, on Tuesday, was occupied with the Savings' Banks Bill, to which much opposition is made. The chief clauses are, to diminish the amount of weekly deposit; to lower the maximum that any one depositor could hold; and to enlarge the time of notice of withdrawal. The latter clause is proposed with a view to prevent any derangement of the finances by a sudden withdrawal of deposits in case of a money panic.

The Chamber of Peers, on Friday the 11th inst., after a warm debate, agreed to the clause in the Negro Emancipation Bill, by which a negro slave in the French colonies is in future to be permitted to purchase his freedom on certain conditions. An amendment proposed by Count Beugnot was also carried, by which an enfranchised negro slave is permitted to choose the employer for whom he is to labour for hire during five years after his emancipation. The *Débats* shows that, from the smallness of a day's wages and the large price fixed upon the slave, this privilege is not likely to advance, save to a very small extent, the freedom of the negro in the French colonies.

In the Chamber of Deputies the proposition of M. Larlandier for putting an end to duelling has been read, and the 26th fixed for taking it into consideration.

The *Patrie* states that a letter has been received from a gentleman attached to the embassy to China, which removes all doubt of M. Maynard having been murdered by the Malays. According to this letter, Admiral Cécille has taken vengeance on the offenders. The chief and a great number of Malays are said to have been killed.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes a second note addressed by M. Guizot to the Swiss Vorort, in which he expresses a friendly disposition towards Switzerland, and his profound respect for the independence of the Confederation.

SPAIN.—It is stated that a bill recognising Isabella II. as Queen of Spain, and approving the sale of church property, is to be published at Rome on the 28th instant.

BRUSSELS.—On Friday last the Tribunal of Correctional Police of Brussels sentenced Count Goblet and Baron d'Hooqvorst to two months' imprisonment, and 200fr. fine, for fighting a duel. The seconds were also tried, but were acquitted. M. Goblet is the son of one of the Belgian Ministers.

DRESDEN, April 6.—The members of the Dutch Catholic Church assembled here to day, in public worship, for the first time. The sermon was preached by the celebrated Herr Ronge. The congregation received communion under both species.

Princess Esthery has established at Vienna a society for the reception and reformation of convicts of both sexes, after their liberation from prison. It is the first institution of this kind organized in Germany, and more than two thousand of the Austrian nobility have subscribed towards its formation.

UNITED STATES.—The royal mail steam ship *Cambria* arrived at Liverpool on Sunday from Boston and Halifax, after a passage of little more than nine days from the latter port, bringing 121 passengers, and letters and papers from New York to the 31st ultimo, Boston to the 1st, and Halifax to the 3rd inst. Annexation, and the measures likely to grow out of it, continued to absorb a large portion of public attention. Advice had been received from Texas, which state that the Texian executive is hostile to annexation as selected by the United States, with President Tyler at its head. The intelligence of the passage of the resolution by the Senate had been received at Galveston, and it was received with much disapprobation by the people generally, and the press was particularly strong in its denunciations of the proposition, whilst the *National Register*, the official organ, publishes an article said to have been written by the President of Texas, positively denying that Texas will be annexed to the United States upon any terms. The New York papers state that commissioners will be immediately despatched from the United States to meet others from Texas, for the purpose of negotiating a treaty, which, if successful, must be ratified by two-thirds of the members of the United States Senate, which in the present state of affairs it is impossible to obtain. Respecting the Oregon question there is nothing in the papers now before us. The intelligence carried out from England by the *Cambria*, of the new tariff proposed by Sir Robert Peel, had given a great impetus to American commerce, and had very much raised the price of cotton and other commodities, the duty on which was repealed.

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH ENGLAND.—It is now certain, from the best information, that Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister, has received instructions to open negotiations for a new commercial treaty with this country, and we really hope our Government may meet him half way at least. No doubt the next arrival from Europe will bring us a general explosion from the Opposition benches in Parliament, against the letter of Mr. Calhoun, and the Queen's speech may have some reference to the same subject; but, as Mr. Calhoun has now left the Cabinet, nothing can grow out of it to mar the successful issue of these negotiations, and the formation of a new treaty, beneficial to our agricultural, and without any adverse bearing on our manufacturing, interests.—*New York Herald.*

CANADA.—The new Customs Duties Bill had been passed again in the Canadian Ministry. Parliament was to be prorogued on the 24th ultimo.—A riot, accompanied with loss of life, had taken place at St. John's. The military were called out. Religious jealousies are said to have caused it.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—The *Manheim Journal* publishes a letter from Berlin, of the 7th inst., which states that much excitement prevailed in that city, in consequence of an attempt having been made by an individual,

who has been arrested, to wound the King, by striking him with a stone when leaving his palace.

The small but industrious town of Graus, in Arragon, is threatened with annihilation. A portion of the corn, rock at the foot of which it is seated has, from the effects of the thaw after the long-continued frost, begun to separate to the extent of 15,500 cubic metres, or 20,000 cubic yards. The whole of the inhabitants, seeing the impending danger, have left their houses, many of them taking their furniture with them. An engineer, employed by the municipality, has surveyed the mountain, and reported that there are no means of preventing the fall.

INUNDATIONS IN GERMANY.—The *Revue de Paris* states that the greatest inundations of which Germany has during two centuries preserved the recollection were those of 1655 and of 1784; nevertheless, neither of those events was so disastrous as the inundations of the present year. The entire Germanic confederation, a part of Austria, and of Poland, have been literally under water since the 30th of March. The Rhine, the Maine, the Neckar, the Danube, the Elbe, and the Vistula, have in succession overflowed their banks, not in a day, but in an hour. Frankfurt, Mentz, Cologne, Dresden, Prague, and a number of other towns, and several thousand villages, were covered with water. The magnificent bridge of Dresden has been carried away, and many edifices have been destroyed. In the midst of the general desolation, public charity has not remained inactive. Committees have been formed in the cities, and assistance has been afforded in every direction. At the head of the committees are inscribed the names of kings, princes, ministers, generals, provincial governors, and bishops. One committee collected at Berlin, between the 1st and 7th of April, 104,792 thalers (£16,000 British).

## DOMESTIC.

PUBLIC PARKS IN MANCHESTER.—A deputation from the Manchester committee for providing public parks and walks, last week waited on Sir Robert Peel to solicit a grant of public money in aid of the subscription being raised in that town for that purpose. Sir Robert Peel declined to propose to Parliament any fresh grant, but offered them the sum of £3000, which they considered so inadequate that they respectfully declined to accept it until they had consulted the body by whom they were delegated.

A man named Couchman, styled the Sussex Prophet, is effecting, it is said, wonderful cures among the people near Horsham. It is asserted that as many as fifty persons flock to him a day, and that he sends them all away cured, or at least believing themselves to be so. The lame walk, the deaf hear, and the dumb speak; surely, Mr. Greatorex walks the earth again! The Mesmerists should hide their diminished heads, or make common cause with Mr. Couchman, who bids fair to outdo them all.—*Times.*

A woman, named Jane Bell, has been committed to Lincolnshire gaol on a charge of causing the death of her husband, Edward Bell, a carrier, by arsenic. The parties lived at a village called Lacey, near Grimby, in Lincolnshire, where the deceased died on the 25th ult., as was proved by a post mortem examination, from arsenic. The evidence against the accused is altogether circumstantial. She is to be tried at the next assizes.

At the Central Criminal Court, Margaret Dooley was convicted of stealing a child named John Swan, aged 11 weeks, and transported for seven years.

On Thursday, the 10th inst., a melancholy accident occurred at Thoruley Colliery, Durham. A cage, containing nine men, was ascending the pit, when, instead of being stopped as soon as it had reached the bank, it was raised to the top of the crane, or beam, with which it came forcibly in contact, and two men were thrown out and precipitated down the shaft, and dashed to pieces. The other seven persons, by clinging to the cage, were providentially saved from the impending danger.

Prince Albert has composed a new anthem, entitled "Out of the deep have I called thee." It was rehearsed for the first time on the 26th ult. in St. George's Chapel. Her Majesty was present, and expressed her delight at the composition; and of course everybody praised it as a chef d'œuvre.

As a proof of the decrease of pauperism, there was not one application for relief at Ecclethall Bierlow union workhouse on Wednesday for that township, which contains a population of 30,000, and only five re-applications for the whole of the Ecclethall union, which comprises seven townships.—*Derby Mercury.*

Of the children employed in the mill of Mr. Gardner, of Preston, when the hours of labour were twelve daily, the average number who attended an evening school was twenty-seven. At the present time, when the working hours have, for a year, been only eleven, the number attending school in an evening is ninety-six.—*Preston Guardian.*

The warehouse connected with the flax and tow mill occupied by Mr. Foster, in Caton, near Lancaster, was, with nearly all its contents, consumed on Friday morning by fire.

The cotton factory occupied by Mr. John Heap, Brook-street, Macclesfield, was destroyed by fire last week. The loss of property destroyed is estimated at £10,000.

Prince Albert is expected to lay the foundation-stone of the agricultural college at Cirencester.—*Gloucester Chronicle.*

Sheep-stealing is greatly on the increase in Somersetshire.

Wednesday forenoon, the Dutch steam-packet *Batavier*, Captain Dunlop, arrived alongside the St. Katharine's steam-packet wharf, east side of the Tower, from Rotterdam. She had a considerable number of cabin passengers, and an excellent cargo, principally consisting of 47 live cows and oxen in prime condition, and a large quantity of Dutch salmon and turbot, poultry, &c.

It would appear, from an application made at the Guildhall, that Joseph Ady is in the field again. The proprietors of South Sea Stock seem at present to be the peculiar objects of his care.

The Town Council of Edinburgh have conferred the freedom of the city on Sir Henry Pottinger.

Sarah Freeman, the perpetrator of the hideous murders at Shipwick, will be executed on the 23rd. On being removed from the dock, the prisoner broke out into furious invectives against the witnesses, the jury, and the judge, deprecating, in coarse terms, the sentence pronounced upon her. Since her trial, under the pseudonym, and the admission of the chaplain of the goal, counsel and dismission of the chaplain of the goal,







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globe is fixed upon the proceedings of the League, because they believe that in that body is the chief hope of the friends of humanity for effecting the removal of those restrictions on industry which have ever been the chief source of hostilities between nations, and substituting for these unfriendly relations the bonds of mutual interest, uniting nations in amity by the ties of equal justice and equal advantage. The first claimant of fellowship in the holy cause of Peace and Civilization, which the League has been formed to promote, is Mr. Biddle, of Philadelphia, who claims their acquaintance in the following letter of introduction:—

24, Regent-street, April 17, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to enclose a draught for £10, which has been remitted to me by my esteemed friend C. C. Biddle, Esq., of Philadelphia, as his contribution to the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar.

Mr. Biddle, in his letter to me dated the 29th ult., says—"For more than a quarter of a century I have believed and contended that nothing can be of greater moment to the human family than enlightenment on the subject of political economy, or 'Free Trade' as its master principle. I, therefore, claim fellowship with your noble efforts in England in this great cause, and ask to be allowed to throw in my humble mite to the common treasury, and request you to subscribe for me the amount of the enclosed bill, £10 sterling, as a contribution to the Free-Trade Bazaar, to be held in May next at Covent-garden, in London. I have already received most ample returns for this investment, in the perusal of the richly-freighted numbers of the LEAGUE and ECONOMIST you so kindly send me, and to which I also endeavour to give all the circulation within my reach."

Mr. Biddle writes in great admiration of the exertions which you, Mr. Villiers, Mr. Bright, and others are making in the promotion of Free Trade; and I shall be obliged if you will address a note to me, which I may send to Mr. Biddle, in acknowledgment of his very handsome donation.

Believe me, dear Sir, very truly yours,

THOMAS THORNTON.

Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.

The next letter to which we have to direct attention is from Hobart Town, in Van Diemen's Land; it relates to the exclusion of Australian corn by our present iniquitous tariff,—a subject which we discussed in the Postscript of our last paper, and which Mr. Hunt has undertaken to bring under the consideration of Parliament:—

Hobart Town, June 14, 1844.

SIR,—Having engaged to make a cargo, and the first shipment, of wheat flour from this colony to England, I am prompted to address you on the subject of duty now levied on all flour entering British ports, excepting from Canada.

Undoubtedly the product of the wheat of Tasmania will equal in quality any that can be produced in any part of the globe, and in every Australian market it commands the highest price; but in consequence of our younger colonies raising their own supplies, which hitherto they obtained from us, the energies of our settlers are wasted by producing an abundance of one of the chief necessities of life, which brings them no return from not having a market to offer it for sale or barter.

I may, ere I proceed further, give you a brief statement of the prices of wheat in this colony from the year 1838 to 1841. Wheat averaged in 1838, 8s. 9d. per bushel; 1839, 26s.; 1840, 9s.; 1841, 7s. The impetus given by the high price of 1839 to the clearing of land for wheat increased the quantity under crop in 1838, which was 41,759 acres, to 63,731 in 1841, being an increase in that period of more than fifty per cent. of land under wheat, in the short space of two years; while our population, bond and free inclusive, only increased 5412 during the four years above named, which will easily account for the enormous surplus stock of wheat for which the agriculturist had no consumer. On my arrival in the colony in Nov. 1841, wheat was selling at 7s.; but from that period to the present it has gradually declined in price, till it has settled at 3s. 6d. for the best samples; but wheat may be purchased at 2s. 9d. per bushel of 64lbs.

This state of things has compelled the settler, to enable him to meet his engagements, to go on increasing his breadth of wheat, till we have now a surplus of nearly one million bushels! and the question is—Where shall we find a market for our wheat? "Ship it to England," says one; but we cannot insure it under 10s. or 12s. "Then, grind it into flour," says another; but there we are met by that brazen barrier the tariff, and we know not how to break it down, for until it is demolished we cannot get our flour into an English market. The object of the merchant is not so much to make a profit as to make remittances at par, in produce, instead of bills, which are too often doubtful. The mutual benefit of this mode of payment is too obvious to admit of an argument in its support, and it would be unpardonable to take up your valuable time in enlarging on this point. From the present reduced rate of wages, our colonists can compete with any wheat-growing country, taking quality into consideration, which may be accounted for by the peculiar congeniality of the climate to mature the ripening process, and also its freedom from humidity of atmosphere.

The question now is, Sir—Will you help us to get our flour into London on the same terms as Canadian flour?

We want no protection or favour of any kind, but to be

placed on an equal footing with our brethren of the northern hemisphere—Canada.

The cargo to which I allude will be shipped, per *Gazelle*, for London, and will sail from hence in about two months, when I will again take the freedom of addressing you.

My apology for this intrusion, being an utter stranger to you, is the almost despairing circumstances of the agriculturists of Van Diemen's Land.

Leaving the matter in your hands, and entreating your consideration,

I beg to subscribe myself, Sir, your humble servant,  
Richard Cobden, Esq.

GEO. REES.

The third letter relates to one of the many monopolies established during the most disgraceful period of British history—the reign of Charles II. It is dated, as our readers will perceive, from the Sandwich Islands, and affords at once a proof of the wide surface over which monopoly has extended its grasp, and the equally wide diffusion of hope and confidence in the League, as the great means by which Free Trade and equal justice are to be obtained. It is through this company alone that we have any connexion with the Oregon territory; and before this nation permits its rulers to involve the country in war for the sake of a trackless waste, it would be well to consider whether the retention of the Oregon involves the profits of a monopolist company, or the general advantage of the British nation.

Wahoo, Sandwich Islands, August 1, 1844.

SIR,—It has often been to me a matter of surprise that none of our manufacturers have taken notice of the Hudson's Bay Company's monopoly. At the present time, when our manufacturing poor are so badly off for want of employment, I should suppose that the attention of every one connected with manufactures would be looking out for a market where they could dispose of their goods; and yet no one has ever, as far as I can learn, turned their attention to the monopoly of that rich and influential company. It is well known that the charter granted to the "Company of Adventurers of England trading to the Hudson's Bay," by Charles II., has never been confirmed by Act of Parliament. By that charter they were allowed the exclusive privilege of trading to the countries whose waters emptied into the Hudson's Bay. They have now extended their trade to the shores of the Pacific, from whence they have driven all other traders. The public derive no benefit from their monopoly; on the contrary, the revenue suffers, as a great proportion of the peltry brought from the Colombia River, where they have one of their principal establishments, is purchased from the American hunters and trappers, and entered in London as coming from British possessions. The profits of their trade have been enormous, as may be proved by the dividends and bonuses. They appoint their own Governor, who is always a partner

in the association; his will is law, and all disputes in the territory claimed by the company are settled according to his dictum. The magistrates in that vast extent of territory (equal to two-thirds of Europe) are also partners; and it is not to be supposed that in cases of dispute they will lean towards the party or parties opposed to the interests or caprice of the company. If this trade was thrown open to the public, and a governor and magistrates were appointed by the Crown, the quantity of British manufactures consumed by the Indians would be ten times as much as at the present period: there being no competition, the company pay the Indians just what they think proper, and the latter are obliged to get their supplies from them. There are many of our enterprising countrymen in Canada who would (if the trade was open) soon form trading companies, and would be joined by many who are at present clerks in the service of the company, and who are well acquainted with the habits and customs of the Indians; thus a profitable and lucrative trade would be soon opened. Not only the manufacturer, but the shipowner would also be benefited by the opening of this trade. On the score, also, of humanity, something requires to be done; and there is no doubt, if an inquiry were to be made into the acts of the company's servants during the last twenty or thirty years, many circumstances would be brought to light which would show the necessity of our Government appointing a governor and stipendiary magistrates for the protection, not only of the aborigines, but of the common people in the company's service.

I have taken the liberty of addressing you in hopes that you, or some of your friends, will bring the subject before the House of Commons, and that the monopoly enjoyed by the company may be repealed, and the trade, hitherto scarcely known, thrown open to the public.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD CHARLTON.

A British subject residing at the Sandwich Islands.  
Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Tenth Week, ending Saturday, April 26.

The Maynooth Bill has once more absorbed the attention of Parliament, to the exclusion of everything else, with the exception of private business, and some debate in both Houses on railway legislation. The division on Saturday morning, in favour of the second reading of the

Maynooth Bill, was larger than had been generally anticipated; and there was also a large majority on Thursday night against the proposition of Mr. Ward, that the increased grant should be taken from the funds of the Irish Protestant Establishment. We see nothing, however, which calls for our special notice, or to add to our observations of last week under this head. The present Parliament can never resume its former position; and though, undoubtedly, public feeling may subside on this question before another general election, still Free-Trade should not for a moment forget that with them is the resolution of the great fact, whether or not the next general election carries Free Trade.

## THE BAZAAR.

### CONTRIBUTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Norman Wilkinson, Esq., 15, Regent-street, has presented to the Free-Trade Bazaar two handsomely-bound volumes of Sketches, of which he says,—"These sketches, 126 in number, were submitted to the Queen previously to the Masked Ball given at Buckingham Palace in May, 1842. On some of them are memoranda made by her Majesty. There is one sketch in pencil made by his Royal Highness Prince Albert."

"GENTLEMEN,—Enclosed is my contribution of £10, either to the League Fund or to the Bazaar, as you may think the most proper. I wish it were in my power to give twenty times the sum for helping forwards the fall of that wicked and mischief-working Babel Tower against which you are so nobly leading the conflict."

"My own publications are all theological, except one upon geology. It has been honoured with the favourable opinion of the most distinguished geologists both in our country and in the United States, and has gone through three London editions and one American. As soon as I can go to town this week, I propose to order six copies, and to write in each, for your Bazaar."

"That the mercy and justice of the Most High may grant glorious success to your efforts for the good of our country and of all other nations, is the heart's desire and prayer of,

Your friend and fellow-servant,  
J. P. SMITH.  
Geo. Wilson, Esq., or other gentlemen directing the A.-C.-L. League."

"MY DEAR COBDEN,—I send you my humble contribution to the Free-Trade Bazaar (10). My children will furnish some work.—Yours truly,  
R. COBDEN, Esq., M.P."

We have received from the ladies of Cleckheaton, through Mrs. Dixon, a beautiful silk purse with sixteen sovereigns enclosed, as a contribution to the Bazaar.

"DEAR SIR,—In this district of London we go on with great vigour, and, I am happy to say, with the best success. The kind of goods to be sent from hence will, in most part, consist of fancy cabinet work, uniting both usefulness and elegance; and, as we are to have a stall for this district, we hope to make a good figure in this branch of national skill and industry."

"Several kind friends, who did not find it convenient to make anything themselves, have been pleased to give pecuniary contributions, to enrich our Hoxton stall with additional specimens of beautiful workmanship, which I am procuring for it. Others have contributed other articles. Dr. Baker, of the New North-road, has given perfumery; Mrs. Wells, of Pittfield-street, embroidery, &c. &c.; the workmen of our neighbour, Mr. Stevenson, will give gratuitous workmanship for a variety of elegant articles; my own people are busily at work, taking a day now and again, and generally two or three hours of each day, to work for the Bazaar; and since I undertook the duty of ladies' secretary for the district of Hoxton, I have lost no time in exhorting friends, and reasoning with the unwilling. The last, however, is uphill work; and it is surprising to see persons, whose whole business depends on the prosperity of trade, so unwilling to understand the duty they owe to themselves and to their neighbours."

"We shall not equal the magnificent contributions of the great towns of the steam-engines and the factories, where your richest inhabitants are doing what we of the humbler kind are doing here; yet we of the humbler kind are resolved for the good of trade, upon which we are wholly dependent, and for the honour of our part of London, to do our best."

"We are not political; but in the cabinet-making trade we feel that the reduction of the duties on the finer kinds of wood in 1812, and the abolition of the duties in 1843, have done us great service. Whoever may speak ill of Sir Robert Peel, the cabinet-makers should be grateful to him. He is always well spoken of in my house."

"We are not political, and care not who are in or who out; but we know when we have good trade, and when we have bad trade; and we do presume sometimes to inquire why it is that we have not always good trade."

"We are not political; yet we can feel the difference between bread at sixpence a loaf and bread at a shilling a loaf: the more so as we have always had trade when bread is dear. And we do presume to ask why it is that trade is sometimes so very bad and provisions so very dear."

"We are not political; yet somehow, when sugar and tea have to be got, and we find the prices rising or falling, we do presume to inquire why the prices that have to be paid out of our own pockets rise and fall: the more especially as we make articles, the raw material for which comes from sugar-making countries, which articles go back there to be sold in considerable quantities, and would go in greater quantities if they could pay for them in sugar. And, though not political, we do presume to think that sugar good and cheap, and trade steady and good, would be good for us."

"And lastly, though not political, we can see that all people who live by their own industry are better customers to the butchers' shops which support the farmers, and to the grocers' shops which support somebody else, when bread is of moderate price, and trade good."

"Not to add to the bustle at Covent-garden, and to



save our goods from the chance of being injured by rough handling, which will hardly be avoided in every case, we shall keep them here until the stalls are allotted, and then take them and put them on our Hoxton stall, without trouble to the servants of the League.—I am respectfully,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq."

"H. BINKS.

"3, Helmsley-terrace, Hackney.  
"DEAR SIR,—Cordially approving the objects of your League, and admiring the wisdom of its plans in educating the public mind on the question of monopoly, I am anxious to contribute something to its Bazaar. Some time ago my honoured friend, Rev. Dr. Thompson, of Coldstream—to whose untiring energy we mainly owe the abolition of bible-printing monopoly in Scotland,—presented to me a splendid copy of the 'Self-interpreting Bible,' produced by the labours of the Free Scottish Bible Society. That bible, with the cordial permission of my esteemed friend the donor, I now place at your disposal; and I hope it may come into the hands of some person who, amid other advantages from its perusal, shall learn to carry out the principles of its sublime morality into every department of civil and social life.

"This voluntary offering—with an assurance that your cause shall have, as you are aware it has had, the earnest and constant advocacy of the 'Christian Examiner'—is the only mode in which, at present, I can testify my approval of the benevolence of your objects, and the wisdom of your plans.  
"With sincere respect and esteem,  
"Yours very truly,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"JAMES CARLILE.

"66, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell.

"DEAR SIR,—Believing, as we do, that the inhabitants of this division of the great metropolis are fully unprejudiced, independent, and enlightened enough to be hearty Free-Traders, it would have gratified us to have seen one stall in the forthcoming exhibition devoted to the sale of samples of the vast amount of jewellery, plate, and watch manufacture for which the district is so widely and justly celebrated.

"As an offering to the Free-Trade Bazaar, it is the intention of our firm to present you with a specimen of a gold watch of a somewhat novel construction, lately registered by Mr. W. H. Jackson (it is styled the 'registered solitaire watch'). The prominent features of its peculiar merit are, flatness, and greatly superior economy in the expense of construction, in combination with the most recent excellent improvements of principle.

"With the hope that this attempt to illustrate a particular article of manufacture (for which, London, and this locality especially, has ever been famous) may be the means of inducing others in the same branch of production to enrich your Bazaar with the efforts of their talent,  
"We beg to remain, your obedient servants,  
"H. JACKSON and SON.

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"Brown's-lane, Spital-square.

"SIR,—As an humble tribute to the good cause of Free Trade in which you are engaged, I intend to send to the Bazaar for exhibition and sale, a small double washing machine, price £6, the excellency of which I believe to excel everything of the kind yet invented for that purpose; in proof of which I have received from numerous respectable customers most flattering testimonials in its favour. As a specimen of this most useful domestic machine must be acceptable to all parties, I hope it will be favourably received. I have larger and smaller machines on the same excellent principle.  
"I am, most respectfully, &c.,  
"George Wilson, Esq."

"R. FRYER.

"DEAR SIR,—I shall have much pleasure in contributing to the Bazaar a new machine, which, although of a scientific nature, will, I am sure, interest many; it is called a spirometer, and is the production of a Dr. Hutchinson, of London, an intimate friend of my brother the object of this instrument). I, perhaps, had better give a short outline of its use. I believe it is to ascertain the amount (in cubic inches) of air which can be expired, and by this means ascertain whether disease exists in the lungs. Dr. Hutchinson, I understand, has made a large number of experiments, and has been able to establish pretty accurately the amount of air which should be expired by a person in health.—I mean one whose lungs are not affected,—and I believe he has invariably found this to be a most certain one in consumption and other chest diseases. The chief beauty of this instrument appears to me to be that it will enable the medical attendant, or even the parent of the delicate child, to detect whether any disease does exist in the lungs, and thereby be enabled to adopt preventive means to stay off the disease before it has commenced.

"Being ignorant of the medical science, I trust the above rather original attempt at an explanation will be pardoned. I mean to send, also, a number of copies of a paper which Dr. Hutchinson has published on the matter; and I may, perhaps, be allowed to add, how important an effect the existence of perfect Free Trade, and the free communication of nation with nation, would have in disseminating this, and the innumerable valuable discoveries which are daily made in this country, in France, and elsewhere. Believe me ever yours, very faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"WM. GRAMAM.

"Brighton.

"RESPECTED FRIEND,—It is with much pleasure I can report that four ladies from this town have kindly consented to assist at the Sussex stall during the Bazaar, and that Mrs. E. Goulty has been appointed secretary to the Ladies' Committee. Our contributions will consist chiefly of useful and ornamental ladies' work, wax flowers, cases of Sussex algae, mosses, chalk fossils; a quantity of shell-work beautifully made up into work-baskets, cushions, cases; and water-colour sketches of local views. In addition for the occasion, by Horatio Smith, Esq. (lithographic facsimiles of the original), in an envelope with an appropriate design, and twelve copies of Mrs. Loudon's valuable work on 'Philanthropic Economy,' which have been presented to our committee by the authoress, with a line from our friends at Hastings and Hoveham, where they will forward their contributions direct to London, which, with those from other parts of the county, we have requested to be directed for the 'Sussex stall,' which I hope will prove that an agricultural county, though boasting itself of the names of Richmond and

Wyndham, takes as lively an interest in the national prosperity as the commercial and manufacturing towns of the north, though its contributions may not be on so grand a scale.  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"I am, respectfully,  
"ISAAC GRAY BASS.

"SIR,—In marking a very small lot of timber on my little farm, at Battle, I have selected an oak, which, in addition to my other small aids to the League and its Bazaar, I intend to contribute.

"As I cannot well forward it to Covent-garden, I will account with the Committee for its value on sale. Grown in the shade of protection, and fetching only a protection price, I cannot promise that it will realize much. It is not a very large tree, but a very fair-grown one, and no discredit to its county, Sussex.  
"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"G. DUKE.

"Stockport.

"SIR,—It is not in our power to say exactly, at the present moment, what this town will do in aid of the Bazaar; but, as near as we can estimate, it will contribute, in money and articles, to the amount of about £300. The Mayor has given £10, and we expect several others to give the same; J. D. Fernley, Esq., £5, and we have many smaller sums. The hands in the employ of Mr. Hollins have subscribed above £20, besides giving labour to the amount of £10, in bleaching cloth given by several manufacturers. In several manufactories subscriptions have commenced, and will do in others before this week ends.

"Mr. Hollins gives fifty pieces of long, broad, fine cloth, of a valuable description. Mr. Orrell, Messrs. Eskridge and Co., Messrs. Woolley and Co., Messrs. Higson and Littlewood, Mr. H. Hunt, Mr. T. Stewart, and other manufacturers, give quantities of cloth. Mr. Moody gives about £10 worth of thread, in boxes of convenient size; Mr. Orrell, in addition to cloth, gives an elegant box, containing cotton, in all its stages of manufacture, at his mill; Mr. M. Clare, a fan, (used in the cotton manufacture) worth £5; Mr. Johnson, a dressing-case, and other articles; Mr. John Hamer, some shawls of his own manufacture.

"Besides the above, we hope to furnish many other articles of taste, elegance, and value.

"With best wishes that the Bazaar may answer every purpose contemplated by its promoters,  
"I am, Sir, yours obediently,  
"G. Wilson, Esq."

"HENRY W. SEFTON, Sec.

"Parkfield-cottage, near Stone, Staffordshire.

"DEAR SIR,—I this day send, in a parcel by railway, a damask table-cloth, which, according to the date marked in one of the corners, and which I have every reason to believe is correct, is 181 years old. It came into my possession as part of the property of a gentleman of Bristol, Mr. William Ford, with whom I resided from about two years old till his death; and who, through his mother, was the last representative of a respectable Quaker family of the name of Tyley, some of whom were living in Bath in the early part of the seventeenth century. I have also an old silver pepper-box, with the initials C T, Caleb and Love Tyley, who were probably

the descendants of T T, the owners of the cloth.

"These circumstances are mentioned as rendering it probable that the date on the cloth, 1661, was the real date at the time of marking. I have myself a perfect recollection of the table-cloth for 60 years, in consequence of the impression made upon my mind as a child, by the figures represented upon it from Scripture history.

"Perhaps some of the manufacturers of modern table-linen may like to possess this ancient specimen of their craft; and I therefore with great pleasure send it, and the enclosed £5 in aid of the funds of the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar.

"With the sincerest wish for the success of the great undertaking in which you are engaged, I am, dear Sir,  
"Yours respectfully,  
"SUSANNA MORGAN."

"Old Market, Halifax.

"DEAR SIR,—It is not in my power to do much in furtherance of the objects of the Bazaar, but in addition to my subscription, which has been the same this year as last, I have sent in to the receivers in this town a small contribution of Free-Trade silver thimbles, of beautiful workmanship, which I hope will be found useful in adding something to the common stock. Wishing you and your noble band of coadjutors complete success,  
"I remain, dear Sir,  
"With sincere respect, yours truly,  
"Geo. Wilson Esq."

"JOSEPH WILSON.

"Mayerbold, Northampton.

"MY DEAR SIR,—In continuation of my note of the 11th, I beg to inform you I have canvassed Daventry, and succeeded in obtaining the contributions of three of the largest boot and shoe factors to the Bazaar, in addition to those of a number of manufacturers in this town.

"I am going to Wellingborough to-day. I enclose a list of the manufacturers who are preparing articles, and of parties who are using their energetic zeal for the promotion of this great cause, which is the object of the present extraordinary exertions making amongst the intelligent portion of the community.

"Twelve months ago I could not have believed such progress could have been made in this agricultural district; at that period I scarcely dare make myself known amongst the agriculturists; at the present time my society is looked upon with a more friendly eye, and their conversation more interestingly earnest and unprejudiced. I am sure, from all outward appearances, the time cannot be far distant of our success.  
"Yours very truly,  
"George Wilson, Esq."

"JOSEPH JONES.

"Dewsbury.

"DEAR SIR,—Referring to your several favours respecting the approaching National Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, I have now the pleasure to inform you that, in aid of this excellent cause, both pecuniary contributions, and others of the staple manufactures of the town and neighbourhood, will be transmitted from this place. The enclosed resolutions passed at the last meeting, will show the estimation in which the eminent services of yourself and your distinguished colleagues are held. I cordially participate in them, and remain,  
"Dear Sir, yours respectfully,  
"George Wilson, Esq."

"THOMAS TOWN.

"Barnard Castle.

"SIR,—I am instructed by the committee of the carpet weavers in the employ of Messrs. Monkhouse and Co. to inform you that two splendid carpets are in progress, and expected to be finished in a few days, which they intend to present to the Bazaar. They are the production of the weavers, with the assistance of a few friends in the town; we trust you will reserve a place for them. You may rely upon us forwarding them in time, as you will receive them in London without any trouble, according to our arrangements.  
"Yours most respectfully, for the committee,  
"George Wilson, Esq."

"JNO. MONKHOUSE.

"Phoenix Iron Works, Stroud.

"DEAR SIR,—As intimated in our letter of yesterday, we have to-day sent off, carriage and delivery paid, a small box containing one each of 10-inch, 14-inch, and 18-inch 'improved screw wrenches,' the several prices of which are, 8s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 14s. 6d.; we have put tickets with price on all.

"The grass-cutter sent yesterday had no price marked on it, it should be called 'a 19-inch grass-cutter, price £7.' We hope the above will aid in wrenching the Corn Laws from those who maintain them; and are,  
"Dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"JNO. FERRADAT and SON.

"Bath.

"SIR,—I shall be happy to further the benevolent cause of Free Trade by presenting for your magnificent Bazaar 100 copies of the 'Manual of Phonography,' bound in roan, and gilt, price 2s. each; also 200 double sheets of phonographic wafers, from a very beautiful steel engraving,—value of the wafers £2 10s. Both of these articles having a good sale, I doubt not you will readily dispose of this number.

"As you express a wish that all books should have the autograph signature of the author, I shall be happy to attend to this injunction.  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"ISAAC PITMAN.

"Inverleith-row, Edinburgh.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 3rd instant. I do most cordially wish that the efforts of yourself and colleagues in the war against monopoly may be crowned with complete success; and, as I cannot otherwise aid to ensure that most desirable result, I beg to enclose a post-office order for £5, as a contribution towards defraying the expenses of the approaching Bazaar.  
"I am, my dear Sir, yours very truly,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq., &c. &c."

"A. ROSS.

"Leith.

"SIR,—I received your circular letter of the 3rd inst. When the appeal was made for the £100,000 fund I expected that no further contribution would be necessary to accomplish our object. In February, 1844, I subscribed £1, which was for me a large subscription, but I gave it with hearty good will, not wishing to be behind in so glorious a cause; and my doing so induced some to give more than they would otherwise have done. It was with regret that I found myself unable to reply to your former circular requesting a renewal of my subscription. Though I have not much in my power, yet, when I reflect upon the mass of destitution and misery in our land, and

the deep responsibility that lies upon every man promptly and earnestly to do all he can to afford a remedy, I conceive I would not be doing my duty did I return no answer to your last letter; I therefore, though with an effort, yet with much pleasure, beg to hand you, enclosed, a post-office order for £1, as a contribution to the Bazaar.  
"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"George Wilson, Esq."

"JAN. DIOR.

On Monday a great demonstration in furtherance of the above truly national and patriotic design, which is to be carried into effect early next month, in Covent-garden Theatre, took place amongst the Free-Traders of the eastern district of the metropolis, at the New Globe tavern, Mile-end-road, on which occasion the gardens and pleasure grounds of that delightful place of recreation were thrown open, and its musical and other attractions put in requisition, to diversify and give effect and animation to the scene. The attendance of ladies was exceedingly numerous, and great interest was evinced by them in the "coming event," in which they were destined to take the most influential, if not the most active and laborious, part. After the promenade a *soirée* was held in the theatre attached to the grounds, at which refreshments suitable to the season were liberally dispensed.

The chair was taken by William Coates, Esq., supported by Colonel Fox, M.P., one of the representatives of the Tower Hamlets; Col. Thompson, Mr. Moore, and several of the most influential inhabitants of the district. Letters of apology from Dr. Bowring, M.P.; Mr. Bright, M.P.; Mr. Ewart, M.P.; Dr. Pye Smith, and several others, stating the various unforeseen circumstances which caused their absence, were read by the Chairman, who announced a donation of £10 from Dr. Pye Smith, towards the funds of the Bazaar, as well as several contributions in saleable articles, by Mrs. Smith. He then dwelt in an able speech on the objects of the Bazaar, which, he said, for extent and magnificence, would be unprecedented in the history of public exhibitions. He was aware that travellers were on their way from every part of Europe, anxious to communicate with the Free-Traders of this country, and to give effect to the mighty demonstration.

Colonel Fox next addressed the meeting, and said that, although he had never actually belonged to the Anti-Corn-Law League, yet he had long made up his mind on the subject of Free Trade, as he had shown by voting for the total and unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) It would be remembered that he had had some hesitation on this subject at first, but that hesitation arose only from the question of time—but the time was long gone past—and he had voted as he described now, upwards of two years since. His object in coming among them this evening was partly on account of the very excited state of public feeling in that borough, and in other parts of the country, and partly from a desire to state explicitly his opinions on this subject. It was very far from his wish to introduce any other topic to their notice than that which they had met specially to consider; but he wished to show that, as far as lay in his power, he was anxious to co-operate with his friends and constituents in any matter in which they felt interested. (Cheers.)

Colonel Thompson, Mr. Moore, and other speakers, who ably enforced the principles and views of the Anti-

Corn-Law League, were heard with warm and unanimous applause.

A series of resolutions, pledging the meeting to co-operate in the furtherance of the Bazaar, were adopted; and the meeting separated, highly pleased as well as instructed by the proceedings.—*Morning Advertiser*.

#### BIRMINGHAM.

As the opening of the Bazaar is now near at hand, we would urge on manufacturers, and the friends of the cause generally, the necessity of forwarding specimens of their products to the parties appointed to receive them in Birmingham. We have much pleasure in stating that seventy manufacturers of the town and district have already sent some beautiful specimens of the industrial resources of Birmingham, and, with those which we hope this good example will yet call forth, we have no doubt the Birmingham stall in Covent-garden Theatre will be one of the most attractive.—*Birmingham Journal*.

#### BRIGHTON.

We have already announced that a committee was formed in this town for the purpose of collecting and receiving articles to be forwarded as the Brighton contribution to the "Sussex stall" at the forthcoming Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre. The committee, we are happy to say, have been successful in their efforts; they have enlisted the sympathies of the ladies, whose fair hands have produced many specimens of taste. Some of these consist of work-bags splendidly embroidered, pin-cushions of various shapes, but all exceedingly neat, work-baskets of velvet and shells got up in a pretty style, miniature houses of the same material, flower-stands, and numerous other articles, which, as the auctioneers say, are "too numerous to mention." They are all collected in a room in Prince Albert-street, to which we recently paid a visit, and where, in addition to what we have named, we saw many articles deserving of honourable notice. Amongst these was a case of fossils of the chalk formation, specimens of the European mosses, neatly arranged in books, and the various kinds labelled, and specimens of English mosses arranged in a similar manner; a tastefully got up marine grotto made of pebbles and shells and enclosed in a glass case; several small boats, one of them being a *fakimite* of a mackerel boat, with nets and rigging complete; a collection of Brighton pebbles polished, and a great variety of nic-nacs, which it would be tedious to describe. We must not, however, omit the mention of an original poem on Free Trade by Mr. Horace Smith, which has been lithographed so as to imitate the author's handwriting. Altogether the collection is a very creditable one; but we understand it will not be completed for several days. Contributions from Hastings and that neighbourhood are expected to the value of about £100.—*Brighton Guardian*.

#### ROCHDALE.

On Thursday last, a tea party and meeting were held in the Borough-hall, in aid of the League Bazaar. Mr. Fox was expected to attend, with Mr. Flint, of Leeds. The latter gentleman was present; but the former was prevented by illness. About 300 ladies and gentlemen sat down to tea. After tea, John Petrie, Esq., was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Thomas Flint, of Leeds, in a good practical speech; and by Messrs. William Littlewood and Charles Walker, of this town. The meeting broke up soon after nine o'clock.

The preparations for this great national exhibition have for some months past been making considerable progress in Rochdale. The inhabitants are as zealous as ever in the cause of Free Trade, and it is expected that their stall at the approaching Bazaar will far surpass the one they furnished at the Manchester Bazaar in 1842, and which then created so much attention. Cotton and woollen forming the great staple of Rochdale manufacture, the exhibition of articles in illustration of the ingenuity and industrial energies of the people will be of smaller variety, and of less novelty in their character, than those which many other towns will afford; but the inventive minds and active fingers of the ladies have more than compensated for this unavoidable deficiency. They have supplied a rich assortment of fancy articles: in these, everything which true taste can effect in the arrangement and choice of colours has been accomplished, and the rich forms which were made to assume all but equal the more fantastic beauties of nature. Articles of this description have not, however, been produced to the exclusion of those of a more useful kind; the necessities of the wardrobe may be supplied as well as the decorations of the drawing-room; in fact, goods of every description will be found at the stall, and it is believed that it will equal the anticipations of the most zealous friends of the cause. As many persons have assisted in this object who cannot attend the general Bazaar in Covent-garden, it has been determined to offer the whole of the contributions to view previous to forwarding them to London. This exhibition will take place in the Public Hall, Bailie-street, on Monday and Tuesday, the 28th and 29th inst.—*Manchester Guardian*.

#### LEEDS.

Among the vast and numerous contributions which are being got up for this grand national manifestation, our townsmen, Messrs. Dickenson and Son, brush-manufacturers, are preparing a considerable number of handsome fancy clothes-brushes, the first fancy clothes-brushes which we understand have been manufactured in this town,—with appropriate words on them, such as "Cobden," "Bright," "League," &c., ingeniously and neatly formed with black and white bristles. We have seen specimens of the brushes, and think them worthy of the object for which they are intended, and creditable to the manufacturer of them. We perceive that the ladies intend to exhibit the result of their labours at the Music-hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 29th and 30th inst.; we shall be glad to see, in addition, a liberal supply of Yorkshire broad cloth.—*Leeds Mercury*.

#### LANCASTER.

It is now placed beyond a doubt that the Bazaar will be one of the most successful hits ever made by the League. Primely contributions have been promised from all the leading towns in the empire, and arrangements made for superintending their exhibition and sale in Covent-garden Theatre. The friends of Free Trade in Lancaster are actively engaged in making preparations, and the ladies are very zealous in the good cause.—*Lancaster Guardian*.

#### BRISTOL.

A public exhibition of the articles prepared in this city,

for the approaching League Bazaar, will take place on Friday and Saturday next.—*Bristol Mercury*, 19th inst.

#### WHITEHAVEN.

The friends of Free Trade in this locality, who may be disposed to share in the honour and the satisfaction of aiding in this important national demonstration, but who have not yet carried their wishes into practical effect, will excuse our reminding them that they have but a very brief time in which to decide. Parties who know of no articles they can present may equally serve the cause by pecuniary contributions of even the smallest amount, which may be sent to our office. In this way parties may help to defray the necessarily large expenses of the Bazaar, in order that its receipts may, as far as possible, be paid, without deduction, into the great League Fund.—*Whitehaven Herald*.

#### BURNLEY.

The ladies of Burnley held a Bazaar here on Thursday, the 17th inst., the proceeds of which are to go to the great Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre.

#### PRESTON.

The friends of Free Trade in this town have been busily engaged this week in procuring contributions for the Preston stall. The ladies' committee are indefatigable in their exertions for the promotion of a cause which possesses such numerous and important domestic associations. Amongst the donors of money and goods this week are—A Friend, by Mr. Hawkins, £5; Mr. Dixon, Friargate, £1; Mrs. R. Benson, netted German caps, value £2; Mr. Edmondson, a ream of letter paper, with engraving of Tulketh-hall, value £2; Mr. Chambers, Norwich crape; Mrs. Stones, ottoman and fancy basket; Mr. J. Jackson, Calder-vale, £4; Mr. Holden, Church-street, £2; Mrs. Holden, fancy goods; Mr. Wrightson, musical box and fancy picture frame; Mr. Kay, portrait of Dr. Johnson; a Friend, an elegant fire grate paper, value £1; Mr. Frankland, to the value of £1; Mr. Park, Cross-street, to the value of £4; Mr. Hawkins, money and goods to the value of £20; Mr. M'Guffog, £5; Mr. Evans, model carriage and first donation made into £10; Mr. Pearson, two pictures and frames, value £1; Mrs. Salts, basket of wax fruit; Miss Birchall, basket of wax fruit and pair of screens; Mrs. Harrison, Glover-street, spectacle wipers, value 18s.; Miss Niebot, Calder-bridge, a worked quilt; Miss Smith, a pair of beaufets; Mr. Dixon, currier, £5; Mr. Eccles, Bamber-bridge, £20; Mrs. Hibbert, twenty pounds of plum cake; a Friend, to the general fund £10, and to the Bazaar, £6; subscriptions in small sums amounting to £1. 12s. 6d.; Mr. Goodier, £5. 5s.. The committee have decided on exhibiting, in the Corn Exchange, on the 1st of May, all the articles given.—*Preston Guardian*.

#### EXETER.

There was a good meeting at Exeter on Wednesday night. The attendance of ladies was numerous. Addresses were delivered by Colonel Thompson, Robert R. Moore, Esq., and others; and a resolution to support the Bazaar was carried with acclamation.

#### BRADFORD.

A week only remains for preparation for this great National Exhibition; and if any of our readers are still undetermined what or what quantity of goods to send, or if any have procrastinated and have not sent what they once intended, we remind them, there is just a week for preparation. Pecuniary contributions will be available to the last, and the committee hope to receive from some of their zealous friends donations in this most exchangeable of all shapes. We are glad to be able to announce the receipt of several beautiful and valuable contributions—some magnificent ones—and some very pleasing ones from young people. We would record with especial pleasure the gift of some knitting by a factory girl. We see that in Leeds and Halifax, in Manchester and Rochdale, it is proposed to exhibit the articles to be sent from those towns previously to their departure. This course will not be followed in Bradford, simply because there is not variety enough in the articles contributed: £1000 worth of our finest Bradford textures will go into an amazing little compass.—*Bradford Observer*.

#### DONCASTER.

We perceive Mr. R. Milner and Mr. Haatic, of this town, have kindly undertaken to receive contributions for the Bazaar to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in May next. The contributions already received principally consist of such fancy articles as are usually met with at similar exhibitions. Amongst the more valuable presents are several excellent specimens of Berlin wool-work, especially one entitled "The Defence of Saragossa," and a valuable oil painting—"A Scene in Pontefract Castle." There are also a number of preserved birds, the gift of W. Chadwick, Esq., of Arksey. We understand the articles presented are to be sent to London on Monday next.—*Doncaster Gazette*.

#### STOURBRIDGE.

Messrs. Wood Brothers, of the Lye, have prepared, and in a few days will forward to the Bazaar, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in aid of the League Fund, a dozen complete sets of gardening tools, and an assortment of anvils, vices, chains, and various other articles, in the manufacture of which they have obtained celebrity. Persons who are desirous to aid the cause of Free Trade, will oblige by forwarding the articles they purpose to send as speedily as possible. Mr. Akroyd will take charge of, and forward to their destination, any articles from Stourbridge and its neighbourhood.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

#### SOUTH SHIELDS.

On Monday and Tuesday the contributions given by the Free-Traders to the League Bazaar of South Shields were exhibited at the residence of Mr. James Bell, when numbers of individuals availed themselves of the opportunity, and expressed themselves highly gratified. There are still many friends of the cause who have not yet contributed to it; it is hoped, however, that they will yet render their pecuniary support to this great cause.—*Tyne Mercury*.

#### ARBROATH.

A respectable establishment here—Renny, Sons, and Co.—are affording to their fellow-townsmen an opportunity of sending in goods for the League Bazaar.

#### DUNDEE.

We beg to remind our readers that Saturday next is the latest day fixed by the committee for receiving contributions for this object. The time required for proper arrangement of the numerous articles contributed from this district renders this necessary. Let each Free-Trader remember and act in the spirit of the adage so applicable in this case, "He gives twice who gives soon."—*Dundee Advertiser*.

#### GLASGOW.

On Saturday we paid another visit to the office of the Anti-Corn-Law Association in this city, and were highly gratified to observe the progress which had been made towards obtaining a large and valuable collection of articles of manufacture for the great League Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre. In a former article we stated that many ladies were busily at work, and the result has since shown at once the ardour of their zeal and the elegance of their taste. We were perfectly bewildered and dazzled among the profusion of satin and lace pin-cushions; silk and bead purses; velvet and bead reticules; and reticules sewed with Berlin worsted. There is also a numerous array of dolls for children, dressed by the hands of ladies, after the most elegant and approved forms. Many packages of beautiful fabrics have been forwarded, including shawls of exquisite workmanship, dresses of various kinds, and, generally speaking, samples of almost every description of manufacture which the city can produce: but as yet they form but a small proportion of the total amount which will be contributed. Several valuable contributions of books have been made, including atlases, poems sent by their authors, and no less than 47 copies of a lithographed facsimile of Burns's "Jolly Beggars." The sight which the chambers exhibit makes them well worth a visit; but we hope no delay will take place in forwarding those articles which are known to be in course of manufacture, as it is of importance that the collection should be in London in proper time to be arranged for the Bazaar.—*Glasgow Argus*.

#### KIRKALDY.

We are glad to learn that the Committee of the Kirkaldy Anti-Corn-Law Association resolved, at a meeting held on Monday evening last, to do what they can to promote the object of the League Bazaar, by stirring up their fellow-citizens, and especially the ladies, to contribute of their substance, handywork, and specimens of the manufactures of the place, as donations to the Bazaar. They, therefore, by the means of placards, call upon the friends of Free-Trade and fair-play to contribute to this worthy object, and hand in such articles as they may think of bestowing, by the time specified in the handbills, at the Public-rooms, where a person will be in readiness to receive them, as all contributions must be in London before the 8th day of May ensuing. It is expected that the people of Kirkaldy and neighbourhood will not be behind in their usual liberality on the occasion.—*Fife Herald*.

#### COMMON SENSE IN ESSEX.

Mr. Mechi, of Leadenhall-street, has republished his letters descriptive of his farm on Tiptree-heath, in Essex, and has added a variety of remarks and other documents which did not appear in the first issue.

The first were noticed in this paper by Mr. Adam Brown. Mr. Mechi having forwarded a copy of his enlarged edition to that gentleman, I have been requested to acknowledge the same, and to make such extracts from them as may seem useful.

I can only say that the whole are good. I hope Mr. Mechi is beginning to see that some of the best friends of agriculture are those whom he sneered at in his earlier letters, as connected with the Anti-Corn-Law League. I hope he will soon see and acknowledge that agriculture is not best befriended by those who have laid it prostrate and are rifling its pockets, and giving it blows on the head to keep it in submission. It is to set agriculture on its feet, to enable it to walk by itself, to work for its own living, to strengthen itself by its own exercise, that we strive now to liberate it.

It lies on its back, and groans and struggles, yet cannot rise. It sleeps and dreams, but its sleep is not rest. It could wake and rise and be healthy, and enjoy health, it would do so. Its very dream has reality enough in it to show that it should not lie thus. But that incubus which sits upon it, that horrid something which is distinct enough to be seen and felt, yet which has neither shape nor name that the sufferer can tell it by or call upon, keeps it down. Now it has dreams of surfeits long gone by, and again visions of hunger. Bulls that have fed and roared, and have glorified the meadows, and have taken the shape of beef, and have passed away, come back again as if they would trample and gore the prostrate sufferer to death; and then their bare bones are seen; and beardless skeletons prowl upon the cropland; and agriculture sees its own image in the bare bones.

Oh! thou horrid nightmare, and let the struggler rise! It is to awaken the prostrate sleeper, and free him from that helplessness which now encircles him, that we ask for freedom to trade and freedom to agriculture.

Neither mind nor matter is stationary by the law of nature. The whole universe is in motion. Everything that has human action in it advances from a higher to a lower condition. Commerce sees the sciences, pioneers of civilization and human well-being, advancing, and it moves with them. But it is restrained. It asks why, and looks back and finds agriculture yoked to it, and all the lumber of antiquity, musty law, and feudal customs yoked to agriculture.

It is to liberate it, Mr. Mechi, and give it freedom of action, that we are now striving. Let us see, from your own evidence, if there be not a pressing necessity for so doing.

I have put a heading of my own to most of the paragraphs quoted here. The quotations have not been made



to afford strong contrasts. I might have so selected them: but they have been rather chosen so as to give the progress of improvement on Tiptree-heath, and the obstacles surrounding it.

#### DESCRIPTION OF TIPTREE-HEATH.

"Tiptree-heath is what its name imports—a waste and wild country (shame it should be so with a superabundant, unemployed, but willing agricultural population!) covered with furze, with here and there an immense excavation of gravel-pits. The poverty-stricken grass struggles, in patches, for a precarious existence among the monopolising furzes. The few half-starved animals, that search there for a living, walk many a mile ere their cravings are satisfied. The country is elevated, forming a sort of table-land between two rich valleys; consequently it is extremely bleak, and, like most high lands, very wet and springy. Without well-sheltered yards, no stock can be fattened here. Here are all the indications of common rights and poverty—irregular and decayed buildings; a numerous but scattered population; plenty of geese, donkeys, bad fences, and beer-shops; a few windmills, and not a few cross-roads and sign-posts. Judicious but stealthy encroachments here and there appear; in fact, Tiptree has a very bad name, in spite of the races held there; and a common saying in Essex on hearing it mentioned is, 'Tiptree-heath! God help you!' My farm is, perhaps, on the best part of it; but on each side the heath almost reaches it. An Irish gentleman who visited it said of the neighbourhood, 'I have seen nothing in all Ireland so bad.' My farm is six miles from the parish church."

#### REASONS FOR BUYING SUCH LAND.

"I am frequently asked, 'Why did you not purchase better land?' I reply, 'I do not want any better when I can get it into proper tillage; all that such land requires is the removal of the springs and top water by perfect drainage, a deep clean tillage, surface burning, and a regular system of stocking and cropping.' There is no credit in farming on a naturally rich soil; but there is a proud triumph and a good example in reclaiming neglected wastes."

#### ALLOTMENTS TO THE LABOURERS BETTER THAN COMMON RIGHTS.

"I hope I may live to see the time when the whole of Tiptree-heath shall be in a state of cultivation,—growing corn instead of furze, and affording employment to the surrounding population. Those who consider the poor derive much benefit from common land, are, in my opinion, sadly mistaken. It is certainly a trifle better than no land at all, but can bear no comparison with well-enclosed and deeply-cultivated allotments. I shall exert all my energies to get the copyholders to enclose and cultivate it, if I can, believing it to be a public benefit; and as an example I shall devote a portion of my own land, in allotments of forty poles, to the industrious labourers on my farm, at a moderate rent, so that their leisure summer evenings may be innocently and profitably employed."

#### OLD-FASHIONED FARMERS DISLIKE ALTERATIONS.

"This Mr. C— is, evidently, one of the old school, satisfied with things as they are, convinced there is no room for improvement—the advocate of huge fences, timber, wet land, and pauperism. There are, unfortunately, plenty of Mr. C—s in Essex, and every other county. \* \* \* Probably in a year or two, when Mr. C— sees the land in condition, he may be inclined to make honourable amends for his present rather sweeping condemnations."

#### THE FARM IS NOT YET IN CONDITION.—WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

"As to the condition of the farm, I will put the question in this form to every farmer:—First, cut down and remove 200 timber trees; then remove 5000 yards of fences; fill up all the old ditches; cut new ones; alter the shapes of your fields; make new roads; dig between seventy and eighty miles of drains, and spread their nasty contents on your surface soil; cart 300,000 drain pipes; 60,000 bushels of stones; make common roads of your fields; pull down all your old buildings and build up new ones, and cart for that purpose 400,000 bricks, sand, lime, timber; remove immense heaps of earth, excavated from the tanks;—do all this in eighteen months, on 12 acres of land; grow your crops, and wonder that the land is not in first-rate condition! Why, our drainage was on the land till April last."

#### THE OLD SCHOOL STILL GRUMBLES.

"But, no; in Mr. C—'s eye it is a crime to erect new buildings, to drain the land, to save the manure, to give warmth, dryness, and employment to human beings, and to shelter your cattle from the cutting blast; with him the rotten thatch and dripping eaves are the very beauty ideal of rustic landscape. Oh! how he will miss the brown and trickling stream of liquid dung! No idle labourers now to watch the pitiless storm as it rushes past the shivering steer."

#### EXPERIENCE OF DRAINAGE AND THE WANT OF IT.

"But he had not visited the farm in its original condition. He might then have felt keenly for the misfortunes of the honest and worthy labourer, who still remains with me,—he, who in the old wretched house lost by fever, in one short month, his affectionate wife and two daughters. He might have seen in those rooms peas in a corner growing from moisture. He would have walked along the land in a wet September day up to the knees in bog (were him right too), or be struggling in the siltier soil with solid encrustments of birdlime-like clay."

#### ESSEX HOMESTEADS.

"I say now, and will maintain the position, that the homesteads of Essex are, in too many instances, not creditable to so wealthy a county; and that disgrace is more pungent when contrasted with the extensive, durable, and well-arranged receptacles for its unemployed paupers."

#### PART OF THE CROP OF 1844.

"September 7.—Perils attend the brave. Mr. Cunningham's charge was furious, but unfortunate; facts are about to harass him in his retreat. \* \* Fact 1st.—My late tenant, Mr. Foster, who now manages for me, writes thus, under date 6th of September:—'I feel anxious to inform you the result of our threshing. It is all put up dressed.'"

Quantity of wheat:—		qrs.	bush.
Best .. ..	..	32	3
Second and tail, ..	..	1	2
		33	5

(On 6½ acres, after potatoes and swedes, all drawn off.)

This is such a crop as was never grown on the notorious Tiptree-heath before. The governor [his father] and self are highly gratified, as I know you will be. Such a disgraceful crop I should like the 'Cunning-man' to know about; rather more than five quarters per acre, as there are but 6½ acres. \* \* By-the-by, it was a wonderfully fine sample, part of it realized 46s. (red wheat), this last week being top price in the market."

#### COST OF MANURE FOR THIS FIELD.

"The manure for this and the preceding root crop cost, with charge for cartage and putting on, £4. 8s. per acre; that is, for two years' crops. \* \* \* Of all the farmers who have estimated this crop, none set it higher than four quarters. So much for estimates of standing crops. Something is owing to my clean threshing-machine, and to the fullness of the sample."

#### FARMERS DETERMINED NOT TO IMPROVE.

"I see, with great pain, a tendency on the part of many farmers to find fault with agricultural improvement. They call it innovation, and yearn with delight over their misshapen and wooded fields; their wee!/, wet, and sour land; their wastes, their rotten buildings, and unemployed labourers."

#### FARMERS DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT.

"I can afford to let folks grumble when I see that there are scarcely two farmers agreed on any one point in agriculture. So I will only try to grow good crops, and please myself and those numerous and scientific practical agriculturists who have honoured me with their cordial and hearty concurrence in my views."

#### MR. HUTLEY, NEAR WITHAM.

"I must express my hearty and sincere approbation and admiration of that gentleman's proceedings. His sentiments are, 'Employ the labourer, pay him well, farm high and clean, and thus farm profitably.' In expending £15 per acre in improving land, on a sixteen years' lease, he has given a noble example to others. His success, his wealth, and his tenure of 1509 acres amply prove the correctness of his views and calculations; and I wish him all the profit he deserves."

#### EXPECTED PROFIT FROM TIPTREE-HEATH.

"I shall not be satisfied until Tiptree-hall farm produces, at fair average prices, at least £10 to £12 per acre, landlord's measure. I shall try to make it more. The way in which that sum will be applied is—per acre—

Labour and beer ..	£1 10 to £2
Rent .. .. .	3 0
Guano, bones, &c. ..	2 0 perhaps more.
Rates and tithes ..	0 14
Tradesmen's bills ..	0 5
Seed .. .. .	0 5
Wear and tear in horses, implements, and stock .. .. .	0 8
Horse labour ....	1 10
	£9 12
Farmer's profit....	1 8 I hope much more.
	£11 0

#### ALWAYS MAKE A SHILLING.

"I think it very likely I may spend much more for manure, my plan in every business being to lay out an extra pound wherever it will bring twenty-one shillings."

#### MUCH OF THE FEEDING IS NOW WASTED BY FARMERS.

"But then my root and green crops will not be three-fourths trampled down, and one-fourth fed. They will be all cut up fine, and consumed in the yard or stall-mangers. There is no excuse for destroying so much food, except the improper state of most farm-yards, which allow the liquid manure to be washed away or evaporated."

#### CATTLE THRIVE WITH CLEANLINESS.

"Imagine our own eight weeks' meals spread uniformly on a limited space, on which we must not only tread, exercise, and repose, but must also use for depositing our excrements: I can see no distinction in the case between animals and Christians. It is a wasteful and improper practice, which common sense and decency tell us should be abolished. The cost of cutting, pulling, and cartage, in well-arranged farms of easy access, is nothing in comparison with the saving. I have found four acres and a half of our rape afford ample food to a hundred lambs for nine weeks, cut up with wheat-chaff."

#### WHEN OUR SOIL IS POORLY, LET US CONSULT THE CHEMIST.

"I hope the time is fast approaching when we shall, for complaints of the soil, get advice from proper analytical chemists as readily as we would for ourselves; so that they may investigate the disease and prescribe a proper remedy, depending on the patient's constitution and the nature of the ailment, whether chronic or transient; whether arising from plethora, starvation, or dropsy, or too much water without the means of escape—a very usual complaint in earthy patients."

#### EVERY MAN HIS OWN DOCTOR IS DANGEROUS IN THE PRESENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

"Farmers make frequent mistakes when they trust to their own notions of doctoring. They readily perceive by the external symptoms that their patient is in an unsatisfactory state, but make sad havoc with their nostrums. How frequently do we see a dressing of dung forced on an already satiated patient, who cries out for an alternation of chalk or cold clay. Another administers a strong stimulant of lime, where the sufferer is already exhausted by previous excitement, and requires a tranquillizing tonic of good old mellow manure. A third gives alkalis where acids and phosphates can alone avail. They do not consider that, if troubled with stone, gravel, or density of the substratum, a gentle operation with the subsoiler might give ease by causing a loosening of the parts; or that, in cases of scurviness and poverty, light, air, cleanliness, exercise, and good feeding might prove a restorative."

#### ONE IMPORTANT CAUSE OF NON-IMPROVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE.

"I had occasion to visit the son of a friend of mine, at a school of great respectability in a wealthy agricultural district. The master, a very intelligent person, showed me the details of his well-arranged establishment, which was certainly a pattern in every respect. On entering the well-filled school-room, he observed that most of his scholars were farmers' sons. Glancing at his library, I inquired what books on agricultural subjects it contained. The master seemed struck with surprise, as if the thought of such books had never occurred to him, and replied, 'With shame I acknowledge, not one.'"

Mr. Mechi proceeds to say that this case might be multiplied by a thousand. To which I would add, by many more than a thousand.

I shall make one other series of extracts from these interesting and instructive letters. Meantime the reader—he be of the shop, or of the farm; of the castle or of the cottage; thoughtful or thoughtless—is invited to ponder over these passages, and not to throw down this paper, or turn over another leaf in search of something else to read, the moment he has glanced at these paragraphs, and only read the title which is prefixed to each. Read them; and recollect as you read, that the Corn Law is the companion, ay, and the conservator, of that style of farming which Mr. Mechi deprecates.

#### ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### CAN A FARMER BORROW MONEY? IF NOT, WHY?

In the last number of that special organ of the farmers and dealers in corn, the *Mark-lane Express*, there is an article on the Currency, in which the writer quotes largely from the *Bankers' Circular* of Friday last.

What this *Bankers' Circular* is I know not. I think I have heard of it as a paper representing the opinions of those "Bow Bell-men" who buy and sell money, or who make imaginary sales of money, on the Stock Exchange, and who think that the welfare of the nation is comprised in what they do or do not do—in their being thriving "bears," or thriving "bulls," and in their being something more respectable than "lame ducks." Whether the industry of the nation would cease to move were there no stockjobbers, and no jobbing—no imaginary sales of money—is a question of equal importance to that of whether the Thames would cease to flow from Oxford to London if all the ducks that dabble in it were "lame ducks."

This *Bankers' Circular* is represented to have said—and the farmers paper adopts the words and their meaning—

"Here we are in that state when a Northamptonshire farmer pays about double the usance for the use of money that is paid by a Manchester manufacturer or a railway speculator. The farmer gets it with so much difficulty that nine out of ten of the entire class are altogether excluded from the advantage. The manufacturer gets it with so much ease that men, never worth £5000, have managed to borrow scores of thousands upon that slender foundation."

Much more is said to the same effect, and the reason given for the difference between the farmer and the manufacturer as regards their facilities for borrowing money is, that Sir Robert Peel has restricted the country banks in their circulation of notes.

On the good or evil of Sir Robert Peel's legislation on the currency, now and heretofore, I say nothing. Whatever he did was done for or against Lancashire as much as for or against Northamptonshire. The reason why the manufacturer gets money at a lower rate of interest, when he requires it, than the farmer, is one altogether different from anything stated in the *Bankers' Circular*.

What is the difference between the credit of the one and the credit of the other? If the writer in the *Circular* be himself a banker and a lender of money, which, in charity,

I cannot suppose him to be, else he would never have written what he has written,—yet, suppose him to be a lender of money, and that a farmer from Northamptonshire, and a manufacturer from Lancashire, apply to him each for a loan, what would he say?

Taking the manufacturer into his private parlour, our banker would say, or would *think*, to this effect:—"He wants £20,000; he wants to spin finer yarn; he wants to go into a new market with his yarn; he wants new machinery, and is extending his works generally. He conducts his business with great accuracy: calculates his expenses and profits with precision. He offers me a name as good as his own as guarantee; or I may have a lien on the factory itself. He wants the money at 2½ per cent.: I will offer it at three. Yet, his security being good, I must not part with him; for if I do not lend to him, others will."

Then, taking the farmer into the private parlour, our banker thus speaks or *thinks*:—"He wants £2000 to drain his farm, and make new ditches less wasteful of his land. He talks of paring and burning and liming, and has hopes of making his farm highly productive, which it is not at present. He says he will improve his turnip culture, and feed more sheep in winter; he will have new gates put up to his fields, and train up the fences, letting nothing hurt them. So far all is well. But he is only a tenant-at-will. He does not know that, after expending the £2000, he will be allowed to remain in his farm. He thinks his landlord is to be depended upon. I do not doubt the landlord's honour; but I would not lend money to the landlord himself on his word of honour. He may die, and then the tenant may be differently dealt with; he may change his land-agent, who might be no friend to this tenant, and cause him to lose the farm; an election might be contested, and the tenant-at-will might be dismissed from his land for voting against, or for not voting for, the landlord's or agent's side of the contest. He has no lease, consequently he can give no security; if he gives me other names, and if they be the names of farmers, they are as bad as his own."

"Moreover, if he had a lease it is not the best security. The landlords, in Parliament assembled, have made laws for themselves, so that they come first upon the tenantry as creditors for rent, to the exclusion of all others until they are paid. Then, again, this farmer does not possess the power to improve his land to the best of his judgment, or as other skilful persons might instruct him. He must not uproot his old straggling fences with banks and double ditches; nor the trees which overshadow the fields, and throw out their roots so as to stop the drains that would be made near them. He may erect gates, and strive to keep up his fences, but both will be broken down at the first fox-hunt. He is in a situation just the reverse of the cotton-spinner, to whom I have lent £20,000. Nobody rides or runs into the factory for amusement, breaking the threads of cotton in the process of being manufactured, and trampling under foot the materials which are spinning or are already spun. Hunters and hounds, and the crowds that follow them, stop not at sheepfolds, nor gates; nor at fields with cows in them; nor at enclosures newly sown, or newly sprung and wet. Northamptonshire is a great hunting county. Moreover, this farmer does not know within twenty shillings a quarter what his prices of grain will be the next year or the next again. If the prices of grain were less variable it might be easier for him to calculate how he is to repay £2000 to me; and, consequently, it would be safer to lend it to him. But he cannot approach to a calculation. If I lend him £2000 it must be at high interest; and I must have all the names of every friend he can get as security for him. I shall certainly not give him the money, even with all these names, at less than five per cent."

Herein is the difference between the farmer and the manufacturer, as regards their power to borrow money. It is nothing less than humiliating to see how mean the intelligence is of many persons who occasionally put themselves in print. The newspapers, which are the receptacles of the farmers' complaints, form at best but melancholy reading. At present they are deplorably dolorous. But certainly the sympathizing sorrow that one feels at seeing the real distress of the farmers, is deepened and mingled with sorrow of a less plying kind when we read their own accounts of themselves.

In the same number of the *Mark-lane Express*, in which is the quotation from the *Bankers' Circular*, appears a letter from A "Yorkshireman." (What a libel upon the intelligence of Yorkshire!) and he thus writes:

"What is the like of me to do? I read none of the League papers; never did, and never wish to. I have faith in nobody." Yet he is asking if it be true what he has heard tell of, that "those Free-Trade men" have said that the present scarcity of food for cattle can be alleviated by the introduction of Indian corn, Egyptian beans, &c., free of duty. The farming Yorkshireman (again I say, what a libel upon Yorkshire!) will not read the papers that give him information of whether or not there be such things as he is in quest of, yet he would like to know. He says "I have the misfortune to be a farmer; the greater misfortune to be a stock farmer; and the most confounded misfortune of all to be one whose grass and hay and turnips failed last year." And then he goes on:—"If there be any truth in what these Free-Trade men say," and so on, he would "like to know," and so on.

Should not it be added to this man's description of what he has the misfortune to be, that he is unhappily encrusted in ignorance and prejudice? Thus:—"I have the misfortune to be a farmer; the greater misfortune to be a stock farmer; the most confounded misfortune of all to be one whose grass and hay and turnip crops failed last year; and I have in addition the misfortune triply confounded of being blinded by ignorance and by prejudices, for which I pay so dear, that I have to sell my sheep and cattle before they are fat to pay for my prejudices."

A Yorkshireman who is engaged in manufactures and commerce will ransack the great globe, will search unto the uttermost ends of the earth, for materials to extend the number and improve the quality of his products. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the manufacturing districts to know if there be or be not any calicoes printed in Yorkshire. But in an authentic history of our amazing progress in manufactures, which I have just perused, I find that the materials which form a piece of the commonest print, such as the wife of the farmer's labourer can buy at sixpence per yard, are brought together from the four quarters of the world,—cotton from America; gum from Africa; indigo from Asia; and madder from the continent of Europe. The manufacturer without protection, and with that enterprise which is always excited in the absence of monopoly, can thus bring materials from the four quarters of the world to clothe the wife and children of the labourer, at 6d. per yard. While the labourer's master, with his monopoly, hampered and hemmed in with all the feebleness of action that belongs to such a system as his, cannot produce mutton and beef from the materials raised upon his own farm—and that only *because he is confined to those raised upon his own farm*—cheap enough for his labourers and their wives and children to eat; and consequently they never taste either mutton or beef.

What is it that gives the almost universal market to the products of our looms, putting clothes upon the humblest hind's wife surpassing in fineness of texture and beauty of pattern the clothing of the lady Plantagenets of the days of the distaff 300 or 400 years ago? What but the cheapness of production. And what gives the profit to cheapness but the universality of consumption. But the farmer who will not produce beef and mutton cheap, nor learn how and where he might get the materials to do so, because he chooses to look to what his monopoly will do for him, has but a limited market; and he can neither pay his labourers high enough wages to buy his beef and mutton, nor can he produce it cheap enough to meet their wages.

But, from what I have seen upon a recent tour in some of the factory districts, the unprotected manufacturer not only clothes the families of the farm-labourers cheaply; he enables his own work-people to eat beef and mutton—the farmer's produce—every day.

Such facts are clear as the sun at noonday, and patent to all the world. And yet a paper called the *Bankers' Circular*, which we might suppose to be reflective of the highest commercial knowledge, speaks of the British farmer and British manufacturer as if they could offer to a banker equal security for advances of money.

#### ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

I may remark that in Scotland the difference between a farmer and commercial man, in regard of getting money on loan, is less. If the Scotch farmer offers one or two names as good as his own, the security is complete. They are all leaseholders. They are commonly paying corn-rents; and are therefore in less danger of insolvency by the fluctuation of markets.

At the same time it must not be lost sight of, that the Scotch banks by their issue of one-pound notes, prudently used, have done much for Scotch agriculture. And any measure that would lessen the ability of the banks to give easy advances to farmers must be looked on as perilous. While this is written Sir Robert Peel's design is unknown. Before it is read his measure affecting the Scotch banks will, perhaps, be reported, and travel to Scotland by the same post as this paper.

#### THE SMALL TENANTRY IN ROSS-SHIRE, SCOTLAND.—IMPENDING CRISIS.

(To the Editor of the *Morning Advertiser*.)

SIR,—I implore your prompt and emphatic declaration against a grievous wrong which is about to be perpetrated in a remote part of the kingdom, against a body of tenants, ninety in number, who are about to be expelled from their land, and expelled upon the most erroneous principle, and for the most doubtful of all "improvements" that were ever attempted on an estate.

The principle which is to justify their expulsion is this, that the thinner the population on any given breadth of land, the greater the profit of the land to its owner. The intended improvement is to throw the homesteads into extensive sheep-walks, plant trees, sow furze, breed game, and make the estate more valuable as ground for sportsmen.

It is situated in the shire of Ross, in the north of Scotland. The native industry—how often do we hear the plea set up for "protection to native industry!"—the native northern industry is to be banished from the estate, and the southern idleness—the gun, the dog, and the sporting man—is to be invited to it.

Little did I think, when I wrote to you the other day, of the frightful results of laying the county of Roscommon, in Ireland, in pasture, by compulsion, that the same process was being enacted in the county of Ross, in Scotland. The small tenantry of Ross—Oh, that their landlord was "the Man of Ross!"—are in a worse condition, or

will be, when expelled, than those of Ireland. They are not so numerous as to be so formidable as the Irish. Their sufferings will not be used for political purposes, and will, therefore, be little heard of. In proportion to their weakness will be their suffering.

Now, let me be clearly understood. It is not to deny private property its rights that I complain of what is to occur to ninety persons on one estate in Ross-shire on the 12th of May next; although I would answer to the claim of private rights, that "property has its duties as well as its rights." My purpose is here to show that the owner of property, who is thus vindicating his private rights, is doing himself and his own land—his own property—his own pocket—a great wrong.

When the neighbouring county of Sutherland was cleared of its population in a similar manner—its inhabitants expatriated—their homes laid in ashes—merciful Heaven! what scenes of suffering and utter wretchedness there were then, when the cry of "Scotland is burning" rose with that smoke which dims the lustre of the noble house of Sutherland to this day; when that deed was done, it had at least this to be said for it, that all agricultural improvement then tended towards large sheep farms—farms of from two to five thousand acres.

Agricultural improvement, aided by science, tends now in another direction. There may be little science and less moneyed capital among the humble tenantry of Ross-shire. But sinew and sweat are the first elements of landed capital. The owner of the land should try to instruct the people in the science of cultivation, of breeding and feeding, if they do not know it, as is very likely. But do the proprietor and his factor know what should be done, or how to do it? In all probability not. Yet their ignorance does not justify their erring cruelty towards the helpless tenants.

True, they tell the tenants and their families to go abroad to Canada or Australia, or to be companions of the New Zealand savage. It has been pointed out to them that they would find land on these distant shores that would better repay their labour than the land of Ross-shire.

Better repay their labour! What is a fertile soil without a market for its produce? The direct and ready-money London market, by steam, from the north of Scotland, is the reason why the Ross-shire proprietor thinks he can do without his people. The improving market for mutton in the rich metropolis, and the love of sport on the part of the rich Englishman,—these alone induce the proprietor of Ross to look to sheep-walks and game for his rent, rather than to the well-directed industry of a thriving population.

But hear what they say in their appeal to public sympathy—these poor tenantry of Ross, who are to be ejected on the 12th of May next. "Many of your petitioners are aged and infirm, and unable to emigrate, even if provision of the most ample kind were made for their passage to America. And, although others of them are well able to work, they cannot find employment in the solitude of the most remote glen in the north of Scotland. Besides, in their forlorn and dejected state, your petitioners cannot at present leave their aged parents, wives, and helpless little children and other relatives, until means are used to obtain for your humble petitioners a place of places of residence wherein to abide and support themselves by honest labour."

This is doubtless written by some one better educated than these poor people can possibly be. But no grammatical education is requisite to make them feel the separation which is about to take place between them and the homes of many generations. They say in the petition, which I find in the *Scotsman* of Saturday last—"After the lawful warning given them to quit those homes to which innumerable tender ties and associations attach them, as many of your petitioners as could travel, went over the two adjoining counties in quest of small farms, or even places whereon to build temporary huts, but without success; and they now intend to take up a temporary asylum in the churchyard of the parish, underneath whose surface rest the ashes of their ancestors as well as relatives recently buried there."

And then they say of thus being laid, while yet alive, in the graveyard:—"Your petitioners are compelled to resort to a step which violates their feelings as men descended from those who defended the soil, out of which they are expatriated, from powerful invaders."

The immediate object of the petition is to ask some pecuniary assistance towards getting tents to cover them, and a temporary supply of food to those who are mere cottagers. The following gentlemen attest the truth of the statements, and offer to receive the subscriptions:—Rev. Gustavus Aird, Free Church, Bonar Bridge; Rev. Hector Allan, Free Church, Ardgay, Bonar Bridge; Rev. G. K. Kennedy, Free Church, Dornoch; Messrs. John Lusk and Co., Buchanan-street, Glasgow; and Charles Spence, S.S.C., 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.

I have said nothing of the moral and religious view of this case. I am more desirous to speak of it agriculturally. The style of farming, which was new and an improvement 50 or 60 years ago, is behind the age now. Our best agriculturists, as Lord Dule, J. C. Mortimer Esq. (see his book on soils), and many more whom it is needless to mention, are inculcating—and practising what they inculcate—the employment of more labour. The raising of winter food for sheep is greatly extending the ability of the soil to keep sheep. Winter food cannot be produced without labour.

In some of the southern counties of Scotland, where numerous small holdings were broken up sixty years ago, and thrown into one vast farm, there is now a disposition to seek smaller farms. And were it not for the expense of building new sets of farm-buildings the farms would be broken up and divided on some estates. The sum of £15 per acre is found to return a higher profit in agriculture than any sum below £10 per acre.

Ross-shire may not be favourable to the best kinds of culture; but, if it produces grass for sheep in summer, it would produce winter food for them. Why not seek to teach the people to produce such food, and increase the flocks, rather than expel them from the soil? They are themselves capital upon an estate, if skilfully directed. To banish them is to banish capital, and make the real improvement of the property impossible.

[In reference to the foregoing subject, we learn from the *Ross-shire Advertiser*, "that upwards of 400 tenants have this year received notices to quit in the counties of Ross and Cromarty—making, at the average rate of five individuals to a family, a population of 2000 persons."



## TRADE WITH BRAZIL.

(From the *Dundee Advertiser*.)

The linen trade will be amongst the first to feel the effects of the discriminating duties on British manufactures, by which the Brazilian Government threaten to retaliate for our injustice towards its great staple. The whole exports of linen were valued in 1841 at £3,200,467, of which Brazil alone took 8,075,584 yards, valued at £243,508.

Two of the principal fabrics sent from Dundee to Rio de Janeiro are Hessians and Osaburgs. Their very names show their continental origin. Machinery has enabled us hitherto to produce them cheaper than the German districts which first gave them names. The raw material still grows there, and railways will now convey it to the most favourable spots for obtaining water power. On the other hand, we are fast losing the superiority in machinery, which compensated all other disadvantages. Steam-boats have placed us within twenty-four hours of the Continent, and a German mechanic can at any time leave home and inspect the most recent improvements in the machine-shops of this country, and within a week be preparing his employer's factory for their reception. Suppose our continental rivals to have attained equality in cheapness of production, our protective laws place our merchants at considerable disadvantage in the race of competition. The German merchant can send his coffee bagging to Brazil, and the same vessel may bring his returns in sugar to the same port from which he sailed. The Dundee merchant has frequently loaded his linens in Dundee harbour for Rio de Janeiro, but no vessel has ever brought back a return cargo from that port to Dundee. The Hamburg merchant, by selling his return sugar to his immediate neighbours, may obtain a profit sufficient to compensate an occasional loss on his linens in Brazil, and may thereby also protect himself against unfavourable exchanges. The Dundee merchant possesses no such advantages unless by the paid agency of a third party at a distant port. These are the discouragements under which this commerce is presently conducted; but they will be fearfully and fatally aggravated should the Brazilians retaliate for our prohibitory duty of 63s. per cwt. on their sugar by an equivalent discriminating duty on British manufactures, a proceeding of which we could not but admit the justice, however severely we might suffer from its consequences.

## IMPROVEMENTS ON ESTATES.

There are some circumstances in which the occupier of lands or houses, who has increased their value by erections or other improvements, cannot in justice be compelled to pay for the increased value if he purchases the property. A man purchases the lease of an estate, and has reason to expect, from the youth and health of the "heir," that he may retain possession of it for thirty or forty years. In consequence of this expectation, he makes many additions to the buildings; and by other modes of improvement considerably increases the value of the estate. It, however, happens that in the course of two or three years all the lives drop. The landowner, when the person applies to him for a new lease, demands payment for all the improvements. This is not just. It will be replied, that all the parties knew and voluntarily undertook the risk: so they did; and if the event had approached to the ordinary average of such risks, the owner would act rightly in demanding the increased value. But it does not; and this is the circumstance which would make an upright man decline to avail himself of his advantages. Yet if any one critically disputes the "justice" of the demand, I give up the word, and say that it is not considerate, and kind, and benevolent; in a word, it is not Christian. It is no light calamity upon such a tenant to be obliged so unexpectedly to repurchase a lease; and to add to this calamity a demand which the common feelings of mankind would condemn, cannot be the act of a good man. Who doubts whether, within the last fourteen years, it has not been the duty of many landowners to return a portion of their rents? The duty is the same in one case as in the other; and it is founded on the same principles in both. To say that other persons would be willing to pay the present value of the property, would not affect the question of morality: because, to sell it to another for that value when the former tenant was desirous of repurchasing, would not diminish the unkindness to him.—*Dymond's Essays on the Principles of Morality.*

## SUPPLY OF GRAIN.

WINCHESTER, April 19.—The winter being now fairly over, and the principal ports in the north of Europe again free from ice, it may not be amiss to consider the probable extent of supplies of grain likely to be received from the Continent during the summer. With this view, it will be necessary, in the first instance, to endeavour to form an opinion of the result of the last harvest abroad. From all we have hitherto been enabled to learn on this important subject, it appears that throughout that tract of country where the bulk of the wheat shipped from Danzig, Königsberg, and neighbouring ports is produced, the crop of 1844 was decidedly defective, both as regards quality and quantity; and it may, therefore, be questioned whether prices will fall sufficiently low at those places to render consignments from thence to Great Britain desirable. According to the most recent advices from Danzig, we learn that speculators from the interior were paying high rates for the article, and it was not deemed probable that good high-mixed qualities would fall below 3s. per quarter. Should such really be the case, and quotations remain as low here as they are at present, it would be impossible to import without loss, and under all circumstances we are inclined to think that wheat will reach us from Danzig during the summer season at a price higher than is usual. In Pomerania, Mecklenburgh, and the Uckermark districts, as well as in all the other parts of the north, the harvest was a great deal better got in than it was further north. At present prices are relatively higher at Rostock, Wismar, Wolgast, Stettin, &c., than in this country, but they may be expected to recede at some point at which consignments may be made to England with a fair chance of profit, and we doubt not that some extent will reach us from the near ports; still, on the whole, there is not much likelihood of our being inundated with foreign wheat, more particularly as Holland and France are represented not to be in a position to export, but, on the contrary, more likely to require

assistance from other countries. Should our conclusions prove correct, prices of wheat can scarcely fall here below their present very moderate range; but hitherto there are no symptoms of improvement, all parties connected with the grain trades showing the same want of confidence which has for months past been the principal characteristic of this department of business. At nearly all the leading provincial markets held during the week, buyers have acted with the utmost caution, and, though the smallness of the supplies from the growers has prevented reduced rates being submitted to, the turn has in most instances been against the seller.

As regards the appearance of the plant on the ground, the reports are mostly satisfactory, which may in some measure account for the continued want of animation in the demand.

## A PUNISHED AND PENITENT MONOPOLIST.

(From the *Hull Advertiser*.)

A Free-Trade friend of ours is desirous that we should publish, for the especial edification of the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham, and the members of the Central Protection Society, the following copy of an advertisement, which appeared in three of the London papers, in the month of June, in the year 1759—a few months before the accession of George the Third. The subject of it, Mr. William Margarets, was a protectionist; but it appears that the doctrine of protection was so ill understood in his day, that instead of being toasted at public dinners, like Mr. Baker, of Essex, and cried up as a farmers' friend, like Mr. Stafford O'Brien, this early and enterprising apostle of starvation was actually compelled to stand in the plight of a convicted and repentant culprit in the public market-place of the town of Ely:—"Whereas," says this primitive Corn-Law confessor, "I, William Margarets, the younger, was, at the last assizes for the county of Cambridge, convicted upon an indictment for an attempt to raise the price of grain in Ely market, on the 24th of September, 1759, by offering 6s. a bushel for wheat for which only 5s. 9d. was demanded; and, whereas, on the earnest solicitation of myself and friends, the prosecutor has been prevailed upon to forbear further proceedings upon my paying £50 to the poor inhabitants of the town of Ely, and a further sum of £50 to the poor of the town of Cambridge, and the costs of the prosecution, and upon my reading this acknowledgment of my offence publicly, and with a loud voice, in the presence of a magistrate, at the market-place of the said town of Ely, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock on a market-day, and likewise publishing the same in three of the London evening papers, all which I have done; and I do hereby confess myself to have been guilty of the said offence, and testify my sincere and hearty sorrow for having committed a crime which, in its consequences, tended to increase the distress of the poor in the late calamitous scarcity." To this abject confession of guilt William Margarets affixes his name, and it is witnessed by the then under-sheriff of Cambridgeshire. Now, the crime of William Margarets, thus penitentially atoned for, is one gloried in by the Dukes of Buckingham and Richmond. The piece of petty rascality perpetrated by William Margarets in the market-place of Ely, in 1759, was performed by a majority of the House of Commons in 1815, and repeated again in 1828 and 1842. The Corn Bill was no other than a fraudulent measure for forestalling and starving the poor. William Margarets was the prototype of the Duke of Richmond, and all those of his grace's class who endeavoured to raise the price of wheat from 40s. a quarter to 80s.—the price guaranteed by the bill of 1828. None, in his every "Everyday Book," has immortalized the repentance of William Margarets; may we indulge the hope that, in future editions of that popular and amusing work, the parallels supplied by the leading members of the Protection Society will not be overlooked? And if the champions of dirty butter and the defenders of the British grease-pot could be supplied with a niche, the group would be more attractive.

## THE ENGLISH MARKET.

(From the *Cincinnati Herald*.)

We do not wonder at the zeal of the Free-Traders of Great Britain. The restrictive system of any country, however it may operate for a time, in the end proves mischievous. In 1805, 1806, and 1807, before the passing of the Corn Law, the exports of Great Britain to this country amounted to £8,000,000 per annum, our population then being six millions, so that the consumption of British goods was 26s. 8d. per head. In 1842 the exports hitherto had fallen to £3,528,000. The League deems an export of £1,000,000 per annum as sufficient to supply the demand at the existing rate of American duties, which, as our population is now eighteen millions, would be only 4s. 6d. per head. That paper errs in attributing this remarkable falling off in British exports to this country to the operation of the Corn Laws alone. The embargo, and many other restrictions on commerce, and the war of 1812, gave rise to American manufactures; and the circumstances of this country—its augmented population, increase of capital, growing skill, the presence of the raw material, cheapness of provisions, &c.—have all been influential in perpetuating and extending what the war gave birth to. But it must be admitted that the operation of the Corn Laws, by excluding from the British market nearly all of what we could give in exchange for her merchandise, and by provoking restrictive tariffs on our part, has vastly contributed to the efficiency of all these natural causes. A more liberal policy on the part of England would awaken a better feeling on this side the Atlantic.

The change in her tariff which took place in 1842, slight as it was by opening to some extent a new market for western produce, disposed the people of the West to liberal means of commercial policy. Let this change be followed up by such a modification of the Corn Law as will admit our corn and wheat into the English market at reasonable duties, and in a short time you would scarcely find an advocate of a high protective tariff throughout the whole West. That such a modification must be conceded sooner or later, is certain. Natural causes, steadily at work, will bring it about, if not the voluntary action of enlightened statesmanship.

Of the 57,000,000 of acres in Great Britain, 13,000,000 are reckoned incapable of cultivation, and 10,000,000 are lying waste. The present population is supplied by 34,000,000 of acres. It is calculated that, if all the waste lands were brought under cultivation, not more than 6,000,000 more of population could be supplied, so

that the consumption will have reached the point of utmost production in the year 1850. As it is, on an average, one crop in seven fails in Great Britain, and from 1828 to 1839 she raised enough for her consumption only four years out of twelve! What will be the state of things, then, in 1860, when all the land capable of cultivation, under the highest culture, and the best auspices, will yield just enough for consumption—and when every year beyond that will bring more mouths than can be fed from home production? Her ports must then be thrown open to provisions from all parts of the world; but by that time, if her restrictive policy be adhered to, the United States and other countries, which under other circumstances might have constituted her best markets, will have established manufactures among themselves, supplying their own wants, so that if Britain obtain grain from them she would have to pay specie for it.

The truth is, the whole system of restrictions on commerce, by whatsoever nation adopted, is absurd, and, in the end, always ruinous.

## THE GAME LAWS.

The following petition, signed by nearly 500 persons, was presented in the House of Commons, on Friday, the 4th instant, by G. Banks, Esq.:

"To the Honourable the House of Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled;

"The signatures of the occupying proprietors, tenant-farmers, and others, resident in or near the towns of Wimborne and Blandford, in the county of Dorset, in this, their humble petition, sheweth—

"That they feel strongly the disinclination of the majority of the landed proprietors to lessen the quantity of game; and, on the other hand, view with deep concern its increase in most parts of the country.

"That they are perfectly satisfied, from daily experience, the preservation of game to such an exorbitant extent augments the vice and immorality of the labouring man more than anything else, by poaching and other crimes, which, if not so rigidly preserved, would not be the case.

"That the labourer, when detected in the crime, is committed to prison, supported by the county rate, the greater portion of which is borne by the tenant-farmer and trader, who also support his wife and family in his absence; after his discharge, his character being lost, employment is seldom found him, and, as a last resource, he is driven to the union-house, still a burden.

"That the destruction of crops on land occupied by tenant-farmers, in some parts of the county, is very great, being a barrier to all improvement of the soil, and, consequently, prevents many labourers from being employed, which otherwise would be the case, and is hastening the tenant-farmers to that distress which, unless some speedy means of assistance is afforded him, will ultimately prove his ruin.

"That the quantity of game weekly produced at the town and country markets, the proceeds of which, being very considerable, go direct into the pockets of the preachers, after being bred and fed at the tenant-farmers' expense, tends very much to lower the price of beef, mutton, and other agricultural produce; which, under present circumstances, is deeply felt.

"To these grievances your petitioners respectfully invite the serious attention of your Honourable House, and, as in duty bound, will ever pray."

ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURES IN SUSSEX.—Mr. Falvey lectured to a numerous and enthusiastic audience, comprising many ladies, on Tuesday evening, the 22nd inst., in the Swan Hotel Assembly-room, Hastings. Mr. Stephen Thwaites was called to the chair, and introduced Mr. Falvey to the meeting. The lecture, which occupied more than two hours in the delivery, was listened to throughout with the most unqualified approbation.—Mr. Falvey lectured in the large room at the *Cinque Port Arms*, Rye, on Wednesday evening. It was market-day, and many farmers were present, who not only listened attentively, but, on the whole, appeared pleased with the proceedings. At the close of the lecture a vote of thanks was moved and seconded, and having been put to the meeting by—Hicks, Esq., was carried by acclamation.

THE INCOME-TAX AND THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.—The bill just introduced into the House of Lords by the Marquis of Normanby, "to extend the elective franchise to all persons paying the income-tax," has just been printed for their lordships' use. It consists of three clauses. The preamble recites the Acts 2 and 3 Wm. IV., c. 45 (the Reform Act), and the Income-tax Acts, and then proceeds to state that, "for the purposes of a parliamentary constituency, a simple property test, of easy and universal application, is hereby established, which will include large classes of persons who, by reason of the present local limitations and peculiar definitions of property conferring the right to vote, are now denied that privilege; and that it is just that those who are called upon to pay a direct tax on property, and testing the existence of it, should have legislative voice in the election of members of the Commons House of Parliament." The clauses then proceed to enact that every male person assessed to the income-tax shall, during the continuance of such tax, be entitled to vote at elections for members of Parliament, and Government officers duly authorised to collect the tax are to give certificates to those paying the same. The name of any person, also, who has been placed upon the list of voters is to be continued there during the existence of the act, unless he shall have ceased to be assessed.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—To the numerous other scientific attractions of this institution has been recently added a model of the Atmospheric Railway, which is now exciting general attention amongst those who are interested in railways.

ERROR.—The beginning of error may be, and mostly is, from private persons, but the maintainer and continuator of error is the multitude.—*John Haler.*

INCENDIARISM.—On Sunday night, about eight o'clock, an alarming fire broke out at Shillfanger, upon the premises in the occupation of Mr. Hammond, the property of Mr. J. Macro. It commenced in a barn. An engine from Dins was quickly on the spot, but, owing to a strong west wind that was blowing at the time, the whole of the building was quickly destroyed, as was also a small Wesleyan chapel adjoining, a double dwelling-house, pigsties, &c. A man has just been apprehended on suspicion.—*Norwich Mercury.*





or some initials or numbers by which such packages may be distinguished; and that they will state in their letters of advice by what external marks their parcels may be identified.

The following persons have kindly undertaken to receive and forward contributions to the Bazaar in their respective towns:—

Aberystwith—Mr. Josh. Roberts, London-house.  
Accrington—Mr. E. Bowker.  
Ashton-under-Lyne—Hugh Mason, Esq.  
Mr. Henry Gartaide.  
Bacup—Messrs. Robert Munn and Brother.  
Barnsley—Messrs. Harvey and Co.  
Bedford—E. Master, Esq., Tavistock-street.  
G. Gray, Esq., Harper-street.  
T. Sander, Esq., Silver-street.  
Bilston—Rev. W. H. Bunner.  
Bolton—John Dean, Esq., Silverwell-house.  
John Bayley, Esq., Newport-terrace.  
Thomas Tong, Esq., Bradford-place.  
H. Hollins, Esq., Rose-hill.  
T. Thomasson, High-bank.  
Bradford (Yorkshire)—Mr. J. Farrar, latter.  
Brighton—Mr. Isaac Gray Bass.  
Buckingham—W. D. Harris.  
Burnley—Mr. James Roberts, Tarlton-house, near.  
Mr. George Holgate, Spring-hill, near.  
Mr. John Moore.  
Carlisle—Mr. Fisher, Athenaeum, Lowther-street.  
Carmarthen—Henry Norton, Esq., Brewery.  
Cambridge—H. J. Foster, Esq., Thompson-lane.  
Canterbury—John Brent, Esq.  
Chapel-en-le-Frith—Josh. Carrington, Esq.  
Chichester—Rev. J. Fullager.  
Coalbrookdale—Abraham Darby, Esq.  
Cockermouth—Jon. Harris, Papcastle, near.  
Colchester—J. B. Harvey, Esq.  
James Hurnard, Esq.  
Colne—Rev. R. Aspinall.  
Mr. Thomas England.  
Mrs. Aspinall.  
Coventry—Mr. Thomas Berry, Ironmoger-row.  
Darlington—T. A. Cockin, Esq.  
Derby—Thomas Madeley, Esq.  
Devonport—Mr. Samuel Oram, Market-street.  
Rev. J. Pye, Nelson-house, St. Aubyn-st.  
Doncaster—Mr. R. Milner, French-gate.  
Mr. John Hattie, Baxter-gate.  
Dover—S. M. Latham, Esq.  
Dudley—Rev. John Palmer.  
C. Twamley, Esq.  
W. C. Wood, Esq.  
Dundee—Mr. John G. Baxter, Messrs. Baxter, Brothers and Co.'s.  
Mr. John Turnbull, Cowgate.  
Mr. George Stephen, Castle-street.  
Durham—Mr. Josh. Holmes, Elvet-bridge.  
Mr. Geo. Burdon, Claypath.  
Mr. N. Oliver.  
Edinburgh—Messrs. J. and W. Harrison, 2, Drummond-street.  
James Thompson, Esq., 168, High-street.  
J. Dalrymple, Esq., 29, Frederick-street.  
Exeter—Thomas Bealey, Esq., Chronicle Office.  
Frome—Mr. Levi Wood, Hapsford, near.  
Mr. J. Gregory, Vallis Way.  
Glasgow, and the West of Scotland—David Murray, Esq., 92, Queen-street.  
Halifax—Mr. Thomas Denton, Old Market.  
Messrs. Bates and Hoatson, West-hill.  
Hastings—Mr. Thos. Ross, jun.  
Hertford—Mr. R. Shillitoe.  
High Wycombe—Mr. R. Lucas, High-street.  
Mr. Geo. Church, White Hart-street.  
Messrs. W. T. Baker and Son, Church-square.  
Huddersfield—P. Schwann, Esq.  
Hull—Sir William Lowthrop.  
Mr. E. F. Collins.  
Dr. Gordon.  
Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring, Newport.  
Kendal—Mr. J. Thomson, Jun., Stramorgate.  
Rev. Edward Hawkes.  
Keighley—Samuel Thompson, Esq.  
Knaresborough—Mr. Thomas Addyman, High-street.  
Mr. John Joy, Windsor-lane.  
Lancaster—Thomas Johnson, Esq.  
George Jackson, Esq.  
Landport—Mr. W. Bilton, Union-road.  
Mr. Thomas Ross.  
Leicester—Joseph Biggs, Esq.  
Leighton Buzzard—Mr. McChesno.  
Mr. Payne.  
Leominster—Mr. J. V. Chilcott.  
Liverpool—James Mulleneux, Esq.  
J. Taylor Crook, Esq.  
Mrs. J. B. Cooke, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.  
Mrs. Henry Roscoe, Abercrombie-square.  
Mrs. Abbott, 10, Elliott-street.  
Mrs. C. E. Rawlinson, jun., 28, Catherine-st.  
London—Geo. Wilson, Esq., Theatre Royal, Covent-garden.  
Macclesfield—Mr. Richard Hine.  
Mr. Samuel Jasper.  
Mr. Joseph Howe.  
Mr. R. Wilson.  
Mr. J. Rathbone.  
Mr. John Ballantyne.  
Malden—Mr. Richard Nelson, 109, Week-street.  
Manchester—Geo. Wilson, Esq., 5, Newall's-buildings.  
Nantwich—Messrs. Barker, Pepper-street.  
Rev. James Hawkes, Hospital-street.  
Newark—Mr. John Tiddeman, Castle-gate.  
Mr. Andrew Brooke, Beaumont-cross.  
Mr. W. Andrews, St. Mark's-square.  
Newcastle-under-Lyne—Mr. Elias Shaw.  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Mr. D. Liddell, Carlisle-street.  
Newport, Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring.  
Northampton—M. J. Jones, Mayorhold.  
Northwich—C. Green, Esq.  
Norwich—W. Freeman, Esq., London-street.  
W. Liddell, Esq., Newmarket-road.  
J. Satter, Esq., St. Augustine's.  
C. Winter, Esq., Upper Market.

Norwich—J. G. J. Bateman, Esq., St. George's.  
C. N. Bolingbroke, Esq., St. Clement's.  
Nottingham—W. Cripps, Esq., Mount-street.  
S. Bean, Esq.  
Oxford—John Towle, Esq., Cold Harbour.  
Paisley—H. Macfarlane, Esq., jun.  
Mr. M. Whitehill.  
Plymouth—Mr. Burnett, Bilbury-street.  
John Symons, Esq., Kinterbury-street.  
Pontefract—W. Kidd, Shoe-market.  
Poole—G. R. Penney, Esq.  
Preston—Mr. G. Cartwright, Cheapside.  
Mr. J. Livesey, Guardian office.  
Reading—Mr. Joseph Christy, Crown-street.  
Mrs. E. Christy, do.  
Henry Hoobs, Esq., Witely.  
James Boone, jun., Esq., Mill-lane.  
Rochdale—Jacob Bright, jun., Esq., Greenbank.  
Geo. Ashworth, Esq., Holland-street.  
Mr. Charles Walker, Yorkshire-street.  
Mr. T. B. Stephens, South-street.  
St. Columb—Mr. W. Northy.  
Mr. W. Brown, jun.  
Salisbury—John Lambert, Esq.  
Scarborough—Rev. Benjamin Evans.  
Henry Etherington, Esq.  
Sheffield—Mr. George Tucker.  
Southampton—Richard Andrews, Esq.  
Southport—Richard Johnson, Esq., solicitor.  
Staleybridge—Mr. Dakin Cheetham, Rassbottom-street.  
Mr. J. Davis, Grosvenor-street.  
Stockton-on-Tees—Mr. Thos. Heavside, Finkle-street.  
Stonehouse—Mr. Thomas Backwell.  
Stourbridge—William Akroyd, Esq.  
Stroud—Thos. Parsons, 2, Granville-cottage.  
Sunderland—Thos. Thompson, solicitor, 53, Villiers-st.  
Thos. Patterson, commission agent, Bridge-street.  
N. C. Reed, solicitor, 64, Fawcett-street.  
Henry Ogden, doctor in medicine, Dunning-street.  
Edward Copper Robson, miller, 37, Frederick-street.  
Anthony J. Moore, solicitor, 8, Bridge-st.  
Geo. Hardcastle, auctioneer, 3, Norfolk-st.  
Swansea—Mr. J. Jenkins, Wind-street.  
Mr. J. Rutter, Strand.  
Tolmorden—Mr. Veevers, Kilnhurst.  
Mr. R. Chambers.  
Wakefield—Mrs. James Micklethwaite, Rishworth-house.  
Mrs. Nettleton, Westgate.  
Mr. J. Rhodes, Kirkgate.  
Mr. Jno. Heslton, Northgate.  
Warrington—J. G. M'Minnies, Esq.  
P. Rylands, Esq.  
Edward West, Esq.  
Whitehaven—Mr. R. Gordon.  
Mr. Backhouse.  
Thos. Ainsworth, Esq., the Fosh.  
Wigan—Mr. J. J. Finnigan, Buck-st. Vine Inn.  
Yarmouth—Mr. D. A. Gowlay, Market-row.  
J. Bayly, Esq.  
York—Messrs. Fletcher and Noddings, Clementhorpe.  
The Misses Noddings, Mount-parade.  
The Misses Lyons, Lepdal.  
R. Taylor, Esq., Park-place, Monkgate.

SIR HENRY POTTINGER ON FREE TRADE.—At a public dinner, at which Sir H. Pottinger was recently entertained, at Glasgow, speaking of the great market which has been opened to us in China, he said:—"If the Chinese can only find the means of paying us, I may say the demand for our goods will be unlimited. The Lord Provost has told us that we can calculate on the consumption of above three hundred millions of people. This is, doubtless, correct; and we must remember, in looking at this subject, that every yard of manufacture, such as is fitted to clothe the Chinese, is a boon conferred on the people, inasmuch as it enables the Government to provide an additional quantity of food for the people. The great desideratum of the Chinese Government is to find food for the people; with that view they encourage every sort of manufactures, and you are aware they have no Corn Laws."

SUNDERLAND.—On Monday evening, the 14th inst., Mr. Liddell delivered a lecture in the Arcade Long Room, in this town, on the Corn and Provision Laws and Free Trade. The lecture occupied upwards of an hour in its delivery, and entered fully into the question of the Corn Laws, as those laws operate injuriously upon the leading interests of the country. At the conclusion of Mr. Liddell's address, Mr. Joshua Wilson delivered a few brief remarks, and a number of League tracts were circulated among the company. The following extract from the Journal of the Royal Society of Agriculture (the land-owners' society) was read by Mr. Liddell, and excited great amusement:—"Potatoes will ever be the peasant's standard vegetable, for, if of good nearly quality, they contain more nutriment than any other root; and three or four pounds are equal, in point of nourishment, to a pound of the best wheaten bread, besides having the great advantage of better filling the stomach. The liquor in which any meat is boiled should always be saved for the making of soup, and the bones even of fish should also be preserved; for although quite bare of meat, yet, if stewed down for several hours, they will yield a species of broth, which, along with peas, or oatmeal, will make good soup. A lot of bones may always be got from the butchers for twopence, and they are never scraped so clean as not to have some scrap of meat adhering to them. This done, the bones are to be again boiled in the same manner, but for a longer time, and the broth may be made the next day into a stew with rice. Nor is this all: for the bones, if again boiled for a still longer time, will once more yield a nourishing broth, which may be made into pea-soup, and when thus done with may either be sold to the crusher, or pouched by yourself, and used as manure for your garden."—"This was the food, said Mr. Liddell, recommended by the aristocracy for the people."

WORKING-MEN'S BATH.—The workmen of Bradford have some twenty or thirty men employed in the construction of their swimming-bath, and they expect to have it ready about a month hence. They are liberally patronized by the wealthy and influential classes in the town, having already received the promise of nearly £150 from fifteen gentlemen.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXVII.

TO JOHN HOUGHTON, ESQ.

SIR,—Your testimony, unaided by any argument, would have been important evidence in favour of Free Trade. It is a voice from the fields, in the heart of the metropolis. The meeting at Covent-garden Theatre would have received it respectfully; for that miscellaneous audience has now been trained to exercise reason, where other meetings express the dictates of passion or of preconceived opinion; and to appreciate not only the force of argument, but the value of experience. To your knowledge of the subject it was ready to render a deference which no dignity of station could there have commanded. You were heard as a man who has, for twenty years, with the stimulus of personal interest, been watching practically the operation of "protection": as the farmer of above 1000 acres of your own land, and a tenant of 2500 acres more; much of it being that inferior soil which is most thought to require "protection": as not only one of the largest arable farmers in England, but a land-agent for properties comprising more than 200,000 acres in England, Scotland, and Ireland; and thus enabled by extensive observation of its action upon proprietors and cultivators, to appreciate the real value of "protection": and as a gentleman whose evidence before the Parliamentary committee on agricultural distress, in 1836, and whose assistance at agricultural meetings subsequently had been deemed of high importance to the cause of "protection." These facts, Sir, rapidly intimated by Mr. Cobden when he introduced you to the meeting, would have sufficed to ensure you its profound attention, had you been there for the purpose of reiterating your former opinions, and not for that of declaring that further reflection and experience had convinced you of their fallacy. In proportion to the strength of this just and proper feeling, was the gratification of the assembly at the manly adhesion to Free Trade of one who can truly affirm that "all he has in the world is in land," and comes forward to confess and repudiate his long-cherished error, that the land needs any artificial enhancement by the Legislature of the price of its products, to render its cultivation profitable, or secure the cultivators from injury by the world's competition.

You are, Sir, in the honourable position of bearing what, considered simply as testimony, is perhaps of more weight and importance than that of any other witness yet called into court in this great controversy. Who should know, if not such a person as yourself? Whose opportunities have been ampler? Whose observation more extended? Whose position better for noting the influences of the system upon all classes concerned? And whose experience more decisive? It is your practice, I understand, when unable to let a farm, from the poverty of the soil or its being out of condition, to take it yourself of the proprietor; always on a 21 years' lease; to stock it well, farm high, and look for your returns, not immediately, but with eventual certainty. Such practice is the test of protection. It resembles those chemical agents, which detect the presence and nature of substances that are obscured by their combination. The farms which you take in hand are the primary argument for "protection." They are its extreme case of necessity and expediency. Your practice takes the bull by the horns. You are a living proof of the superfluity of "protection," for your own personal knowledge in this course of action has made you a Free-Trader. We have a right to tell the world to listen to you, as one who not merely reasons, believes, or speculates on the subject, but who knows. You have tried the *experimentum crucis*. You depose to facts. Supposing the two Houses of Legislation personified as judges on the bench, your evidence should make them say to each other, "Brother, this case is at an end."

The weight of your testimony is in accordance with the soundness of your argumentation. Every farmer in the country should ponder your question, "Have the laws of protection been of any service to you?" Who of them can lay his finger on capital that has been realized through the operation of those laws? Where are the tangible results? What little farmer became a large one by means of the first Corn Law; and a small proprietor by means of the second Corn Law; and from that has grown to a large proprietor by means of the present, or third Corn Law? Where are the lucky persons? Never did echo more dolefully answer "Where?" You may advertise for them in the *Farmer's Journal* or the *Mark-lane Express*. They will not be forthcoming. The Humane Society, at its anniversary, parades around the dinner table those who have been saved from drowning: were the Protection Society to parade the farmers whom its system has saved from difficulty, how many would it muster? What can be produced as its work beyond a bad rent-bargain? That, indeed, is its doing. In 1815, as you showed at the meeting, 40s. a quarter was guaranteed for wheat, and in seven years it was selling at 40s. In 1827 the new law promised

## REVIEW.

*The French in Algiers.* (Home and Colonial Library, No. XIX.) London: Murray.

While we bestowed a fair meed of praise on the general spirit and execution of M. Thiers's great work, we intimated that there were some political views incidentally advocated by that able statesman which were fallacious in substance, and dangerous in consequences. England has commerce and colonies; France seeks colonies and commerce. The error of the French statesmen is, that they place colonies first in their category, and believe that if they establish settlements they can secure trade. There is no doubt that they can find plenty of English authorities to countenance them in this error; as one of our contemporaries has observed, "In the English colonial system there is a great deal of sense and a great deal of nonsense." M. Thiers discusses the question in reference to Napoleon's expedition to Egypt. He laments the expulsion of the French from that country, though he does not point out any practical or tangible advantage which would have resulted from retaining possession of it. The fruits of the valley of the Nile could be raised by native cultivators at a much cheaper rate than they could be produced by French planters; and the difference of cost would be just so much loss to the people of France—a loss aggravated by the expense of paying soldiers to protect the planters from the Arabs.

The question of the value of Egypt as a means of communication between Europe and India is beside the present issue, because steam navigation was unknown at the beginning of the present century; and without the agency of steam, the Red Sea would be practically worthless as a means of communication with India. "There are six months," say the Arabs, "when you cannot get into it, and six more when you cannot get out of it." Egypt would, at the beginning of the century, have been valuable merely as a colony; and the only question is, whether the value would be equivalent to the cost. This, however, is precisely the question which M. Thiers does not attempt to discuss, though he, having held office since France became possessed of Algeria, could easily have given an estimate of the expenditure and returns of the French colonization of Northern Africa. The nineteenth number of "Murray's Home and Colonial Library"—a series maintained with greater tact, spirit, and judgment than any other ever issued in Britain—furnishes us with the most graphic account we yet possess of the condition of Algeria under the French Government. It is translated from the narrative of Lieutenant Lamington, who served as a volunteer in the foreign legion employed by the French in Africa. The following is his brief description of the colony:—

"The whole coast, from Algiers as far as the fortified camp of Kouba, was formerly inhabited by the most wealthy Turks and Moors, who spent here in Oriental ease and voluptuous idleness the riches they obtained by piracy. Their country houses, built in a noble style of Moorish architecture, are proofs of the wealth of their former possessors. These are still in good repair, and are inhabited by Frenchmen and Spaniards, who have bought them for a trifle for the sake of the gardens of fruit and vegetables. The soil is wonderfully productive, owing to the numerous springs which rise in the mountains and water the ground throughout the year. Traces are still found both of the Roman and the Moorish method of irrigation. The bold arches of the Romans have long since fallen to decay, while the modest and simple earthen pipes of the Moors, which creep below the surface of the earth, still convey a fresh and plentiful supply of water. These few square miles on the Sahel form nearly the whole of the boasted French colony in Africa; *cafés* and *canteens* are their only possessions beyond the fortified camps and the range of the blockhouses, even near the largest towns, such as Medeah, Mihanah, Mascara, &c.; and these are only supported by the military, and may therefore be said to draw their resources from France.

"During the first years of the French occupation a considerable tract of the plains of Metidja came under cultivation. But the bad policy and worse system of defence of the French soon ruined the colonists. One morning, in the year 1839, Abd-el-Kader and his hordes poured down from the lesser Atlas range and destroyed everything with fire and sword. Those who escaped death were dragged into captivity. Since then the colonists have lost all confidence in the Government, and it will be very long before they recover it.

"Agriculture requires perfect security of property, and, above all, personal security. Setting aside the precarious condition of the colonists, the French are thoroughly bad settlers, and only know how to set up *cafés*. The few good agriculturists to be found here are either Germans or Spaniards. It is remarkable that the Spaniards, who in their own country are so lazy that they had rather starve than work, are here the very best agricultural labourers. Their diligence and economy almost amount to avarice."

The mode of civilizing Africa adopted by the French is sufficiently simple: it consists in retreating the brutality of the savage tribes, without taking much trouble to determine whether punishment falls on the guilty parties. An attack having been made on a French post by the Kabyles, an armed force was at once sent to destroy a Kabyle village, and, having marched all night, the soldiers were allowed to take a little rest:—

"After a short rest we started again, and the first glim-

mer of light showed the huts of the tribe straight before us. An old Kabyle was at that moment going out with a pair of oxen to plough; as soon as he saw us he turned a fearful howl and fled, but a few well-directed shots brought him down. In one moment the grenadiers and *voltigeurs*, who were in the advance, broke through the hedge of prickly pear which generally surrounds a Kabyle village, and the massacre began. Strict orders had been given to kill all the men, and only to take the women and children prisoners: for we followed the precept of 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.'

"A few men only reeled half awake out of their huts, but most of them still lay fast asleep; not one escaped death. The women and children rushed, howling and screaming, out of their burning huts in time to see their husbands and brothers butchered. One young woman with an infant at her breast started back at the sight of strange men, exclaiming 'Mohamed! Mohamed!' and ran into her burning hut. Some soldiers sprang forward to save her, but the roof had already fallen in, and she and her child perished in the flames.

"We then returned with our booty, and it was high time, for other tribes of Kabyles came flocking together from every side, attracted by the noise. We were forced to retreat in such haste that we left the greater part of the cattle behind. The fire of the companies we had stationed in our rear with the field-pieces at last gained us time to breathe. We, however, had but few killed and wounded.

"A few days after, a deputation was sent by the survivors with proposals for the exchange of the women and children against cattle, which was accepted. It is a point of honour with the Kabyles not to leave their women and children in the enemies' hands. They most conscientiously ransomed even the old women, whom we would willingly have given them gratis."

As a companion picture, we extract the account of an attack of the Kabyles on the French:—

"On the night of the 4th of February, contrary to their usual custom, the Kabyles paid us a very well-meant visit. We lay in our barracks not dreaming of any danger, when we were awakened at eleven o'clock at night by repeated shots, and by some bullets which came through the deal boards of our barracks. In an instant we were dressed; each man snatched up his musket and went out. The shots came from a rock to the westward of the town, and only separated from it by a small arm of the sea. By some strange neglect no blockhouse had been built on this spot, which commanded the town. The Kabyles had stolen through the line of blockhouses in the dark, and from this rock they now fired into the town with their long rifles with some effect. The companies soon fell into rank. Lieutenant-Colonel Picolon, a cool, determined officer, made his appearance immediately, and placed all the sentinels of the town on a battery exactly opposite the rock, to answer the fire of the Kabyles, and thus to make them believe that the whole garrison was there: in the meantime we marched out at the gate in perfect silence, reached the rock unobserved, and fell suddenly upon their rear. At the very moment when they saw us and raised their wild howl, we gave them a volley and charged them with the bayonet. As the Kabyles are totally unacquainted with the use of it, they could offer us no effectual resistance, although they were double our number. Those who were not killed threw themselves into the sea, for, being mostly good swimmers, they chose rather to trust to the tender mercies of the waves than to ours. But even the very elements conspired against them. The sea was very rough, and the waves dashed the poor fellows to pieces against the rocks. But few escaped to tell the mournful tale to their kinsfolk. We remained on the rock till the following morning.

We had only taken three prisoners, for in the heat of the skirmish the soldiers cut down every one. Some, indeed, had even cut off the heads of the wounded with their own yataghans. The *Commandant Supérieur* rewarded these heroes with five-franc pieces, and stuck the heads over the city gates, where they remained until the stench became intolerable. Truly I almost begin to think that we have learned more of the barbarous manners of the Kabyles than they of our humanity and civilization."

Lamington gives a very lively and graphic description of one of Marshal Bugeaud's hunting expeditions in search of Abd-el-Kader. We quote a specimen of the kind of glory to be obtained in African warfare:—

"One evening, after a hot forced march, we saw on a mountain top, which formed a plateau, a great heap of stones which we knew to be a town. In two hours we were close upon it. Our battalion and several others climbed the steep hill, in order to enter the town from above, while the rest of the column attacked it from below. We were driving the Bedouins before us all the time. At length we reached the walls, which were low and battlemented, but to our astonishment no one appeared to defend them, and the gates stood wide open. Suspecting a ruse, some of us climbed to the top of the walls to look into the town. The next was empty, and the birds flown; as usual we had come just too late. The whole column poured into the town, which was I think called Callah, and the soldiers eagerly ransacked the houses. The owners could not have been gone long, for the kuskussu on the hearth was still hot. A few fowls, cats, and lambs, which the Kabyles had left behind in their hurry, and two rusty cannons, were all the spoil. A far greater godsend was a fine spring of water near the city gates. Here we made up for the thirst we had endured all day.

"After taking as much wood as was wanted to cook our supper, we set fire to the town. We then bivouacked on an eminence at a distance, where we slept as soundly as if we had performed some glorious action."

The sufferings of the soldiers on these hunting expeditions in search of the Bedouins, who almost always contrived to distance their pursuers, are very powerfully portrayed:—

"During all this time the number of sick increased fearfully; the forced marches, the excessive heat, and the quantity of meat which the soldiers ate without any other food but bad sea blouit, undermined their health. Diarrhoea and fever prevailed in every division. The mules were soon so loaded that many who could no longer drag themselves along were rejected and left to die on the road."

64s., and in nine years 35s. was all that could be obtained. In 1841 the new law did not promise—Sir Robert Peel often implies and seldom promises—but it implied 56s., and wheat is at 45s.—probably not yet at its lowest. What are all these facts but illustrations of the system as a provision for bad rent-bargains? If not its "being's end and aim," they are its inevitable result. They are all that protectionist farmers take by their motion. To this truth they will listen from you, Sir; they will "lend you their ears," which they seem to think insecure within reach of manufacturers: tell it them again, I pray you; and again.

That "the more we extend our commerce, the better will our produce sell;" that "in any part of the country where we find manufactures flourishing, and population increasing, there we find land and produce the most valuable;" and that Free Trade in sugar and timber is an item of large advantage for the farmer to take into his account, in the application of the general principle: these are truths felicitously illustrated in your speech. You have shown thereby to the agricultural classes in what consists their real interest. Another thing you have done, of yet higher importance. You have described and exemplified the spirit in which they should meet the rest of the community. You have pioneered their path towards a peaceful and honourable settlement of this agitation. The secret of such a settlement is all contained in your mode of following up your declaration of the necessity of extended trade: "Gentlemen, I say that it is necessary to do this; and I do not doubt that the landowners, tenants, and all classes will join hand in hand in carrying out so great a cause; that, like the phoenix springing from its ashes, shall we, the landowners of England, and we the tenants of England, arise and show, by our determination and by our skill, our desire to do all we can to procure for the people of this country what is necessary for them to eat." That, Sir, is what we ask, and all we ask. Produce as much as you are able; and do not bar our supplying the deficiency from other quarters. Let competition stimulate your efforts, and Free Trade complete the supply of our wants. Whatever bitterness of feeling may have been sometimes manifested, has arisen from the reaction of restrictions on the people's food. The present system obstructs their having "what is necessary for them to eat." Too many landlords, and tenants also, have evinced an apparent indifference to there being enough to eat. They support laws which tend to keep the price of produce below the natural demand. Fixing the price of produce has been their first, though vain, object; and the people's being well fed has sunk into at best a secondary consideration. Let agriculture frankly meet commerce, on your principle, and there is an end of animosity; they are at one for ever. Sir, your words tend to make Covent-garden Theatre a "Conciliation-hall," not for the repeal of a union between nations, but for the production of union between conflicting classes.

The noble effort you have made, in publicly abjuring the error of a life, implies a previous influence of no little power upon your mind. Convictions, deeply rooted and of long endurance, are not reversed without a struggle. The fact of your conversion to the cause of Free Trade presupposes volumes of practical commentary upon the restrictive system. You must have seen its pernicious results in deteriorating the permanent worth of the vast properties for which you are the agent. Such deterioration must needs become visible to the agent, before impressing itself on the mind of the proprietor; although he will speedily, if a wise man, avail himself of the knowledge and intellect which, on other points, he has found trustworthy. It is from agents that landlords must often learn their interests. And others besides yourself have doubtless witnessed such circumstances, affecting both landowner and tenant, as those which have acted on your mind. They have seen the injury to property on the one hand, and the gradual descent, on the other, towards the gulf of bankruptcy. Were landagents to speak out, they would be the fittest chroniclers of the fate of tenant-farmers. They know how and why so many have been sold up, and sent adrift on the world. The melancholy history of many a calamitous change must be preserved in their memories. It is for them to tell whether "protection" has made prosperity. They have now the example of speaking out what they know; of fairly describing what they see and feel of the condition of tenant and labourers; and may they do themselves and society the justice of following that example.

There is an Anti-Corn Law Almanac; and too many of the days in its calendar are dark with the commemoration of suffering and riot, want and crime, the terrible consequences of monopoly; but there shall be a white mark for the day when one so eminent as yourself in the agricultural interest came forward at a League meeting, amongst the first fruits of conversion in your class, to herald that harvest of opinion when laws which are a universal injury shall be abolished by universal consent.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.



"The troops were so thoroughly disheartened that many of the soldiers destroyed themselves for fear of falling into the hands of the Bedouins. One of our battalions, who had been ill for some time, actually killed himself on a day of rest. On the pretext of cleaning his musket, he went down to the river side and blew out his brains."

The trophies of French valour must not be passed over without notice:—

"The prisoners, chiefly old men, women, and children, were driven with the cattle, under a special guard, in the middle of the column; it was heart-rending to see women and children, unaccustomed to walking and barefooted, and compelled to follow the rapid march of the column, over rocks and briars. Their feet were soon torn and bleeding, and they dragged themselves along with the greatest difficulty. They seldom made any complaint: only when one of their number dropped from fatigue, and was left behind, they all uttered a loud wail."

We believe that the plan of military colonies of veterans was devised by M. Thiers himself; the result of the experiment may serve to show the weight of his authority in questions of colonial policy:—

"At Coleah they have begun to form a colony of old worn-out soldiers, but I have great doubts of its success. These veterans, it is true, have the double advantage of being tolerably well used to the climate, and of knowing how to conduct themselves with prudence and coolness when attacked by the enemy; on the other hand, an old soldier generally makes a very bad peasant, and is ten times more patient of the dangers and hardships of war than of daily work with spade and plough. He usually takes unto himself some profligate woman not at all likely to attach him to his home, and then of course neglects his farm, and soon dissipates the small sum allowed him by the Government, and the end of it all is, that he sells his oxen and his plough, turns off his female companion, and enlists for a few years more. And now the old fellow who used to curse the service heartily, finds it quite a decent and comfortable way of life, and it is amusing to hear with what indignation he speaks of the life of a colonist."

Turn we now to Lieutenant France's account of his captivity with Abd-el-Kader; he is an officer of the French marine, and while making an excursion on shore he was seized by the Arabs, and, after having endured the most cruel indignities, was brought into the presence of Abd-el-Kader. The chief treated him with humanity, and promised him protection; but we must give a description of this renowned warrior:—

"Abd-el-Kader is twenty-eight years of age, and very small; his face is long and deadly pale, his large black eyes are soft and languishing, his mouth small and delicate, and his nose rather aquiline; his beard is thin but jet black, and he wears a small mustachio, which gives a martial character to his soft and delicate face, and becomes him vastly. His hands are small and exquisitely formed, and his feet equally beautiful; the care he takes of them is quite conquisitish; he is constantly washing them, and prying and filing his nails with a small knife with a beautifully-carved mother-of-pearl handle, which he holds all the while as he sits crouching on his cushions with his toes clasped between his fingers."

"His dress is distinguished by the most studied simplicity; there is not a vestige of gold or embroidery on any part of it. He wears a shirt of very fine linen, the seams of which are covered with a silk braid, terminating in a small silk tassel. Over the shirt is a haick, and over the haick two white bernouses; the uppermost garment is a black bernouse. A few silk tassels are the only ornaments about his dress; he wears no arms in his girdle, his head is shaved, and covered by three or four scull-caps, one within the other, over which he draws the hood of his bernouse."

"Abd-el-Kader's father, who died about two years ago, was a Marabout called Mahadin, who, by means of his fortune, his intelligence, and his character for sanctity, had acquired very great fame and influence among the Arabs. Twice in his life he had made the pilgrimage to Mecca, and prostrated himself before the tomb of the Prophet. In his second journey he was accompanied by his son, who was but eight years old. Young as he was, Abd-el-Kader acquired a great deal of useful experience, and learned Italian; he could already read and write Arabic. After returning from their pious journey, Mahadin instructed his son in the difficult study of the Koran, and at the same time taught him the conduct of affairs."

"As soon as we had concluded a peace with the Arabs after the taking of Algiers, Abd-el-Kader employed himself in exciting the tribes to revolt, in feeding and exasperating their animosity towards us, in stirring up their religious fanaticism, and above all in endeavouring to obtain the sovereign power over them. This, the talent, the energy, the bravery, and the cunning of the young Marabout soon procured for him; he quickly became their chief, and is now their Sultan."

He is far more cruel to the Bedouins who resist his authority, than to the French prisoners. The following instance of the punishment of one of the rebellious tribe of Beni-Flita cannot be read without a shudder:—

"Abd-el-Kader raised his hand, and the unhappy man was dragged away by the chains. One of the chains had fast his son in the battle, and had seen his head hanging to the saddle-bow of a Beni-Flita; with tears and lamentations he now implored the other chains to grant him the favour of putting the prisoner to death with his own unaided hand. He at last obtained it, and immediately rushed upon the Beni-Flita, and cut off his hands and feet with his yataghan. The children shouted for joy at this horrid sight, and the revengeful father watched with delight the hideous contortions of the victim who rolled in the dust at his feet, shrieking with rage and pain, and imploring his tormenter to cut off his head. When the Beni-Flita at length faintly from loss of blood, the chains passed a rope round his middle, and dragged him by it outside the enclosure of the camp; the children brought together a quantity of brushwood and dry branches, and set fire to them, and on this pile the chains threw the still living Beni-Flita."

"It was night, and the flames threw a lurid glare upon the dark tents: the piercing shrieks of the Beni-Flita long sounded through the camp. I covered my head with my haick, and groined when I thought that only a few leagues from this savage camp were the outposts of a noble and generous nation."

The extracts we have already given enable our readers to appreciate the nobility and generosity of the French in Africa.

We are now in a position to estimate the wisdom and policy of the system of colonization which M. Thiers deliberately recommends, and desires to see extended. He is anxious to see the Mediterranean a French lake; we should like to know why it might not as well be an Italian lake, a Spanish lake, an Austrian lake, or a Greek lake? but we are at a still greater loss to determine why it should be a lake at all. To say nothing of the question of justice, how could France acquire and secure a monopoly of this great inland sea? And, if it were acquired, what would be the value of the monopoly? Free Trade would give France as ample a share of the commodities she desires to import, and at a far less cost, than colonization and monopoly. The only advantage that France has derived from her African colonies is, that they afford places for bribes to her unworthy children, and graves to those most worthy of preservation.

*American Facts.* By G. P. Putnam, Esq. London, Wiley and Putnam.

The object of this work is to vindicate the character of the Americans from the charges usually brought against them by English journalists and travellers. We have felt no interest and taken no share in the bandying of reproaches and reciprocity of hard words, which have been too long maintained on both sides of the Atlantic; on the contrary, we believe that the people of Great Britain have a deep interest in the prosperity of the United States, and that the Americans are not less deeply interested in the prosperity of the British empire. A free interchange of their mutual productions is alone wanting to produce a perpetual interchange of mutual good will; commercial jealousy is the sole cause of the political irritability which is unhappily prevalent. We extract a few statistical particulars of the United States; they will help to show the extent of the markets closed against us by those Corn Laws which shut out the articles of payment which the Americans have to offer for our manufactures:—

"The United States of America occupy an area of 2,300,000 square miles; or 650,000 more than the whole of Europe, excepting Russia."

"Collectively, their greatest length is 3000 miles; their greatest breadth 1700 miles."

"They have a frontier line of about 10,000 miles; a sea-coast of 3600 miles; and a lake-coast of 1200 miles."

"Of the rivers: the Missouri is 3600 miles in length, or more than twice as long as the Danube; the Ohio is 600 miles longer than the Rhine; and the Hudson (entirely in the state of New York, and navigable for 160 miles) is 120 miles longer than the Thames."

"The territory of the United States is divided into twenty-six separate states and three territories, each of which has a separate government."

"The state of Virginia has an area of 70,000 square miles, and is about one-third larger than England. The state of Ohio contains 40,000 square miles, or 8000 more than the whole of Scotland."

"The harbour of the city of New York is the Atlantic outlet of a river, canal, and lake navigation of about 3000 miles, or distance from Europe to America."

"From Augusta, in the state of Maine, to New Orleans in Louisiana, the distance is 1800 miles; or 200 miles more than from London to Constantinople."

"Such general landmarks may be useful, perhaps, to some, in referring to the internal relations of the North American republic, and comparing it with other nations. The want of accurate outlines of its geographical extent and political divisions, frequently leads English writers into very erroneous impressions and statements,\* which a few general facts would materially correct. More particular information on various points will be found in the second part of this volume, in tables, of which the following is a general summary, viz.:—

"1. The population was—

In 1790, 3,929,324	In 1820, 9,638,166
1800, 5,309,754	1830, 12,856,165
1810, 7,239,903	1840, 17,062,666†

"Of the million and a half of foreigners and their

\* "When Mr. Alison ('History of Europe,' vol. x.) charges 'the ardent democrats of Maine, the Ohio, and the Mississippi' with causing the Canadian disturbances, and says they would suffer little in case of a war, 'because their connexions are all inland,'—he writes, to say the least, very loosely; for he wrongly charges hundreds of thousands who live 1000 miles from Canada; and as to inland connexions, Maine happens to be the very state of the whole twenty-six which has the longest line of Atlantic coast; while the whole commerce of the Mississippi centres at New Orleans, one of the principal seaports. The English journals recently represented the Governor of New York as being obliged to call out the militia to arrest Anti-Mormon criminals; but the transactions referred to took place in a frontier state as far from New York as St. Petersburg is from London. Maunders's, Brooks's, and other Gazettes, published in London in 1844, describe New York, and other states and cities in the United States, exactly from the Gazetteers of fifty years ago! They would seem to have considered the country either as having been asleep since that time, or as too unimportant to need later description. And yet these works profess to be 'derived from the latest and best authorities.' Cincinnati, a city containing 46,000 inhabitants, is not even mentioned in these works."

† "Including 2,487,355 slaves."

descendants, probably 600,000 are natives of Europe. I should estimate the proportion in every 100 to be thus:—

Irish ..	35
Germans and Swiss ..	20
English and Scotch ..	20
French ..	15*
Others ..	10†
— 100	

"How much is the country under foreign influence? Of the two millions and a half of electors, Custom-house returns will show that from 150,000 to 200,000 are natives of Europe. Compared to the whole, this number is not formidable; but, unfortunately, these 200,000, though nearly all incapable of understanding the nature and peculiarities of a republican government—and with nothing whatever at stake in the national councils—have yet been permitted to enjoy privileges which give them in fact a controlling power in public measures: for their numbers are sufficient to turn the scale of the political parties, and hence they are courted and feared by each party, and they hold the balance entirely in their own hands. The evils arising from this state of things are now beginning to be apparent; and a strong effort is being made, and very properly, to limit the right of suffrage either to natives of the country, or to residents of twenty-one years."

The following particulars of American commerce will interest our readers:—

"The commerce of the United States is, in extent, second to that of no other nation except Great Britain. In 1810, the capital invested in foreign trade by importing and commission merchants, was 119,295,367 dollars; in home retail trade, 250,301,799 dollars; in the fisheries, 16,429,620 dollars. The aggregate tonnage of vessels was 2,190,615 tons, of which 136,926 were employed in the whale fishery."

"The value of exports in 1810 was—  
Of domestic produce... 115,895,634  
Of foreign produce... 18,190,312

Value of imports: .. 132,085,916  
107,141,519

Excess of imports .. 24,944,427

"The manufactures of the United States, though inferior to their agriculture and commerce, have recently received much attention, and have largely increased in amount, both for home consumption and for exportation."

"In 1810, the amount produced of home-made or family goods was 29,023,380 dollars."

"The cotton manufactures were 1240, with 2,281,631 spindles. They employed 72,119 persons; produced articles to the value of 46,350,453 dollars; and had a capital employed of 51,102,359 dollars."

"The woollen manufactures employed 21,342 persons, and a capital of 15,765,000 dollars; and produced goods to the amount of 20,696,999 dollars."

We deem it an act of simple justice to quote the defence made for "reputation":—

"In England, it is a common remark, that the Americans have repudiated, have openly refused to pay, their just debts, and that they ought, one and all, to be removed from the society of gentlemen. The accusation of repudiation by the Americans is the constant theme in the daily newspapers, and is to be found reiterated in works of received standard utility; and it is against this wholesale condemnation, as well as to fit the saddle upon the right back, that the following remarks are written."

"Of the twenty-nine states and territories constituting the Federal Union, the following are the only defaulters: viz., Pennsylvania, Maryland, Mississippi, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Louisiana, Arkansas, and the Florida territory; and the only one of the above which may justly be accused of the damnable doctrine of repudiation, is Mississippi."

"Many extenuating circumstances can be urged for each of the states separately; but as the limits of this article will not permit of their being dwelt upon, it will be only requisite to mention that four out of the seven, namely,

\* "Including the people of Louisiana."

† "The descendants of the original Dutch settlers of New York are among the most respectable and wealthy of the present population of that state."

‡ "The imports in 1836 were about 180,000,000. This was the year of over-trading. The American vessels generally are noted for their superior models and sailing qualities; but the New York packet-ships, in particular, have long been famous in Europe, in these respects, and for their size, beauty, and appointments. Great improvements have been made recently; and there are now, in regular lines from New York, twenty-four packet-ships to Liverpool; twelve to London; and twelve to Havre. All these are built at New York—the size varies from 600 to 1200 tons. A New York packet sails to and from England and New York eight times a month. A considerable amount of American capital is invested in the South sea whale fishery. The small town of New Bedford (12,000 inhabitants) owns no less than 120 whaling-ships, and Nantucket sends out about fifty whalers. The town of Salem (Mass.), with 15,000 inhabitants, is probably the wealthiest place of its size in the world. It is largely engaged in the India trade, and has a valuable Museum, collected by navigators from its own port, in different parts of the world."

§ "Some hundred packages of American cotton goods, consigned to an eminent English house for re-exportation a year or two since, were temporarily seized at the docks in London, because they were marked 'Stark Mills, Manchester, N. H.,' thus being supposed a fraud on the Manchester manufacturer. It appeared, on inquiry, that the suspicion was groundless. There are some five or six Manchester in the United States, and there N. H. is the usual abbreviation for New Hampshire. Travellers say that they buy in New York a better hat, a better boot, and even a better pocket coat, than they usually can obtain in London; and this is not altogether an idle boast. It is ascertained that no less than 60,000 American cheap clocks have been imported and sold in England within one year. Only four or five years since large numbers of German clocks were sent to New York. Some Connecticut artisans took up the subject, and the same clocks at Hamburg and Bremen, who formerly exported clocks to the United States, now receive the American article for the German market. The annual fair of the American Institute displays a very remarkable progress in home manufactures in the last ten years."

## AGRICULTURE.

## THE STATE OF THE FARMERS.

There is no doubt that the most excessive distress at this moment exists amongst the tenant-farmers of England. Not a protectionist opens his mouth without proclaiming the fact. No provincial or metropolitan newspaper can be glanced at without affording some indications of the same melancholy truth. In the *Morning Advertiser* of last Tuesday the subject formed the topic of a leading article, in which the writer says, "as a class, the tenant-farmers of England are now on the brink of ruin." And after referring to twenty-one announcements of extensive sales of agricultural stock, which appeared in one week's paper, in Staffordshire, the property of farmers "giving up the farm," or "retiring from business," and so forth, the writer says:—

"There is a world of meaning in all this. The advertisements we have quoted most probably are those of men who, foreseeing what must inevitably happen if they cling longer to their farms, are giving them up before they are entirely ruined. They are 'retiring from business,' with whatever they can recover from the wreck of their little fortunes. How many thousands there are who cannot retire at all, because they have not a farthing remaining to retire with, can only be known when their landlords lay their clutches on them, and unceremoniously eject them from their farms."

So we find in the *Brighton Herald*, under the head *Stealing*, the following gloomy paragraph:—

"It has been communicated to us as a fact, in illustration of the state of the farming interest in this neighbourhood at the present time, that there is almost an uninterrupted series of farms reaching from Washington to Worthing—a distance of eight miles—now to be let, or about to be let. The first, which has been advertised, is Highden farm; for some time past used by the owner, who is reported to have lost hundreds of pounds by the cultivation of it. The next is North farm; and the third, Cobden farm—a name suggestive of important considerations. The fourth, the property of a mercantile gentleman, we believe, well known in the city of London, carries the tract of land alluded to, to Findon Turnpike-gate. The fifth farm, a large one, touching Salvington on the south and Durrington on the north, is said to have been very unprofitably held by the late and present tenants; a great portion of whose losses are attributed to the strict preservation of game and rabbits on the estate of the owner. The sixth and last farm, for the future tenancy of which some unsuccessful negotiation has been carried on, takes this extent of agricultural and pastoral domain to South farm, in the environs of Worthing. The maintenance of the game laws, in the case of the farm last alluded to, is charged with inflicting pecuniary injury on the tenant so severe as, with other circumstances depressing the condition of the farmer, to make the continued occupation of the land the inevitable cause of unsustainable losses to the holder. Besides the causes which are obvious to the public, as those operating to disturb existing arrangements between landlord and tenant, there may be in the cases adverted to, as it is but fair to allow, other influences of private and peculiar nature; such, perhaps, as at the best of times for the agricultural interest might come into operation. These, however, if any such there be, are as nothing compared to the great moving circumstances of the day in agriculture, which must necessarily affect landlord and tenant in this district as well as all others. The remark will bear general reference that the public are far from being wholly acquainted with the disturbances in farming arrangements which the present era (as it may, in respect to the agitation upon agrarian matters, be called) has produced. A number of unfavourable circumstances besetting the farmer, to which, although they might be truly described, it might be thought invidious, and would certainly be inexpedient, to allude; and, not least, the dispersed location of the farmers, combine to render their condition only partially apparent through the phases of things referable to the failure of agricultural pursuits. The farmers meanwhile are hastened onwards to a predicament of much diminished estate, if not insolvency; and are perforce almost ejected from the sphere of industrial occupations."

This is in a district peculiarly favourable to agriculture, and amongst a class of farmers supposed to be especially benefited by protection. Yet, behold the result of thirty years of landlord-protective legislation! Nor is this distress confined to a few districts. With certain exceptions it is universal. That the distress has been aggravated by the deficiency of last year's crops of lent corn and cattle provender, which, with Sir Robert Peel and his adherents, stands for the whole cause of distress, nobody will deny; but that is simply an aggravation of an existing evil: its sources lie much deeper.

Nor is this strange and anomalous fact to be overlooked, namely, that, concurrently and contemporaneously with the most grievous suffering amongst tenant-farmers, there exists a severe and unhealthy competition for farms,—so much so that at this moment numberless farmers will be found ready to undertake farms upon terms which render profit almost impossible, and ruin nearly inevitable! Except in cases where landlords are beginning to perceive that their own permanent interests can only be preserved by the tenant's prosperity, yearly tenancies, game preserves, restrictions on cultivation, maintenance of timber, and a multitude of other landlord-imposed burdens on the farmer are tenaciously clung to, and tenants, numerous tenants, are still found rash enough to attempt the cultivation of farms under such difficulties. As for the landlords, they are safe enough for a time, for they have the law of distress to resort to, and, whatever

may become of the tenant, his family and his creditors, the rent is secure.

Whence does this distress and its accompanying symptoms proceed?

Now, as exceptions are said to prove the rule, we must observe those individuals and districts which have suffered least, in order to arrive at the causes of the distress.

There are a few men in most agricultural districts who, and there are several extensive districts in which the occupiers of land have practically disregarded the promises of high prices made to them, but not performed by the Legislature. These are the farmers who have farmed for quantity. High prices they doubtless liked; but great produce they have deemed indispensable. They have laid out large capitals in farming, and they have generally required and obtained the protection of secure tenures; for even large capital will not ensure profit in farming unless it be "sunk in the land." There are undoubtedly many men of considerable capital who occupy as yearly tenants; but it will be found that, in the great majority of instances, they tie themselves as little as possible to the soil. They keep much stock, they breed and they feed highly, they purchase much artificial food and extraneous manure, and they get as much as they possibly can from their land by mere manurance and routine cultivation. But they make no outlays which require years to get back with a profit. They do but little draining, and that little in a shallow and imperfect manner; they do not amalgamate the various soils which lie, perhaps, on their own farms; the great dressings of chalk and clay, which often give such an extraordinary increase of fertility, are never done by them; and they seldom undertake effective subsoil ploughing, which so materially ameliorates the heavy soils. And yet these improvements, and such as these, are necessary to obtain large produce. The power of manure applied in merely routine culture is extremely limited. The farmer soon finds he may grow more straw, but no more, possibly less, corn; and it is only by expensive and well-conducted ameliorations of the soil itself, continued through a considerable period, together with a full supply of manure, that the farmer can hope to reap a large return for a given outlay.

But, although the farmer who thus more permanently amends his land requires a more considerable capital at the commencement, he obtains larger crops in after years at a less yearly cost than the tenant, let his capital be what it may, who holds himself always prepared to give up his farm, whether from actual insecurity of tenure, or from his own apprehensions as to the prospects of agriculture. A price which would give the one farmer an ample profit, might be ruinous to the other, because the one may have grown forty bushels of wheat to the acre, at a cost not merely relatively, but absolutely less than the other has grown twenty-five bushels per acre. The Corn Laws have been the sole reason why farmers, who all know the truth of the above statements, have so long continued to look to profit from a high price upon a small produce. Nineteen farmers out of twenty would say they calculated on a price for wheat from 12s. to 15s. a quarter higher than the present price, which would probably be about the natural price, with a Free Trade, and a season of ordinary abundance; and in consequence, while they engaged to pay rents calculated on the same scale, they assumed a comparatively low acreable produce would save them harmless. This has led them so generally into taking farms too large for the amount of capital they employ, which now, independently of too high rents, forms the main obstacle to their adoption of a better system. At this moment the farmers' capital is being transferred wholesale into the pockets of the landowners as rent; and those who have been squeezed dry, as well as those who see that, if they go on as of late they have been going on, they also must soon be drained of their last shilling "to make up the rent," are the men who, perforce only by an unwilling choice, are "retiring from business." Heaven only knows what will become of them!

Nor is there any help for farmers but in the abolition of the Corn Laws. Then they will know, and their landlords and land-agents will know and acknowledge, that moderate prices only can be expected, and that he who would make a profit by farming must raise large produce. Many might advantageously give up a part of their land, and cultivate the rest with more care; some would borrow the additional capital they might require when farming had ceased to be a gambling trade, and the tenants were protected in their possessions by leases; and others, by lengthening their rotations, by growing grain less frequently and with better preparation, and by increasing their growth of green and root crops for stock, would find that profits are in no degree dependent upon high and artificial prices. Let farmers consider these suggestions, which result from a deep sympathy with their distress and a strict identity with their interests, and they will soon fully understand, what they are beginning to perceive, that they have been made

Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Florida, are all of them of such recent origin, that difficulties might reasonably be expected. Nevertheless, each of these states has been exerting itself to get out of its difficulties. Illinois has succeeded very recently in raising in this city a loan of 1,600,000 dollars, of which sum 200,000 dollars are now in the hands of the London banker: this money is to be applied to the finishing of her canal, and as soon as it is finished the farmers will be able to send their produce to market, and then they will be able to pay their taxes.

"Indiana offers to pay 60 per cent. on the amount due annually for her interest, the principal being acknowledged in full.

"Michigan pleads that she is ready to pay the interest on every dollar which she has received; but is unable to pay on the amount of which she was robbed by the United States Bank, who received the subscription on the loan, and only paid the states one-fourth of the money.

"Florida territory alone is inert.

"Maryland, with its small extent of territory and large canal, has had much to contend with, more especially as the downfall of American credit has prevented the further advance of those funds which were absolutely requisite to finish the canal to the coal region, from whence the chief source of profitable returns is to be expected.

"Louisiana can hardly be called a defaulter, inasmuch as she continues to pay regularly on the larger portion of her loans, and has only failed in those bonds issued to two of her banks.

"Pennsylvania, since February, 1842, has not paid any dividends, at least not to any who did not come under the denomination of small holders; but never was satire more misplaced, or ignorance more completely shown, than when 'the drab-coloured men of Pennsylvania' were held up to public odium; for the fact stands forth, simply thus: the 'drab-coloured men' are almost entirely limited to Philadelphia, and the city of Philadelphia never for an instant defaulted: its five per cent. stock, even during the worst times, never fell below ninety-eight in America. The really blameable parties are the agricultural German settlers, who possess a majority in some of the counties; many of them cannot either read or write in any language; almost all are unable to understand the English language, and place a ban upon any descendant who should so far forget the manners of his forefathers as to make any attempt to assimilate himself, by his acquisitions, to those people among whom he dwells. At present there are nearly as many German newspapers published in Pennsylvania as English ones; now, however, that the Germans have been made to understand that deep dishonour has fallen upon their state, and that Vaterland sees with sorrow the contempt into which they have fallen, they have readily come forward with their hard dollars, and contributed to remove the stigma.

"By condemning in one fell swoop the entire of the states, those states which have made efforts to uphold their honour derive no credit from their exertions; and here let me point out some of those whose actions are deserving of praise.

"Ohio, which was nearly falling into the same error as Pennsylvania, took a very summary course for paying the interest: the legislature of that state placed the power of raising the requisite taxes in the hands of the auditor; he was to name the per centage on the property in the state required to pay the interest; and, if any irregularity occurred, he was to be held answerable.

"Alabama went yet further to uphold its credit; she laid sundry taxes on billiard-tables, cotton, brokers' commissions, and finally, an unmitigated poll-tax, without reference to age, sex, or condition: this was twelve months ago, and up to this time a second Wat Tyler has not been heard of.

"New York State has raised its property-tax, so that, if a citizen of the state has £1000 in New York stock, he pays a tax of £1 per annum; while, if he has the same sum in British Consols, he would only pay 17s. 6d. per annum, or three per cent. on his income. A holder of property in England pays 7d. in the pound sterling, on the income produced by it; but a holder of property in Ohio or Pennsylvania pays 1s. on every £100 of capital; and if he did not obtain a better interest for his money than the holder of Consols obtains, this tax would then be equivalent to 2s. in the pound, or ten per cent. of his income; and yet these very Ohioans, who have endured this heavy taxation, are classed in the same category as the repudiating Mississippians.

"In fact, all these states have made many stringent laws to fulfil their engagements; and recent circumstances indicate that the same course of policy will continue to be pursued.

"The only state in the Union against which the scorn of civilization can be justly directed, on the ground of entertaining the doctrine of repudiation, is Mississippi. This state is rich in resources, and cannot plead poverty; but even here a few words might be urged in mitigation. By the last accounts of voters there, we find that the number of persons in that state who were for payment of the bonds were 18,665, and against paying them 21,036; and there can be no question but that the minority contains the wealth, the talent, and the respectability of the state; but unfortunately they are outvoted by those who are neither the tax-payers, nor have any deep interest in the commonwealth.

The extracts which we have given sufficiently indicate the nature of the contents of this volume. We must, however, remark that there are traces of haste and carelessness in the composition which greatly deteriorate the value of the work, and that the author is obviously unacquainted with the principles of economic science. He has put forward a defence of the American system of protection so exquisitely absurd and inconsistent, that it would seem as if he had intended to save critics the trouble of refutation, by taking the task upon himself.

THE TRADE OF RUSSIA.—Letters from St. Petersburg place the commercial movement of Russia at 250,000,000 of silver roubles per annum: the number of vessels engaged exclusively in the exportation of Russian products amounting annually to 5000, and the value of their cargoes to 180,000,000 of silver roubles. The coasting trade employs 7000 vessels, the cargoes of which are estimated at 10,000,000 of silver roubles per annum.



the dupes, the catspaws, and the victims of the most selfish clique of monopolists the world has ever seen.

#### NEW TURN OF THE GAME-LAW SCREW.

The following game-law case should serve as a caution to Mr. Bright, and those legislators who act with him in the endeavour to relieve the farmers from the oppression of game laws, not to be content with any mere modification of those laws. The axe must be laid at the root of this agricultural Upas-tree, and the modern feudalists and barbarian squires must have no rest until all game laws have been expunged from the statute-book.

#### IMPORTANT DECISION ON A GAME SURCHARGE.

At the Devises petty sessions, on Monday, Wm. Coleman and Thomas Hayward, both of Great Chiverell, appeared to a surcharge made upon them by the surveyor of taxes, for killing game without having previously obtained a game certificate. It appeared by the evidence of a witness, William Sloper, that he was in company with Coleman and Hayward, at Chiverell, on the 8th of November last, and saw Hayward, agreeably to a previous arrangement, take a gun from under his coat, and shoot a hare, upon lands in the occupation of Coleman's father. The hare ran a short distance from the spot where shot, when Coleman ran after it, kicked it over, and carried it away. To rebut this testimony, one witness for the defendant swore that he was present, and heard Hayward shoot, but could not see what he killed, though he was only a few yards distant, and saw Coleman stoop and pick up something; and another witness, who was also present, swore that what Hayward shot at was a rabbit, and not a hare. Coleman's father proved that the land where the offence was committed was in his occupation, and, being much infested with rabbits, he had given permission to Hayward and his son to kill them whenever they pleased. It appeared also that Coleman had been previously convicted of the same offence under the game law. The allegation that the animal shot was a rabbit, and not a hare, did not serve the defendants, who were much surprised on finding that they were equally liable in either case. The magistrates confirmed the charge of double the certificate duty against both defendants, it being held by the judges that the exemption in the Assessed Taxes Act, enabling 'the taking and destroying conies by the tenants of lands either by himself, herself, or themselves, of by his, her, or their direction and command,' applies only to the destruction thereof as vermin, and not as to the present case, by way of sport. The mere permission, therefore, of the tenant is insufficient to exonerate a person killing rabbits from liability to the certificate duty; and, however hard this decision might appear, the magistrates have no alternative but to confirm the charge in every case, whenever it appears that the alleged offence was committed by way of sport, and not by the order or command of the tenant, and for the bona fide purpose of destruction.—*Provincial paper.*

#### RURAL GRATITUDE.

The protectionists of Worcestershire have shown a thankfulness for "small mercies" which cannot be too much commended. Unlike their dissatisfied co-monopolists elsewhere, they have thanked Mr. Miles for his late motion in the House of Commons. Lest we should be doubted, here is the evidence of the fact:—

"MR. MILES'S MOTION.—The Worcestershire Agricultural Protection Society have passed a vote of thanks to Mr. Miles, M.P., for the motion he recently brought forward in the House of Commons, and have likewise expressed their unreserved opinion in favour of 'no surrender.'"—*Morning Post.*

If such services deserve the thanks of protection societies, surely the Free-Traders have no right to be dissatisfied, for probably no single motion ever did more to hasten the abolition of protection than that of Mr. Miles.

We cannot help asking, however, why the monopolists of Worcestershire did not include Mr. George Banks and Mr. Bramston in their vote of thanks, for of a certainty the determined stand taken by those gentlemen against the "surrender" of grease and lard, and so forth, was worthy of all praise. We, the Free-Traders, at all events, give our most cordial thanks to both the latter gentlemen, as well as to Mr. Miles, for the monopoly-damaging debates which they originated. We hope these ardent protectionists will make more such motions; and they had better do so this session, as it is probably the last in which squararchical ignorance and landlord rapacity will have the opportunity of making such displays.

#### POLITICAL DESTITUTION.

One of those hard cases of political destitution which are occasionally heard of, has recently come before the public. The unfortunate politician whom the world has passed by is Earl Stanhope, who being a thorough "protectionist" thus bewails, from "Botzen in Tyrol," the desperate condition of monopoly, and the unkind way in which he has been treated by the present leaders of the monopolists. His lordship says:—

"I am deeply impressed with the conviction that the measures which have been adopted by the present Ministers to depress prices and to discourage British industry of almost every description, are ruinous in their nature, and may become revolutionary in their operation. It gives me very sincere satisfaction to reflect that I strenuously opposed those measures; but I had no success, for I did not receive sufficient support from my fellow-citizens, although great numbers of them concur entirely in my opinion, and ought to have cordially united in a common cause. Without their active support my exertions could be of no avail, and it would be useless to address those who, being guided by party spirit, would not be convinced by arguments; or who, even if they were so, might not assist me by their votes. As I have during many years been well known to be a faithful and zealous friend of the agricultural interest, and of all the other productive classes of the community, I had much reason to be surprised when the agricultural movements took place some

months ago at finding that no communication whatever was made to me upon the subject, from any district, even from those with which I am connected, and my advice and assistance might have been of no service, as they had not been solicited. I have been deserted by those whose rights I was most anxious to defend, and whose support I was justly entitled to expect, and, under such circumstances, I cannot be blamed for discontinuing my exertions. I have for the present retired from public life, in which I do not intend to engage again unless patriotism and public spirit should be revived, or until those who suffer from the effects of Free Trade should act with much more energy and union than they have hitherto shown."

And he afterwards says:—

"If I had been consulted in regard to the 'Protection Society' which has been formed, I would have represented that it ought not to have been confined to the agricultural classes, but to have included all those who are engaged in any branch of British industry, as all of them have a common interest in opposing Free Trade, and that they ought not to be satisfied with resisting further encroachments, but that they ought to insist upon 'full and effectual protection,' which they have an undoubted right to demand."

His lordship is plainly one of those acute persons who suppose that the way to make a nation right and prosperous is to set each interest to rob every other interest, and we have no doubt the cunning men of "No. 17, Bond-street," well knew that his lordship is much too honest for their purpose. They want to protect rents, and they know well enough all other protection laws are mere delusions; hence a well-meaning man, who sincerely believes that general robbery of each other is the true road to national prosperity, would have been a sad stumbling-block in the present state of monopolist infirmity. Richmond and Buckingham are cunning enough to see that poor Earl Stanhope's highflying protectionist notions—we had written nonsense—won't do at this day. This reminds us of a story told of a celebrated translator of Plato, who in his enthusiastic admiration of his author had expressed concurrence in his theological, or rather mythological, belief. Of course these opinions were entertained in a speculative sense. It happened, however, that a Frenchman got hold of the learned translator's work, and being himself an admirer of Plato, and a more literal believer in his creed, came over to this country and proposed to the astonished Greek scholar that they should join in publicly sacrificing a bull to Jupiter!! This was too much for the Englishman's Platonic fervour, and the enthusiastic Frenchman was dismissed with a short answer. Now, the known desire of Lord Stanhope to "protect" everybody at the expense of everybody, must have had about the same repelling effect in the minds of the leaders of the "Central Protection Society"—whose real object is to "protect" the landlords against all the community—as the proposal of the mad Platonist to sacrifice a bull to Jupiter, had on his more sober co-believer.

There is one passage in Lord Stanhope's letter, however, which shows how the truths which Mr. Cobden so admirably developed in his late speech, are gradually working into the minds of those least accessible to argument. His lordship's letter is addressed to "Mr. A. Wing," of Buckinghamshire, in reply to one from that gentleman; and he says:—

"I think that the difficulties which have been experienced on dairy farms have arisen much more from the extraordinary deficiency in the crops of grass and hay after a drought of very unusual duration, than from the low prices of grain, which, when it is grown principally for the consumption of the tenant, cannot have such an injurious effect as in the case under other circumstances."

Here we have the admission from the *ne plus ultra* of protectionists, that low prices of those articles consumed by the farmers do them no harm. Let the intelligent farmers follow out this train of argument by reference to the facts and circumstances of their own business.

#### RESULTS OF THE NEW SUGAR DUTIES IN IRELAND.

—The recent alteration in the sugar duties, and the corresponding reduction made by the grocers to the consumers, is working admirably for the poor; and, so far from being a serious loss to the revenue, there is an opinion amongst our merchants that, as far as Ireland is concerned, the revenue will be improved. The demand for this article has already increased upwards of 30 per cent. on the general average of what it was, say a year ago; and this is accounted for by the classes which were unable to obtain better than milk or salt, now using low-priced tea, shell cocoa, &c. Taking, therefore, the increased consumption of sugar with the increase in the revenue arising from tea and the other exciseable articles, the loss to the revenue, on the whole, will not be so serious as even Sir Robert Peel anticipated in his speech on opening the budget.—*Dublin Correspondent of the Herald.*

GAMBLING IN RAILWAY SHARES.—This is a most dangerous practice, for share-gambling is, like all other gambling, seductive, uncertain, and almost necessarily sure to lead by small successes to large losses and irretrievable ruin. Few know how to gamble prudently—the winnings of to-day may be converted into overwhelming losses to-morrow, and that too while the gambler is quite satisfied in his own mind that he is proceeding cautiously, prudently, and with winning cards in his hands. Already have we heard of some parties in Dublin having suffered such heavy losses that they have been forced into retreat. The case of one young man who had a stated salary, and some money saved, has been mentioned to us. He was induced to embark in the purchase of some scrip, and succeeded in making a profit. Again and again he risked and won; then, hazarding deeply, he lost his all and was forced to leave the country. Such cases as this are scarcely ever heard of publicly, and thus it is that affliction and misery visit many private families before the great crisis arises that deranges the circulation, convulses trade, and shakes the commercial prosperity of the country.—*Irish Railway Gazette.*

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, April 26, 1845.

The preparations for the Bazaar are now so far advanced, that the general effect of the decorations can be correctly estimated. The transparent ceiling is completed, and the *coup d'œil*, from the entrance, is the most gorgeous that can be imagined. The Committee of the Ladies Secretaries met on Thursday at Covent-garden to make arrangements for attendance at the stalls, and the number of volunteers to superintend the sales was found to be amply sufficient to ensure a constant supply. Since Monday large quantities of packages of contributions have been received in the theatre, and the variety of the articles sent will render the task of classification one of no ordinary difficulty. Viewed merely as an exposition of the products of British industry, the Bazaar will be the most interesting exhibition ever opened in this country, and in some of its features will not only rival but surpass the recent expositions on the Continent. The gothic hall into which the theatre has been converted is equally novel in its design, and gorgeous in its execution: the transparent ceiling and illuminated windows seem rather like the fabled palace of the "Arabian Nights" than the work of ordinary mortal hands. From the correspondence which we have published, and the extracts we have given from the country papers, it will be seen that the different towns of England and Scotland are zealously seconding the efforts of the London Committee; and it is only justice to the Ladies Secretaries in London to declare that they are indefatigable in their exertions to have all arrangements for the pleasure and convenience of visitors as complete as those for the despatch of business.

As it would be impossible for us to record in our limited space the proceedings of the Bazaar, arrangements have been made for the daily publication of a Bazaar Gazette, which will contain descriptions of the most valuable articles displayed, and a notice of the most interesting incidents that occur. We shall but briefly notice the proceedings at the Bazaar, but we feel assured that they will be of a character

certain to advance the success of our righteous cause. The Bazaar, viewed merely as an exposition, will be an unrivalled display of British skill, industry, and ingenuity; and it will show to our rulers the magnitude of the interests that are staked on their recognition of the principles of sound policy and common justice.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The Chamber of Deputies commenced on Monday last the discussion on the proposition of M. Murat de Bord, for converting the Five per Cent. stock into Four-and-a-Half. The five per Cent. rose upwards of 1-3rd per cent., from a conviction that the King was averse to the proposed reduction, and that the bill would be rejected. M. Guizot, who was suddenly taken ill on Saturday, is now convalescent.

Another *émulate* had broken out in the Polytechnic School, which had led to the committal of 21 of the students to the prison of the institution, and 11 more to the Abbaye.

The *Moniteur Algérien* of the 15th instant announces the departure of the Governor-General for Blidah on the preceding day. That journal states, that the Arabs residing on the southern frontier of the regency had of late sent parties into the interior to excite the friendly tribes to revolt or desert. A "dowar" of the Beni Amira, yielding to the suggestions of these emissaries, having effected their escape at night, Colonel Vinola, commander of the post of Sidi Bel Abbes, marched in pursuit of the fugitives, a "goum" of the Ouled Selmann and Djaffras. But, just as the latter had come up with the emigrants, they encountered 150 horsemen of Abd-el-Kader, who were protecting their retreat. An engagement ensued, in which the French remained masters of the field; but they lost five killed and twelve wounded, and were unable to bring back the "dowar." The same symptoms of hostility manifested themselves in the province of Medeah. The Khalifat of Laghouat was lately repulsed to Medeah, bringing to General Murey some cattle in payment of the contribution of his district, when he was attacked at night in the desert by a hostile chief of the Ouled Nails, named Tedly. His small escort was dispersed; he lost his cattle, tents, and baggage, but succeeded in reuniting at Medeah the greater number of his men.

BRUSSELS, April 19.—A youth aged only 17, who had been found guilty of parricide, was guillotined yesterday at Namur, in presence of an immense crowd. About six in the morning the criminal, barefooted and with his head covered with a black veil, was conducted from his prison to the place of execution, accompanied by the chaplain, and by the confraternity of the Miséricorde, who recited the prayers for the dead. After he had ascended the fatal instrument, he kissed for the last time the crucifix which was presented to him, and endeavoured to speak, but his voice failed him. In a minute or two the work of human justice was completed. He appeared to have been very repentant, and passed the whole of the preceding night in prayer.

**SWITZERLAND.**—The *Presse* (Paris paper) says:—"We have received a private letter from Switzerland, containing news which we give with reserve, although coming from a good source. According to this letter, the check received by the free corps has not discouraged the Radicals, who will not renounce their design of destroying the federal compact of 1815. We are informed that Berne, Vaud, Soleure, Argau, and Bale country entertain the project of separating themselves from the Confederation, and constituting together a Helvetic Republic, one and independent. It is believed, however, that M. Neukaus, the avoyer of Berne, to whom in great part this extreme resolution is attributed, will think twice before he makes any attempt on a compact guaranteed by the great powers, and which cannot be annulled without the consent of all parties." The Helvetic Diet adopted no decision on the 16th inst. The committee was of opinion that the Assembly should abstain from decreeing any measures until the deputies, called to sit in the ordinary Diet, should have received their instructions. The demand of Lucerne, that the remains of the free corps should be disarmed wherever they existed, had not been acquiesced in by the majority. A letter from Berne of the 17th inst. mentions that, the greatest insubordination prevailing among the militia, the Government had been obliged to disband the ninth battalion, which kept garrison at Berne.

The Helvetic Diet resolved, on the 19th inst., to refer the consideration of the Jewish question to the ordinary Diet, which is to meet in July.

**CONSTANTINOPLE, April 2.**—The state of European Turkey is such as to excite serious misgivings as to the maintenance of tranquillity—a tranquillity upon which the peace of Europe itself is in some measure dependent. This is now threatened from several quarters, and various causes of disorganization are simultaneously at work. Rebellion, which was never completely suppressed, has again raised its head in Albania. A force, consisting of upwards of 2000 men, have attacked the town of Yendi, and burnt the church. The Caimakan of a district in the neighbourhood of Monastir is said to be at this moment surrounded and besieged by a band of insurgents. The precautionary measures taken by the Porte, and, in some measure sanctioned by the representatives of the Protecting Powers of Greece, have been communicated by Sir Stratford Canning to Sir Edmund Lyons. Despatches, containing an account of these proceedings, were transmitted by her Majesty's steam-sloop *Virago* on the 29th of March. 200 Greek transport-ships have been engaged by the Russian Government to assist in conveying troops and stores to the coast of Circassia. From this fact, as well as the unusually formidable levies which have been made for the ensuing campaign in the Caucasus, it would appear that Russia is meditating some decisive blow in that quarter. In the meanwhile the Turks cannot witness the mustering of such mighty armaments in their immediate neighbourhood without some secret alarm and uneasiness.—*Correspondent of the Times.*

**THE INTENDED ATTACK ON ADEN BY THE ARABS.**—Extract of a letter received at Lloyd's, from their agent at Aden, dated March 29:—"The attack threatened by the Arabs has not taken place. They had assembled in force to the number of 20,000; but, as usual, they quarrelled amongst themselves, had a fight, and the whole force may be said to be broken up."

**INDIA.**—The usual extraordinary express, in anticipation of the overland mail from India by way of Calcutta, reached London on Monday, bringing news from Calcutta to the 8th of March, Madras to the 11th inst., and China to the 4th of February. The news brought by this conveyance is destitute of interest. The Punjab remained perfectly quiet, and was not likely to be disturbed until the arrival of the cold weather. The Sindh campaign appears to have been at an end, Bajar Khan, the only remaining mulctant, having offered to surrender, on the condition that his life would be spared, and some land allotted to him. The war in the Mahratta country appears also to have burnt itself out. With regard to the Punjab, the Government was on the alert, but had evidently no intention to act on the aggressive. The Governor was at Calcutta promoting the cause of education and internal improvement. Afghanistan was quiet. Akbar Khan remained, when last heard of, inactive at Jellalabad.

**CHINA.**—Accounts from Shanghai reach to the 22nd inst. The trade carried on was almost wholly by barter for raw silk and tea, principally green. It was believed that during last year transactions to the amount of nearly one million sterling (including exports) had taken place. The correct amount will only be known when the consular accounts are published, but in the meantime, if this estimate is at all a near approximation, it shows a very favourable progress for the first year that port has been opened. *Hong-Kong Register, Feb. 4.*

**WEST INDIES.** The *Trent*, Royal Mail Company's steam-ship, Captain Fuller Boxer, which left Jamaica on the 24th of March, arrived at Southampton on Tuesday, with the usual mails and a large number of passengers. She has had a very favourable passage, on the whole; since leaving Fayal, however, she has experienced contrary winds, which accounts for her being two days overdue. The accounts from the island of Jamaica are very cheering. Although the weather had been exceedingly hot, the prospects of a fine sugar crop are very good. The information conveyed by the steamer of the alteration in the sugar duties was, as might be expected, well received, and gave great satisfaction to the growers. The *Jamaica Morning Herald* says:—"We regret to state that a serious drought has for some time prevailed in this portion of the island, which we fear will tend materially to affect the interests of the planters. We regret to find that there continue to be ineffectual attempts to set fire to the city of Bridgetown, Barbadoes. Three of these attempts were made at our premises, but no discovery of the guilty incendiaries has been made. The weather had been dry and dusty, but had undergone a pleasing change, there having been cool light showers. Up to the 7th inst. more than 5000 hog-heads and several hundred barrels of sugar had been shipped, and the utmost activity prevailed."

**BRESON AYUK.** Accounts have been received from Buenos Ayres to the 7th of February. Nothing of consequence had occurred before Monte Video, but the English and French naval commanders still refused to acknowledge the close blockade which Rosas had ordered to be established. Letters received by the Chile state that the Governments of Brazil and Paraguay had concluded a treaty, offensive and defensive, in which, amongst other things, they stipulate for a mutual right of navigation on the Parana and the other rivers which flow through the territories of both. This news, if true, is a death-blow to Rosas's designs on Paraguay.

**SPAIN.**—The *Madrid Gazette* publishes a royal decree for the classification and general management of the convents, in order that they may be turned to such account as the Government may think proper. The decree consists of three articles, and is dated the 13th of April.

We read in the *Phare* of Bayonne:—"Several Carlist refugees, who were bearers of passports *en regle* to enter their own country, have been obliged to return to France, the Governor of Irun not having permitted them to continue their route. It is generally believed that it is in consequence of some misunderstanding in the transmission of orders that this latter determination has been taken. But, if it has emanated from the Government, it seems to us that it ought to have been made public."

## DOMESTIC.

On Tuesday her Majesty and Prince Albert paid a visit to the Great Britain steam-ship, at Blackwall. Her Majesty and the Prince, accompanied by several members of the Royal Household, were received at the landing-place, at the Fishmongers' Wharf, by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and other civic officers. The royal barge was towed down the river by the Waterman Company's vessel, 10. Her Majesty and the Prince were shown over the Great Britain by Lieutenant Hoskings, to whom they expressed the pleasure they felt at witnessing the magnificent vessel.

The great annual meeting of the Art-Union was held on Tuesday, at Drury-lane Theatre. The Duke of Cambridge presided; and, in a brief opening address, said that in the last year the subscriptions had increased £600. This year the subscription amounted to £15,400; while last year it amounted to £14,800.

On Thursday, the 17th inst., Mr. Walter Baine was elected member for Greenock, in opposition to Mr. Alexander Dunlop, by a majority of six. The numbers were—for Mr. Baine, 350; for Mr. Dunlop, 344—majority, 6.

A painful rumour is afloat, which is unfortunately too well founded, that a junior clerk to the firm of Messrs. Miles, Harford, and Co., bankers in this city, has absconded with a considerable sum, the property of his employers.—*Bristol Journal.*

A neatly-designed and well-executed pedestal, fourteen feet in height, surmounted by a striking resemblance of Sir Walter Scott, has recently been erected at Perth.

On Friday morning, the 18th inst., the unfortunate man Crowley, who was found guilty of the murder of Mr. Tilsley, and left for execution by Mr. Justice Maule, underwent the extreme penalty of the law at Warwick.

At the Bucks quarter sessions, on Thursday week, Dr. Lee gave notice that he intended to present memorials at the next sessions for the consideration and adoption of the magistrature: the first addressed to the Lord Lieutenant of the county against the game laws; the second to the Bishop of the diocese against the clergy participating in the sports of the field; and the third to the Secretary of State, to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Sabbath.

Some person or persons last week feloniously broke and entered, and also endeavoured to set on fire, the parish church of West Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire. A reward of £100 has been offered for the apprehension and conviction of the offenders.

Three new writs were moved for in the House of Commons on Tuesday night. The first was in the room of Sir W. W. Wynn, who seems tired of Parliament; the second in the room of Mr. Forbes Mackenzie, who has been appointed a Lord of the Treasury, in the place of Mr. Pringle, and will no doubt again offer himself to the electors of Peeblesshire; and the third for Leominster, in the room of Mr. Greenaway, who, in a letter to his constituents, alleges urgent private business as his reason for retiring from Parliament.

A public meeting of the Metropolitan Drapers' Association was held on Friday evening, in the National School-room, Marlborough road, Chelsea. The Reverend Richard Burgess, B.D., rector of the parish, took the chair, supported by the most influential clergy of the district, and other gentlemen favourable to the cause. Various resolutions expressive of sympathy with the objects of the association, and pledging the meeting to aid in carrying them out, especially by abstaining from making purchases after six o'clock in the evening, were then moved and seconded, and unanimously adopted.

An accident of a most alarming character, and attended by great destruction of human life, took place on Saturday afternoon, at the branch of the Sheffield, Ashton, and Manchester Railway, which passes through Ashton-under-Lyne. The railway to this town from the junction with the main line at Guide-bridge is incomplete, and workmen are at present employed in forming the branch to Staly-bridge. The work is of an exceedingly difficult character, the roadway being in the course of formation upon a large number of stone arches, which cross and recross the river Thame and canal two or three times in the course of the route to Stalybridge. The men were at work as usual on Saturday afternoon, when one of the arches on the Lancashire side of the river, owing to some unexplained cause, fell down with a tremendous crash; a man named Samuel Smith, who was at work on the crown of the arch, was hurled in its ruins. The other arches, having been deprived of the lateral support which they received whilst the former arch was perfect, fell one after another in succession, until at last no less than nine of them were a heap of ruins. Several of the arches had only just been made, as is supposed safe, and the centres of three other of the arches had been loosened. The loss of life was very great; nine men were killed on the spot. Hundreds of labourers have been employed in clearing away the ruins in search of others who are missing. Three were taken out alive, and many are more or less injured. An inquest was held on Monday, and, after several witnesses had been examined, was adjourned until Wednesday, April 30, in order to afford time for a searching inquiry to be made into the cause of the accident.

On Tuesday evening a fashionably dressed young man, about 22 years of age, was observed to run at a quick pace down Earl-street, towards Blackfriars bridge, closely pursued by Constable Benbow, of the City police, in his flight he dropped a bundle, and during the time the constable was securing it he ran with all speed down the steps leading to the steam boat pier, and it being low water, waded into the river up to his middle, when he lay down. A working-man rushed in after him, and succeeded in

bringing him on shore. On being searched a large quantity of valuable articles, consisting of gold watches, chains, rings, and other jewellery, were found upon him, and the bundle consisted of coats, gowns, and other wearing apparel.

The murrain has broken out with great violence in Ross-shire and Caithness, both in cattle and sheep, from which it has been conveyed to Edinburgh by stock from the north, many of which have been obliged to be carried from the ship to be slaughtered; this has made the trade dull there. Every precaution should be used by dealers and farmers to keep the infection out of their locality.—*Montrose Standard.*

The report of a barn being destroyed by lightning, on Monday the 14th, at Peeling, is correct; and not only was the barn destroyed, but four men who had taken shelter in it were placed in jeopardy of their lives. Two named Paul, rather seriously, but we are happy to say are now doing well. The electric fluid, it appeared, passed down the chimney of the farm-house and escaped again, blackening some pictures. A hop-pole had a piece torn out of its middle as though a chisel had been applied.—*Brighton Guardian.*

During the heavy gale of wind from the north-east, which prevailed on the night of Friday and Saturday morning, two vessels got on that terrible bank, the Goodwin Sands; one became a total wreck, and the other subsequently floated into deep water, and it is too strongly feared that both crews met with a watery grave.

In the possession of a man named Harrison, convicted of a highway robbery near Leeds, and sentenced to transportation, a diary has been found, consisting of a record of all his robberies! The book is small and neat, is gilt-edged, and forms, in fact, a sort of robber's album. It would appear, from one of the entries, that a man named White, convicted of highway robbery at the same assizes, was in reality (as he himself solemnly protested) innocent of the crime, and that Harrison was the robber.—*Lancashire paper.*

Sir James Graham received a deputation, a few days since, consisting of the representatives of more than 100 parishes in the metropolis, headed by Lord Kenyon, as churchwarden of his own parish; whose object it was to pray for some amendment of the laws against Sunday trading. The Home Secretary was considerably struck by the unanimity of feeling manifested, and by the case made out for the interference of the Government; and he promised to direct the attention of the law officers of the Crown to the subject without delay.—*Herald.*

The Rev. F. Cox has forwarded a copy of Tawell's confession to Sir James Graham, and one also to the judge who tried the culprit found guilty of poisoning.

We hear that the colliers in Loughton and the neighbourhood are in an unsettled state, although their wages have been advanced, in some instances, as much as twenty-five per cent.—*Staffordshire Advertiser.*

On Tuesday week, Michael Murphy was executed at Waterford, for the murder of Margaret McKeown, alias Murphy. He made a full confession of his guilt some days previously, and also on the scaffold.

Several 12-pounder carronades, for the use of the phinices on the Shannon, at Athlone, are ordered from Dublin by the Board of Ordnance.—*Globe.*

The Poor-law Commissioners for Ireland have signified their approval of the formation of libraries in workhouses.

The Repeal Association met in the Conciliation Hall, Dublin, on Monday. The attendance was numerous. Mr. Roche, M.P., presided. Mr. O'Connell, in handing in a subscription from the Catholic Bishop of Elphin, read a letter from that prelate, in which, referring to the Maynooth grant, he said that the Catholic clergy "would receive every good measure with gratitude, but the wealth of Croesus would not purchase, or tempt them to abandon, the interests of their flock in the cause of nationality." The hon. member, in referring to the measure, praised Sir James Graham for having expressed his regret, in the recent debate, that he had ever uttered words offensive to Ireland. He said "he was pleased with Sir James Graham's speech; it was a manly speech, a repentant speech; and he thought they should send him absolution from Conciliation Hall." He also eulogized Sir Robert Peel, and strongly censured the English Dissenters who had opposed the bill. The week's rent was announced to be £355. 10s. 6d.

The Marquis of Blandford has vacated his seat as representative for Woodstock. This course has, it is said, been forced upon the young lord by his noble father, in consequence of the vote he gave in favour of the second reading of the Maynooth Endowment Bill. The Duke of Marlborough maintains his right to do what he will with his own son as well as with his own seat.—*Globe.*

On Tuesday the noble steam-ship *City of Aberdeen* arrived in the river, having brought to market 322 chests of eggs, value £1200, the largest quantity that ever came from Scotland in one bottom; 199 head of fine fat cattle, 15 tons of fresh meat, 10 tons of pickled pork, 70 boxes of fresh salmon, a considerable number of live pigs, and a large quantity of manufactured goods, butter, haddocks, and other provisions. Nearly 1000 chests of eggs, from Ireland, were landed on Monday.

A correspondent of the *Limerick Reporter* gives a fearful account of the depopulating system in Tullyrinne, from whence twenty families, numbering eighty-four individuals, have been recently ejected. In this case the victims are the reclaimers of the land; that is to say, they made the barren waste productive, and when it became valuable to themselves it was taken possession of by the landlord.

The total number of deaths from all causes within the metropolitan districts during the week ending the 19th of April was 924—an amount considerably higher than the average of the last five springs, which was 888, but less by 35 than that for the last five years.

A sensation was created on Thursday by the announcement that a young man, who accused himself in a letter to the wretched Hocker of being the murderer of Helenus, was taken into custody. He gave his name as Allen Bruce, and on examination admitted having written the letter, which the governor, Mr. Cope, had opened, but could assign no motive for having done so. He is still in custody. At present the authorities believe the whole affair to be an effort to obtain a reprieve of the execution of Hocker, in order that in the meantime public sympathy may be excited in his favour, so as to lead to a commutation of the sentence of death into transportation for life. On Tuesday evening the operatives employed in the at-



maize cotton mills of Mr. R. Gardner, justice of the peace for the county of Lancaster, held their first anniversary to celebrate the introduction of the short-time system in that establishment; the hours of working having been only 11 hours, instead of 12, during the last year. Upwards of a thousand tickets were sold, and so great was the demand, that the *billets d'entree* rose to a high premium. The mayor of the borough, Mr. J. Paley, also present, granted the use of the Corn-exchange as a large millinery, and the spacious apartments were tastefully decorated. Many speeches were made in praise of the short-time system established by Mr. Gardner, who was warmly eulogised.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**PRINCE ALBERT'S FARMS AT WINDSOR.**—Some idea may be formed of the great falling off in the produce of the Windsor-land during the past season, compared with the produce of 1843, in consequence of the drought which prevailed in the spring and summer of last year, when it is said that, in 1843, there were grown on the farms of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, at Windsor and the Home-park, 750 loads of hay of an extremely superior quality, while last year not 50 loads were cut and carried.

**SLAVE FACTORIES ON THE CONGO.**—The *Times* of Saturday publishes the following extract of a letter addressed by Mr. Robert Jameson, of Liverpool, to Col. Edward Nicolls, the late governor of the island of Fernando Po, showing a frightful increase of slave factories to have taken place on the river Congo:—"I have just received a letter from the captain of a merchant vessel in the Congo river, in which he represented the banks of that river to be covered with slave factories, and the British flag to be held in such detestation by the slave-dealers that he did not consider his vessel and cargo in safety amongst them, they actually threatening to destroy both. Their number must be great (chiefly Spaniards and Portuguese), for there are not less than twenty or thirty factories upon the banks of the river, the short distance the captain of the vessel alluded to has ascended; and he is under positive apprehensions for his safety were he to proceed further. If any doubts be entertained of the truth of this statement, they will be removed by application to Mr. Horsfall, of Liverpool, who is the owner of the vessel and cargo. How comes this to be the case when the Government have so many steamers on the coast? Is it that by treaty there is no power of capture south of the equator? If so, why keep steam-vessels cruising on that part of the coast? If otherwise, why not anchor one of them at the entrance of the river, and thus prevent the ingress and egress of slave ships? Until this be done, and protection be given to the legitimate trader, there is no chance of honest commerce getting a footing in that river (which, with suitable protection, presents a better field for it than any river of Western Africa), and in the absence of legitimate trade, the natives have nothing but slave-dealing to follow. Slave-trading has been suppressed by legitimate trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra; and the greatest good that can now be done for Africa is to commence measures in the hope of bringing about some happy results in the Congo (now the principal mart on the west coast of Africa); but to do this the slave-trade must be discouraged and the legitimate trader protected."

**PROCESSIONS.**—At noon, on Monday last, upwards of 200 persons assembled in Union-square, Bury, and soon after, a procession, consisting of coal-miners, turn-out iron trade, and turn-out power-loom weavers, was formed in the above order, headed by a band of music and three flags. The procession, which consisted of about 1000 persons, was joined by a number of colliers, 200, and another band of music. The procession, then consisting of upwards of 2000 persons, proceeded through the Lever, to the Farnworth station of the Bolton Railway, where they met Mr. Roberts. At nine o'clock the procession arrived in Bury-square, Bury, where it broke up, and the parties went home.—The power-loom fustian weavers at Messrs. Walker and Lomas's, Bury, who turned out eleven weeks ago for an advance of one farthing per pound, are going to their work this day (Wednesday) and to-morrow (Thursday). According to one account, they have obtained the desired advance, but we have not ascertained whether it is correct or not.—The hands at several cotton mills in the vicinity of Redditch, who have joined the General Protective Trades Association, have given notice to their employers, unless they obtain an advance of wages, they will work at an early period.

**SHORT TIME.**—Messrs. Barker and Co., of Thorne, near Wakefield, have, for a long time, worked their power-loom less per day than most of the mills in the neighbourhood, yet they have liberally granted them a further respite of half-an-hour per day, and at the same time advanced their wages.—*Leeds Times*.

**HIGHLAND TENANCY.**—We understand that upwards of 100 tenants have this year received notices to quit in the counties of Ross and Cromarty—making, at the average of five individuals to a family, a population of nearly not less than 2000 persons. Whether this extension of removals is partly or in the whole mere removals of the occupants for the purpose of improved agriculture, or the entire ejection of small tenants, we are not ascertained, but the fact of the notices being issued is undoubtedly correct.—*Ross-shire Advertiser*.

**AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS IN PARIS.**—An agricultural congress, after the fashion of the scientific associations which meet yearly in England and in various parts of the Continent, is to assemble in Paris for the first time, on the 8th of next month, under the presidency of the Duc Decazes. The meeting is intended to last a year. The present session will last for six weeks, and the grand *référéndaire* will open to the country the grand conservatory of the Luxembourg.

**PROPERTY OF THE FARM-LABOURERS.**—At the Bedfordshire Sessions, held April 12, John Goodman, of Great Bedford, labourer, was summoned for the non-payment of a sum amounting to 7s. The defendant pleaded poverty, and that his weekly earnings were only 8s., but of which he had to keep himself and a family of eight children. The case was ordered to stand over for a fortnight, in order that the matter might be brought under the notice of the parish authorities.—*Bedford Mercury*.

**PARISH ESTIMATION.**—On Monday last, six families, consisting of 38 individuals, from the parishes of Great Bedford, Bedford, and Colworth, left Bedford for Liverpool, from which port they were to embark, with the passengers, for Port Phillip. We understand that these

poor people were well provided with comfortable clothing and other necessities, at the expense of their respective parishes, and that, on reaching their destinations, employment will be provided for those who are able to work. Whatever their future destiny may be, it is impossible to say that they can be in a worse condition than that of the agricultural labourers of this "happy land!"—*Bedford Mercury*.

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. April 19	Mon. April 21	Tues. April 22	Wed. April 23	Thurs. April 24	Fri. April 25
Bank Stock for Ac.	210 1/2	210 1/2	210	210	210	210
4 per Ct. Red. Ann.	98	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	99	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2
3 1/2 per Ct. Rd. ex d.	101	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Long. An. Ex. 1860	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Cons. for Acet.	99	99	99	99 1/2	99	99 1/2
Exc. Bills, p.m.	60	61	59	60	60	60
Ind. Bds. u. 1000 p.m.	—	74	71	—	71	—
India Stock	278	—	274	278	277	—
5 1/2 per Ct. Bonds	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	—
Brazilian Bonds	89	—	—	89	—	—
Buenos Ayres	44	44	44	—	43	—
Chilian	—	93 1/2	—	—	—	—
Columb. ex. Venez.	16	16	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
Danish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Ct.	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	61 1/2	—	63 1/2	63 1/2	61 1/2	63 1/2
Mexican	38 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
Peruvian	31 1/2	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. conv.	6 1/2	6 1/2	—	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Spanish 5 per Ct.	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2
Do. 3 per Ct.	41	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

**MARK-LANE, Monday, April 21.**—The supply of English Wheat this morning was rather short, and an advance of 1s. per qr. was obtained for the best samples, but other descriptions were not dearer than last week; though the demand for Foreign Wheat was not brisk, last week's prices were fully maintained. In addition to a fair supply of English Barley, several cargoes of Foreign have arrived; fine samples for Malt were sold with difficulty at the prices of this day week, but no progress could be made in the sale of other qualities, though they were offered on lower terms. The supply of Beans and Peas was short, and both these articles were 1s. dearer. The supply of Irish and Foreign Oats was large, but there was sufficient demand from the country to induce factors to hold firmly, and the business done was at the prices of this day week.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

BRITISH.		Per Imperial Quarter	
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 40 to 5		
— Ditto — New	42 — 48	44	5
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 — 48	44	5
— Scotch	42 — 46	44	4
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed		21	2
— Ditto — ditto — Potatoes		23	27
— Scotch Feed	23 — 24	Potato	25
— Limerick		21	22
— Ditto		Fine	23
— Cork		20	21
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black		20	21
— Sligo		20	21
— Galway		18	19
Barley		28	35
Beans, Mazagan	New	31	33
— Harrow	Old 38 — 40	do.	33
— Small	do.	42	44
Peas, White, New		34	39
— Grey	32 to 33	Maple	33
Flour, Town-made	per sack of 280 lbs	35	43
— Norfolk and Suffolk	35 — 35	34	35

FOREIGN.		FREE. IN HAND	
Per Imperial Quarter		The same as free less the duty.	
Wheat, Dantz, high mixed	48 to 56		
— Rostock	47 — 54		
— Stettin	44 — 52		
— Hamburg	42 — 48		
— Odessa	42 — 46		
— Ditto	47 — 50		
— Russian	42 — 46		
— Ditto	40 — 44		
— Spanish	45 — 49		
— Ditto	50 — 54		
— Australian	56 — 58		
Barley, Grunting	26 — 28		
— Distilling	29 — 31		
Oats, Archangel			
— Stralsund			
— Dutch Brew			
— Potatoes	17 — 19		
Beans, Egyptian	32 — 34	26	27
Peas, White	33 — 35		
— Ditto Boilers	36 — 38		
Flour, Canada	per barrel of 196 lbs	25	26
— United States		26	30
— Dantz		26	27
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs	33 — 35		

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from April 14 to April 18, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	7659	1750	1181	623	123
Scotch	—	2735	2455	—	—
Irish	—	10	29425	—	—
Foreign	812	15503	16883	1043	354

Flour, 4589 sacks, — bars.

**FRIDAY, April 24.**—The supplies of Wheat and Barley are moderate since Monday; though the trade is in a very inanimate state, lower prices are not accepted. The supplies of Irish Oats are small, and of Scotch and English quite trifling; a few cargoes of Foreign from the near ports have arrived, but the quantity altogether does not exceed 10,000 quarters. A rather better demand was experienced on Wednesday, and to-day an advance of 6d. is obtained on all descriptions, though more readily for fine than for the inferior qualities. Beans and Peas are scarce, and the few on sale bring rather better prices.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 10th of April to the 21st of April, both inclusive.			
	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat.....	3730	—	4150
Barley.....	740	—	10380
Oats.....	310	3430	—
Flour, 5720 sacks.			

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending April 22, 1845					
	Qrs.	Price.		Qrs.	Price.
Wheat..	3785	49s. 3d.	Wye ..	149	37s. 6d.
Barley..	2777	31s. 6d.	Penns ..	1181	32s. 6d.
Oats ..	28603	28s. 7d.	Penns ..	204	34s. 11d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending											
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Beans.		Peas.	
		d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.
15th	March	43	1.32	2.21	4.31	1.24	7.25	0			
22nd	"	43	5.32	4.21	5.30	5.34	6.35	0			
29th	"	43	10.32	4.21	5.30	5.34	10.34	0			
6th	April	46	5.32	5.21	4.29	6.35	0.35	7			
13th	"	46	5.32	5.20	4.29	6.35	5.26	0			
20th	"	46	11.31	11.31	4.32	1.35	1.36	1			

**Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.**—Wheat, 45s. 10d.; Barley, 32s. 8d.; Oats, 21s. 4d.; Rye, 30s. 7d.; Beans, 34s. 11d.; Peas, 35s. 8d.  
**Duty.**—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 6s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 8s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, March 5, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London,	121402	—	15405	—	488	1175	49229
Unit. King.	331133	1136	62375	—	5308	6024	237373

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18.

## DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

**E. SLATER**, Brompton, Middlesex, cabinet maker.  
**BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.**  
**J. MILLER**, Southampton, boot maker.  
**BANKRUPT.**  
**W. B. STERRY**, Jamaica-row and Bermondsey-wall, Bermondsey, salt-maker. [Brown, Walbrook.  
**T. P. REES**, Crookell-lane-chambers, King William-street, iron merchant. [Lawrence and Pews.  
**W. U. DERWOOD**, High-street, Southwark, grocer. [Turner, Whitechapel.  
**J. BANT**, Hollen-street, Wardour-street, Soho, saddle tree maker. [A Beckett, Son, and Symson, Golden-square.  
**T. H. COYLE**, Liverpool, wine and spirit merchant. [Cross, Surrey-street, Strand.  
**J. PICKERING**, Cornbury-place, Old Kent-road, dealer and chapman. [Desborough and Young, Size-lane.  
**C. M. FIRTH**, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, lithographic printer. [Brown, Bedford-row.  
**H. P. COOK**, Coggeshall, Essex, brewer. [McLeod and Stenning, London-street, Fenchurch-street.  
**J. W. SPRAGUE**, Poole, Dorsetshire, grocer. [Wilkins, Furnival's-inn.  
**J. LONG**, Tavistock, Devonshire, linendraper. [Turner, Exeter; Spyer, Broad-street-buildings.  
**T. JONES**, Liverpool, coal dealer. [Parker and Co., Bedford-row; Grately, Liverpool.  
**G. F. S. ISHERWOOD**, Manchester, engraver to calico printers. [Makinson and Co, Temple; Barlow, Manchester.  
**J. WILLIAMS**, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, carpenter. [Nash, Bristol.  
**J. HILL**, Stroud, Gloucestershire, hatter. [Kearsey, Stroud.  
**W. PARSONS**, Bristol, brewer. [Leman, Bristol.

## DIVIDENDS.

May 9. T. Gorton, jun., Grosvenor-row, Piccadilly, bookseller—May 10. T. Johnson, sen., and Co., Romford, Essex, bankers—May 9. J. Overton, Queen-street, Grosvenor-square, coach and harness plater—May 9. G. Pintoff, Plymouth, bookseller—May 9. P. R. Morrison, Hammer-smith, merchant—May 9. J. Mill-champ, Birmingham, wine merchant—May 9. R. K. Mann, Kingston-upon-Hull, wine merchant—May 9. J. Green, Birmingham, merchant—May 14. J. Harley, Wolverhampton, plumber and painter—May 9. S. Grew, Birmingham, brush maker.

## CERTIFICATES.

May 9. J. Wilson, Jernyn-street, St. James's, boot maker—May 9. T. Metcher, Southampton, plumber and glazier—May 9. J. Hart, Circus-street, Greenwich, builder—May 13. J. Aylmer, Commercial-street, Leeds, cabinet maker—May 12. P. Wright, Leeds, grocer—May 12. W. C. Whittenbury, Leeds, cheesemonger—May 13. W. Conyer and Co., Batley Barr, Yorkshire, woollen and scribbling millers—May 16. E. Bayley, Cuesward, Salop, apothecary.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. GILLIES, Kilfinnan, Argyshire—J. PEDIE, Edinburgh—J. SCOTT, Glasgow, cow feeder.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 22.

## CROWN-OFFICE, APRIL 21.

**MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.**  
**Town of Greenwich.**—Walter Baine, Esq., merchant.  
**BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.**  
**T. THORNE**, Tothill-street, Westminster, cheesemonger.  
**J. TAYLOR**, Whittleson, Cambridgeshire, draper.  
**G. GIBSON**, Liverpool, stockbroker.  
**BANKRUPT.**  
**T. H. WILLIAMS** and **W. C. STANES**, Chelmsford, auctioneers. [Brisley, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn.  
**J. PHILLIPS** and **T. PEARSON**, South place, Finsbury, silk-dressers. [Lawrence and Pews, Hackneybury.  
**T. HOMEWOOD**, Hillingdon, Middlesex, licensed victualler. [Patterson, Bonverie-street, Fleet-street; Woolle, Uxbridge.  
**H. T. PARBELL**, Finch-street, Barton-crescent, wine merchant. [Harper, Kennington-cross.  
**T. MORRIS** and **W. WOODWARD**, Burslem, Staffordshire, drapers. [Lawrence and Pews, Hackneybury; Dewes, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; Reece, Birmingham.  
**T. ARNOLD**, Shrewsbury, veterinary surgeon. [Jones, Shrewsbury; Mottram and Knowles, Birmingham.  
**J. and T. LAMB**, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, engineers. [Watson, Stourport; Hodgson, Birmingham.  
**S. WILCOCK**, Warrington, Lancashire, lunkeeper. [Norris, Allen, and Simpson, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn; Bayley, Warrington, Lancashire.  
**G. SHAW**, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton spinner. [Lord, Rochdale, Lancashire; Johnson, son, and Weatherall, Temple.

## DIVIDENDS.

May 16. W. G. Clover, Holborn, linendraper—May 16. H. Weinert, Leicester-square, tailor—May 16. E. Green, Clifford-street, Bond-street, tailor—May 9. R. and J. Underhill, Plymouth, linendraper—May 13. R. Pontier, Lynton, Hampshire, cabinet maker—May 14. G. Butler, Witham, Essex, builder—May 23. G. Bartlett, Wellington-street, Goswell-street, manufacturer of plaster ornaments—May 31. W. Westrup and T. M. Cocksedge, New Crane, Shadwell, millers—May 21. J. Harding, Epsom, Surrey, builder—May 21. L. Robinson, Haddington, Essex, wheelwright—May 13. J. Loden and N. Hadley, Herne Bay, Kent, builders—May 22. J. Andrews, Threlknot-street, City, stockbroker—May 22. G. Chapman, Aylesbury, grocer—May 21. L. C. Lescage, Fenchurch-buildings, Fenchurch-street, merchant—May 24. J. Johnson, Aston, Yorkshire, miller—May 16. C. Carter, Sandington, Leicestershire, miller—May 23. W. Bampton, Parkfield, Staffordshire, ironmaster—May 23. W. East, Spalding, Lincolnshire, builder—May 15. E. Wilkinson, Hartlepool, Durham, draper—May 18. R. Penny, Cuckermouth, Cumberland, mercer—May 13. C. Hamblin and S. Frodsham, Liverpool, commission merchants—May 18. T. Higginson, Liverpool, pawnbroker.

## CERTIFICATES.

May 13. W. Perkins, Portsea, Hampshire, upholsterer—May 14. J. and G. Green, Borough-road, Southwark, corndealers—May 27. S. Hamon, Brick-lane, Bethnal-green, silk hat manufacturer—May 20. J. and G. Hardy, Whitechapel, Peter, Cambridgeshire, grocer—May 20. H. P. Gray, Caroline-street, Eaton-square, horse-leader—May 15. J. Ralph, Bath, lunkeeper—May 16. T. Ferris, Wotton Bassett, Wiltshire, grocer—May 16. J. Wells, Whitechapel, Gloucestershire, common carrier—May 14. T. Wilkinson, Hartlepool, Durham, draper—May 15. W. and J. Dees and J. Hogg, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, builders—May 14. W. Coward, Hartlepool, Durham, bread baker—May 15. H. Green, Liverpool, woollen draper—May 15. S. Marshall, Kingston-upon-Hull, builder—May 15. W. Hardisty, Wakefield, Yorkshire, whitewash—May 13. J. and D. Hepworth, Red-trick, Yorkshire, cotton warp dyers—May 13. T. and J. Darby, Birmingham, drysalers—May 13. J. Walker, Jewry-street, Aldgate, City, builder—May 13. H. Craven, Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn miller—May 13. R. Watt, Lime-street, City, merchant—May 13. T. Houlston, Harrow, butcher—May 13. J. Willer, Windsor, licensed victualler—May 13. J. M. Vardy, Portsmouth, linendraper.

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 The only dye that really answers for all colours, and does not require re-dyeing, but as the hair grows, it will never fade or acquire the unnatural red or purple that is common to all other dyes. ROSS and ROSS, with the greatest confidence, recommend the above dye as an infallible dye for their establishment; and if a lady or gentleman requiring it are requested to bring a friend or servant with them, to see how it is used, which will enable them to do it afterwards without the chance of failure. Several private apartments devoted entirely to the above purpose, and some of their establishments having used it, the effect produced can be attested. They think it necessary to add that, by attending strictly to the instructions given with each bottle of dye, numerous persons have succeeded equally well without coming to them.  
 Address Messrs. ROSS and ROSS, 119 and 121, Bishopsgate-street, the celebrated Perfumers, Perfumers, Haircutters, and Hairdressers.—N.B. Parties attended at their own residences, whatever the distance.

**H. R. H. the PRINCE OF WALES**, by gracious permission of her Majesty, from a picture by Winterhalter, at Windsor Castle. The House of Brunswick at one view.—George I., George II., George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, Princess Charlotte Coburg, the Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Gallery of the British Museum, &c. The Robes of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Gallery of the British Museum, &c. This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis.—The Times. Open from Eleven to Ten. Admission, 1s.; Napoleon's Room, 6d.—Madame TISSAUD and SONS' Bazaar, Robinson-road.

**PARTIES VISITING LONDON** during the month of May can be comfortably accommodated with BOARD and LODGING, in a central situation, at STAB'S BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT, 24 and 25, Old Fish-street, near St. Paul's.

**BOARD and LODGING ESTABLISHMENT.**  
 No. 7, Farringdon-street, east side, near Skinner-street.—JOHN MARDEN respectfully informs Visitors to London that they can obtain accommodation during their residence in the Metropolis at the above address, on reasonable terms. The arrangements have been made to supply the comforts of home. A Private Sitting-room can be had if desired.

**A SHOWER BATH**, with curtains, 12s. 6d.; ditto, with copper conducting tubes, from 60s.; sponge bath, 12s. 6d.; and 21s.; hip do., 15s. and 20s.; toilet cans, 5s. 6d.; foot-tubs, 12s. 6d. Every description of Japan Ware thirty per cent. under any other house.—J. and J. BLACK beg to call attention to the quality of their baths, as they are all manufactured on their premises, they can confidently warrant them for durability. The Illustrated Catalogue of Baths, and every description of furnishing ironmongery may be had gratis, or sent post free.—Richard and John Black, 336, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Established 1811.

**CHILDREN'S and INVALIDS' CARRIAGES.**  
 Invalids' Wheel Chairs, from £3 to £35, secondhand, as well as new, with Hoods of Leather, Marlin, Canvas, &c. Long Bed or Special Carriages, and Self-acting Wheel Chairs, on Sale or Hire. Children's Chaises, Vis-a-vis Waggon, Phaetons, Barouches, &c. &c. (from Ten Shillings to Twenty Guineas).  
 INGRAM'S Manufactory, 29, City-road, Finsbury-square.—Immense and varied collection of the above.

**FREE-TRADE BAZAAR IN MAY.**—All persons coming to London, may save their expenses by going to the CITY BOOT and SHOE DEPOT, 17, St. Martin's-le Grand, opposite the General Post-office. The Proprietor having bought the stocks of several manufacturers retired from business, at a tremendous reduction, for cash, is enabled to offer them to the public at extraordinary low prices; they are well worth the attention of shopkeepers, families, persons going abroad, and others of large consumption, being 30 per cent. under any other warehouse in the kingdom. All warranted; and should any work give way, the same made good free of charge.

**TO LADIES.**  
**ROWLAND'S KALYDOR**, PATENTED BY THE SEVERAL SOVEREIGNS AND COURTS OF EUROPE.  
 An Oriental Botanical Discovery, and perfectly free from all mineral admixture. It exerts the most soothing, cooling, and restorative action on the skin; and by its agency on the pores and minute secretory vessels, most effectually dissipates all REDNESS, TAN, PIMPLES, BLOTCHES, SPOTS, FRECKLES, CHILBLAINS, CHAPS, and other cutaneous visitations. The radiant bloom it imparts to the CHEEK, and the softness and delicacy it induces on the HANDS, ARMS, and NECK, render it indispensable to every toilet.  
 GENTLEMEN, after shaving, will find it allay all irritation and tenderness of the Skin, and render it soft, smooth, and PLEASANT. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

**CAUTION.**  
 Beware of IMITATIONS of the most UNDESIRABLE CHARACTERS, containing mineral ingredients utterly ruinous to the complexion, and by their repellent action endangering health. See that the words "ROWLAND'S KALYDOR" are on the wrapper; and A. ROWLAND and SON, 79, Hatton-garden, engraved (by authority of the Honourable Commissioners of Stamps) on the Government Stamp affixed on each bottle.  
 Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.  
 \* All other KALYDORS are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!!

**THE SONG OF THE SUN.**

Once more I return to the beautiful earth,  
 While nature receives me with welcoming mirth.  
 See, ere what a wonderful change I have brought!  
 No longer with rage are the elements fraught;  
 But genial warmth through the atmosphere reigns,  
 While flowery beauty appears on the plains.  
 Let those who rejoice at my happy return,  
 A lesson from nature's own manuscript learn.  
 The meadows a new verdant garment assume,  
 And the trees are decked with their vernal costume.  
 And thus they remind the whole of mankind  
 Of choice summer dress, which you know where to find.  
 Let the hint be sufficient, with all as with one,  
 While multitudes flock to E. MOSES and SON.  
 Where your brilliant light on your clothing reflects,  
 You know very well that it shows all defects;  
 Yes, I'm sure to discover each crease and each spot,  
 Each fraction, and blemish, each hole—am I not?  
 Then take a kind hint from "The Song of the Sun,"  
 And hasten to MOSES as thousands have done.  
 While I shew 'tother day on your wonderful waist,  
 I found it was crumpled with habitations smart;  
 Fine Dress coats and Frock coats, and Trousers and Vests,  
 Whose elegant style in an instant arrests;  
 The Blouses—but stop! It is time I had done.  
 I'll leave you to bargain with MOSES and SON.

**LIST OF PRICES.**

READY MADE.	MADE TO MEASURE.
Tweed Tailor's .. .. .	.. .. . from 7 6
Ditto superior quality with silk collar, cuffs and facings .. .. .	.. .. . 10 6
Corduroys and Cherterfields in light and gentlemanly materials .. .. .	.. .. . 10 6
Cashmere Coats in every style and make, including the Regatta .. .. .	.. .. . 1 3 0
.. .. . a Pelton .. .. .	.. .. . 0 3 0
Holland, Jean, Grand Drill, and Diagonal Blouses .. .. .	.. .. . from 2 6
Splendid Summer Vests .. .. .	.. .. . 0 4 0
Cashmere and Persian ditto, in endless variety .. .. .	.. .. . 0 4 0
Black and Fanny Satins .. .. .	.. .. . from 0 9 0
Cloth Trousers .. .. .	.. .. . 0 4 0
Tweed ditto .. .. .	.. .. . 0 4 0
Spring ditto (woollen) .. .. .	.. .. . 0 4 0
Dress Coats .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Frock Coats .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0

**MADE TO MEASURE.**

Tweed Coats, trimmed with silk .. .. .	.. .. . 0 11 0
Cashmere ditto, in any shape, handsomely trimmed, made in the first style of fashion .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Black Gilt ditto, handsomely trimmed .. .. .	.. .. . 0 13 0
Quilling Vests, &c. &c., or three for .. .. .	.. .. . 0 8 0
Cashmere ditto, in choice patterns .. .. .	.. .. . 0 10 0
Satin ditto, plain or fancy .. .. .	.. .. . 0 10 0
Spring Trousers, in great variety .. .. .	.. .. . 0 11 0
Tweed ditto, in choice patterns .. .. .	.. .. . 0 11 0
Single-Milled Alouet and Plain Don Trousers .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Best Quality Black, or Dress, ditto .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Dress Coats .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Frock Coats .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. .	.. .. . 1 10 0

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
 A new work, entitled "The Levitation of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free. Mourning to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following prices—  
 Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 1 10 0  
 Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 0 10 0  
 Inconveniences.—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, changed, or the money returned.  
 CARRIAGE.—E. MOSES and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail Wool-Drapers, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 144, Manchester, and 74, Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.  
 CARRIAGE.—E. MOSES and SON are obliged to guard the public against imposition, having learned that the unscrupulous falseness of being connected with them, or it's the same concern, has been resorted to in many instances, and for obvious reasons. They have no concern whatever with any other establishment in or out of London; and those who do alter genuine cheap clothing should (to prevent disappointment, &c.) call on E. MOSES and SON, 144, Manchester, or 74, Aldgate, opposite the Church.  
 N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from sunset on Friday till sunset on Saturday, when business is resumed till 10 o'clock on Saturday.  
 Notice.—This Establishment will be closed on Monday the 29th and Tuesday the 30th inst., resuming business as usual on Wednesday morning.

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On Friday week Sir ROBERT PEASE stated the leading provisions of his measures respecting Paper Currency in Scotland and Ireland, a separate bill being introduced for each country. They are supplementary to the measure passed last year regulating the Bank of England, and banks of issue in England. As he has abstained from interfering with the small note currency, respecting which such lively fears were expressed, especially in Scotland, and as he has given considerable satisfaction in Ireland by abolishing the exclusive privileges of the Bank of Ireland, less opposition is manifested than had



been anticipated. The leading principle of these bills is the same as that of the English act of last session. All banks dealing in Paper Currency are to be limited to a given amount of issues upon securities, though they may issue to any extent they please, provided that all they issue in excess is represented by gold and silver actually in deposit in the coffers of the respective banks.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, at the close of last session, announced his intention of bringing under the deliberate consideration of the Legislature the subject of the condition of the LABOURING CLASSES of the UNITED KINGDOM. A grave, a great, a vast subject! All thinkers, for the last thirty years, have pointed to the GREAT FACT that, in spite of all our extraordinary progress in material improvement, "wealth accumulates, and men decay," not in numbers, but in social standing and individual happiness. With CAPITAL accumulating enormously—with LANDED PROPERTY continually advancing in value—with a PEOPLE multiplying rapidly—we have for years been encountered by the difficulty which surrounds us on every side, that the toiling millions are more and more circumscribed and hemmed in; their individual value lessening; their power over their own position crippling dailing; and masses of wretchedness perpetually confronting the wealth, the resources, and the greatness of this country, like mud hovels surrounding every marble palace. It is this, the "CONDITION-OF-ENGLAND question," which called into existence the ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE. Its earlier operations were opposed by knavish or unreasoning working men, who were either hired or taught by monopolists to repeat the parrot cry, that the repeal of the Corn Laws was sought for by the masters in order more effectually to enslave the men. That has all evaporated now. Common sense tells the common mind that the immediate impelling motive of any employer, when he asks for an enlarged sphere for the employment of his capital, must be his own immediate interest. But this cannot be done on the principles of FREE TRADE, without leading to the benefit of everybody else. Enable the most selfish master freely to exchange, in the open market of the world, the industry and the INGENUITY of Great Britain against the produce of any or of every other, and immediately the state of things will be brought about, so well described by the hand-loom weaver, when he stated that monopoly caused two or four men to run after one master, whereas Free Trade would lead to one master running after two or four men.

Lord John Russell intended to have brought on his motion on Thursday night. But on Wednesday night a conversation arose, in which the noble lord professed his unwillingness to interfere with the progress of the Maynooth Bill, by a debate which, in all probability, would be an adjourned one. It was then arranged that it should be brought forward on Monday the 26th of May.

The following are the resolutions to be proposed by Lord John Russell:—

1. That the present state of political tranquillity, and the recent revival of trade, afford to this House a favourable opportunity to consider of such measures as may tend permanently to improve the condition of the labouring classes.
  2. That those laws which impose duties, usually called protective, tend to impair the efficiency of labour, to restrict the free interchange of commodities, and to impose on the people unnecessary taxation.
  3. That the present Corn Law tends to check improvements in agriculture, produces uncertainty in all farming speculations, and holds out to the owners and occupiers of land prospects of special advantage which it fails to secure.
  4. That this House will take the said laws into consideration, with a view to such cautious and deliberate arrangements as may be most beneficial to all classes of her Majesty's subjects.
  5. That the freedom of industry would be promoted by a careful revision of the law of parochial settlement which now prevails in England and Wales.
  6. That a systematic plan of colonization would partially relieve those districts of the country where the deficiency of employment has been most injurious to the labourers in husbandry.
  7. That the improvements made of late years in the education of the people, as well as its more general diffusion, have been seen with satisfaction by this House.
  8. That this House will be ready to give its support to measures, founded on liberal and comprehensive principles, which may be conducive to the further extension of religious and moral instruction.
  9. That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, to lay the foregoing resolutions before her Majesty.
- On Monday night a conversation arose on the unhappy policy which has been pursued by this country with the Brazils; but as this will probably be made the subject of a specific motion, we need not notice it farther now.
- Mr. S. O'Brien late one night got quietly introduced a bill called the Malt Drawback Bill. As some attention will be paid to it, we may simply state that it sets forth in the preamble "that it is desirable that barley, perfectly malted, should also be used duty free in the feeding of cattle." It enacts, therefore, "that it shall be lawful for any maltster to whom a specific license for that purpose has been granted by the Commissioners of Excise, to mix any equal quantity of malt, or any equal quantity of the meal of beans, peas, barley, or oats with ground malt, and to sell the aforesaid malt free of duty to any occupier of land, receiving from the said purchaser a certificate of the quantity of malt so sold."
- It finally dooms any person giving a false certificate, or making any of this duty-free malt for the purpose of brewing, to pay a penalty of £50.

## THE BAZAAR.

## CONTRIBUTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

"DEAR SIR,—As honorary secretary of the Ashton, Dukinfield, Staleybridge, Hurst, Mossley, Lees, and Denton Ladies' Committee for the National Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, I have great pleasure in enclosing you collected by the ladies mentioned in the accompanying list of contributors. It is the particular request and wish of the Ladies' Committee, that the list of contributors should be advertised in the LEAGUE of Saturday next.

"The contributions of work for these districts I shall forward, addressed to you at Covent-garden Theatre, on Saturday next.

"I also enclose a letter, accompanying the contribution therein mentioned. Please acknowledge the receipt.

"I am, dear Sir, yours most sincerely,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "ELIZA S. GARTSIDE.  
[The list of contributions arrived too late to be inserted in our present number, but will appear next week.]

"SIR,—With much pleasure I write to acquaint you with the result of our proceedings in aid of the League Free-Trade Bazaar. By the kind permission of the Rev. C. J. Middleditch, we have just held an exhibition at his house. The articles will be forwarded to you, to-morrow, by Parker's conveyances. The contributions far exceed our early expectations. The canvassers began with the determination, if possible, to obtain £50. Our money, just made out, show the amount to be £125. Our exhibition contained a fine display of ladies' needlework in a variety of broadcloth table-cover, manufactured by Mr. Wood, containing a rich centre-piece and crocheted border by Mrs. Wood and friends, together with music-stool and two ottomans to match. The set is valued at £15. The music-stool presented by Miss Fisher; table-cover and ottomans, by Mrs. Wood; a pair of very richly worked ottomans, presented by the Misses Moody, of Maiden Bradley, near Frome, mounted on polished steel frames, designed and made by Mr. E. Moody; one worked ottoman top, by the same; four worked ottomans in Berlin wool, &c., presented by Miss Porter, Miss Vin's, Miss Stevens, and Mr. Nias; one ottoman, presented by Mrs. French; six pieces of Berlin wool and silk work, on cashmere, velvet, and silk canvas, by various ladies, for pole-screens: one of these, in rich lace work, by Miss Smith, was particularly admired for its chaste design and rich lace border, as well as the beauty of the work—value 30s.; as was also a sofa-cushion, by Mrs. J. Porter, of white velvet, valued at £2; also a baby's rich white cashmere cloak, cashmere of Mr. Houston's manufacture, £3. 10s., presented by the Ladies' Committee; 18 pairs of ladies' and gentlemen's fancy shoes, some of them splendidly worked, value £7. 7s.. Baby's cashmere braided hoods, and caps, presented by Mrs. Houston, Mrs. Sims, and the Ladies' Committee, £5. 11s.; a pair of broadcloth blankets, Frome manufacture, £1. 8s.; a quilt, one side patchwork, £1. 10s.

"I must not omit a vespers chair, in a richly carved antique rosewood frame, back and seat of fine scarlet cashmere, presented to the Committee by Mr. Brittain, on which are emblematical devices in needlework. That rich corn-field, the production of Mrs. Middleditch. On the seat the ship Cobden is represented going out in full sail, under the auspices of Free Trade; worked by Miss Emma Allen. This is expected to be an attractive article in the Bazaar: its worth we estimate at £7. 7s.

"I am, Sir, with much respect,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "ELIZABETH TUCK, Sec.

"MY DEAR SIR,—The principal article from this place will be a Bury sminel, weighing about 2 cwt., in a box 6 feet 6 inches square. We think it will answer for a centre piece for the stall, and you can prepare (if you think so too) accordingly; but, of course, the arrangement must be left to you. The next will be a purse of about £100, and one from Heywood of, perhaps, £20. Also a time-piece, value £7. 7s., to go a month without winding up, made in Bury. Two or three pieces of printed carpeting, prints, de laines, shirtings, blankets, &c., the manufactures of the neighbourhood. Of course a number of fancy articles from the fairy fingers of the ladies, and a variety of other articles too tedious to mention, as the auctioneers say.

"I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "ROBERT P. GRUNDY.

"COMMITTEE-ROOM, BUCK-I'-TH'-VINE INN, WIGAN.  
"DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I beg to hand you a list of subscriptions received up to this evening, amounting to £60. 17s. We are also sending articles from the following persons, viz.: Messrs. Evans, Ryley, Bone, Jolley, and Cook; Mrs. Ryley, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Stock, Miss Martin, Miss Taylor, Miss Johnson, Miss Marshall, &c. &c.; comprising many useful and elegant articles. We have not been enabled to supply the money value of each contribution, but will endeavour to do so in our next report.

"Our canvass for subscriptions is not yet complete; and we meet again on Thursday to report further progress. With best wishes for the success of the Bazaar,  
"I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,  
"THOS. ACTON, Hon. Sec.

"P.S. Our good friend, Mr. Ainsworth, treasurer, will hand over the cash as per accompanying list.  
"T. ACTON.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I do not know how you wish announcements to be managed, but I beg to say our firm, Courtauld, Taylor, and Co., have furnished to the Bazaar, by the hands of Mr. P. A. Taylor, jun., in sundry articles and money, £50.

"Yours, dear Sir, very truly,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "P. A. TAYLOR.

"I herewith send £5 as a Bazaar purse, and wish you all success.  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "ROBERT WANNER.

"SIR,—Looking back, as I do, some fifty or sixty years, and viewing with alarm the vast difference that now exists between those times and the present, I am

perfectly convinced (from a close observation of their working) that to the Corn Laws alone is to be attributed the melancholy distress now so painfully apparent among our labouring population, and which is also most severely felt by the shopkeepers, &c., in every branch of trade. Under these circumstances, I cannot but admire the praiseworthy and untiring exertions of those eloquent champions of Free-Trade principles, Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and others, to obtain the abolition of those mischievous enactments which have produced such misery and wretchedness; and, heartily wishing success may attend their endeavours, I should be happy to have presented some article to the Bazaar about to be held in Covent-garden Theatre; but not having anything suitable for it, I beg leave to forward £5 for a portrait of each of the gentlemen above named, and the surplus may be applied to the Bazaar fund. I trust you will pardon me for troubling you with this, but I have done so because I was anxious to secure, if possible, the portraits of those talented individuals, and fearing that, if I waited until the opening of the Bazaar, I might probably be too late in the field to obtain them, doubting not but that the demand for them will be very great.

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "W. D. COLEBROOKDALE.

"We have received forty-six packages from Messrs. Abraham and Alfred Darby, and Dickinson, weighing five tons, value £641. 19s. 2d.

Mrs. Marcet, the celebrated authoress of several popular works, has kindly presented to the Bazaar 500 copies of her interesting and instructive little volume, "John Hopkins's Notions on Political Economy."

"SIR,—We have the pleasure to present, as an offering to the Free-Trade Bazaar, a small assortment of buttons of our manufacture, intended to be worn by the friends of the Anti-Corn-Law League.

"We are, Sir, your most obedient servants,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "HAMMOND, TURNER, and SON.

"134, Grove-street, Camden-town.  
"DEAR SIR,—I transmit for the Free-Trade Bazaar a number of articles, which, at a moderate calculation, amount to about £20.

"I am, dear Sir, your most obedient,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "JOHN WHITE.

"31, Gresham-street, London.  
"DEAR SIR,—We have just completed an improvement in the manufacture of French napped silk hats, and if not too late shall feel pleasure in expressing our approval of your object by presenting the first dozen to the Free-Trade Bazaar. We do not intend protecting the improvement (ventilation) by patent, but hope it will be appreciated by our Free-Trade friends; the selling price will be 15s. The goods not being quite ready, we will thank you to inform us the latest time they can be received, and oblige,  
"Dear Sir, yours very faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "STAINBURN and BAUGH.

"King's-court, Lombard-street.  
"DEAR SIR,—We beg to inform you that we intend forwarding in a few days, in aid of the League Bazaar, various perfumes, brushes, fancy soaps, &c., of our manufacture, prepared expressly for that occasion. We shall also send, at the same time, a few fancy articles, including a vase with wax flowers, d'oylys, and watch-pockets, contributed by some young ladies friendly to the cause.

"In the earnest hope that commerce will be speedily freed from the unjust (and, therefore, unwise) restrictions that a selfish and shortsighted policy has imposed,  
"We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq." "JOHN GOSNELL and Co.

"338, Strand.  
"SIR,—I have much pleasure in sending to the League Bazaar one of my silver lever watches, with its accompaniments of silver key and morocco case: it ought to yield you £5. 5s.; and this, without taking into account its historical character (and the occasion under which goods at your Bazaar will be purchased), a record of which is preserved by an inscription on the movements of the watch. The department of trade in which I am engaged is an example of the fallacy of protection. For years past, under a so-called protective duty of 30 per cent., the English trade in watches has languished, each year exhibiting a smaller production than its predecessor; but since the reduction of duty on foreign watches our trade has suddenly revived to a higher degree of prosperity than we have known for many years, so much so that premiums of £5 and £10 are being offered by masters as an inducement to workmen to enter into engagements for a fixed supply of work for a given time; and this gratifying result has appeared, although the revenue returns show that £50,000 per annum is now received as duty on foreign watches, where only £5000 accrued under the old tariff. Of course the smuggler and Custom must settle that account between themselves. It is clear, then, that, in this trade at least, prosperity is not the fruit of protection, but is to be found in the generally improved condition of the manufacturing districts. Other causes may also have assisted us, but they do not interfere with the above conclusion. I hope that the success which attends your present experiment of exhibiting the varied products of English industry will suggest the propriety of a future Bazaar, to which foreign nations shall be invited to become contributors, to show to our legislators what increased comforts and luxuries a more perfect intercourse between nations would give to all.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "J. JONES.

"24, Essex-street, Strand.  
"MY DEAR SIR,—I have been anxiously desirous to present some little trifle to the great Free-Trade Bazaar, and I have been puzzling my head to discover what donation I could make you, or evidence the rectly of your feelings for the profession of the law is not particularly fertile in matters for Bazaars. But having, for my own part, always felt that the greatest condemnation of the present system of prohibitory and protective duties (more especially as regards corn) was the fruitful parent of wretchedness and irreligion, and quite at variance with the revealed will of God,—and that the question thus sunk into quite a secondary consideration, either as regarded its mercantile or its agricultural aspect,—I have busied myself in collecting a few of the more prominent texts of Scripture bearing

against the system; and to give them an attractive form I have thrown them into that of a bunch of grapes, each grape containing a reference to a text, and I have called the whole 'The Anti-Corn-Law and Free-Trade Cluster of Esbeol.'

"This design I have had lithographed, and painted by hand, and hope it will form a pretty ornament for an album, and a useful one as regards our cause. It is my intention to present your Bazaar with 100 copies (selling price 3s. 6d.). Believe me, my dear Sir,

"Your anxious fellow-labourer,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." JAMES H. F. LEWIS.

"52, St. Martin's-lane.

"DEAR SIR,—I feel anxious to contribute my small offering towards your great undertaking, and beg you will accept what I doubt not, will be esteemed by all, and I know of nothing more likely to please, or more likely to meet with purchasers, than a representation of our great and indefatigable leader, R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.

"I purpose sending you six copies, in cement, by a first-rate artist, Mr. Thomas Smith, a pupil of the late Sir F. Chantrey: they are £2. 2s. each. The artist desires me, also, to present for him a fine copy of the bust of the late John Kemble, also one of Charles Kemble.

"Will you let me know when you are ready to receive them. I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." JOHN P. BULL.

"SIR,—We have made for the approaching Bazaar a very handsome set of shop boot-trees, consisting of thirty pieces, fitted in stand complete, with an improved method of withdrawing the keys without the use of the all-destroying hammer: the whole amounting in value to the sum of £7. 10s. The above being the first set made on the new principle, we have thought it the most suitable present we could send, more especially as we expect a large number of master bootmakers to visit your Bazaar, for whom they are particularly adapted. Hoping they will meet with a ready sale, and wishing you every success,

"We remain, yours very respectfully,

"W. DENNIS, 17, Little Pultney-st., Golden-square.

"J. DENNIS, 17, Vere-street, Clare-market.

"C. DENNIS, 10, George-court, Piccadilly.

"P.S. We also beg to hand you our annual subscription of £1 each, due on the 18th of May."

"133, Tooley-street.

"RESPECTED FRIENDS,—Feeling much interested in the success of Free-Trade principles, we are anxious to aid your patriotic exertions, and, if you consider our manufacture suitable to be introduced at your Bazaar, we shall feel pleasure in sending up, according to your direction, one gross of each size—£18 worth. Your reply will oblige,  
"Your sincere friends,  
"BAYANT and MAY.

"To the Bazaar Committee."

"Newington Common.

"ESTEEMED FRIEND,—The accompanying trifles, I trust, will be thought worthy of thy acceptance, being the proceeds of collections obtained personally from amongst my friends in aid of the Bazaar; though but young in years I feel, like my dear father, an interest in the great cause.

"With respect, thy friend,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." SOPHIA C. SOUTHALL.

"DEAR SIR,—I have directed Messrs. Dyer, of Paternoster-row, to send to the Bazaar, amongst other works, a small assortment of the cheapest bibles and testaments published by the Scottish Board for bible circulation. These copies of the sacred volume are presented as an evidence of the advantage arising from the abolition of monopoly, in printing and circulating that holy book, which will ultimately influence all the commerce of our world; teaching us that whatsoever things we would that others should do to us we should do even so to them.

"I am, dear Sir, with great respect,

"Yours faithfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." JAMES THOMAS.

"13, Hungerford-market.

"SIR,—In conjunction with two or three friends, I am completing, with the intention of presenting it to the Bazaar, a model of a stamp, with a pair of dies, to strike a small medal commemorative of the Bazaar, with which will be sent white metal blanks, for purchasers to strike their own medals, it being so simple a child may strike one. Trusting it may prove a source of assistance in wrenching from the iron grasp of monopoly the industrial energy and skill of this country,

"I remain, your humble supporter,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." GEORGE LARKIN.

"Hessle-road, Hull.

"DEAR SIR,—I send you my humble tribute to the Free-Trade Bazaar, which is 50 bottles of golden fluid for writing on all kinds of linen, cotton, &c., which I think will get a ready sale at the labelled price.

"I remain a sincere well-wisher to the cause,  
"R. Cobden, Esq., M.P." R. D. MOREHEAD.

"7 Wellington-street, Strand.

"SIR,—I shall have much pleasure in presenting a copy of the *Farmer's Journal* newspaper, for the approaching Free Trade Bazaar, at Covent garden. Yours,  
"F. CARR, principal Proprietor.  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq."

"Friar-street, Doctors'-commons.

"GENTLEMEN,—We have the greatest pleasure in sending you our contribution ('Hervey's Sculpture,' more or less, elegant; 'View of Wakefield,' calf, elegant; 'Marionella on Taxation,' russia extra) to the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar. We think the volumes are specimens of British manufacture, and hope you will consider them worthy of your acceptance.

"In thus expressing our sympathy in your exertions for the abolition of a tax, equally revolting to human nature and injurious to the character of the people of Great Britain, we hope the time is not far distant when all will mutually have to rejoice over the destruction of this monopoly, and that the ingenuity and industry of this nation will be unfettered from all unjust restrictions.

"We are, Gentlemen, yours most truly,  
"To the Committee." WESTLEY and CLARK.

"35, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden.

"SIR,—Permit me to present to your Bazaar a pearl ring, value £2, as my humble contribution towards the success of your funds.  
"A strong pearl butterfly, and a few other articles of

less consequence, shall be presented to you, by some of my family, if your arrangements will allow you to accept them one or two days previous to the opening of your Bazaar.

"I have the honour to remain, your obedient servant,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." W. STACY.

"Eagle-place, Sheffield.

"DEAR SIRS,—We, the apprentices of Messrs. William and J. G. Parker, feel great pleasure in presenting to you goods of Sheffield manufacture to the amount of £6, being presents collected by us from our fellow-workmen. We remain, dear Sirs, yours very respectfully,  
"WILLIAM H. SMITH.  
"THOMAS ATLEY.  
"ROBERT M. NEEDHAM.

"To the Committee of the National Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar."

"Maidstone.

"DEAR SIR,—Although this town is too much under the selfish ban of 'protection to native industry,' there are not wanting men who are not ashamed to avow themselves 'Free-Traders,' ay, and women too, who look upon Free Trade as a national benefit, and as an object to be achieved for the world's good; and the number, too, is 'legion,' who in their own hearts are equally so, but who dare not yet avow themselves.

"Under such circumstances, I am happy to announce that a subscription is going on in aid of the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar, and that I have already received £8. 18s. exclusive of articles which two of our townsmen will send for sale.

"I am, dear Sir, yours truly, "RICH. NELMS.

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"12, Normanton-street, Derby.

"SIR,—I belong to that long-suffering and almost despised class of operatives, the framework-knitters, and feeling deeply that the only chance we have of bettering our unhappy condition is, by an extended market for our manufactures, I have determined to lend my humble aid to support the Free-Trade League, instead of being bothered with strikes and combinations, which I am satisfied can do us no permanent good. For this purpose I have begged a little silk from a gentleman who is or was an active Tory, and has now become a good Free-Trade, and like his great leader, Sir Robert Peel, is convinced that Free Trade is common sense, and, I might add, common honesty. I have worked a part of this silk into one dozen pairs of ladies' gloves; and Mr. Richard Dalison, a fellow-sufferer, has made a dozen pairs from it also; Mr. Gee, of this place, has made six pairs very tastefully from silk of his own: they are all of the very best quality, and will be worth nearly £3. Although this is only a trifle in the great cause, I hope you will not think it unacceptable from three poor working men, for the benefits already received by them and their families from your united and indefatigable exertions. I am happy to say we have some tenant-farmers in this neighbourhood who are now convinced that stopping our trade, and starving the people, is not the best method of making a good market for the farmers. I hope to beg a few shillings from some of them to buy some more silk, and I will then endeavour to get some of my fellow-workmen to make it into something useful for the Bazaar. And all that I pray for is, that you may never be weary in well-doing until we have obtained all the world for our market, and all its inhabitants for our customers.

"From your very humble servant,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq." WM. PARKINSON.

"North-gate, Halifax.

"DEAR SIR,—As we must all endeavour, as far as lies in our power, to assist you and your worthy colleagues in the furtherance of the Bazaar, I have forwarded to the person who receives contributions in this town a foot-brush, with scraper attached, and the words 'Free Trade' worked in the bristles: the value of which is £5.

"I remain, dear Sir, yours most respectfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." T. FLEMING.

"Bristol.

"RESPECTED FRIEND,—I have sent to the Bristol stall, as my contribution to the Bazaar, 200 specimens illustrative of the science of geology; they have been arranged and catalogued by a scientific gentleman of this city, and comprise a complete series of rocks, from granite to the London clay; they are well adapted for the use of a lecturer giving an elementary course, and would be suitable to present to a mechanics' institution or other similar establishment, or for the use of a school or private family.

"My object in sending this information to thee is that, if it is noticed in the LEAGUE paper, it may possibly catch the eye of a party desirous of purchasing the series. £6 is the value.

"I remain, very respectfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." JOSEPH FRY.

"Malmesbury.

"DEAR SIR,—With the assistance of Mr. Reynolds, Mr. W. Paulton, and other warm Free-Traders of this town, I am enabled to forward the articles purchased by the contributors raised here for the Bazaar. They consist of pillow-lace, the make of our town, and a few combs, and also a handsomely worked music stool cover, given by a young lady of this place. We shall send, to-morrow, a very handsome work-table of a novel description, value £5, having on it an excellent drawing of the old Gothic market cross of Malmesbury, supposed to be equal in antiquity to our venerable abbey. Will you be so good as to retain a place for its reception, as our friends are anxious to claim a small share of the honour resulting from so varied and magnificent an exhibition as your Bazaar promises to be? From a place of so little note as Malmesbury, and with trade very depressed, it could not be expected we should raise much; nevertheless, the number of contributors is large, amounting in the whole to £22. 15s. 6d., including not only a majority of the professional men and tradesmen of the town, but also twenty-six real renting farmers, the average of whose holdings is 250 acres.

"George Wilson, Esq." H. GALE.

"Great Torrington.

"DEAR SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that I had, yesterday, given me, by Mr. John Buxford, jun., artificial fly-maker, of this town, a book containing patterns flies, which he will thank to have placed in a prominent place of the Bazaar. I do assure you it is a splendid lot of flies and will sell well, containing between five and

six dozen, not two alike; they are for samples. I shall forward it with some other articles, which I expect to have presented for the Bazaar the latter end of the week.

"Yours very respectfully,  
"A. W. Paulton, Esq." GEORGE TOMES.

"To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

"SIR,—I intend going to London to visit the Bazaar, with my wife and my sister; and, in order that we may lay out our money in the useful as well as ornamental, we have each made out a list (as if going to market) of things required by us.

"I mention this as a hint to those who intend to become purchasers, as there is little doubt there will be every useful article, and of the best quality; which, if the contributors follow out the wishes of the Council, will be offered at fair and moderate prices.

"Yours, very respectfully,  
"ABRAHAM LEEKES."

"Union-place, Montrose.

"SIR,—I have an old painting which I intend to send to the Bazaar for sale; it was in the collection of the late Col. Colquhoun, and it is said to be a superior picture. I hope it will fetch a much higher price than what I paid for it, which was thought high. I will send it in a box to London. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." ALKX. WATSON.

"Dunfermline.

"DEAR SIR,—I have, with this post, sent our mutual friend, D. Dewar, Wood-street, London, an invoice of goods contributed by friends here to the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar, with the names of the contributors, amounting to—goods, £26. 3s. 4d.; cash, £1. 11s. 6d.; total, £27. 14s. 10d. I hope, when all the Dunfermline manufactures are got together, they will command some attention, and promote in some measure the design of the Council in holding the Bazaar.

"I am, dear Sir, yours sincerely,  
"Geo. Wilson Esq." JAMES INGLIS.

"Mutterhole, near Todmorden.

"SIR,—I am happy to inform you that Mrs. Helliwell, of Todmorden, and myself, have collected upwards of £20 in money, and hope to make it into £10 before remitting it. We have also received a handsome Polish piece from Messrs. John Crossley and Sons, value £6. 5s.; one piece of superfine lasting, from Mr. John Riley, value £5. 10s.; two pieces of fancy tweed, from Mr. John Hodgson, value £2. 6s.; one piece of fancy tweed, from Messrs. J. and J. Hodgson, value £1. 15s.; one piece of fancy check hair cord, from Mr. Tawell, value £1. 17s.; and one piece of dimity, from Messrs. Robinson and Horstall, value £2. 18s.; all specimens of goods made in the neighbourhood of Hebden-bridge. In addition to the above, we have received an oil-painting of a scene in the Todmorden valley, drawn and contributed by Mr. William Dewhurst, of Todmorden, value £5; also a considerable quantity of useful and ornamental work from the ladies of the district, which, we trust, will raise £30 or £40 more. The whole of these articles have been forwarded to our Rochdale friends, and will occupy a corner of their stall in Covent-garden Theatre. The feeling in favour of Free-Trade principles is all but universal in this valley, and our contributions will, we trust, be considered pretty fair for a country district like this. With warmest wishes for the speedy success of the good cause,  
"I am, Sir, yours respectfully,  
"Geo. Wilson, Esq." MARY ANNE OLIVER."

"A SUGGESTION TO PROVIDE 500 BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

"Greenacres Moor, Oldham.

"DEAR SIR,—Having seen repeated accounts of the awful destitution of the labourers of Dorchester and the surrounding counties, in the LEAGUE, and recently having read the letter written by the Rev. Wm. Ferguson to Mr. Harcourt, member for Oxfordshire, which lately appeared in the *Economist*, giving a deplorable account of the state in which he found a number of families in villages near Bicester, in the county of Oxfordshire; and which statement is corroborated by Mr. Samuel Rolfe, who is a dealer in furniture, and who accompanied Mr. Ferguson into twelve different cottages, and who states "that he would not give more than £2. 10s. for all the goods found in the twelve cottages occupied by able-bodied men; and conversing with a few of my neighbours, engaged in the cotton business, on this truly melancholy state of things, an idea was conceived of alleviating, in a small way, a little of this distress, and also of adding to your Bazaar fund. I am hereby authorized by these gentlemen to state, that they will deliver in London, free from charge, to your disposal, ten tons of good cotton stocks, the value of which will be, in London, upwards of £130, which will be sufficient to fill upwards of 500 beds.

"Now, my dear Sir, you know a number of good, patriotic, and humane men, engaged in the manufacture of bed-ticks in Manchester, who will be happy to second the efforts of my friends, by forwarding to you a number of pieces of that article; and there can be little doubt that many in Bolton, manufacturers of bed-quilts, will also assist by forwarding to your Bazaar a number of those useful and necessary articles. I believe, also, that there are in Rosendale and neighbourhood, who are manufacturers of strong sheeting, a number of generous friends who would join in this act of charity, and, by sending a number of pieces, carry out the above laudable object.

"I have just seen my friend Edmund Wild, of High-street, Manchester, who has an establishment in White-cross-street, London. He says that he will give 20 beds, 20 Bolton quilts, and 20 Rosendale sheets; and instruct his partner in London to render any further assistance that you may require.

"Will you now allow me to suggest an easy method for their distribution. First, let Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Summerville, and a number of others that you may appoint, make out a list of about 500 or 600 of the most destitute cases. Secondly, let a bed and sheet be wrapped up in a Bolton quilt, and be exhibited in your Bazaar, with a list of names in distress attached to it. Now, Sir, as there will be thousands of visitors who can duly appreciate the comforts of a good bed, and can feel for those who do not enjoy this blessing, anybody might have the satisfaction of purchasing the above-mentioned three articles at the nominal price of 6s., and point out any one in the list to whom he would wish it to be given, the Committee promising to deliver the same according to his or her directions.



"That this may meet with your approval, and render assistance to those in distress, is the wish of

"Geo. Wilson, Esq." "Yours respectfully,  
"ALEXANDER TAYLOR.

## SHEFFIELD.

We have had the pleasure, within this week, to see various contributions of Sheffield manufactures to the Bazaar, all of which do great credit to the manufacturers of the town, and to the liberality and zeal of the donors. In several cases we are not permitted to particularize the parties or their contributions, but we may mention the following:—From Trafalgar Works, two beautiful satin-wood cases of ivory table cutlery, the material contributed by the employer, and the workmanship by the men; the cutlery is of first-rate quality and execution. From Mr. Isaac Read, of Lambert-street, a card of superior fancy scissors, inlaid with gold, and bearing a variety of Free-Trade inscriptions. From Mr. John Kay, St. Thomas-street, a Wharfedale knife, pearl handled, beautifully engraved, with a kneeling figure, and a sheaf of corn; motto—"Give us our daily bread duty-free." Mr. Edwin Lister has been at great pains in compiling a scrap-book: all sorts of newspapers have been laid under contribution to enrich its pages: it has also some embellishments of a more ornamental kind. Messrs. Drabble and Sanderson have contributed a valuable case of saws of the most beautiful manufacture. Messrs. Samuel Biggin and Son, of Scotland street, have contributed half-a-dozen saws of various sizes, of a most elegant description; appropriate designs are etched on the blades, and the handles are of ebony, rose, and other costly woods; and, altogether, the workmanship reflects the highest credit on the spirited manufacturers. Mr. George Cavill, of Bole-hill, Norton, has contributed an American hunter's knife of skilful workmanship. One of the contributions shown to us is deserving of particular notice, as showing the liberality of the young but zealous donors in furthering the good cause. Messrs. W. H. Smith, Thomas Atley, and Robert Needham, three apprentices of Messrs. W. and J. G. Parker, of Eyre-street, merchants, have presented a splendid assortment of various kinds of cutlery. The articles are of first-rate quality as regards workmanship and material, and are worth between £6 and £7. Mr. Wm. Martin, manager for Mr. Joseph Mappin, of Norfolk-street, has contributed a splendid case of razors; the handles are pearl, mounted with gold, and on the blades are designs beautifully chased in gold. One of the most beautiful contributions to the Bazaar which we have yet seen, is a case of scissors, manufactured by Messrs. Rudd and Wainwright, of Eyre-street, valued at £30. The card contains eighteen pairs of scissors. Two pairs are large scissors, which exemplify the perfection of workmanship; the others are small and useful sizes, as elegant and highly-finished as it is possible to conceive. The bows of the larger pair are filed out of a piece of solid steel, and represent full-length figures of Colnden and Bright, supporting a sheaf of corn, with the words, "The Free-Trade champions." We understand from competent judges, that we may safely say that a better specimen of Sheffield manufacture in scissors was never produced. Four boxes containing specimens of lead ore, and of the various preparations of lead, have been contributed by Mr. George Furniss, silver plater. They are very valuable and curious. We understand that Messrs. Greaves and Sons, of Shaf Works, contribute goods of the value of £100; and Messrs. Naylor, Vickers, and Co., files to the value of £50, with specimens of steel in various stages of manufacture.—*Sheffield Independent*.

## PRESTON.

The ladies' and gentlemen's committee have each been active this week in procuring contributions. Amongst the contributors are:—Miss Lucas, fancy work; a friend, fancy articles, value £3; Mr. Talbot, druggist, one dozen smelling bottles; Miss Sedgwick, fancy articles; Friends, per Miss Hawkins, fancy articles, value £1. 15s; a lady, to the value of £1. 10s.; Friends, per Mr. Hawkins, £7; Mr. Siger, £1; Mr. Fishwick, Scorton, £5; a friend, per Mr. Haslam, £5; Mr. Butler, two miniature bedsteads; a friend from Manchester, three reams of paper; Mr. Heaton, Charles-street, £5; Friends, per Mr. Geo. Smith, £22. 10s.; small sums, £2 3s.; Mr. D. Wilcockson, superb scrap-book.—*Preston Guardian*.

## LEEDS.

The articles intended for the Leeds stall at the approaching Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre were exhibited in the Picture gallery of the Music-hall, in this town, on Tuesday and Wednesday last. The articles were displayed with great taste, and the room had a very elegant appearance, abounding with rich and varied specimens of ladies' fancy work, in contrast with a great diversity of the neatest and choicest productions of our local workshops and manufactories; the tables and walls were adorned with the productions of all classes of contributors, whose invention, curiosity, ingenuity, taste, or even eccentricity could add a novelty or attraction to the exhibition. Having previously had a private view, we were last week enabled to enumerate several articles, forming very prominent; if not the most prominent, features of the exhibition, but since that time many other very valuable and interesting contributions have been made. And we cannot refrain from again mentioning with honour Mrs. Vonn's beautiful contribution of the likeness of Queen Victoria in her coronation robes, accompanied with the unique biographical memoir, executed in minute penmanship, containing 27,000 words, in one continued line. Very beautiful specimens of the flax manufacture in a preliminary state were forwarded from the establishment of Messrs. W. B. Holdsworth and Co.; and of the worsted manufactures in their various stages, by Mr. F. W. Clapham, of Leeds. A very splendid box of mechanics' tools, valued at twenty guineas, was furnished by Mr. Bewley, of Leeds, and was greatly admired. So also was the costly and beautiful Gothic chair and screen, of carved oak, wrought with Berlin work, a present from William Empson, Esq.; and the bugle-work screen, contributed by Mrs. W. H. Birchall—the upholstery department by Messrs. Constantine. A very beautiful Elizabethan chair, from Mrs. Wier, sold for £10. But the great attraction of the exhibition was the smiling countenances and fascination of the ladies, to whom we must award all the success and honour that awaits the Leeds stall at Covent Garden. The following ladies have devoted a great deal of time and made great exertions in

furtherance of the Bazaar:—Miss Stansfeld, Miss Mary Stansfeld, Mrs. Liebreich, Mrs. Unna, Mrs. Birchall, Miss Birchall, Misses Shann, Mrs. E. F. Terry, jun., Miss Fennell, Miss Mason, Mrs. Edw. Baines, and Mrs. Nunneley. From what we heard in the room, none of these ladies will find fault with us for according especial praise to the Misses Shann for their indefatigable industry in this delightful avocation: their contribution of clothing was most valuable and abundant. The refreshment table was everything that could be wished, being superintended and graced by the following ladies:—Mrs. Liebreich, Mrs. Edw. Baines, Mrs. Unna, and Miss Stansfeld. The amount realized for the League Fund is about £120 net. The visitors to the exhibition were very numerous. During the hours of admission, the gallery each day was an unbroken scene of gaiety and animation.—*Leeds Mercury*.

## TOTNES.

Mr. John Bishop's, at the Mayoralty-house, being the depot for presents &c., to the Bazaar, we have just seen an elegant marble cheese-stand, manufactured in his best style by Mr. Woodley, of St. Mary Church, Devon, the gift of Mr. Joseph Ferris, of Totnes, called by some persons a short time ago in the *Western Times* (whose remarks on him seemed to wear on their brow the marks of disappointment) a nondescript, but who, it appears, may be perfectly described as an out-and-out reformer, and an indefatigable Free-Trader. The body of the cheese-stand is of white marble, beautifully inlaid on the border and in the centre with the rarest specimens of Madrepore marbles, reflecting great taste on the manufacturer, and generosity in the worthy donor.—*Western Times*.

## FROME.

An endless and beautiful variety of costly articles, contributed by the ladies and gentlemen of Frome, towards the forthcoming Bazaar at Covent-garden Theatre, was exhibited to the public on Wednesday and Thursday last, at the residence of the Rev. C. J. Middledich, in this town, and attracted a great number of visitors. The exhibition consisted of some of the finest cloth manufactured in Frome, and worked in beautiful devices for chairs, stools, ottomans, table-covers, &c. Work-bags, children's dresses, and all kinds of fancy articles were without number, and we presume to the value of several hundred pounds. As an instance, one worked table-cover and a pair of ottomans were valued at £15. We hope it will excite the same interest when forwarded to London, and meet a ready sale in aid of the noble purpose for which it is sent.—*Bath Journal*.

## WARRINGTON.

Great exertions are being made by the committee of the Free-Trade Association in this town, towards the furnishing of various articles of manufacture for the Bazaar about to be held in London. A meeting was called on Monday, when it was resolved that the public should be solicited for contributions. It is intended that half a stall shall be set apart for Warrington.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

## BRISTOL.

The exhibition of the various articles contributed to the Bristol stand of the forthcoming Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre commenced on Friday, the 25th ult., and will be continued this day at No. 43, High street. The contributions are far more numerous than the committee had anticipated, and amount in value to above £100. They comprise numerous manufactured articles, paintings, prints, specimens of needlework and embroidery, drawings, devices, china and other ornaments, books, &c. The contributions are equally creditable to the taste and ingenuity as to the liberality of our fellow-citizens, some of them being of a very costly description.—*Bristol Mercury*.

## BOLTON.

The articles prepared in this town and neighbourhood for the Bolton stall, at the approaching National Free-Trade Bazaar, were exhibited on Friday, in the Temperance Hall, Little Bolton. There was a considerable display of articles of taste—ornamental, neat, plain, and useful; but we should have been better pleased to have found amongst them specimens of the industrial skill comprised in our machine workshops, foundries, and similar establishments. It is not too late to remedy this defect, and we hope it will be at once attended to, for the honour of our town, its population, and manufacturing credit. The sale of articles and money paid for admission realized more than £45, of which £7. 14s. were taken at the doors in sixpences. A beautifully worked fancy chair, presented by Miss Ashworth, of the Oaks, Torton, was much admired: it is valued at £20. The exhibition of two or three pairs of stout clo. caused some amusement, as no doubt they will to some of the corkneys, when they see and handle them.—*Bolton Free Press*.

## BARNSELY.

(From a Correspondent.)

On Thursday last a tea party was held here, in the Odd Fellows' Hall, in aid of the League Bazaar, and to celebrate the completion of the contributions to the Barnsley stall. About 250 ladies and gentlemen sat down to tea; after which Mr. George Travis was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by our ardent friend, Mr. Edward Parker, and by Mr. Plint of Leeds, who gave us a very useful and eloquent speech, replete with facts illustrative of the baneful effects of protection on both agriculture and commerce. We had also a public exhibition on the 16th and 17th ult., of the articles contributed by the friends of Free Trade here to our stall, in a room of Messrs. Harvey's linen warehouse, liberally lent by them for the purpose. The various articles were very tastefully arranged for show by two of our indefatigable lady friends, and were inspected with great interest by a considerable number of persons from the town and neighbourhood. The skilful workmanship, the ingenuity and fine taste, displayed in the useful and ornamental productions furnished by the ladies, excited general admiration. The supply of the staple manufactures of our town was also good, considering that some of our principal manufacturers are either opposed to the League, or indifferent to its success. I might give you a detailed account of the free-will offerings of the ladies, but it would be invidious to make distinctions where all have done well. All honour to those ladies who have so nobly re-

corded their disapprobation of that law which intercepts the bounties of Providence, depreciates the value of the poor man's labour, and then mercilessly mulcts him of a his daily bread.

## SUNDERLAND.

Very liberal contributions have been made, both in money and presents, by the friends of Free Trade in Sunderland, in aid of the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre, in May. The ladies especially have laboured in this cause of love with a zeal and assiduity not to be surpassed in towns which are the very focus of Free Trade. We shall embrace an early opportunity of particularizing some of the chief tributes to the Bazaar.—*Tyne Mercury*.

## CAMBRIDGE.

The members of the Committee of the Cambridge Anti-Corn-Law Association met at Mr. Wells's, the Bell and Crown, Bridge-street, on Thursday evening last, when several very appropriate and valuable articles were received for the League Bazaar, to be held in Covent-garden Theatre in May next. Also several subscriptions in cash were received towards the same object, which are now all transmitted to the Committee of Management in London.—*Cambridge Advertiser*.

## WIGAN.

The Wigan committee for collecting subscriptions and goods in aid of the Free-Trade Bazaar, held a meeting on Monday evening, at the Buck-i'-th'-Vine, when the following contributions were announced as having been received:—Messrs. Taylor, £10; Messrs. Johnson and Ainsworth, £10; Mr. Evans, £5; Mr. H. Bullock, £5; Mr. Richard Ranson, £2; Messrs. J. and T. Potter, £2; Mr. John Aston, £2; Mr. Thomas Bingham, £2; Mr. Joseph Aspinall, £2; Mr. John Aspinall, £2; and other smaller sums, amounting in the whole to upwards of £20. In addition to the foregoing, contributions in fancy articles have been given from Mrs. Cook, £10; the Misses Johnson, £7; Miss Martin, £4. 10s.; Mrs. Riley, £7; and in other goods from Mr. Riley, £6. 10s.; Mr. Evans, £1. 7s.; and from Mr. Bone, several copies of original poems. Other subscriptions are in course of collection; and contributions in fancy goods have been announced from Mr. Stock, the Misses Marshall, Miss Gaskell (of Upholland), Mr. Jolley, Mr. Binns, and others; making a total in value, of upwards of £100.—*Manchester Guardian*.

## ROCHDALE.

On Monday and Tuesday the articles contributed in Rochdale to the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar were exhibited at the Borough Hall, and offered for sale. The stalls were furnished with a great variety of goods, which seemed to meet with a ready sale. A rosewood chair, valued at £25, attracted general attention. The cushion and back were covered with embroidery, the performance of Mrs. Cheetham, of Goose-lane. There were also some fine specimens of flannel, made of the finest wool. Among the ladies at the stalls, we observed Mrs. S. Taylor, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. John Hoyle, Miss Hoyle, Miss Heape, Miss Howarth, Miss Stephens, Mrs. Barker, and other friends of cheap food. The attendance of visitors far exceeded the committee's expectations; and the total receipts of Monday amounted to about £130. Yesterday the attendance was not so numerous; yet a good many purchases were made. A splendid table, valued at £5, was amongst the collection, and a beautiful miniature steam-engine, by Mr. Petrie, attracted great attention.—*Ibid*.

## BRADFORD.

We have had the privilege of inspecting several large and beautiful assortments of the varied fabrics of our district, prior to their being transmitted to Covent-garden Theatre. Where all have shown a munificent spirit, it is difficult to particularize without a seeming invidiousness, but we are quite sure that all the donors will excuse our mentioning a few of the principal donations. Our spirited townsmen, Messrs. Milligan, Forbes, and Co., with their accustomed liberality, have given goods amounting to upwards of £240; embracing an assortment of worsted and alpaca productions, in every variety of fabric and colour. Messrs. Russell, Douglas, and Co., Mr. Titus Salt, Messrs. Renne, Tetley, and Co., Messrs. Wm. Fison and Co., and Mr. George Rogers, have contributed on a scale equally honourable to their liberality and their Free-Trade principles. It is besides due to each of these parties to note the beauty of their contributions, expressly manufactured for the occasion. Our readers are aware that Messrs. Wm. Fison and Co. had the honour of manufacturing "the Alpaca Textures" for Her Majesty: they have therefore, very appropriately, developed the beautiful dresses to be sent to the Bazaar in a splendid emblazoned screen representing in the centre Her Most Gracious Majesty, with the arms and flag of Great Britain; on the right hand, the two pet alpacas in Windsor Park; and on the left, a very life-like representation of Windsor Castle. This engraving is the production of a local artist, Mr. Burton, and is highly creditable to his taste and skill. Messrs. Russell, Douglas, and Co. have favoured us with a view of one of their contributions, which we hardy know how to designate; perhaps in an early number of *Punch* there may be notice of it, worthy of the wit and humour of that most talented and witty and, be it soberly said, enlightened periodical. We feel quite assured our local manufacture will not be disparaged by its exhibition in Covent garden Theatre. But we are not yet content. There is room for others, eminently distinguished by their contributions to the League Fund of £100,000, yet to come forward, and, if it is too late to send goods, money is always acceptable, and our friends know where to send that. Some of the young ladies of Bradford have diligently occupied themselves, since Colonel Thompson was here, in working for the good cause, and we have received some exceedingly elegant and beautiful specimens of embroidered alpaca and merino from them, which will maintain an honourable rivalry with contributions from other quarters.—*Bradford Observer*.

## DERBY.

So far, Derby has done well, but we should like to swell the stock to a still greater bulk. Already contributions in ladies' work, articles of vertu, manufactures of various kinds, spars, caricatures, drawings, paintings, &c.

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amounting in value to nearly £300, have been sent in; and others, to the extent of at least £50, are daily expected—to say nothing of donations which will no doubt follow. The three counties of Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, will contribute at least £2000.—*Derby Reporter*.

#### EDINBURGH.

The fancy work and miscellaneous articles contributed by the inhabitants of Edinburgh to the great Bazaar in furtherance of the cause of Free Trade, which is to be opened in London on the 8th of May, were exhibited on Monday and Tuesday, in Mr Taylor's Sale-rooms, George-street, under the superintendence of the Ladies' Committee. In the course of these two days nearly two thousand persons visited the rooms, which were filled with a vast number of articles of great variety and beauty, and amounting in value to about £600. Our limited space forbids us to particularize the things exhibited with anything like minuteness, but we may mention the following as specimens:—Books—from Sir George Mackenzie (who has also sent 175 ancient coins, eight of which are of gold), Mr. George Combe, Mr. Robert Carr, Mr. J. W. Willis, Mr. James Ballantyne, Mr. Wye, Captain Gray, &c. &c. Paintings and engravings—from Mr. H. McCulloch, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Currie, &c. An anatomical preparation of a horse's head, from Professor Dick. A beautiful pair of granite curling-grooves with silver mounted handles, from some Free-Traders in Falkirk (chiefly farmers). 100 pickers of gelatine, from Messrs. J. and G. C. x. An unpublished portrait of Mrs. Siddons, from Mrs. George Combe. Twelve Skenedhus, from Mr. A. Young. Implements, weapons, &c., from the South Sea Islands, of curious and beautiful workmanship, native Tahitian cloth and exquisitely carved Chinese casket, &c., from Mr. Wemyss, Southbury-road. A set of elegant trays, and various other costly and beautiful articles, from Mr. Wilshire, Waterloo-place. Black candles made of bitumen, gathered at Binny Craig, with many other articles, from Mrs. Renton. Two sets of very fine gas lustres, from Messrs. Laidlaw and Son. A very interesting contribution was made by Mr. Tutting, late of North St. David-street; it consisted of a pair of white satin slippers worn by the Princess Charlotte, which had been returned as presents for another pair, with directions in the Princess's own handwriting. We understand that ten guineas had been offered to Mr. Tutting for these interesting memorials of the lamented lady. Among the other articles were specimens of works from the various charitable institutions in Edinburgh—the House of Refuge, West Kirk Workhouse, Deacons Institution, &c.; two fine gilded cups, models of an ivory cup which belonged to Nero, a curious and elaborate model of an Etruscan tomb, a model of a gipsy camp, Scottish botanical specimens, Scotch pebbles and brooches, horn spoons, rich Eastern slippers, dolls in Highland and fancy dresses, worked cushions, shawls, scarfs, babies' dresses, &c. &c. Many of the articles bore appropriate mottoes, and, as a mark of the enthusiasm in favour of the good cause, we may mention that there were several pieces of fancy work, knitted for the occasion by a lady upwards of seventy years of age. Altogether, the exhibition was highly creditable to the taste, industry, and enterprise of the ladies' committee. The articles are to be sent to London this afternoon, and we believe that the two steam companies have in the most handsome manner agreed to share them together, and convey them free of charge; and that they have also offered a free passage to the ladies deputed to superintend the arrangement and sale of the articles in London.—*Scotsman*.

#### HAWICK.

Active steps are being taken to assist, in a manner creditable to this important manufacturing town, in rendering the National Bazaar worthy of its object; and all who are inclined to forward it will now have an opportunity of doing so, as we observe, from notices at the windows of many of our respectable shops, that articles are taken in for this grand national undertaking.—*Kelso Chronicle*.

#### DUNFERMLINE.

Some splendid samples of damask have been sent to the forthcoming Bazaar from the town of Dunfermline.—*Scots Reformers' Gazette*.

#### DUNDEE.

We have paid several visits to the collection of articles from Dundee and neighbouring towns, preparing to be forwarded to the great League Fancy Fair in London. The list is not yet completed, and we therefore do not make mention of individual contributions. We are glad to find the variety much greater than from the nature of the trades in this district could have originally been anticipated. Valuable paintings and engravings, models, carved wood-work, ladies' work, valuable coins, &c., form part of the ornaments of the Dundee stall. Lists of all degrees of fineness, from shirting to sack-cloth, and canvas, from the best sulcloth to the coarsest, will impose its groundwork. These will amply represent the industry of the district as far as it is concerned in such an occasion. Avoiding the drawing of comparisons, we would, amongst the towns well known to the public, put Arbroath as having done its duty. The articles from Laurencekirk do credit to the skill of the weavers, both as to number and beauty.—*Dundee Advertiser*.

### THE LEAGUE AND THE COVENT-GARDEN BAZAAR.

(From the *Morning Chronicle*.)

A LETTER TO FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY.  
FRIENDS OF FREE TRADE.—I have paid an early visit to the great League Bazaar, now forming at Covent-garden, since my arrival here, and I am so full of amazement that I cannot help writing some account of it. But I must come and see it; those who can come, and do not leave you to judge.  
My inclination is, first, to give you a description of the Bazaar as done by the League in London and Manchester; but the funds to be derived from the Bazaar are so small, and so far more than fill a long letter.  
At No. 67, in Fleet-street, there is the League-office, where the paper is published, some twenty thousand copies of each number being folded there, directed

each to a separate address, and conveyed to the Post-office.

In another department here the business of registration is carried on. Amongst every parliamentary constituency in the kingdom some agents of the League are perseveringly though not selfishly at work enlarging the franchise. The central office in this department of business is in Manchester, as are also the head-quarters of the Council of the League. But at Fleet-street, in London, the legal business connected with the registration of electors is transacted. The applications for legal advice as to what might be a qualification to vote, and what is not, are very numerous from all parts. A lawyer of talent and experience is constantly there to give, and by the assistance of clerks to send, advice to every place from whence it is sought. "The battle of Free Trade and national well-being must be fought in the registration courts," to quote Sir Robert Peel with a slight variation; and the League will send forces into every registration court in the kingdom. They have already done so with much success; and they will do so again with far greater success.

Next, there is the money subscription department. Most of the subscriptions come to London. But all the cash is remitted to Manchester, to be banked by the treasurer there, W. Rawson, Esq., from whom it is again drawn when wanted, as the Council at Manchester may, by a vote, think fit to direct. No money is paid but by a vote of the Council; and as all accounts are first examined by the finance committee, this alone engages the gentlemen at Manchester a good deal. And it must be borne in mind, that all of them there are persons carrying on extensive concerns of their own. They attend the Manchester and Liverpool Exchanges, and some of them transact business in a day to the extent of £20,000. And then they will go to the League offices in Manchester, and investigate accounts of twenty shillings, or of twenty pence, if such come before them, and order payment only by one moving, by another seconding, and by the chairman putting it to the Council if the motion shall pass. Such is the scrupulous care with which they conduct the pecuniary part of the business intrusted to them by the subscribers to the League fund.

It therefore requires much writing and careful book-keeping, both in Manchester and in London, to preserve complete order in all the money transactions. And the business is vastly complicated by the great variety of the subscriptions; each subscriber having a certain number of League papers sent, according to the time of paying, and the amount of money paid.

The reading of the letters alone, upwards of a hundred, received each day, and the answering of many of them, also the entering of all that refers to money, or other particular business, into books, take up much time.

But I am taking too much time on my way to the Bazaar. Let me proceed thither at once; and, in imagination, take you with me.

We are at the grand portico in Bow-street, on the east side of the theatre. Here is the only entrance to be open to the public. From this door on the east side to the Queen's door on the south side, which last is to be the only way of public exit, the visitor to the Bazaar will have to travel more than three quarters of a mile, and all within the house. A few turns taken in the saloons, which are the only places where the visitors will have it in their power to walk to and fro, the mile will be completed.

Now, my friends, I shall from this, the grand entrance, up the grand staircase, conduct you through the house until you descend by the Queen's staircase, and so out into Prince's-place. But it may be as well to halt here for a few minutes.

There will be an awning erected outside to protect visitors from rain, when it becomes necessary to prevent too many from crowding into the house at once. Between this and the door in Prince's-place there will be room for a meandering stream of 3000 people, without inconvenience, not reckoning the ladies attending on the stalls, who will be in sufficient number to be relieved every two hours, or oftener if desirable; nor reckoning the stewards, of whom there will be several hundreds; nor the committee, members of the Council, and numerous servants of the League and of the theatre. There will be admission from twelve o'clock until eight in the evening, each person occupying from two to two hours and a half in making the circuit of the house. Thus there will be about ten thousand visitors, upon an average, each day. The price of admission will be 10s. 6d. each person on the 8th of May, the day of opening; 5s. on the 9th and 10th, 2s. 6d. on the 12th, and 1s. on each succeeding day for the space of, probably, two weeks.

Great as the numbers thus anticipated are, it is confidently expected that it will be necessary to stay, from time to time, "The house is full; we must not crowd it to inconvenience, you must stay for a short while under this awning until some go out."

Now, supposing us there, and still obliged to linger, let me give a description of that part of the house which we shall not see when we are within those gigantic walls that we now stand outside of.

In no part, save on the north side, does the great hall constructed for the Bazaar, large as it is, one hundred and fifty feet long by one hundred feet wide, extend to the walls of the house. Within these walls, on the east and west side, are suites of rooms, of which the League occupies about forty. Others are reserved to contain the property of the theatre. Near the north end is the ponderous, wood-ron, prodigious amount of machinery, scenery, ropes, blocks, and general tackling used in dramatic business. A landsman who sees the full-staged ship for the first time is not more amazed, and at a greater loss to understand how each rope and block, and yard, and sail, is to be handled and made to do its work, than is the untheatrical stranger who looks upon the intricate, high up and low down, of ropes, blocks, pulleys, wheels, rollers, and unnameable contrivances which occupy so large a space in this house.

Then we have passages, lobbies, and staircases, of every degree: the "grand," the noble, and royal, in positions of elegance and ease; and the lowly, the hard-working, and the mean conditioned, shrinking into darkness, and retiring far from the regions of splendour to perform their offices of usefulness.

On the lowest of the five floors, lower than daylight ever penetrates, save when stealthy gnomes, fugitives from Bow-street, come down to hide and lose themselves in darkness, are the apartments for dressing the stage soldiers, mobs, and chorus singers; and in their apartments the League stows away its lumber, packing-boxes, and such like.

Above these, on the level of Bow-street, is a range of rooms somewhat superior, but devoted to similar uses. Over these, on a level with the stage, and one story above the level of Bow-street, are the superior rooms occupied in the management of the theatre.

And going along the passage we would see on the door of a large apartment the words "Captain Rafter," and on inquiry you soon ascertain that the gallant captain has the surveillance of the decorations for the Bazaar.

Next to that is a smaller room, and the name posted on the door informs us that it is the apartment appropriated to the use of Mr. Wilson. The duties and labours of the "Chairman of the Council" are too generally known to need specification here.

On the next door appears the name of "Mr. Saul." Here it would seem that letters are received and answered, and hence general directions on Bazaar business are issued.

Further on we see the "offices," where a staff of busy clerks are deeply engaged amongst piles of papers and books.

Over these rooms is another range, which are usually occupied, if I mistake not, by the higher class of gentlemen performers as dressing rooms. These will be occupied by gentlemen connected with the League during the Bazaar.

Above these are apartments filled with some of the lumber of theatrical property; and adjoining is a large supply of water to wash the stage niggers, Ethiopians, and red-faced men white; also, I presume, to be ready in case of danger from fire.

On the opposite side of the house, the west side, there are similar ranges of rooms, in which the ladies of the theatre, from the humblest to the highest, array themselves. Here, also, is the wardrobe of the house. The rooms not retained for theatrical property on this side will be allotted to the ladies who attend the stalls, for refreshments, for dressing, for depositing cloaks and bonnets, and for chatting with one another when not on duty at the stalls. There are upwards of twenty such rooms on this side.

Let us get back to the grand entrance. Being strangers, we shall have much difficulty to do so among so many intricacies. But the numerous mechanics and artists employed upon the decoration of the theatre may, one or other of them, show us the way; or some of those porters or messengers of the League may do so. Or stay, let us speak to Mr. Sloman; that is him with the white straw hat, giving orders to the men: he is the machinist of the theatre. All the decorations for the Bazaar have been done under his immediate superintendence. He has been twenty years in the house, and ought to know it all; and while talking with him we may have an opportunity of being introduced to Mr. Grieve, the eminent scenic artist of this and other theatres, from whose designs Mr. Edwards, of Manchester, has been erecting the gorgeous Norman-Gothic hall for the Bazaar, and to take our course with the visitors round the house from the grand entrance in Bow-street.

Following the stream, we turn to our left, faces southward, up the grand staircase, and enter the Shakspeare Saloon. Here we see articles displayed which are not for sale, unless, indeed, it be those most exquisite curiosities in glass which are being made here. In this saloon, or in the next, we may see the spinning of glass thread to be woven into the richest and softest fabrics; or we may look upon that box from Darleston, in Staffordshire, and wonder and admire.

Simple-looking as that box is, only three feet long, by half that width, and four or five inches deep, we may see in it the raw and the wrought elements which more than any other enable England to be what England is, namely, iron and coal. We see the strata of the earth delineated on a map, showing where the miners go into the bowels of the earth, and where they find one kind of ore, and where another. We see the various shapes and natures which the ore takes upon itself under the hands of man, until it arrives at the perfection of the manufactures peculiar to Darleston—stirrups, bits, spurs, pistol barrels, and locks; all of them rich in workmanship and excellent in exterior polish. And here, and in other saloons, we see the iron ore and the coal once more, which lay for countless ages near neighbours to each other; and which, when brought to the light of day and the mouths of the deep pits, had no affinity. Yet the daring hands of man united them, and their products allied themselves with the skill and industry and genius of Sheffield, and received shapes there which they proudly carry into all corners of the world where they are allowed to go, telling of the place of their nativity. And because they are not allowed to go whithersoever they would, they come here to plead for Sheffield and the men that made them. Look upon them! They are mute, yet are they not eloquent? And again, look upon the men which the iron ore, and its ancient neighbour the block of coal, have been put to by human hands, and by British human hands, to perform prodigies, which even wizards in wildest dreams dared hardly claim for magic. There stands before us the steam-engine, which moves the largest ships on starboard oceans, defiant of all tides and winds; and which, though it be little past the hour of noon, brought these thousands of people, now crowding the streets of London and this great house of Covent-garden, from York and Leeds, and all the towns of the West Riding; and from Liverpool and all Lancashire; and from all the great towns of equal distance in England, the distance of from two to three hundred miles, and that since the sun rose this morning.

And is not that engine, though motionless and mute, a pleader for the men that made it, and for the hands, numbed only by hundreds of thousands, whom directly and indirectly it gives industrious scope to; and for those whom it helps to cover with clothes, numbered only by millions, does it not plead for them? It is here to plead for mankind, for leave to give more happiness, more wealth, more food, more clothing, and less hard labour to all the world.

But let us pass on. We turn to the right on leaving the Shakspeare saloon, and passing into the lobby of the dress circle, we go to the left, and reaching the back of the centre of the circle, we turn to the right to go into the circle itself. The two centre boxes have been removed, and through one of them is the passage into, and through the other is the passage out of, the grand hall. Before descending the steps to its floor we stop to gaze.

There it is—look upon it—look and be amazed—look, and try to hide your astonishment, you cannot. You turn your eyes to the roof and see the gorgeous pencilling of florid gothic illuminated from above, not to dazzle you with



brightness, but to subdue your senses with the poetry of light, form, and colour, each grand and all harmonious.

Your eye wanders among the golden decorations, rich yet chaste, variegated yet simple, led on and on by these rows of gothic columns until it stops where they stop, and gazes upon the far-off splendour of the magnificent window and the recess below it, where real men and real women are eating and drinking in a scene which has hitherto belonged to dreams and the "Arabian Nights."

Below us we see the winding streams of people going down and coming up, by the long rows of stalls, and crossing behind the columns, yet never coming in contact, and we must descend the steps and mingle with them. The whole of the counters for the display of goods are nine hundred feet in length. They are variously divided, but all are of the uniform breadth of three feet. Four complete lines of them run the whole length of the house, the ladies serving the two centre lines standing back to back; and the streams of visitors going slowly down and coming up, each, in the passage ten feet wide, have a line of stalls on each hand.

Had those products of industry, which we see around us in such endless variety, been collected here as specimens of every kind of British skill, and for no other purpose, they would have simply served that purpose, and they will serve it. But that purpose is secondary. The question was asked of the British nation, "Are you in favour of Free Trade?" As many as are so are desired to send to London witnesses of their opinions and of their reasons—their industrial reasons—for asking for Free Trade. This was the question put to the nation; and behold the answer! Every conceivable variety of British industry has sent its representative here; not even excepting agriculture, which is rubbing its eyes, and sitting up in its place of sleep, asking what all this is about; and why, while it has slept, it has been fettered down?

Here is wheat, too, from Australia, claiming to be admitted into England; and but for the perishable nature, and the bulk of many articles of English farm produce, there would have been more of them here.

One thing peculiar to this Bazaar is, that the goods have been made for it. In other bazars it is common to collect goods from shopkeepers at a price, the goods to be returned if not sold, and the profits of the Bazaar to consist of the donations of purchasers; a sovereign being tendered for an article worth only half-a-crown, and no change given or expected.

Not so here: the articles were brought hither for sale; and their real selling value is asked for them, and nothing more, so far as that can be ascertained.

Of the many splendid shawls we see, there is one from Scotland, made for this Bazaar, first of its pattern, the loom for which was prepared at an expense of one thousand pounds. The laces of Nottingham, and the hosiery of Leicester and Derby, are they not beautiful? and rich as well as beautiful?

Birmingham! What wonders are worked there! Here is a bed which a traveller may carry with him in his pocket! he may spread it out whenever he pleases, and sleep softly and pleasantly on it; and, when he wakes, he may return it to his pocket, and go on his journey!

Laurencekirk having exhausted invention in snuff-boxes, has bound the bible in wood, and it is here.

There are ships, representatives of the seaports; and many are the specimens of the products of foreign shores, representatives of the ships.

The printers of calicoes in Lancashire have not only sent specimens of their goods, but have gone to great expense in producing new designs for this Bazaar.

But each visitor must look, and admire, and wonder for himself. We must pass on. And, having made this circuit of the grand hall, we return to the second of the centre boxes of the dress circle, through which we pass out, having entered by the first.

From hence we proceed to the grand saloon, where new wonders await us. Here, it may be, we shall see some of those things already noticed; but here we shall see what has not met us elsewhere. On the tables before us are specimens of the cotton manufacture in all its stages, and they are of great number and variety, from the berry of the plant to the finished muslin. So also of the flax manufacture, from the flax itself up to linen and lawn and cambric. So of the silk manufacture, from the silkworm to the regal satin. So also the paper manufacture, from the old rags to the elegant volume and the printed newspaper.

And here I may remark, there will be a *Bazaar Gazette* printed in the house each morning, containing the history of the previous day's business.

But the most wonderful of the processes of sciences exhibited here, are the stages by which chemistry travels in carrying our manufactures to perfection. The magic of the wizard was a valueless shadow. Not so the magic of the chemist. There is an old horn or hoof; here is the robe that may adorn a queen, confessing that its richest colour came from that old hoof or horn. The chemist did it; and you may see the process through which it is done.

It was but in the reign of George III. that nearly all our linens were sent to Holland to be bleached, and they were kept there half-a-year. They are now bleached at home. Both at home and in Holland the bleaching was slowly accomplished by steeping the cloth in alkaline lees, and by laying it out to dry upon grass, this being continued for six or eight months. But chemistry, with a new light, came in, and does the work in a space of time which it neither numbers by months, weeks, nor days, but by hours. We shall see the forms which this science, no longer a mystery, takes upon itself in the saloon.

And many things more shall we see here, not even hinted at; but for the present we must proceed onward.

Ascending these stairs we reach the upper boxes, and may sit there and look down upon the hall. And, when satiated, we go to the upper saloon. And here persons from all parts of the kingdom, and a few from other kingdoms and from America, meet and talk together, and become acquainted. They may linger here as long as they choose, and talk of the improved prospects of Free Trade, its certainty of being soon consummated in this country, and its desirableness for all nations.

The new ornaments on the walls in this saloon cannot fail to attract notice. The ornamental paper is elegant; but the aphorisms printed on it are more than elegant—they are instructive. Authors, philosophers, and philanthropists of the highest eminence, are here quoted from, not excepting Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham, both of whom have spoken in favour of Free Trade; and the latter of whom has written and printed

and published that its principles are the principles of common sense.

From this saloon we proceed towards the Queen's staircase and descend by it, and going out into Prince's-place, take leave of the Bazaar—unless, as not unlikely, some of us proceed into Bow-street, and go round the magnificent exhibition once more.

Now, who is it that can and will not come to London to see this sight, which was never equalled in the world before? The railroads are carrying their thousands and tens of thousands at reduced fares; and will the friends of freedom to trade and emancipation to agriculture not come? Will the admirer of his country and all its greatness be content to stay away from this most national exhibition?

I leave each to answer into whose hands this may come, and am for the present,

REUBEN.

#### EXETER FREE-TRADE DEMONSTRATION.

Public meetings of the Free-Trade Association, attended by a deputation from the Council of the League, consisting of Major-General Briggs, Colonel T. Peyronet Thompson, and Robert R. Moore, Esq., were held at the Royal Subscription rooms, on the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday, the 23rd and 24th of April. The room, which will hold from two to three thousand persons, was on both evenings crowded to excess. The orchestra, with sitting space for from two to three hundred, was reserved for ladies; every seat was occupied; many stood during the whole of the time, and numbers went away unable to procure admission. Amongst others on the platform we observed J. C. Sercombe, Esq., S. Maunder, Esq., S. Haydon, Esq., Edward Davey, Esq., H. Drville, Esq., G. Sercombe, Esq., Rev. N. Hellings, J. D. Osborne, Esq., R. Holwell, Esq., and several members of the committee of the Exeter Free-Trade Association. The deputation were welcomed with the utmost enthusiasm. Samuel Maunder, Esq., chairman of the association, presided at both meetings. On Wednesday evening he stated that, without its having been arranged, it happened to be the anniversary of the election, when General Briggs, at their earnest public invitation, had come forward as a candidate for the representation of the city on Free-Trade principles. The spirit roused then had not slept nor died out; the facts and arguments advanced then had not been forgotten. The committee formed then had continued to work ever since; the register had been attended to and improved; and the enthusiastic reception of the deputation that evening by this meeting, if possible, more crowded than any former one, was proof that public opinion, without the excitement of an election, continued its earnest condemnation of the Corn Law, and he had no doubt that opinion would grow, and exertion be persevered in and increased, until the city was represented by two Free Traders.

In the course of the evening a piece of plate would be presented to Mr. Moore; it had been subscribed for shortly after the election, as a token of respect for his exertions on that occasion.

After the report had been read by Mr. Richards, the Chairman introduced to the meeting General Briggs, who was received with several rounds of cheers. He gave a brief outline of the formation, rise, and progress of the League; of their strict adherence to the one great object of Free

Trade, and the confidence that their persevering consistency had won them from the country. This confidence ensured them funds for the continuance of the agitation. All were resolved to work on to the end, no matter how distant it might be, but, judging from the position of the Free-Traders and monopolists, in Parliament and out of Parliament, the end seemed near. He hoped Exeter would have its share in the triumph, by sending two Free-Traders to Parliament to represent the city; their industrial interests must prosper by freedom of trade, not by mere party contests.

Col. Thompson next addressed the assembly. He was in his happiest mood. His illustrations were full of wit and power, every word told, and his ridicule of the fears and attempted arguments of the monopolist parliamentary gentry in the late sugar, grease, lard, and tinned butter debates kept the audience laughing and cheering incessantly.

J. C. Sercombe, Esq., then rose, and in a short address, highly complimentary to Mr. Moore, presented him with an elegant silver tankard, weighing 33 ounces, and which had been subscribed for by between two and three hundred citizens of Exeter. It bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Robert R. Moore, Esq., by the admirers of his eloquent advocacy of Free Trade, in the contested election for the city of Exeter, April, 1841."

Mr. Moore, in returning thanks, said he valued their so kindly offered and handsome present not merely as a gift to himself, but as a proof of their earnest devotion to the Free-Trade cause, and of their esteem for all the workers in that cause, many of the most self-sacrificing and zealous of whom were never heard of in public. He spoke of the personal exertions of members of the Council, of the great mass of daily business to be attended to—of the magnitude of the operations of the League—of the organization for registration in boroughs and counties—and of the untimely and friendly good feeling with which, differing on many other subjects, they laboured together in the common cause of liberty to industry. He then commented upon the report of the South Devon Protection Society, and the speeches made at the meeting of that association in Exeter on the preceding Friday; and concluded with an account of the spirit with which ladies were preparing contributions for the Bazaar, and manufacturers exerting themselves to make the exhibition worthy of the national industry and skill.

On Thursday General Briggs again first addressed the meeting. He said farmers seemed to him to have been caught by the Corn Laws as they catch monkeys in India. They climb a cocoa-nut tree, make a hole in the nut large enough to let in a monkey's hand, fill the nut with sugar, up comes the monkey, very fond of sugar, smells it, thrusts in his hand, grasps the prize and tugs away; but the shut hand cannot be drawn out, and there the monkey holds and hurls. So have the farmers caught the Corn Laws: it holds them fast prisoners, hurls them over as peris to the landlords, but they won't let go. (The aptness of the application delighted the audience, and the story of the cocoa-nut-caught monkeys will be quoted often in Exeter.)

Col. Thompson accounted for Gen. Briggs and himself being Free-Traders, from their both having seen other na-

tions and other men; from their having lived in other climates, and having observed somewhat of the undeveloped resources of the world, and the unsupplied wants of distant people. They had both ruled over other countries. General Briggs had held civil command over a wide territory and large population in India, and he had been Governor in Sierra Leone. It was impossible to have anything to do with governing, and not to see clearly the perpetual mischief of monopoly.

Mr. Moore spoke of the proofs of progress, and of the facts that established the soundness of Free-Trade reasoning, and showed that all the assertions of monopolists had been answered by the result of the last two or three years.

The Rev. FRANCIS BISHOP moved the cordial thanks of the meeting to the deputation.

Mr. BESLEY would move an addition to Mr. Bishop's resolution. There was a gentleman sitting near him to whom they owed all the gratification they had received—he meant Mr. Edward Davey, of Fordton, who was mainly instrumental in bringing the deputation down. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution passed with acclamation.

Mr. Moore called for three cheers for Mr. Andrews, of Southampton, who had found employment for Charles Snowden, who, for voting conscientiously, had been most unconscientiously discharged from his situation. (Mr. Andrews was vehemently cheered.)

Thanks were voted to the chairman; and after several rounds of cheering the meeting separated.

**ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURES.**—Mr. Falvey, from the Anti-Corn-Law League, has been busy in those parts during the last week in promulgating the principles, the truth, the justice, and the equity of freedom of trade and commerce, and in exposing the gross delusion, injustice, oppression, and futility of restriction and monopoly. He held two meetings at the Swan Assembly-rooms, Hastings, one on Tuesday and the other on Friday. The first was attended by about 250 persons, the second was a bumper indeed. Both were most respectfully and, we may add, influentially attended; for many, who, though holding positions in society which render them independent, had not the moral courage to come boldly forward, were yet to be seen within earshot, applauding and admiring the zeal, intelligence, and convincing arguments of the lecturer. The meetings were also unanimous and enthusiastic in the cause, and we hail with pleasure the progress it is making in this district. The seed long sown is springing up to a healthful aspect, and a fine and beautiful harvest will be reaped. Those truths, those unanswerable facts, which are the groundwork on which the superstructure of the League is raised, but which only three years ago the farmers refused to listen to, are now sought after with eagerness. They have been heard, they have been imbibed, and have become firmly rooted in the mind. There is now no longer a violent, noisy, dangerous interruption. The agents of the League, as they are called, are now listened to with attention and respect; and the farmers are beginning to understand that it is their prosperity, and not their ruin, the League and all advocates for Corn-Law repeal seem to promote. Farmers are daily becoming more and more satisfied that they are under the ban of protection and compelled to sell at less than Free-Trade prices. They feel severely the rebate when asked, "What has protection ever done for you?" They begin to understand that protection is to them "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare," and they are just settling down to the conviction that the day is not far distant when the very semblance of protection must cease to exist. As a body they look fearfully and gloomily at the prospect before them; but in the minds of many who begin to understand the question, and who view it through its true medium, there begins to arise a desire to have the coming change. They wish the question settled; they know and feel that there will be no rest until it is obtained, and they wish it over. These are great strides accomplished in a short space of time by a body of men so isolated and so slow to move towards any new conviction; and all this has been achieved. The League have much to congratulate themselves upon as far as this locality is concerned, and Mr. Cobden will ere long cease to blush for the county which gave him birth.—*Brighton Guard.*

—Mr. Falvey lectured at the large room at the George Inn, Bittle, on Thursday evening the 24th ult. There was a large attendance of agriculturists and others, who appeared to take the most lively interest in the question of Free Trade, and marked their approval of Free-Trade doctrines by frequently cheering the statements of the lecturer.

#### PEEL TO HIS STEP-FATHER COBDEN.

(From Punch.)

MY DEAR STEP-FATHER, I write to let you know how I am getting on in the school, which you have sent me to take lessons in. I am making very rapid strides, and they say that I shall soon go as far as you, if I continue the steps I am now pursuing. It is very true that I was in quite a different walk before you adopted me, but I am now at your side, and if you will lend me a hand to drag me on, I dare say I shall keep pace with you—no matter what lengths you may wish to carry me to.

I was formerly thought a very slow boy, but since you have adopted me, I have become so quick that I am here, there, and everywhere in no time. Those who used to be at my side, are quite left behind, and are obliged to follow me, which they do at a very respectful distance, as if they don't half like it. I wish you would not pull me on quite so fast, for you forget that I find it difficult to get on as quickly as you wish with the corn, which you and I have had so much talk about. I have no doubt that in time I shall get quite as far as you can desire, and

I remain, your dutiful step-son,

ROBERT PEEL.

**METROPOLITAN RELIEF SOCIETY.**—At a meeting of the five District Societies of St. Mark's, held at the Court-house on Wednesday, the 31st of April, present, the Rev. G. S. Penfold, D.D., in the chair; the reports from the several districts were read, from which it appeared that, during the past year, 3782 persons had been relieved by their visitations, and that the sums distributed amounted to £1500. 6s. 11½d.

**FOND OF DEBT.**—The American people seem to be exceedingly fond of debt. If they would but pay as they go, they would be happier, more honest, and better off.—*Christian Herald.*

J. C. CALHOUN, ESQ.

The following letter has been received from J. C. Calhoun, Esq., the celebrated American advocate of Free Trade, addressed to George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the Council of the League:—

Fort Hill, March 24, 1845.

"DEAR SIR,—I accept with much pleasure the copy of the first volume of the LEAGUE, which you transmitted to me by the direction of the Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League for my acceptance. I feel greatly honoured by this mark of their respect.

"I regard Free Trade as involving considerations far higher than mere commercial advantages, as great as they are. It is, in my opinion, emphatically the cause of civilization and peace—of wide-spread civilization and durable peace among the nations of the earth. It belongs to England and the United States to take the lead in this great cause; and I hope the day is not distant when they will set the noble example to the rest of Christendom of freeing commerce of any shackle and imposition, excepting such duties as may be laid exclusively for revenue.

"With very great respect, I am, &c. &c.,

"J. C. CALHOUN.

"George Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the Council."

## SWAN RIVER.

(From the *Adelaide Observer* of November 9.)

By the roundabout way of Batavia and Sydney, from King George's Sound direct, we have news from Swan River to the 4th of September.

The Legislative Council had carried a Corn-Law Bill, imposing a tax of 15 per cent. upon the importation of wheat and flour, in direct opposition to the Governor, who declared, while the measure was under discussion, that, "on the imposition of a tax on any provisions he was determined to take his stand, and refuse to give any assent to such a measure." The Council persisting, however, the measure was proceeded with and eventually carried, whereupon "his Excellency instantly rose and most energetically declared that he felt glad it was not his fate to remain much longer in the colony (his six years of service being about to expire); that, by their passing of this ordinance, with the duty on provisions, they had struck a deathblow to the colony. He should advise all his friends of the circumstance, and he felt convinced, when the tidings went abroad that the article of food was taxed 15 per cent., they need not expect any further immigration. He threw the odium of such an act on their own shoulders, and was convinced they would have reason to repent of it before the ensuing year had expired: he would offer no opposition."

The following are the new duties to be imposed:—

On each and every gallon of wine, the produce of any part of the British empire, 6d.

On each and every gallon, the produce of any other place, 1s. 6d.

On each and every pound weight of damaged tobacco, or tobacco to be used solely for the purpose of washing sheep, 3s.

On each and every pound weight of other tobacco, 1s. 6d.

On each and every pound weight of cigars, 5s.

On each and every pound weight of snuff, 5s.

On each and every gallon of ale or beer of every sort, 6d.

On each and every bushel of oats and other grain (including bran), not being food for man, 6d.

On each and every gallon of pickles, including vinegar, and of a sort of fruit, 1s.

On each and every gallon of vinegar, 6d.

On each and every pound weight of salted or cured provisions, 1d.

On each and every pound of butter, 1d.

On all live stock not being direct from the United Kingdom, £10 per cent.

On all goods, wares, and merchandise imported into the colony, and not already or otherwise subject to a specific duty, a duty of £5 per cent.

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quantity of produce, instead of making manure free of cost to grow the large quantity of produce. He prefers to augment the rent he has himself to pay, by the very act which diminishes his power to pay it.

He prefers to make himself his own victim for his own protection! The rat, which, shut up in its hole, eats its tail off for its own sustenance, may be a very unfortunate rat, but it is not foolish. It did not blockade itself and refuse to come out, and prefer from choice to pick the flesh from its own bones.

At a time when so much is said of the labourers, the necessity of finding them profitable employment; of the farmers, the necessity of doing something to make their farms more profitable, we cannot overlook what is in process of performance by some individuals whose minds are too large for prejudice.

Let us at present refer to Whitfield Example Farm, the property of the Right Honourable the Earl of Ducie, redeemed from barrenness, foulness, and unprofitableness, to fertility, neat order, and profit, by Mr. Morton, at an expenditure of £7828. This farm is in the parish of Cromhall, in the county of Gloucester, twelve miles from Bristol, and consists of 232 acres.

It will be remembered that when the Earl of Ducie made his valuable speech at the League meeting at Covent-garden Theatre, last year, in favour of Free Trade, he gave statements of the expense of producing wheat on this farm. And it may be remembered by some that the leaders of the Protection Society immediately after endeavoured to undo his lordship's statements by asserting that the soil upon which the wheat grew was that of the old rich pastures newly broken up. The following description of the farm before it was broken up will show what its native state was. This description of it is also applicable to several millions of acres of grass land, and to much of the corn land throughout England, up to this very month of May, 1845.

I quote from Mr. Morton's first report, made, I believe, in 1838, and published together with his second report as an appendix to a valuable book on the "Nature and Property of Soils."

"1. This farm has been in the occupation of Mr. George Thomas, as a yearly tenant, for the last twenty-one years. It consists of 232 acres; 161 of which are pasture, and 69 arable. The rent is £200 a year; the poor rate £28; the tithe £33; and the road-rate £1; which, including all parochial taxes, amount to £265 per annum.

"2. The buildings on this farm are very limited. A dwelling-house, 45 feet by 35 feet, consists of a kitchen, back kitchen, dairy, and parlour below, with four bedrooms above. A small barn, a stable for four horses; a shed, with four bays sufficient for eight cows; a house for four cows, and a calves' house, form the whole of the buildings on the estate, and these are in a very bad state of repair.

"3. One is struck with the forest-like appearance which the pasture land presents when viewed from the high ground at Abbot's Side. The immense number of oaks and other trees in the hedgerows are so crowded together as to injure the pasture greatly by occupying the surface, preventing the circulation of air, destroying the fences, preventing the drainage, and shading the grass, thus making it unpalatable to stock—savouring it.

"4. Mr. Thomas keeps a pack of twenty-five cows on this farm, and rears seven calves in a year, which he keeps till they have calves; when three years old they fill up the place of seven cows, which, together in some cases with some of the heifers and calves, are sold every year. Thus seven heifers or cows in calf, being sold in the spring of the year, his live stock consists of twenty-five cows, seven heifer calves, seven year-old heifers, and seven two-year-old heifers. These, together with four working horses, a riding horse, and some pigs, are the whole of the live stock which have been kept for the last twenty-one years.

"5. The produce of the 161 acres of pasture land is wholly consumed by the above 50 head of stock. There are generally about 100 acres of it mown, and made into hay, for the maintenance of the stock during the winter and spring; and the remaining 61 are pastured during the spring and summer, until the cattle can be turned into the latter-math. That portion of the grass land which is pastured has been always pastured, and the remainder has been generally made into hay. One would naturally expect from this mode of management a gradual improvement in the land which has always been pastured; but this is not the case, owing to the wetness of the soil, and in consequence of the land being so shaded and covered with trees. The natural result, however, of mowing land every year and carrying off the produce, shows itself in the most evident light. Unless manure is laid abundantly on, such a treatment must necessarily injure any land, and particularly this, which is so wet and spongy. The crops of hay which are produced are sometimes not worth the expense of making, seldom averaging more than half a ton per acre; and then it is composed of anything but grasses of a good quality."

[Here follows a list of the wild plants which grow in the pasture field, from which the hay is in most part made, instead of grass.]

"6. There might be some manure got from the consumption of 100 acres of hay, but it is all carried to the arable land, and nothing but a little earth, taken from the grips (surface or open drains), mixed with a little lime, is put on the grass land.

"7. There never has been any underground and very little surface draining done on this farm. The fences are, therefore, in a bad state; and most of the ditches are full of the roots of the hedgerow trees, brambles, and rubbish. There is a prejudice existing against underground draining. 'Griping' (that is, surface draining) will do good on this land; but underground drains never do good on this land, Sir.' This is a common saying, not only of Mr. Thomas and the workmen, and all those who have any connexion with it, but also of some of the neighbouring tenants, without any reason being given for

it. From Mr. Thomas it may be taken as an apology for his conduct. I think they might have found a good reason in the immense number of trees, the roots of which would soon stop the best and most efficient underground drainage that could be effected.

"8. The mode of managing the arable land is that which is used amongst most of the dairy farmers in the neighbourhood; potatoes and wheat for the family being the chief crops. As, however, there is a much greater proportion of arable land on this farm, than is generally the case with dairy farms in this neighbourhood, Mr. Thomas sometimes has part of the land in barley and clover, and has lately had some of the poorest of it planted with teazles. At present I find fourteen acres in wheat, which may produce twelve bushels per acre; seven acres in barley, which may produce twenty bushels per acre; seven acres in teazles, worth, perhaps, thirty shillings per acre; eight acres in clover, which may produce eighteen cwt. of hay per acre; and twenty-four acres in potatoes, which may produce five tons and a half per acre. Of the potato land, eight acres are dug, and let to the labourers at £7 per acre; and sixteen acres are not dug, which are let to the labourers at £1 per acre; and the remaining acres are for the use of the family. The whole of the arable land is full of couch, thistles, and every other weed which such land is subject to.

"9. There is no fixed system of cropping; nor is there any land fit for executing the work which must be performed. No arrangement is made for the performance of any one act of husbandry; all is left to chance. If the work be done soon after his neighbours', the farmer thinks that all is well. We need not be disappointed, therefore, at the result of such management.

"10. The whole of the potato crop belonging to the labourers is, of course, carried off the land. And the little straw which the wheat crop produces is made into hulk, as it is called, for thatch. Some of this is kept for thatching ricks, and the remainder is sold; the only part, therefore, of the produce of the arable land which is consumed on the farm is the barley straw, the hay from the clover, and the potatoes and wheat which the family consumes. All the rest is taken off the land.

"11. The expenses attending this mode of farming are not very great. The workmen employed are two men, a cowman, and a ploughman, a boy, and two women in the house to manage the dairy. In harvest there are sometimes two mowers, and two men to make the hay. There may thus be four additional men, for ten to twelve weeks, during the hay, corn, and potato harvests. The expenses of the labourers may therefore be stated as follows:—

At this point I intend to resume the subject next week. In the meantime sufficient is stated to show whether this farm had any superior natural advantages for the production of wheat, as was urged by the heads of the Protection Society, in contradiction to the Earl of Ducie's statement last year. I am, &c.,

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

**COST OF WAR-PREPARATIONS.**—Our best preparation for war, is the full development of our resources in times of peace. The annual expenditure of the National Government is twenty-four millions of dollars. Of this amount, seventeen are devoted to the army and navy. This makes a tax of nearly one dollar a head for every man, woman, and child in the United States. The State of Ohio pays—taxed for these expenditures—something like one million five hundred thousand dollars. We do not notice it, because it is stolen away through the indirect operations of a tariff; but it is not the less real—not the less a burden. We think our taxes heavy, and so they are. They press grievously upon our resources; but the whole of them amount to but twenty-three hundred thousand dollars. Just keep your eye on this fact—seventeen millions of dollars paid by the United States, in a time of profound peace, for war preparations! Add to this, fifty dollars for the time of each soldier or marine, if employed in agriculture, or some productive calling, and we shall find ourselves taxed to the tune of eighteen millions of dollars every year, to prepare for war.—*Cincinnati Herald*.

**WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN FRANCE.**—The wages of labourers seem to be lower in France, even in proportion to the low price of provisions, than in England. The General Council of the different departments fix tariffs for regulating the price at which different services shall be convertible into money. By these the prices of a day's work of a labouring man is rated generally at 10d., never higher than 12½d., and sometimes as low as 7½d.; that of a horse or mule, from 10d. to 12½d.; and the hire of a two-wheeled cart, from 10d. to 15d. These low rates of payment render the waste of labour of men and horses, so much reproached by the Scotch to their neighbours, less astonishing in France than in England, where it is sometimes carried to a greater extent. In ploughing, a man usually works three horses in Normandy, and only two men accompany the largest merchant waggons, one driving and the other sometimes asleep in front, or in the hammock below. Frequently, however, one sees strong men employed at such work as a woman, or even a child, might quite as well perform, such as weeding corn with the wooden pincers used for that purpose, or herding a few geese or sheep at the road side.—*Journal of Agriculture*.

**INCENDIARISM.** A short time before one o'clock on Sunday morning a fire, which was without doubt the work of an incendiary, was discovered in a building called the "Sun Barn," at Reepham, belonging to the Clergymen's Widows' Trust, and in the occupation of Messrs. Bireham and Parmeter. A stack of wheat, the produce of about eight acres, which had been carried into it only the day before, was completely destroyed, as well as everything else of a consumable nature, and only the bare walls are left standing. It was not long before suspicion was raised against a young man of bad character, named James Smith, who is generally supposed to have been guilty of firing a stack, the property of the same firm, in November last, but the evidence was not strong enough to convict him. He was taken before the magistrates at the petty sessions the following day, and the case having been gone into, the charge was considered to be sufficiently established to be sent before a jury. He was accordingly committed for trial.—(On Thursday last, a fire broke out in a barn at Thorne, which destroyed the barn and its contents. Although situated in the centre of other buildings, it was subdued without further injury. It was the work of an incendiary.—*Norwich Mercury*.)

## WHITFIELD EXAMPLE FARM: WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH GRASS LAND OF INFERIOR QUALITY?

The farmer who buys guano or any other foreign manure for his land, and debars himself, by his support of the Corn Law, which shuts out foreign food from his cattle and sheep and pigs and horses, from producing a sufficiency of manure at home, stands in this position:—

First. He gives his land stimulants, which stimulants he must continue to administer; stimulants which are less or more expensive of the land by giving it temporary excitement, without securing for it a regular supply of the substantial elements of fertility.

Second. He thus gives the soil a value which is not real. Instead of employing more domestic labour, and those manures which the farm already produces, and should produce in far greater abundance, and which should come to him free of cost, save the labour of preparing and laying them on the land—free of cost, because the feeding of the stock which produced such manures should pay its own expense and afford its own profit; instead of fertilizing his land thus, he pays ready cash for manure. He gives the land an increased value in appearance, and must pay for the appearance in rent. If he does not use guano largely, but complies at rent time, as many have done this year, that the rent is a severe burden and should be shared, the collector tells him he has not used guano as he should have done.

Third. While thus keeping up his own rent against himself by giving the land a false value, he adds to the delusion by giving its produce a false value. He would have pulse and corn for feeding cattle and sheep were it cheap enough; and if he did he would get manures free of cost; but he prefers having the high nominal price, and prefers paying a real rent upon such nominal prices. He prefers buying manure for cash to grow the smaller



Will be ready on Tuesday next, price Sixpence.  
**THE LEAGUE GUIDE TO LONDON**, containing simple directions for all persons visiting the Metropolis to find their way from the various railway stations to all parts of the town; lists of the principal places of amusement and exhibitions; a minute description of the arrangements made for the great Free Trade Bazaar; and coach and cab fares, omnibuses, &c., from the theatre to all parts of the town. A variety of miscellaneous information, connected with the most remarkable places in London, will be interspersed so as to enable visitors to blend amusement with instruction during their stay. An authentic lithographed plan of the Theatre, as laid out for the Bazaar, with references for the guidance of visitors, will be prefixed to the titlepage.  
 To be sold at 67, Fleet-street, London; also by J. Gadsby, Manchester; and at the various Stalls of the Bazaar.

**GAZETTE OF THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.**—Arrangements have been made for the daily publication of a Gazette during the period that the Bazaar remains open; containing descriptions of the most remarkable articles exhibited on the stalls; a record of interesting incidents connected with the proceedings, and such other particulars as are likely to excite the attention of visitors, and of their friends in the country.—To be sold at the respective stalls, and at the Office of the League, 67, Fleet-street, London; also by J. Gadsby, Manchester. Price 1d.—Other hawkers wishing to be supplied, may know the terms by addressing Mr. Whitmore, 67, Fleet-street, London. On receiving two postage stamps, Mr. Whitmore will send a copy of any Number free to any part. There will be 11 or 15 Numbers in all.  
 \*Arrangements will be made for the Gazette to reach Manchester in the afternoon of the days of publication.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, April 30, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Sevine and Lees, Ashton-under-Lyne ..	£23 0 0
A. B., a friend to Free Trade, Saddleworth ..	5 0 0
Halley, Rev. J., Accrington ..	5 0 0
A Friend to Free Trade ..	2 0 0
Travel and Harcroft, Woodbrook, Waterfoot New Church, near Rochdale ..	2 0 0
A Friend, per A. P. Halliday, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Pownall, John, sen., 8, York-st., Hulme, Manchester ..	1 0 0
*Clegg, W., Lane End Mill, Heywood, near Rochdale ..	1 0 0
Knight, Thomas, draper, do. ..	1 0 0
Leigh, Robert, solicitor, do. ..	1 0 0
Ramsbottom, J. and J., Minora Mill, do. ..	1 0 0
Hardy, Uriah, Market-walk, Huddersfield ..	1 0 0
Bradley, Edward, Sandon-street, Liverpool ..	1 0 0
*Winterbottom, John, Dobcross, Saddleworth ..	1 0 0
*Buckley, F. S., Tunstead Upper-mill, do. ..	1 0 0
A Friend, per Mr. Tynn, Stockport ..	1 0 0
Harrison, Joseph, and Co., Mount-street, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hallworth, Joel, Newton-street, Edgeley, do. ..	1 0 0
*Moody, J. J., Poplar-grove, do. ..	1 0 0
Dixon, Henry, Accrington ..	1 0 0
Holt, Robert, do. ..	0 10 0
Willett, M., Chester-road, Hulme, Manchester ..	0 5 0
Bristol.	
*Ashton, Francis, Castle-street ..	1 0 0
*Whitely, John, do. ..	1 0 0
*Davis, James, Victoria place, Stapleton-road ..	1 0 0
*Phillips, William, Alfred-hill ..	1 0 0
*Jones, William, 74, Milk-street ..	1 0 0
*Allcock, W. P., Union-street ..	1 0 0
*Bridges, T. J., Newhall-street ..	1 0 0
*Smith, Brooke, Hill-street ..	1 0 0
*Kempson, T., Fazeley-street Mills ..	1 0 0
Birmingham.	
*Thorne, James, Lancel-street ..	1 0 0
*Kvans, Jos., Legge-street ..	1 0 0
*Walker, T., Oxford-street ..	1 0 0
*Collier, John, 45, Snow-hill ..	1 0 0
*Hickling, T., Banbury-street ..	1 0 0
*Wrigley, H. ..	1 0 0
*Daniel, S. and J., 208, Mosley-street ..	2 0 0
*Jenyon, W., New-street ..	1 0 0
*Barnett and Wright ..	2 0 0
*Maruden, Mr., Balisall-leath ..	1 0 0
*Pritchard, J., Caroline-street ..	1 0 0
Hartlepool.	
*Taylor, Henry, South-terrace ..	1 0 0
*Lawrence, John, do. ..	1 0 0
*Richardson, James, do. ..	1 0 0
*Hodgson, William, do. ..	1 0 0
Bliton.	
*Oerton, Wm., wine merchant, Church-street ..	1 0 0
*Taylor, Montague, spirit merchant ..	5 0 0
*Barlow, J. C. ..	4 4 0
*Bew, Robert ..	2 0 0
*Bew, Mrs. ..	2 0 0
*Shaw, Joseph, Japanner ..	1 1 0
*A Pastor ..	1 0 0
Frome.	
*Frotman, Samuel, Vallis-way ..	1 0 0
*Bailey, Richard, Lamb Inn ..	1 0 0
*An Enemy to Monopoly ..	1 0 0
Lanark.	
*Simpson, James, St. Leonard's-street ..	1 0 0
*Steven, George, baker, High-street ..	1 0 0
*Hamilton, John, merchant, Wellgate ..	1 0 0
The Workmen of Messrs. Thomas, Frapp, & Thomas, Broad Plain Soap Works, Bristol, per George Rouch ..	3 5 6
*Benthon, Battle John, Auchtermuchty, N.B. ..	2 0 0
*Hayman, R. M., Pembroke-place, Clifton, Bristol ..	1 1 0
*Richardson, W., Shepton Mallett ..	1 1 0
*Harrison, R. and J., 48, Hunslet-lane, Leeds ..	1 1 0
*Pinnock, Robert, New-st., Isle of Wight ..	1 1 0
*Robertson, William, Pembroke Dock, South Shields ..	1 1 0
*Shore, John, Lewisham ..	1 1 0
*Powell, John, Peckham-lane, Deptford ..	1 1 0
*Bennett, George W., Tranquil-vale, Blackheath ..	1 1 0
*Espe, Robert, Sydenham ..	1 1 0
*Martin, J., R. N., 1, Hamilton-terrace, Greenwich ..	1 1 0
*Cocher, Brothers, Portsmouth ..	1 1 0
*Fisher, Thomas, 8, Wilton-crescent ..	1 1 0
*Greaves, William, Caledonian-wharf, Battle-bridge-basin ..	1 1 0
*Milledge, Richard Oakley, Radpole, Weymouth ..	1 1 0
*Alchne, P. B., Primrose-cottage, Loughton, Essex, per W. Whitaker ..	1 1 0
*Giddy, John, 6, Gloucester-street, Hackney-road ..	1 1 0
*Ogden, W. B., Newcote-upon-Tyne ..	1 1 0
*Pearson, George D., Holbeck Mill, Leeds ..	1 1 0
*Kemp, William, do. ..	1 1 0
*Thompson, David, Lindley, near Huddersfield ..	1 0 0
*Messinger, George, Uxbridge ..	1 0 0
*A Friend, Wolverhampton ..	1 0 0
*Whithead, Thomas, 1, Fairford-place, Bristol-road, Birmingham ..	1 0 0
*Spencer, J. R., Oak-hill, near Bath ..	1 0 0
*Horton, John, Prior's Lee-hall, near Shiffnal ..	1 0 0
*Horton, Samuel, Prior's Lee, near do. ..	1 0 0
*Fish, William, brewer, Earl-street, Maidstone ..	1 0 0
*Wallis, Thomas, 4, Prince's-street, Finsbury ..	1 0 0
*Cove, Henry, Tottenham ..	1 0 0
*Laffite, F. A., 29, 12, rue Montholon, Paris ..	1 0 0
*Harbert, Charles, 20, Clifton-street, Marylebone ..	1 0 0
*Boys, Capt., 8, Valentine-terrace, Blackheath-road ..	1 0 0
*Angus, Jonathan W., Hayes, near Bromley, Kent ..	1 0 0
*Lambert, E. P., Broadway, Deptford ..	1 0 0
*Feed, Lieut.-Col., Ravensbourne-terrace, Lewisham ..	1 0 0
*Scott, Robert, Leighton Buzzard ..	1 0 0
*Fearley, R., High North-terrace, Darlington ..	1 0 0

*Henderson, George, Huntlaw Colliery, Tranent ..	£1 0 0
*Dennis, William, 17, Little Pultney-street ..	1 0 0
*Dennis, Charles, 10, George-court, Piccadilly ..	1 0 0
*Nowell, W. H., 7, Brick-lane, Whitechapel ..	1 0 0
*Newby, Saml., 166, Lower Camden-st., Birmingham ..	0 15 0
R. P. H. ..	0 10 0
*Whitehead, James, Tunstead, Saddleworth ..	0 10 0
Hutchinson, Mr., grocer, Long-row, South Shields ..	0 10 0
An Association of Operatives at the George IV., Bag-nidge-wells-road, Clerkenwell (7th subscription) ..	0 6 0
Weeks, Henry, 14, North-street, Poplar ..	0 2 6
Glasgow.	
*The Female Workers of Clyde Bank Print Works ..	1 0 0
*The Workmen of Clyde Bank Print Works ..	1 0 0
*Steele, James, 158, Cowcaddens-street ..	1 1 0
*Kennedburgh, Jas., manufacturer, Kirkintulloch ..	1 1 0
*Hendry, John, 74, Glasford-street ..	1 1 0
*Clarke, R., Ardyne-park, Toward, by Greenock ..	1 1 0

\*Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE Bazaar.

A purse from a few Ladies at Cleckheaton, near Leeds ..	£16 0 0
Whitmore, John, and Co., Leicester ..	10 0 0
Ellis, John, and Co., do. ..	10 0 0
Paton, James M., Montrose ..	10 0 0
Kenrick, Samuel S., Greenfield-lodge, Holywell ..	10 0 0
Morgan, Mrs. Susanna, Parkfield-cottage, near Stone, Staffordshire ..	5 0 0
Wilkinson, Norman, 15, Regent-street ..	5 0 0
Horton, John, Prior's Lee-hall, near Shiffnal ..	5 0 0
Thompson, Mr., Alderman, Hull ..	5 0 0
Warner, Robert, 8, Crescent, Jewin-street ..	5 0 0
Cooper, Mrs. Daniel, Denmark-hill, Surrey ..	5 0 0
Horton, Samuel, Prior's Lee, near Shiffnal ..	3 0 0
Balance from the Hortham Anti-Corn-Law Committee, after expending £26. 12s. in the purchase of articles contributed to the Bazaar ..	1 9 0
Espe, Mrs., Sydenham ..	1 1 0
Proceeds of collections obtained personally amongst her young friends, by Miss Sophia C. Southall, Stoke Newington-common ..	1 1 0
Newton, Mrs., Brewer-street, Golden-square ..	1 1 0
Laycock, the Rev. Joshua, Harewood, near Leeds ..	1 0 0
Pleden, E., Fordingbridge ..	1 0 0
S. and W., per W. Lyon ..	1 0 0
Young, Colonel J. ..	1 0 0
Whitely, James, 10, James-street, St. George's-in-the-East ..	1 0 0
Taylor, John, Preston-brook ..	1 0 0
A few Handloom Weavers of Langholm, per J. Collins ..	0 12 0
Jones, C., Snodhill, near Shiffnal ..	0 10 0
Revely, T., Gateshead ..	0 10 0
Marillier, F. W., Liverpool ..	0 10 0
Marillier, Robt. Aspland, Old Ford ..	0 5 0
Marillier, Jas. Constantine, do. ..	0 5 0
Marillier, Anna, Leicester ..	0 2 6
Marillier, Philip Sydney, do. ..	0 2 6
A Fleetwood Free-Trade ..	0 5 0
Macdonald, Wm., Montquhine House, Cupar, Fife ..	0 4 0
A Wellwisher to the Free-Trade Cause, Redbridge ..	0 2 6
Myatt, Mr. ..	1 1 0
Hawke, Mr. ..	1 1 0
Sheppard, S. ..	1 0 0
Sheppard, H. ..	0 10 0
Peppercorn, J. ..	0 10 0
Wade, J. ..	0 10 0
Crossley, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Bryan, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Parker, W. ..	0 10 0
Brown, J. ..	0 10 0
Bowditch, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Hoar, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Peppercorn, G. ..	0 10 0
Howse, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Porvis, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Barton, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Clarke, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Knott, S. ..	0 5 0
Young, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Kersey, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Wolverton, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Street, Mr. ..	0 2 6
A Friend ..	0 2 6
A Second Friend ..	0 4 0
Nicholls, Mrs. ..	1 0 0
Stephens, Mrs. ..	0 10 0
Haycraft, Mrs., and assistants ..	0 10 0
Hounsell, Mrs. ..	0 10 0
Colfox, Miss ..	0 7 0
Colfox, Mrs. ..	0 6 0
Macellan, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Wilmshurst, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Stephens, Mrs. J. P. ..	0 5 0
Ewens, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Prince, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Lee, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Turner, Mrs. ..	0 5 0
Bennett, Mrs. John ..	0 2 6
Rendall, Mrs. ..	0 2 6
Murley, Miss ..	0 2 6
Jefford, Mrs. ..	0 2 6
Rooker, Miss ..	0 2 6
Swatfield, Mrs. ..	0 2 0
Stonbridge, Mrs. ..	0 2 0
Sutcliffe, Mrs. ..	0 2 0
Smaller sums ..	0 11 6
French, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Kvans, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Donahis, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Harbord, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Meyer, Mr. ..	0 5 0
Roffway, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Melvin, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Luke, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Cox, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Brownlow, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Conat, Mr. ..	0 2 6
Coombe, Mr. ..	0 2 6
A Friend ..	0 1 6
Schreder, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Walsh, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Hesp, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Burton, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Dixon, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Gresham, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Bryan, Mr. ..	0 1 0
Green, Charles ..	0 10 0
Perkin, Mr. ..	0 10 0
Lealle, Mr., Auderton ..	0 5 0
Marshall, Rev. John, Over, near Long, Miss ..	0 2 6
Carries, Mrs. ..	0 2 6
Stater, Mrs., Davenham, near Fryer, Mrs. ..	0 2 6
Dale, Mrs. ..	0 2 6
Jones, Mrs., Over, near Slater, Mr., Davenham, near Brady, Mr., Over, near ..	0 1 0
Green, Charles ..	0 1 0

A Free-Trade ..	£20 10 0
Wyles, Richard ..	0 10 0
Hills, W. sen. ..	0 5 0
A Wellwisher ..	0 5 0
Watson, E. ..	0 5 0
A Friend ..	0 5 0
Waterman, James ..	0 5 0
One of the People ..	0 5 0
Barrow, J. ..	0 5 0
Boulden, H. ..	0 5 0
A Friend to the Bazaar ..	0 5 0
A Friend to Free Trade ..	0 5 0
A Man of all Work ..	0 5 0
Pot's-corner ..	0 5 0
Bennett, William ..	0 5 0
Pennage, George ..	0 5 0
Saxby, W. ..	0 5 0
Would do more if he could ..	0 5 0
Small sums ..	0 1 0
Farnley, J. D., Greek-street ..	5 0 0
Robinson, J., Hall-street ..	5 0 0
Ratcliff, Robt. ..	0 5 0
Johnson, J. G. ..	0 10 0
Jolly, John ..	0 10 0
Bromley, James ..	0 10 0
Norris, James ..	0 10 0
Gamble, Joseph ..	0 10 0
Manchester, John ..	0 10 0
Deighton, Henry ..	0 10 0
Heys, James ..	0 10 0
Wood, Richard ..	0 5 0
Heywood, James ..	0 5 0
Hyde, Ralph ..	0 5 0
Cochrane, John ..	0 5 0
Wood, George ..	0 5 0
Barlow, John J. ..	0 5 0
Nightingale, John ..	0 5 0
Totty, Richard ..	0 5 0
Swanwick, E. H. ..	0 5 0
Hurst, John ..	0 5 0
Ross, Alexander ..	0 5 0
Fogg, Thomas ..	0 5 0
Taylor, Dennis ..	0 5 0
Partington, Mark ..	0 5 0
Bates, Charles ..	0 5 0
Bardesley, William ..	0 5 0
Thornley, John ..	0 5 0
Waters, Robert ..	0 5 0
Hyde, Joseph ..	0 5 0
Watson, Charles ..	0 5 0
Nightingale, Thomas ..	0 5 0
Gorton, William ..	0 2 6
Nightingale, Peter ..	0 2 6
Waburton, Richard ..	0 2 6
Broadhurst, Thomas ..	0 2 6
Shelmerdine, James ..	0 2 6
Hull Thomas ..	0 2 6
Orton, Samuel ..	0 2 6
Allinson, James ..	0 2 6
Allinson, John ..	0 2 6
Bromley, John ..	0 2 6
Ridgway, Wm. ..	0 2 6
Hurst, Adam ..	0 2 6
Hurst, John ..	0 2 6
Green, John ..	0 2 6
Bardesley, George ..	0 2 6
Openshaw, John ..	0 2 6
Bradshaw, Roger ..	0 2 6
Isherwood, John ..	0 2 6
Gorton, John ..	0 2 6
Parkinson, Jeremiah ..	0 2 6
Parkinson, Thos. ..	0 2 6
Waring, Josiah ..	0 2 6
Henries, Samuel ..	0 2 6
Smith, Joseph ..	0 2 6
Rothwell, Thomas ..	0 2 6
Travis, Samuel ..	0 2 6
Hardman, John ..	0 2 6
Nuttall, John ..	0 2 6
Clayton, John ..	0 2 6
Hurst, Josh. ..	0 1 6
Tott, Ellis ..	0 1 6
Ashburn, Samuel ..	0 1 6
Williams, Thomas ..	0 1 6
Hurst, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Hewitt, Thomas ..	0 1 0
Johnson, Thomas ..	0 1 0
Smith, Levi ..	0 1 0
Whiting, John ..	0 1 0
Jones, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Rowbottom, Josh. ..	0 1 0
Hall, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Fittion, John, sen. ..	0 1 0
Fittion, John, jun. ..	0 1 0
Hindle, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Kirk, John ..	0 1 0
Allen, James ..	0 1 0
May, Henry ..	0 1 0
Allen, Joseph ..	0 1 0
Smith, Jos. ..	0 1 0
Beech, John ..	0 1 0
Beech, Levi ..	0 1 0
Beech, Josiah ..	0 1 0
Jackson, Saml. ..	0 1 0
Fleming, Andrew ..	0 1 0
White, Pat. ..	0 1 0
Bower, Robt. ..	0 1 0
Ratcliff, Alice ..	0 1 0
Gook, George ..	0 1 0
Manchester, Bolton ..	0 1 0
Barlow, Josiah ..	0 1 0
Hardman, Betty ..	0 1 0
Bailey, Ann ..	0 1 0
Dutton, Ellen ..	0 1 0
Schofield, Mark ..	0 1 0
Morris, George ..	0 1 0
Birchall, Saml. ..	0 1 0
Lomas, James ..	0 1 0
Southern, James ..	0 1 0
Carr, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Mason Thos. ..	0 1 0
Chapman, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Chapell, Richd. ..	0 1 0
Hampson, Cephas ..	0 1 0
Mycroft, Richd. ..	0 1 0
Grimshaw, Jos. ..	0 1 0
Taylor, James ..	0 1 0
Pollitt, John ..	0 1 0
Turner, Wm. ..	0 1 0
Entwistle, Thos. ..	0 1 0
Crompton, Robt. ..	0 1 0
Weaving-room (No. 1) ..	0 5 6
Do. (No. 2) ..	0 5 6
Do. (No. 3) ..	0 5 6
Do. (No. 9) ..	0 5 6
Do. (No. 10) ..	0 5 6
Warpers and Winders ..	0 5 0
Sundry small sums in Bleach Works ..	0 1 6
Three Pieces ..	0 1 6
A Friend to Free Trade ..	0 5 0
Exekiel, Lionel ..	0 5 0
Richardson, Thomas ..	0 5 0
Small sums ..	0 1 6
Donations collected, and proceeds of the Sale of part of the Articles intended for the Bazaar, per the Ladies of Barnley ..	105 14 3
Flax, Mrs. John, Manchester ..	5 0 0
Wakins, W. B., do. ..	5 0 0

Ward, ...  
 Hildersbach, ...  
 Wigan, ...  
 CONTI...  
 the rec...  
 Lod...  
 R. N...  
 Ch...  
 East...  
 Free...  
 Bar...  
 Free...  
 Jarr...  
 Dow...  
 Tilt...  
 For...  
 Cole...  
 Wat...  
 Dan...  
 But...  
 M...  
 Spar...  
 Ivory...  
 Cup...  
 Hou...  
 Scott...  
 Clark...  
 T...  
 Well...  
 Fute...  
 Dave...  
 Steh...  
 Goo...  
 M...  
 F...

Ward, Abraham, 51 Deansgate, Manchester	22	0	0
Hilton, Jas., Beilhaven, Dunbar, N.B.	6	0	0
Miller, Jas., jun., do., do.	1	0	0
Kelly, Miss, do., do.	1	0	0
Brown, John, do., do.	1	0	0
Morton, Robert, do., do.	1	0	0
Sawers, Simon, do., do.	1	0	0
Sawers, Charles, do., do.	1	0	0
Workpeople in the Employ of Firth and Hawthorth, Albion-place, Todmorden	6	0	0
Clegg, Wm., Lane-end-mill, Heywood, near Rochdale	5	0	0
Strachan, W., Hilton of Pearson, by Brechin, N.B.	3	0	0
Hanson, J. N., Burton-on-Trent	2	0	0
Hough on, James, 35, Eccles-street, Dublin	2	0	0
Crawshaw, Alice, Clitheroe	1	4	1
Henningsley, T., Willenhall, Warwickshire	1	0	0
Carrington, Joseph, Chapel-en-le-Frith	1	0	0
A Friend	0	15	0
Tetley, Mr., per Mrs. Ibbotson, Huddersfield	0	10	0
Turner, Mr., do.	0	2	6
Favage, Maria, Wigan	0	2	6

Crosland, Geo., and Sons	15	0	0
Taylor, Daniel, Lockwood	1	0	0
Sykes, David, Marsh	2	0	0
Collected by Mrs. G. Hanson	0	1	0
Eastwood, Mrs. David, Northgate	0	1	0
Bottom, Mrs. Ann, do.	0	1	0
White, Mrs., Leeds-road	0	1	0
Blackstock, Mrs., North-road	0	1	0
Robinson, Mrs., Northgate	0	1	0
Hanson, Mrs. G., Market-street	0	5	0
Collected by Mrs. Bt. Taylor	1	0	0
Kay, John, Dalton-hall	0	10	0
Butterworth, Mrs. Richard	0	10	0
A Friend	0	10	0
Sykes, Mrs. Wm., Lindley	1	0	0
Crowther, Mrs. Joel, Paddock	1	0	0
Collected by Mrs. Bootbroyd	0	10	0
Horsfall, Mrs. John, Slatthwaite	0	10	0
Ramsden, Misses, Golcar	1	0	0
Ramsden, Mrs. Thos., do.	0	10	0
Sundries, per Mrs. Richard Dewhurst	0	14	6
Bradshaw, Mrs.	0	5	0

Johnson, William, and Co.	10	0	0
Taylor, Brothers	10	0	0
Evans, Edw.	5	0	0
Bullock, Henry	5	0	0
Aspinall, John	2	0	0
Aspinall, Jos.	2	0	0
Ranson, Richard	2	0	0
Potter, John and Thomas	2	0	0
Acton, John	2	0	0
Bigham, Thomas	2	0	0
Reckitt, H. B.	1	1	0
Lea, John	1	0	0
Brown, Michael	1	0	0
Davidson, Michael	1	0	0
Ranicans, William	1	0	0
Fairclough, James	1	0	0
Collison, Thomas	1	0	0
Dobb, John	1	0	0
Waddington, Robert	1	0	0
Hilton, Caleb	1	0	0
Waddington, William	0	10	6
Brand, W. F. and R.	0	10	6
Free-Trade	0	10	0
Peck, John H.	0	10	0
Acton, Thomas	0	10	0
Wall, Thomas	0	10	0
Acton, William	0	10	0
Wood, James, chemist	0	10	0
Fray, Thomas	0	10	0

Stout, William	0	10	0
Leach, Robert	0	10	0
Brown, William, grocer	0	10	0
Coop, Jos.	0	10	0
Carruthers, Thomas	0	5	0
Esculapian	0	5	0
Maraden, James	0	5	0
Barnish, E. H.	0	5	0
Dawber, James	0	5	0
Swift, Richard	0	5	0
Hooper, Mr.	0	5	0
Acton, R.	0	2	6
Pearson, William	0	2	6
Marsh, John	0	5	0

We have also received notice of the following CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BAZAAR, the receipt of which will be acknowledged next week.

Lodell, W., Newmarket-road	2	0	0
R. N. B. All Saints	1	0	0
Chamberlain, H., Higham	1	0	0
Eastoe, J., St. Peter's, Mancroft	1	0	0
Freestone, E., do.	1	0	0
Darby, J., and Son, do.	1	0	0
Freeman, C. R., do.	1	0	0
Jarrell and Son, London-street	1	0	0
Dunson, J. W., St. Andrew's	1	0	0
Tillett, J. H., do.	1	0	0
Forster, S., Grundall, Norfolk	1	0	0
Coleman and Glendinning, Rampart-street	0	10	0
Watson, J. F., St. George's	0	10	0
Banks, J., St. Peter's, Mancroft	0	10	0
Butcher, J., Newmarket-road	0	10	0
Miles, F., All Saints	0	10	0
Sparks, Mr., St. Peter's, Mancroft	0	10	0
Ivory, W., Tom bland	0	10	0
Capeman and Son, St. Peter's, Mancroft	0	10	0
Bennett and Dream, Upper Market	0	10	0
Scott, R. B., St. John's, Madder-market	0	10	0
Clarke, Mr., St. George's	0	5	0
Tolson, Mr., do.	0	5	0
Wells, Mr., Castle-ditches	0	5	0
Butcher, Mr., Haymarket	0	5	0
Davey, J., Pitt-street	0	5	0
Stebbing, Mr., Newmarket-road	0	5	0
Gosse, Mr., Union place	0	5	0
Miles, F., All Saints	0	5	0
Edwards, Mr., London-street	0	5	0
Jones, Mr., St. Margaret's	0	5	0
Blackley, Mr., London-street	0	5	0
Press (received in pence)	0	4	0
Hollinger, Mr., Davey-place	0	2	6
Greenwood, St. Stephen's	0	2	6
Hall, W., St. George's	0	2	6
Tosel, J., do.	0	2	6
Smith, Mr., do.	0	2	6
Leam, W., St. Andrew's	0	2	6
Rake, G., Grove-place	0	2	6
Burn, J., Dove-lane	0	2	6
Goston, T., Guild-ragat street	0	2	6
Hansworth, Mr., Oxford-hill	0	2	6
Collins, Mr., Davey-place	0	1	0

Addison, Colonel	1	0	0
King, J.	0	10	0
King, W. D.	0	10	0
Haw, W.	0	5	0
Ho, W. N.	0	5	0
Graham, Joseph	0	2	6
Lambert, J.	0	2	6
Addison, Miss	0	2	6
My, O.	0	2	6

A Friend	20	0	0
Nelson, Joseph and H.	10	0	0
Pitt, John and James	10	0	0
Gartside and Mayall	10	0	0
Will, Abraham	10	0	0
Cheetham, James	10	0	0
Sevill and Wolstenholme	10	0	0
Travis, Jno., and Brothers	10	0	0
Marsden and Collinge	5	0	0
Butterworth, James	5	0	0
Robinson, Samuel	5	0	0
A Friend	5	0	0
Wild, Jas., Mump's-mill	5	0	0
Clegg, Abm.	5	0	0
Holden, Jno., and Brothers	5	0	0
Holden, John	5	0	0
Whittaker, Messrs.	5	0	0
Lees, Eli	5	0	0
Walton, David	5	0	0
Braddock, Thomas	1	0	0
Harrison, John	1	0	0
Lees, Job	1	0	0
Travis, Thos. and Josh.	1	0	0
Holden, Thos.	1	0	0
Stott, James	1	0	0
Heap, John	1	0	0
Wolfsden, Thos.	1	0	0
Mellor, William	1	0	0
Kershaw, William, surgeon	1	0	0
Holden, Thos., and Sons	1	0	0

Johnson and Ainsworth	10	0	0
Taylor and Brothers	10	0	0
Evans, Edward	5	0	0
Bullock Henry	5	0	0
Acton, John	2	0	0
Ranson, Richard	2	0	0
Potter J. and T.	2	0	0
Bigham, Thos.	2	0	0
Aspinall, Josh.	2	0	0
Aspinall, John	2	0	0
Reckitt, H. B.	1	1	0
Lea, John	1	0	0
Hilton, Caleb	1	0	0
Waddington, Robert	1	0	0
Davidson, Michael	1	0	0
Brown, Michael	1	0	0
Ranicans, William	1	0	0
Dobb, John	1	0	0
Fairclough, James	1	0	0
A Friend	1	0	0
Waddington, William	0	10	6
Brand, Messrs.	0	10	6
A Conservative Free-Trade	0	10	0
Peck, J. H.	0	10	0
Acton, Thos.	0	10	0
Brown, Wm.	0	10	0
Wall, Thos.	0	10	0
Acton, Wm.	0	10	0
Wood, James	0	10	0
Vray, Thos.	0	10	0
Stout, Wm.	0	10	0
Leach, Robt.	0	10	0
Dawber, James	0	5	0
Pearson, Wm.	0	5	0
Marsh, John	0	5	0
Carruthers, Thomas	0	5	0
Swift, Richard	0	5	0
Barnish, E. H.	0	5	0
Maraden, James	0	5	0
Reclapus	0	5	0
Acton, Robert	0	5	0
Hooper, Thomas	0	2	6

ERRATA.  
In LEAGUE, No. 82, for Bolton-road, Harrowford, near Colne, read Bolton-road, Colne; and for Holroyd, Henry, Harrowford, near Colne, read Holroyd, Henry, Colne; and in LEAGUE, No. 83, for Allen, Edward, Landport, near Portsmouth, read Allen, Edward, Southsea, Hants; and for King, R. M., Badminster, near Bristol, read Ring, R. M.

NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

The Council of the League, having determined upon holding a Bazaar in the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, London, in aid of the One Hundred Thousand Pounds Fund, beg to announce that it will open on Thursday, May 8th, for exhibition, and that on the succeeding Monday, the 12th of May, the sale of the articles will commence.

Many of the large manufacturing towns having intimated that they intend to furnish their stalls with articles illustrative of their staple manufacture, such contributions will not be removed at the period of sale, but remain on view till the close of the Bazaar.

Contributions may be forwarded, from the present time to the 5th of May, addressed to George Wilson, Esq., Chairman, at the Theatre Royal, Covent-garden, London, where all the requisite arrangements are made for their reception.

As the inquiry is repeatedly made whether the articles sent to the Bazaar should have the prices affixed by the contributors, or by the Committee of Management in London, it is respectfully requested that, wherever practicable, the contributors themselves will affix their own prices to the articles according to the known cost of the raw materials, and the additional value given by the labour subsequently expended upon them.

Upon application the Council will be happy to forward to any of the local committees, or individuals who are preparing contributions, labels, on which may be placed the description of the article—the price—and the name of the contributor.

The Council also would earnestly urge upon their friends in the smaller towns and rural districts, where, from a variety of causes, it may not be practicable to obtain contributions in the shape of manufactured goods, or articles of taste or fancy, that efforts should be made to collect money contributions, and forward them before the 12th of May, as Bazaar purses in aid of the League Fund.

Such of the local committees as intend to furnish stalls, are earnestly requested to communicate with the Council without delay; and also to forward to London before Wednesday next the names of the ladies (if any) who intend to superintend the same during the Bazaar, that the requisite cards of admission may be reserved for them.

By order of the Council.  
GEORGE WILSON, Chairman.  
Covent-garden Theatre,  
April 25, 1845.

Internal Arrangements for the Bazaar.

The prices of admission will be as follows:—  
Thursday, May 8, day of Exhibition 10 6  
Friday, „ 9, do. - 5 0  
Saturday, „ 10, do. - 5 0  
Monday, „ 12, Sale of Articles 2 6  
Each succeeding day, do. - 1 0

The theatre will be opened on the days of exhibition at twelve o'clock—noon.

The entrance for the public will be from Bow-street, up the Grand Staircase, and along a passage cut through the centre boxes of the Dress Circle into the body of the Theatre, thrown into the form of a "GOTHIC HALL;" and the visitors will then pass along the stalls, and retire by the Hart-street side of the Theatre, so that the in-coming and out-going streams of visitors will not come into collision.

The Entrance for ladies attending the stalls, and the members of the Committee of Management, will be at the Stage-door in Hart-street. Tickets will be provided for all persons who are entitled to admission at the private entrance, without which no individual can, under any circumstances, be allowed to pass.

Carrriages are to set down in Bow-street, and take up in Prince's-place, Hart-street.

THE SPECIAL RAILWAY TRAINS.

From Manchester, &c., to London.

The following arrangements are now completed:—  
The Trains for the convenience of parties residing in Manchester, Oldham, Bury, Stockport, Ashton, Stalybridge, Bolton, Rochdale, &c., will leave the Station of the Manchester and Birmingham Railway Company, London-road, Manchester, on the following days, each morning at Eight o'clock precisely:—

Saturday, May 10th, returning on Saturday, the 17th, giving six clear days in London.  
Monday, May 12th, returning on Wednesday, the 21st, giving eight clear days in London.  
Wednesday, May 14th, returning on Monday, the 26th, giving eleven clear days in London.

Arrangements have been made by which the whole journey will be performed in nine hours.

The RETURN TRAINS to Manchester will leave the Euston-square Station, London, on the above-named days, each morning at Nine o'clock.

Fares—For First-class Carriages (both ways), 38s.  
Second-class do., 29s.

From Liverpool to London.

Arrangements have been made for two Special Trains between London and Liverpool. One will leave Liverpool on Saturday, the 10th of May, at Eight o'clock A. M., and return on Saturday, the 17th of May, at Eight o'clock A. M. A second Train will leave Liverpool on Thursday, the 15th of May, at Eight o'clock A. M., and return on Monday, the 26th of May, at Eight o'clock A. M.

Applications for tickets must be made at the office of the Anti-Monopoly Association, 7, Water-street, Liverpool.

First-class (up and down inclusive) . . 42s.  
Second-class (ditto) . . 30s.

From the West Riding of Yorkshire to London.

Arrangements have been made with the Midland and the London and Birmingham Railway Companies for Three Special Trains to London, namely:—

Saturday, May 10th, to return on Thursday, the 15th.  
Wednesday, May 14th, to return on Monday, the 19th.  
Saturday, May 17th, to return on Saturday, the 24th.

These trains will take up passengers at the places named, at the following scale of fares:—



	First Class.	Second Class.	Time of Departure.
Leeds to London and back	39 0	26 0	6 45
Normanton do.	37 0	25 0	7 30
Barnsley do.	35 6	24 0	8 0
Swinton do.	34 0	23 0	8 25
Sheffield do.	34 0	23 0	8 0
Mashfield do.	33 0	22 6	8 45
Chesterfield do.	30 6	20 6	9 30

And will arrive in London at 7 P.M.

The Down Trains will leave London at 9 30 P.M., and will occupy the same time in returning as in going up.

Tickets from Leeds to London may be had of Mr. T. MORGAN, 20, Commercial-buildings; and as the number by each train is necessarily limited for each town of the West Riding, and it has been arranged with the Railway Companies that the sale of tickets for each train shall close two days before the starting of each, it is earnestly requested that parties intending to avail themselves of these trains will apply as early as possible.

N.B. Luggage to each passenger limited to 50lbs., both first and second class; and it is to be distinctly understood that the Midland and the London and Birmingham Railway Companies, respectively, will not be liable, under any circumstances, for any passenger's luggage.

#### From Preston to London.

The Preston Train will start early on Whit Monday morning, and join the Liverpool one at the Warrington Junction. First-class fare, there and back, from Preston to London, not to exceed £2. 6s. 6d.; Second-class, £1. 13s.

#### From Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester to London.

Special Trains, containing a limited number of first and second class carriages, will leave Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester for London, on Saturday the 10th, returning on the 15th; and on Monday the 12th, returning on the 17th of May, there and back for one fare.

Passengers may exchange Return Tickets with each other as may suit their convenience.

	A. M.	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Leaves Derby at.....	5 30	21s.	16s.
" Nottingham.....	5 30	21s.	16s.
" Loughborough.....	6 0	21s.	14s.
" Syston.....	6 15	19s.	13s. 6d.
" Leicester.....	6 45	18s.	13s.

The Company cannot, under any circumstances, be responsible for passengers' luggage by these Trains. Each passenger allowed 50lbs. weight.

As a limited number only can be conveyed, tickets for the 10th must be taken not later than the 8th, and for the 12th not later than the 10th.

Tickets will be ready for delivery at the respective Railway Stations on the 5th of May.

Derby, 29th April, 1845. J. F. BELL, Secretary.

#### From Brighton to London.

Special Trains will leave Brighton on the mornings of the 12th, 13th, and 14th of May; and excursion tickets for the three days can be obtained at the railway station, at the following fares:—

First-class carriages (both ways) ..	12s.
Second do. do. ..	8
Third do. do. ..	5

#### From Birmingham to London.

At Birmingham some spirited individuals have entered into engagements with the proprietors of the line, by which they will be enabled to convey parties to the Bazaar at very low fares. Particulars to be obtained on the spot.

#### GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Excursion Trains will leave the following places for London on Monday the 12th and Tuesday the 13th instant, at the reduced fares for the journey Up and Down, specified in this advertisement, returning from London on Wednesday the 14th and Friday the 16th instant.

	Time.	Fares Up and Down.
From Exeter ..	7 30 a.m.	45s. .. 30s.
Tiverton-road ..	8 0 a.m.	42s. .. 28s.
Exeter ..	8 15 a.m.	39s. .. 26s.
Bridgewater ..	9 20 a.m.	37s. .. 24s. 6d.
Bristol ..	11 0 a.m.	30s. .. 20s.
Bath ..	11 35 a.m.	28s. 6d. .. 19s.

The Return Trains will leave Paddington at half-past two o'clock in the afternoons of the 14th and 16th instant.

As the company can only undertake to provide a limited number of carriages for these excursions, the tickets must be taken and paid for at the respective stations on or before Saturday the 10th instant, to secure places.

Any passenger wishing to return by the regular passenger trains on any day during that week, will be allowed the half cost of the excursion ticket, upon paying up the difference of fare for the journey back.

Further information may be obtained at the abovementioned stations on the Great Western Railway.

By order of the Directors,  
1st May, 1845. CHAS. A. SAUNDERS, Secretary.

My DEAR SIR,—Before leaving Manchester this afternoon, Mr. Wilson wished me to forward you, for publication in next LEAGUE, an account of the Birmingham cheap trains to London during the Bazaar. I have seen Mr. Suttar, the gentleman here who arranged for the cheap trains, and he says he has only been able to get two trains, leaving Monday, May 12th, and Tuesday, 13th, and the railway people would but issue 500 tickets for each train; all these have been sold, except a few for the Monday train. He is now endeavouring to arrange for a third train on Wednesday, and has no doubt, if successful, that a thousand more tickets will be bought.

In haste, I am, dear Sir, yours truly,  
A. W. PAULTON, Esq. HENRY LYONS.

#### NOTICE TO VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY DURING THE BAZAAR.

For the convenience of country visitors, who wish to provide themselves with comfortable but not expensive accommodation, we insert the following list of some of the most conveniently situated hotels and coffee-houses in the metropolis. The usual charges for beds per night are from 1s. to 2s.:—

York Coffee-house, Tavern, and Hotel, Charles-street, Covent-garden—W. Stannard.  
Portugal Family Hotel and Tavern, 155 and 156, Fleet-street—S. Oliver.  
Bell and Crown Hotel, Holborn—Valentine Rider.  
Anderson's Hotel, Coffee-house, and Tavern, 164, Fleet-street—F. Chinnow.  
George and Blue Bear Tavern and Hotel, 270, Holborn—R. T. Peters.  
White Horse Tavern and Hotel, Fetter-lane.  
Bedford Hotel, 42, Southampton-row, Russell-square—J. Campbell.  
Colosseum Hotel, Portland-road, Regent's-park—J. Grace.  
Exeter Hall Hotel and Tavern, 375, Strand.  
Fricour's Hotel (late New Slaughter's Coffee-house), 82, St. Martin's-lane.  
George's Coffee-house, 213, Strand—Croft.  
Ball Inn and Hotel, 122, Holborn—W. Bond.  
Exeter Coffee-house, 87, Strand—Omond.  
Gloucester Coffee-house, 376, Oxford-street.  
Clifford's Coffee-house, 1, Clifford's-lane—passage, near St. Dunstan's Church.  
Wilkinson's Coffee-house, 6, Blomfield-st., Portman-sq.  
Wright's Coffee-house, 2, Dean-street, Oxford-street.  
Laver's Coffee-house, 69, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.  
St. Martin's Coffee-house, 37, St. Martin's-lane—T. Rice.  
Arundel Coffee-house, 267, Strand—W. C. Cook.  
British Coffee-house, 6, Agar-street, Strand—J. Norrington.  
University Hotel and Tavern, Grafton-street East, Gower-street, New-road—W. White.

#### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

We respectfully request our friends in the country, who are forwarding contributions to the Bazaar, to transmit a separate note per post, intimating that their packets have been despatched. If this request be complied with, we shall be able to ascertain whether all the contributions which our friends may kindly forward arrive to hand. We would also further beg that contributors will cause to be marked on the exterior of their packages, either their names or some initials or numbers by which such packages may be distinguished; and that they will state in their letters of advice by what external marks their parcels may be identified.

The following persons have kindly undertaken to receive and forward contributions to the Bazaar in their respective towns:—

Aberystwith—Mr. Josh. Roberts, London-house.  
Accrington—Mr. B. Barker.  
Ashton-under-Lyne—Hugh Mason, Esq.  
Bacup—Messrs. Robert Mann and Brother.  
Barnsley—Messrs. Harvey and Co.  
Bilston—Rev. W. H. Bonner.  
Bolton—John Dean, Esq., Silverwell-house.  
John Bailey, Esq., Newport-terrace.  
Thomas Tong, Esq., Bradford-place.  
H. Hollins, Esq., Rose-hill.  
T. Thomasson, High-bank.  
Bradford (Yorkshire)—Mr. J. Farrar, latter.  
Brighton—Mr. Isaac Gray Barr.  
Buckingham—W. D. Harris.  
Burnley—Mr. James Roberts, Telford-house, near.  
Mr. George Holgate, Spring-hill, near.  
Mr. John Moore.  
Carlisle—Mr. Fisher, Athenaeum, Lowther street.  
Carnarvon—Henry Norton, Esq., Brewery.  
Cambridge—H. J. Foster, Esq., Thompson-lane.  
Canterbury—John Brent, Esq.  
Chapel-en-le-Frith—Josh. Carlisle, Esq.  
Chichester—Rev. J. Follager.  
Coalbrookdale—Abraham Darby, Esq.  
Cockermouth—John Harris, Papecastle, near.  
Colchester—J. B. Harvey, Esq.  
James Hurnard, Esq.  
Colne—Rev. R. Appleball.  
Mr. Thomas England.  
Mrs. Aspinall.

Coventry—Mr. Thomas Berry, Ironmoger-row.  
Darlinton—T. A. Cockin, Esq.  
Derby—Thomas Madeley, Esq.  
Devonport—Mr. Samuel Oran, Market-street.  
Rev. J. Pyer, Nelson-house, St. Aubyn-st.  
Doncaster—Mr. R. Milner, French-gate.  
Mr. John Hattie, Baxter-gate.  
Dover—S. M. Latham, Esq.  
Dudley—Rev. John Palmer.  
C. Twynley, Esq.  
W. C. Wood, Esq.  
Dundee—Mr. John G. Baxter, Messrs. Baxter, Brothers and Co.'s.  
Mr. John Turnbull, Cowgate.  
Mr. George Stephen, Castle-street.  
Durham—Mr. Josh. Holmes, Elvet-bridge.  
Mr. Geo. Burdon, Claypath.  
Mr. N. Oliver.  
Edinburgh—Messrs. J. and W. Howison, 2, Drummond-street.  
James Thompson, Esq., 169, High-street.  
J. Dalrymple, Esq., 29, Frederick-street.  
Exeter—Thomas Besley, Esq., Chronicle Office.  
Frome—Mr. Levi Wood, Hapsford, near.  
Mr. J. Gregory, Vallis Way.  
Glasgow, and the West of Scotland—David Murray, Esq., 92, Queen-street.  
Halifax—Mr. Thomas Denton, Old Market.  
Messrs. Bates and Hoatson, West-hill.  
Hastings—Mr. Thos. Ross, jun.  
Hertford—Mr. R. Shillitoe.  
High Wycombe—Mr. R. Lucas, High-street.  
Mr. Geo. Church, White Hart-street.  
Messrs. W. T. Baker and Son, Church-square.  
Huddersfield—F. Schwann, Esq.  
Hull—Sir William Lowthrop.  
Mr. E. F. Collins.  
Dr. Gordon.  
Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring, Newport.  
Kendal—Mr. J. Thomson, Jun., Stramorgate.  
Rev. Edward Hawkes.  
Keighley—Samuel Thompson, Esq.  
Knaresborough—Mr. Thomas Addiman, High-street.  
Mr. John Joy, Windsor-lane.  
Lancaster—Thomas Johnson, Esq.  
George Jackson, Esq.  
Landport—Mr. W. Bilton, Union-road.  
Mr. Thomas Ross.  
Leicester—Joseph Biggs, Esq.  
Leighton Buzzard—Mr. M'Cheyne.  
Mr. Payne.  
Leominster—Mr. J. V. Chilcott.  
Liverpool—James Mullenoux, Esq.  
J. Taylor Crook, Esq.  
Mrs. J. B. Cooke, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.  
Mrs. Henry Roscoe, Abercrombie-square.  
Mrs. Abbott, 10, Elliott-street.  
Mrs. C. E. Ravlin, jun., 28, Catherine-st.  
London—Geo. Wilson, Esq., Theatre Royal, Covent-garden.  
Macclesfield—Mr. Richard Hine.  
Mr. Samuel Jessner.  
Mr. Joseph Howe.  
Mr. R. Wilson.  
Mr. J. Rathbone.  
Mr. John B. Jantye.  
Maidstone—Mr. Richard Nelmes, 107, Week-street.  
Manchester—Geo. Wilson, Esq., 5, Newall's-buildings.  
Nantwich—Messrs. Barker, Pepper-street.  
Rev. James Hawkes, Hospital-street.  
Nowark—Mr. John Tiddaman, Castle gate.  
Mr. Andrew Brooks, Beaumont-cross.  
Mr. W. Andrews, St. Mark's-square.  
Newcastle-under-Lyne—Mr. Ellis Shaw.  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Mr. D. Liddell, Carlisle-street.  
Newport, Isle of Wight—Mr. Samuel Pring.  
Northampton—M. J. Jones, Mayorhold.  
Northwich—C. Green, Esq.  
Norwich—W. Freeman, Esq., London-street.  
W. Liddell, Esq., Newmarket-road.  
J. Sitzer, Esq., St. Augustine's.  
C. Winter, Esq., Upper Market.  
J. G. J. Bateman, Esq., St. George's.  
C. N. Bolingbroke, Esq., St. Clement's.  
Nottingham—W. Cripps, Esq., Mount-street.  
S. Bean, Esq.  
Oxford—John Fowle, Esq., Cold Harbour.  
Paisley—H. Macfarlane, Esq., jun.  
Mr. M. Whitehill.  
Plymouth—Mr. Burnett, Bilbury-street.  
John Symons, Esq., Kintbury-street.  
Pontefract—W. Kidd, Shoe-market.  
Poole—G. R. Penney, Esq.  
Preston—Mr. G. Cartwright, Cheapside.  
Mr. J. Livesey, Guardian office.  
Reading—Mr. Joseph Christy, Crown-street.  
Mrs. E. Christy, do.  
Henry Hobbs, Esq., Witley.  
James Boone, jun., Esq., Mill-lane.  
Roehdale—Jacob Bright, jun., Esq., Greenbank.  
Geo. Ashworth, Esq., Holland-street.  
Mr. Charles Walker, Yorkshire-street.  
Mr. T. B. Stephens, South-street.  
St. Columb—Mr. W. Northy.  
Mr. W. Brown, jun.  
Salisbury—John Lambert, Esq.  
Scarborough—Rev. Benjamin Evans.  
Henry Enderington, Esq.  
Sheffield—Mr. George Tucker.  
Southampton—Richard Andrews, Esq.  
Southport—Richard Johnson, Esq., solicitor.  
Staleybridge—Mr. Dakin Cheetham, Rasebottom-street.  
Mr. J. Davis, Grovenor-street.  
Stockton-on-Tees—Mr. Thos. Heaviside, Frickle-street.  
Stonehouse—Mr. Thomas Barkwell.  
Stourbridge—William Akroyd Esq.  
Stroud—Thos. Parsons, 2, Granville-cottages.  
Sunderland—Thos. Thompson, solicitor, 53, Villiers-st.  
T. Patterson, commission agent, Bridge-st.  
N. C. Reed, solicitor, 64, Fawcett-street.  
Henry Ogden, doctor in medicine, Dunelm-street.  
Edward Copper Robson, miller, 37, Frederick-street.  
Anthony J. Moore, solicitor, 8, Bridge-st.  
Geo. Hardcastle, auctioneer, 3, Newbald-st.

Swansea—Mr. J. Jenkins, Wind-street.  
Mr. J. Ratter, Strand.  
Tadmorden—Mr. Veevers, K. Inhurst.  
Mr. R. Chambers.  
Wakefield—Mrs. James Micklethwaite, Rishworth-house.  
Mrs. Nettleton, Westgate.  
Mr. J. Rhodes, Kirkgate.  
Mr. Jno. Haselton, Northgate.  
Warrington—J. G. Munnies, Esq.  
P. Rylands, Esq.  
Edward West, Esq.  
Whitehaven—Mr. R. Gordon.  
Mr. Backhouse.  
Thos. Ainsworth, Esq., the Floss.  
Wigan—Mr. J. J. Finnigan, Buck-l'-th'-Vine Inn.  
Yarmouth—Mr. D. A. Gowlay, Market-row.  
J. Bayly, Esq.  
York—Messrs. Fletcher and Noddings, Clementhorpe.  
The Misses Noddings, Mount-parade.  
The Misses Lyons, Lendal.  
R. Taylor, Esq., Park-place, Monkgate.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXVIII.

TO THE FREQUENTERS OF THE RELIGIOUS  
"MAY MEETINGS."

CHRISTIANS!—In all your diversities of faith and forms, this month gives practical evidence of the extent to which you are animated by one spirit. It summons you from all parts of the country to your metropolitan gatherings, for missionary and other purposes, as the Jews went up of old to Jerusalem for their high festivals. You forget your minor differences, and seek the aid of Heaven for your common and paramount objects. The denominations to which you belong, and the localities from which you come, are almost as varied as the tongues which found harmonious utterance on the day of Pentecost. Assemble in your multitudes, and hold your annual solemnity; but, while you ask the blessing from above upon yourselves, withhold not, I pray you, the blessing of your own sympathy and help from the poor, the needy, and oppressed—the victims of an unrighteous law that denies the labourer his hire.

The warfare against monopoly, waged by the Anti-Corn-Law League, is no mere sordid struggle for pecuniary advantage. This agitation is the result, with thousands, of the holiest principle. Their motives are in their bibles. Their warrant is contained in the Divine law, and their desire is expressed in the Christian prayer. They ask, for the labourer, his daily bread, by whomsoever or whosoever the corn may be grown of which that bread is made. They deny that the fruits of God's earth can be rightfully turned back from our shores while so many are starving; or he obstructed in their progress towards those who need them, by taxation levied for the profit of the English landowner. They have learned that the ox that treadeth out the corn shall not be muzzled, and for the man that sows or reaps they require equal consideration. They demand justice. This is a Christian movement. It is a righteous and religious cause. It deserves a portion of your thoughts and care and efforts. Leave it not undone, whatever else you do. Be not deaf to the voice of truth and mercy. In your fulness of compassion for the unenlightened, remember those, of whom numbers are your brethren and sisters in faith, and assert their claims and rights. Take advantage of your annual gathering to show your accordance with the persevering efforts made to abate the plague of monopoly in food. It is required of you in the name of that holy religion whose dominion you assemble to advance.

The food monopoly is the ally of ignorance, the occasion of crime, disease, and death. Souls are sacrificed by it at the shrine of Mammon. It has held up rents—the rich man's perquisite; and grinds down labour—the poor man's dependence. It keeps children from school, church, and chapel. It marks, by its artificial rise of prices, the multiplication of criminals for crime, and the enlarged devastations of disease. It drives away from the house of prayer into the workhouse or the gaol. The missionary to the poor complains that there seems a mockery in his mention of "the bread of life." The middle-classes are impoverished by its exactions. Their income-tax to the State is a light burden to their food-tax for the monopolists. It impairs their resources for charity and religion. What would go for the conversion of the heathen is grasped beforehand for the revenues of the aristocracy. The monopolist robs the treasury of the temple; and missionary plans are injured by Mammonite legislation.

Unshackled trade and commerce, by promoting the well-being and wealth of the industrious classes, would be propitious to every good work. In those classes it is that beneficent schemes find their best promoters, and the sinews of their strength.

Unshackled trade and commerce would abate the selfish and angry feelings which repel classes from each other, and, by removing the bone of contention, allow peace and kindness to revive. Were monopoly utterly abolished, what cause would there be for black and lowering looks between farmer and manufacturer? The law makes the

Unshackled trade and commerce would promote the harmony of nations. They would extend a friendly intercourse to all regions of the earth. Prejudices would be mitigated, and a way for knowledge prepared in the wilderness. Peace, and the common use of one language, heralded the first rapid progress of Christianity. The British merchant may become a similar agent to the Roman warrior, and in a nobler spirit. Commerce is conquest and peace; and its universal language is no unapt preparation for the diffusion of knowledge, civilization, and truth.

To whom have we a better right to look for adjusting the balance between different classes of society than to the professors of religion. You have power; it has been felt and recognised by politicians. It is your function to act as the conscience of the State. Slavery was abolished by your condemnation; let not monopoly be prolonged by your connivance. There is no novelty in presenting this as a religious question. Seven hundred preachers of the Gospel, in conference at Manchester, denounced the Corn Laws, not only as an unwise policy, but as a moral offence. Still they exist. The bounty of Providence, by abundant harvests, has suspended some of the miseries they inflict, but has not changed their evil nature, or meliorated their malignant tendency. The manufacturer is relieved, but the cultivator is depressed. Such are the alternations which can only terminate in the abolition of the system. Return not to your homes and families without doing something for that "consummation devoutly to be wished."

The heritage of man to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow; the gift of earth's fruits, not to a class, but to the children of men; the prayer for daily bread; the protection, not of powerful wealth, but of helpless poverty; and the fearful anathemas on those who withhold the reward of the labourer, and oppress the needy; these we know where to find in Scripture, and he who runs may read. But exhortations to be independent of other countries, although they have food to sell, and our brethren sickened for want; admonitions to render food dearer, when it is always too dear for many to procure; precepts not to be thankful when bread is made cheap by its becoming plentiful; directions to destroy articles of human subsistence and comfort, or to render them unfit for use by filthy adulteration: where do we find these in Scripture? On what page of the sacred volume can monopoly point to such delilement? Artificial scarcity by abused legislation, is not of God; it is a work of darkness; it is a practical abjuration and defiance of Christianity.

Let this matter intermingle, then, in due time, place, and form, with the great topics that bring you together. It is of the Christian family of thoughts and deeds. It "claims kindred there, and has its claims allowed." It belongs to the second of the two great commandments. It deserves the zeal, not yet extinct, that successfully asserted the brotherhood of the negro, and cannot be met while those are wronged with whom we are identified by the ties of language, country, and religion.

What can you do? You can express opinion at your meetings, and find occasion for rebukes of monopoly as you did of slavery. You can renew, or commence, your contributions to the power which, in the League, has been raised for the destruction of this evil. You can assist that splendid exhibition of the varied power of bread-taxed industry about to be presented by the Free-Trade Bazaar. See there the skill in cunning workmanship with which Providence has endowed the people of this land; and ask yourselves whether man, in his ill-judging selfishness, should be allowed to cripple, rob, and blight the faculties which were granted from above for individual and universal good. In each or all these ways you can bear your testimony against that tax on bread which is, in its influence and tendency, a tax on industry, on education, on the amicable intercourse of nations, and on the purest efforts of philanthropy.

The diversified products of skill and toil have some affinity with the varied flowers and fruits of the earth; like them, thriving best in the free and genial air; like them, indicative of mental, and even of moral attributes; and, like them, evincing the ample sources which Providence has opened for mutual service and for universal good and enjoyment. You may derive lessons from the display which will harmonize with those you learn elsewhere, teach you "who is your neighbour," and how you can serve him; and remind you of the example of the good Samaritan, who passed not by on the other side when help could be rendered to the injured. And when it is thus practically shown what the people are, and can do, whose condition is so deeply affected by restrictive laws, how enduring their labour, how keen their ingenuity, how vast and varied their powers, and how worthy their works, the sight might well teach reflection and juster dealing even to monopoly itself, and bid it "go and sin no more."

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

## REVIEW.

*Dawn Island.* By Harriet Martineau. Free-Trade Bazaar.

This very beautiful tale is Miss Martineau's contribution to the Free-Trade Bazaar; its object is to point out the civilizing effects of commerce, by developing the progress of social improvement in one of the islands of the Pacific Ocean. Though the work is sure to be eagerly sought by our readers, yet we cannot resist giving them the gratification of having a foretaste of its merits by extracting a few specimens. The following is a description of Dawn Island:—

"The lofty summits of the central mountains seemed to bring down to earth something of the unfathomable quietness of the tropical skies which overarched them. The transparency of the atmosphere gave an appearance of stability to every object within reach of the eye,—a clearness of outline, and firmness of position, hardly to be conceived of by inhabitants of regions where everything is seen through shifting and refracting fogs and mists. The waving of the plumb foliage of the cocoa-nut grove, and the leap and gush of the mountain streams, rather lulled than disturbed the senses of the observer; and if he turned his gaze to the shores, he could not but think that the space between them and the coral reef which surrounded the island contained the stillest waters he had ever seen. The coral reef extended to various distances from the shore, now stretching out so as to enclose a lake-like expanse of two miles in breadth, and then bending inwards so as to leave no more room than for two canoes to pass. To any gazer looking down into the clear depth of these waters, all appeared even calmer than on the surface. Fathoms deep, he saw an apparent foliage and fruitage delicate as vegetation itself—fragile-looking as the slenderest weeds, but giving way to no lapse of waters, and not stirred by the gliding of a throng of fishes, as the boughs of trees are by the flitting of birds. These many-coloured corals, sprouting and branching out from the sandy bottom, gave the idea of a luxuriant garden suddenly overflowed, and petrified by the deluge. The stillness of the land and waters within the reef was made more striking by the chafing of the ocean beyond. The long breakers rolled in, rising in height and force as if they would surmount the barrier, but clear and lovely as opal; and on the first encounter with the reef, their white crests were dispersed in showers of spray, which merely dimpled the smooth waters within, and sent a solemn sea music resounding through the nearer inland groves."

Here is a curiosity in the vegetable world:—

"This tree, much resembling the banyan, was as good an illustration as the vegetable world could furnish of the continuous being and self diffusion of the deities worshipped in Dawn Island. Every branch sending down roots to the ground, and the sources of life being thus multiplied perpetually, it seemed as if the tree must live for ever. No man could ever learn from his fathers when this grove-like tree was a sapling; and it was now a firm and universal belief that a bird had brought some seeds from the moon, and had dropped one on Dawn Island in his flight."

"While Miava, in examining the interior of the Aoa, retired out of sight beneath its pillar-like stems, the gazers little knew that he met his attendants under the shadow, to give orders fatal to one of themselves. He named the victim, and in a few minutes more the man was felled by a blow on the back of the head, as he stood on the outskirts of the crowd, jesting with a comrade. He was a young man of turbulent temper and violent habits, who could be spared better than most; yet his heavy fall, and the shrieks of his living family, penetrated with horror all who saw and heard. Such spectacles might increase their awe and dread of the gods, and certainly lessened their feeling for the sufferings of men; but he natural anguish of the moment could not be extinguished by custom and familiarity."

The rites now went forward with order and speed. The chief victim was suspended from the tree; the hogs were slain and baked,—their heads placed upon the altars, and then flesh partly eaten by the priests. The messengers of the gods, rising in the shape of birds from out of the tree, on a burst of harsh music, were dismissed to the place of shade of the deities, somewhere near the foundation of the world, to announce and invite, in the usual terms:—"There is war in the world. Come up to the place of light, and help your worshippers."

The following description of the first interview between the natives and the European visitors is very vivid and natural:—

"The Europeans heard the familiar names of these last articles, and, supposing the conference had reached a practical point, now advanced, and holding out some unknown curiosities, repeated the words denoting hogs, fowls, fruit."

"Miava looked from one to another in bewilderment. The sailors were not disposed to wait his time. One threw sticks at the cocoa-nuts on the trees, and brought down ripe and unripe at random. One cut a stalk of sugar-cane, and found it so delicious that others joined him. Two caught a hog, and put it into a sack, and then into the boat. They trusted to their commander's paying for what they took; but when he perceived how unkind Miava was to barter, how unaware of the value of the articles produced, he stopped the proceedings."

"First, he caused all the cocoa-nuts to be piled in one heap, and offered, through the interpreter, that Miava should select from his goods what he thought would pay for them. As it now, indeed, appeared that the visitors were not messengers of evil, the priest was anxious to release his companions from their terror; and Moturo and Idya came at his cheerful call. Of many articles offered, they could not at once perceive the value; but there were some which they coveted on the instant,—even before Miava could satisfy himself that they were not unhallowed. Above all, Idya, who spent many a weary hour in kindling and watching the fire of the oven, was struck and charmed by a little box whose contents would make fire in a moment. She considered it worth more than a whole grove of cocoa-nuts. But her husband thought quite as well of a powder spoon, with which he saw a sailor helping himself to the Jules out of a sugar-cane."



Motaro at once saw the use of this, and how it would aid him in his favourite occupation of feeding. The captain accommodated matters by giving the spoon in exchange for the canes. The hog then remained to be paid for.

"Miava eagerly insisted on the choice of an equivalent being his: and it was granted on a cry of delight and admiration escaping from one usually so composed. The captain had observed that the old man's sight had failed a good deal; and he placed first on his own nose, to show that they were harmless, and then on Miava's, a pair of spectacles. As soon as he could be persuaded to open his eyes, how great was his amazement! He saw distinctly the faces of all around him, and the leaves of distant trees, and the crests of the waves beyond the reef, and the blossoms of plants growing within the wood. He gazed around him, uttering new exclamations at every discovery of some long-lost object of sight, and then hurried away alone into the shrubbery, in the fear that some accident or quarrel might deprive him of his new treasure."

We have seldom seen the advantages of commerce described in more simple and striking language, than in the following brief extract:—

"When neighbours in a valley can exchange things so as to please one another, there is cheerfulness, and none of the anger and danger that there are when men snatch or steal what they wish for, without considering whether the owner likes to part with the property. If these neighbours were always to consider each what he himself would like to be done to him, and do so to the other, there would be continual peace between them. And if all in the valley were to do the same there would be peace from end to end. And if, he continued, brightening, 'it were so through the whole island, there would be no more war. And if other kinds of men and ourselves were to do the same, there would be no terror, nor blowing of thunderbolts, and we should have their wonderful gifts, and they would have our fresh fruits when they are thirsty, and our mats for a shade at noon. If everywhere men could so please one another as they would be pleased themselves, and there was peace, man would not cease for a long time yet. But then—' and his heart sank—'how could it be about the sacrificing of men to the gods? for no man likes to be sacrificed to Oro; and yet somebody must be devoted by the priests. I must think about this.'"

Our space will only allow of our giving a very hasty glance at the results attending the introduction of civilization, and the blessings of Christianity, into the island.

"The exchanges of food and foreign goods were carried on with more order than is usual on the first occasion of a newly-discovered people being one of the parties; and when even the most fortunate sellers found that, much as they had gained, there were many other desirable things which they could not have till they could offer commodities less perishable and more valuable than food, it was not difficult to bring them to a purpose of preparation for a better traffic, if the Europeans would promise to come again. Those who had axes engaged to furnish sandal-wood; and others, engaged to furnish cotton and linen cloths, and being assured that they, by industry, could produce the cotton and flax needed for such fabrics, began to inquire how they could be instructed in the art of growing them. Matting and cordage they could soon supply, to a small amount; and tortoise-shell could be added, when its European value was known. It was only the comprehensive mind of the old priest which could grasp at once all these details, and take in the prospect opened by the advent of commerce in his world. For him it was almost too much. His breast heaved, as he put the question to the captain.

"What shall I offer to our gods when I send messengers to tell them that the out-rigger canoe has come?"

"'Lay before them,' said the captain seriously, 'an axe, and a knife, and a looking-glass, and a garment of cotton. These good things come out of the spirits of men; and they will please the gods till they themselves send natural death to bring the spirits of men to them; when all the work is done that they can do in your world.'"

"The king understood Turua's words of interpretation, and looked confounded.

"No more sacrifices of men!" he cried.

"No more," said the captain emphatically, "unless you wish to offend the gods who send you, by that vessel, the changes foretold long ago."

"But how shall I deal with my disobedient subjects?" asked the king, innocently, "if I cannot rid myself of them, and keep them in fear by the sacrifice?"

"The gods will show favour very soon, and make your world happier, and your subjects more contented, and better able to pay tribute than ever before; so that there will be less need to make them afraid. And men will increase; and the more men the more tribute."

"Men will increase?"

"Yes; as surely as the forest-tree rises, and as fast as the coral branches out over the sands of the sea. But not unless you make one great change which you have never yet been told."

"Tell us now," cried the king and priest in a breath.

"I have told you that the gods will henceforth have what the spirits of men can make and do, rather than the spirits themselves; men's works and men's thoughts, rather than their bodies in sacrifice. Do you hear me?"

"Yes. Tell us the other great change."

"No one knows when the spirits of men begin to work, or when they leave off; or whether they work best when their bodies are weak, or when they are strong. Every human creature that has a spirit in him must therefore be taken care of, and kept alive as long as possible, that his spirit may do all it can in the world."

"How many spirits have we sent away too early?" exclaimed Miava.

"That was before these changes," said the captain.

"When you try the new ways that are now to begin, you will find how the spirits of old men speak wise things, and how the spirits of little children promise what they will do as men,—just as the day-spring promises what the moon will be. And then your old men, and your blind and sick people, will not be left to perish because they are weak; and no more infants will be destroyed."

The extracts we have given sufficiently indicate the literary merits of this work, which, both in story and style, is one of the most interesting and

delightful we have ever read. Comment on such a publication is unnecessary; praise is the only task it leaves to the critic, and commendation of Miss Martineau is superfluous.

## AGRICULTURE.

### MORE LANDLORD LEGISLATION!

There would seem to be a combination amongst the monopolist-parliament-men to bring monopoly into contempt. There have been, during the present session, Miles's and Bankes's *sham* motions, and the never-to-be-forgotten lard and grease debates, which have sunk the parliamentary advocates of protection so low, and made every man of ordinary sense and feeling—monopolist though he may be—so thoroughly ashamed of such a cause so advocated, that protectionists begin to desire the final settlement of the question. Nor is that final settlement far off; for a little bill has been brought into Parliament by four great protectionists, which admits to the full the principles we have contended for. We did think that the "cause of protection" could not fall lower than the position it has occupied since the self-damaging discussions we have referred to; but it seems we were mistaken. It was reserved for Messrs. Greene, Stafford O'Brien, Pusey, and Darby to demonstrate that in the lowest depth of degradation to which monopoly had fallen there was still a lower baseness to which it could fall,—that there is a smaller littleness—a meaner meanness—to be laid to the charge of those monopolist landowners, who have made laws to keep up their own rents at the expense of all the rest of the community.

The reader will readily see that we refer to the bill "for allowing a drawback of duty on malt used for the purpose of feeding cattle," to which the four redoubtable monopolist M.P.s named stand sponsors. This bill proposes to allow "any maltster to whom a specific license for the purpose has been granted by the excise, to mix any equal quantity of oats, barley, or peas, crushed or whole, with unground malt, or any equal quantity of the meal of beans, peas, barley, or oats with ground malt, and to sell the aforesaid malt free of duty to any occupier of land, receiving from the said purchaser a certificate of the quantity of malt so sold;" and a penalty of £50 is imposed upon any person who shall give a false certificate, or who shall "mash for the purpose of brewing, any malt so sold duty free." Whether such an act would or would not open a wide door to frauds on the revenue we leave to the consideration of the excise officials; but, apart from all such questions, the absurdity of the measure is such that, but for the grave characters of the backers of the bill, we should have said it was intended as a practical joke.

Let us trace the source of this bill, and examine its operation, assuming it really to become law, and we shall find that it betrays excessive feebleness on the part of the once noisy and rampant monopolists. Soon after the landlords had stimulated their tenants to practical political agitation to keep up rents, it occurred, naturally enough, to the tenant-farmers, that, having once got their hands into politics, they might as well do a little business in that line on their own account. They, therefore, began to agitate for the repeal of the malt-tax. Now, this was at all events a large scheme and a practical object; and the tenant-farmers set about it like men of business. They saw that a tax producing four millions and a half sterling to the revenue of the State could not be repealed without a substitute, and accordingly they said, let the loss to the revenue be made good by an increased property-tax. Nor were the arguments they adduced against the malt-tax without force: they showed that while population had vastly increased the consumption of malt had actually diminished; that the duty on malt prevented labourers in husbandry from obtaining, either from their masters or their own resources, a certain portion of malt liquor, which it was alleged would add to their health and comfort; and as a subsidiary argument, that, but for the duty, malt might be usefully and economically used in feeding cattle. Now, though we believe the real value of malt liquor to working men is vastly overrated, and that the same sum expended in animal food would be of more use to them morally and physically, still it cannot be denied that farming labourers would deem any measure which enabled them to obtain a daily supply of beer a great boon; and we believe that farmers, if the commodity were somewhat less costly, would frequently give a little beer over and above the present wages. This argument, therefore, in the present temper of the public mind, when an opinion extensively prevails that the labourers, especially the agricultural labourers of this country, have been unduly oppressed by erroneous and class legislation, was calculated to make a considerable impression. To the plea for malting barley to feed cattle cheaply there was this obvious and short answer: that while you maintain a law to exclude foreign oats, beans, peas, Indian corn, and similar articles of cheap cattle food, you can scarcely expect a remission of the malt duty for that purpose. Indeed, there has been scarcely a speaker at any of the anti-

malt-tax meetings who did not indignantly repudiate the mere remission of the duty upon malt as cattle food, while it should be maintained on the labourers' beer.

Yet, as if to show how small the community of sentiment is between the landowners and the farmers, four monopolist squires set their heads together and concoct a little scheme for "allowing a drawback of duty on malt used for the purpose of feeding cattle"!!!

Now, every quarter of malt used for feeding—the free importation of barley being prohibited as at present—would tend to raise the price of barley, which increase would go into the pockets of the owners of barley-land in the form of rent. And even the gain derived from increase of feeding quality, which the process of malting is said to impart to grain, would, in the present state of the farming business, find its way into the same fathomless abyss—the landlord's pocket. The whole secret, however, of the very small measure we have commented on is this. The Peelite monopolists see that the one-sided Free Trade, which admits meat and cattle, and excludes the grain wherewith our own cattle may be cheaply fed, has excited most justly the indignation of the farmers; and the petty scheme of malt for feeding cattle duty free is intended as a sop to discontented graziers. At all events it will serve to talk about to the exclusion of more awkward topics at farmers' meetings, and it cannot, in any way, lower rents; if anything, its tendency is the other way. Therefore these four very gentle Monopolist-Ministerialists try their hand at this bit of solemn humbug. That the landed gentry are reduced to such paltry shifts is in truth most wondrous pitiful.

### FINDING A LEVEL.

It is surprising how rapidly the monopolist landowners are finding their level, now that their claims and their laws are subjected to strict examination. Moreover, we believe that few, except those practically acquainted with the landed gentry, had any notion how very low a level that of the squire really is. In the House of Commons Mr. Miles, Mr. Bankes, and Mr. Bramston have laid bare the nakedness of their monopolist pretensions, and the pitiable figures those gentlemen made acted strongly on the good sense of the country. Of this the following passages from the speeches at a late meeting, at Chelmsford, of the "Essex Protection Society" will give some idea. The meeting, when assembled, did not seem very well able to tell what it had met for, it having been originally intended to have taken place previous to and

in support of Mr. Miles's motion. The ludicrous result of that "sham" motion rather embarrassed the managers of the meeting. Mr. R. Baker read a long story of how, in consequence of a communication received from the "Central Society," a deputation of the Essex "Society" had gone to London, having previously invited all the members from Essex to meet them at the "room in Bond-street;" how most of the members fought shy of that suspicious rendezvous; and how not a few of them contrived to elude altogether an interview with the deputation.

Mr. Bramston, Sir John Tyrell, and Mr. C. G. Round were the only members present at Chelmsford. There was a long pause after the chairman had read his very encouraging narrative, and called for any gentleman who had "observations to make upon the subject before the meeting," but nobody was inclined to begin. At last Mr. Tower, a squire, and a rampant protectionist, began with the following passage, aimed at the county members:—

"If it was possible to conceive a more important occasion than that on which they were met to-day, he was at a loss to guess it; for he was sure such an occasion never happened in Essex before; and he would rather it should be met by the tenant-farmers than attempt to give a direction at all to the course they should pursue; but at the same time he thought the course he should prescribe to them would be the most respectful to their representatives (hear), while it would be calculated to impress on their minds the very serious responsibility which attached to them in the high post in which they were placed, from the important subject-matter they were about to discuss. (Cheers.)"

They had met because "here was one of the greatest agricultural counties in the kingdom, he might say, with rapid, but with certain, progress, verging to a stage of ruin and unparalleled distress." Now, this being interpreted, means that the owners of undrained clay land, "heavily encumbered," are rather frightened about rent. That this was uppermost in the speaker's mind is obvious, for he said:—

"For if the cultivator of the soil sunk, what was to become of the sleeping partner, the landlord, who was only to take in rent the surplus derived by the tenant from the land; and if the tenant made no profit, where was the surplus to come from? Therefore, the interest of the landlord followed the interest of the occupier, and the occupier must be supported."

Ay, but the Corn Laws have not supported the occupiers; just the reverse. Mr. Tower having raved and rambled through the usual nonsense about the Canada Corn Bill, the tariff, and so on, and then said:—

"And was it not clear that as much injury might be produced to the farmer by thus attacking him gradually as by taking protection from him all at once? It was as hard to die of a lingering consumption as of a raging fever. (Cries of 'Woe!') When on a former occasion

the Corn Bill and the other measures of the Government were discussed in that room, he (Mr. Tower) said that Lord John Russell opened an artery, and they died on the spot; but Sir Robert Peel was opening veins in all parts of their body, and they would as surely bleed to death as if he had opened an artery. (Cheers.)

Then, having pitched into Peel right and left, he said:—

"He knew that the agricultural members were placed under great difficulties in Parliament; those who acted on the principles of Free Trade, and those who supported the Ministry, flattered themselves they had all the talent of the country, and they sneered and pointed the finger of scorn at the little band of Mr. Miles, amongst which seventy-eight he was proud to say all our members were found. (Cheers.) They knew what the finger of scorn would do; but they knew also that a sense of responsibility would induce a man to stand forth and say, 'No man shall make me desert my duty—I am supporting the interests and the industry of our domestic cultivation, and I will not be deterred by sneers and ridicule.' (Cheers.)"

Sneers and ridicule are sharp weapons when pointed by truth, and this has made poor Miles and his seventy-eight so obnoxious to the "finger of scorn." We wonder any one calling himself an English gentleman can submit to be placed in such a humiliating position. Next followed Mr. Ducroz, a farmer; and his speech proves that in Essex, as elsewhere, farmers are beginning to think for themselves. He said:—

"Their object had in a great degree been defeated after the decision had been taken on Mr. Miles's motion, for that object was to represent their difficulties to their members previous to that motion coming on. As to what had fallen from Mr. Tower, he did not wholly agree with him as to the position of things, and that the whole difficulty of the question was with the tenant-farmers; but it appeared to him, from what he was going to state, that they no longer ought to throw all the difficulty on the tenant-farmers for them to rebut them, for he thought that body was placed in such a position that shortly they would have little interest indeed in the question. The great difficulty was to look into their own position themselves."

He referred to the delusions of the Corn-Law makers, saying:—

"It appeared to him, with respect to the price of wheat, that when the tithe commutation act passed it was believed 56s. would be the ruling price, and the tithe commutation was fixed at that. Sir Robert Peel, in passing his measure on the Corn Law, certainly made no pledge that we should have a ruling price of 56s., but he led the whole country to expect that 56s. would be the general average. He laid down the rent of land throughout the kingdom at 20s. per acre, which he believed was correct; but even suppose he took it at 25s., and the tithe at 6s. 6d., which it was not throughout the country, that would bring it to £1. 11s. 6d. for rent and tithe. Then 3½ quarters of wheat he thought was about the average produce; four quarters was too much, and three quarters too little; but, taking the rent at 25s. and the tithe at 6s. 6d., he thought they might take the average of such land at 3½ quarters per acre. Now, the difference in this 3½ quarters, between 56s., the price they were led to expect, and 45s., the average of the last four months, was £1. 16s. 6d. while the whole rent and tithe on the land was only £1. 11s. 6d. Now, from that average he wanted to know how they were to put anything into their pockets? When they were losing £1. 16s. 6d., what was 25 or 50 per cent. difference in the rent? (Cheers.) It appeared to him that with this state of things they could not possibly continue in their farms; and therefore it was the landlords and men of property that must come forward, and he should like to see men of higher standing in the county speaking on this matter, for they were as much interested in it as the tenant-farmer."

Here we have a tangible statement from a practical man; and it is perfectly plain that rent must be lowered and produce increased before the farmer's business can be in a sound and wholesome state. Mr. Ducroz states 3½ quarters, or 28 bushels, of wheat to the acre, to be the average produce of Essex; whereas, with moderately good farming, 4½ quarters, or 36 bushels, would be obtained throughout the county. Now, suppose rent and tithes reduced from £1. 11s. 6d. per acre to about £1. 1s., and another quarter of wheat, or £2. 5s., added to each acre of the farmer's produce, how would the case stand then? And this will happen when the Corn Laws have been repealed. Then followed Mr. Low, another farmer, an active protectionist, and he said:—

"He had always had reason to believe, that, in the administration of the affairs of this mighty empire, agriculture maintained a position in the first rank, which it now seemed was denied to it, and the finger of contemptuous scorn was held out against the county members, who before were always treated with the greatest respect and deference in the House of Commons. The interests of commerce were well represented, and when any measure affecting that class was introduced into the House of Commons, the case was well combated, and the objectionable clauses were immediately altered in the way they wished, as they had seen was the case with regard to sugar. But the agriculturists were not regarded: the representations of their members were not listened to even by Sir Robert Peel; and they heard it asked in the House of Commons, on Mr. Miles's motion, was it all a sham? He (Mr. Low) did not attach much importance to the results of that motion; but he thought the object of Mr. Miles, and the object of those who acted with him, was to recognize the importance of agriculture, and to show the House of Commons and the country at large, that agriculture was still of that importance that it used to possess in the estimation of the empire. But they saw the real position in which Mr. Miles was placed. He did not reflect on our county members for reflecting on the county members generally, because they were not found at their post to protect the interest they were sent to protect, and thereby thwarted the measure, and supported the plan which the Minister had introduced. The end of all this must be a system of Free Trade."

Mr. Low thought the county members should rally round the "little remnant of protection which was left to them," but,

"As to what they could do, he knew there was a difference of opinion; and they were asked by Mr. Cobden and others in the House of Commons, 'What do you want? what will you have done?' That was an embarrassing situation; but he thought they did not ask too much when they said that they ought to be considered in any remission of taxation."

Here Mr. Low admits the monopolists know not what they want, or dare not openly avow it.

Mr. BRAMSTON, M.P., of lard-and-grease fame—

"Certainly felt some little disappointment at not seeing a larger meeting of this great and respectable society on the present occasion."

And—

"He could not help thinking that it would have been more advantageous to the interest which they all had at heart not to have held that meeting, although subject of great importance had been brought forward, but which could not take any other aspect than that of general distress amongst the agricultural classes. He allowed that he should have been glad to have heard that very difficult problem solved, *What is to be done for the agricultural interest?* He had listened to the excellent observations of Mr. Ducroz, as well as to those which fell from Mr. Tower, and agreed with much which they had said. No man could live in this country or occupy land, either as landlord or tenant, who could be ignorant of the depression of the farmers, and entirely so from the question of prices. (Hear, hear.) The question naturally suggested itself—how was this to be remedied?"

It was useless to take up their time with discussions on the Canada Corn Bill and the tariff, "for it would be perfectly impossible to repeal those measures." By such topics they only served those who would destroy protection. He said also:—

"Another thing which did harm to the case was, the introducing of statements which could not be borne out by facts,"

and showed the absurdity of some of Mr. Tower's statements about the tariff, &c. He thought Mr. Miles's motion could lead to no practical good, but he had supported it because he had voted for a similar motion in 1836.

Next, Mr. Holt White said:—

"He agreed with Mr. Bramston in the astonishment he had expressed, that the gentlemen who had preceded him had not in their speeches alluded to some measure that was to be taken for the future, and pointed to some course which they could adopt. He came there in utter ignorance as to the course of business to be pursued, and having heard four gentlemen speak, he must say he was now in the same state of ignorance. He had heard four excellent speeches, but they related to bygone matters. As far as Mr. Miles's motion went, his opinion was that, though there was no harm in it, there was marvellous little good; and he could not but agree with Sir James Graham, that there never was so small a boon asked for by so large a body. (Hear.) He really thought, it was all they were to get in the present Parliament—it was what they were to get by the orders from Bond-street to sign petitions and back up Mr. Miles's motion—he begged to say that the finger of scorn should not be pointed at him in connection with the matter, for he would have nothing to do with it. He thought they were in an 'awkward fix,' as the Americans said; it seemed clear to him that the agriculturists very frequently had not only the finger of scorn pointed at them, but that they deserved it; and he would beg of the meeting to pay attention to what Mr. Bramston had said, that they too often erred in the statements they made relative to protection."

He thought the use of misstatements and fallacious arguments only injured their cause; and in reference to a document put forth by the Central Society, he said:—

"He must confess when such papers as that he held in his hand were published by the society (referring to a list of the articles in the new tariff which affect agriculture), he could not agree to the putting out such a document as that; for if they were to try to exclude these things, and to impress upon the members that under no circumstances were they to allow such a list as that to pass—that was to be the principle upon which they acted, he not only doubted the policy of it, but he regarded it as not fair to the members or to the country at large that, if they had the power to do this, they should use that power, for by this means they would be day by day falling into a worse position, and they would be actually cutting the ground from under their own feet. He would not go into the various articles which that list contained, for there was such a feeling of the ridiculous in it that he had thought it must come from some other body than the Protection Society, and when the paper was first shown to him he was asked whether it was not a joke."

Then followed this most significant dialogue:—

"The Chairman said that paper was not intended for general circulation, but only to show the agriculturists the articles that affected them. It was not put into circulation, but was for the use of the committee."

Mr. Holt White: He must say that, backed up as this paper was by a petition to Parliament, it conveyed an impression to his mind that it was sent out as a cue to the great injury done to the agriculturists by the present alterations in the tariff. If it was not sent out for that, what was the use of it at all?

Mr. H. Bullock: It was not sent out—it was only for the use of the committee."

The Chairman: That paper was in accordance with the instructions of the Central Society, as many of the articles would greatly tend to reduce the labour of the poor. Amongst the articles alluded to were tithes, and all other seeds not enumerated; and it was thought that the growth of seeds materially affected the interests of the farmers in this country. (Cheers.) That was the only explanation he could give."

After all, nothing has ever damaged the monopolists like their own sayings and doings. Mr. Holt then re-

sumed, and thus illustrated the validity of Mr. Cobden's argument, that farmers are injured by protection, some in one way, and some in another, more than any one else:

"Take tithes, for instance; he doubted whether they should not be all benefited by having tithes cheaper. He had the greatest doubt in the world on this being a disadvantage to them, but if they could prove to him that they were interested in having tithes dear instead of cheap, they being year by year buyers of tithes and seldom sellers—if they could show him that they were benefited by this, still the great majority of the farmers of England were buyers of tithes, for in the north of England the climate would not allow them to grow them. If this subject had been brought forward to discuss at the meeting he thought it would have been better. And further, he would ask, were there not two sides to the argument on every article they could pick out of that paper? There appeared to him to be only one safe mode for persons to take, both on private and public occasions, and that was to be careful that in any step they took they should keep themselves absolutely in the right. (Cheers.) He anxiously wished that they would come to a distinct decision on some one article, and let the members know what they wished they should do on it, or else leave them to the unfettered exercise of their own judgment, and not afterwards blame them because they might conceive that the course they pursued would be prejudicial to interests of their own. (Hear.) And let him give them this piece of advice—it was not any individual parish or particular locality that they had a chance of protecting—they had no chance if they could not show that what they sought was for the general interest of the whole body of the agriculturists of England, and not for the south against the north, or for the grazing against the plough farmer, but the interest of the whole agricultural body. (Cheers.)"

Now, all this shows a more rapid spread of sound and rational views of protection amongst the monopolists themselves than existed a year ago. He said he had been intrusted with the getting up a petition:—

"They could not doubt the feeling of Rochford Hundred in connexion with agriculture—they could not doubt that the inhabitants there were deeply interested in the question; yet in the petition sent the interest was marvellously small: he could only get three persons to meet on it, and they could not conceive what it was to petition about; and if the committee had not sent an express for it, he doubted whether the petition would ever have got here at all."

The Rochford Hundred farmers have been made fools of so often by the monopolists that they have become shy of petitions. And on the same topic Mr. White afterwards added:

"What was it to petition for? Was it worth while to petition for Mr. Miles's motion, and for so little a boon to make such a fuss? The agriculturists of Rochford Hundred felt little interest in it, and he approved them for their good sense; but when they gave them something worth petitioning for, they would beat themselves. As to tithes, he had no doubt they were very good food indeed, and he only said it was a doubtful case; but when this was the only matter they could select out of that long list, he thought there was great dry and little wool. He did not know what this meeting was for, except that they might furnish good food for the League to laugh at them."

Well, we do think our readers will have to thank the Essex Protection Society for a little fun. But the meeting is as instructive as it is funny, and it will not be lost upon our agricultural readers. Sir John Pyrell ended a long and, of course, a wise speech by saying:—

"And he believed they all felt with him, that what the agriculturists wanted was real substantial protection, equivalent to the burdens and taxes that they had to bear."

Of course Sir John meant peculiar burdens, and we ask him what are they? and he would possibly say with Mr. Low, "that is an embarrassing question."

Mr. Round, M.P., said:—

"He could not help suggesting to them whether what had passed in that room to-day was not matter for serious reflection, and if it might not tend to something like difference of opinion amongst themselves. Let them beware of that, and whatever they did let them be united. (Cheers.) One gentleman impugned that paper on the table; another defended it. One undervalued the petition of Rochford Hundred; another went so far in favour of it that he (Mr. Round) really thought he was going to move a vote of censure on Mr. Holt White. (Laughter.) Mr. White touched on tithes; another gentleman disagreed with him. Was it well that these differences of opinion amongst them on minor matters should go forth to the world? Would it not be better to discuss these matters with closed doors—but not that they had anything to conceal? One honourable gentleman touched on clover-seed, and he (Mr. Round) would say, 'Let no gentleman object to what a large body of the agriculturists asked for—do not let us fall to pieces in that way.' They knew that the reduction of the duty on clover-seed was insisted on by a large body of farmers in the north of England, and they had reason to be thankful that it was not entirely swept away at their request. And let him say that the speech of the member for Stockport suggested serious matter for reflection: it was not all the farmers that wished clover seed, and cheese, and other articles to be protected; and he would therefore say, let us agree on these things as well as we can, and act for the general good. (Cheers.)"

Now, all this indicates that the end of protection draweth nigh. But perhaps the best thing of all was the speech of the once voracious Mr. Robert Baker, the chairman, who thus comforted the meeting and the monopolists at large for doing nothing:—

"They had heard there was some difference of opinion as to the course they should pursue; Mr. Holt White had made some remarks as to their not having reduced their propositions to a particular motion; but they had no proposition to offer, for the committee, after having done all they could, came there to confer with them as to what further was to be done. And he trusted the objec-



of the meeting had not been lost, for, though they might not get much this session, they might be laying the foundation for something in future."

How comfortable! What a foundation for future proceedings! Mr. Miles's motion and the butter, grease, and lard debates prove!! Even from this test the magnanimous auctioneer shrunk not. Speaking of caraway seeds and so forth, he said:—

"These items, though small individually, were the source and summit of protection, for it depended upon them in the aggregate; and it was on this principle that he so much admired the motion made in the House of Commons on the subject of lard and grease. Perhaps they were not aware that what we produced here was quite a different article to the lard of America, for they melted down the whole animal and converted it into lard; and thus they saw how we might be overwhelmed by it in this country, so as to render it impossible to fatten that animal which had been such an assistance to agriculture."

There is no disputing about taste; but to hear a man confess to "admiring" the lard and grease motions, passes all our preconceived notions of the ridiculous.

#### FARMERS! HELP YOURSELVES.

In political matters as in private affairs, fortune helps those only who can help themselves. Of this the tenant-farmers are everywhere becoming sensible, and are talking of acting accordingly. As, for instance, in Sussex,—

"We are informed, upon good authority, that, in consequence of recent events, so much dissatisfaction has been created among the agricultural interest in this county that it has been determined to bring forward two tenant-farmers as candidates for the representation of East Sussex upon the occasion of the next election. The names of two gentlemen have been mentioned, who, we understand, have consented to stand in the event of no other candidates among the tenant-farmers being found more eligible. We are not, however, at liberty at present to disclose the names of the parties alluded to."—*Sussex Advertiser*.

This must not be mere talk. It may be difficult, at first, to get farmers to combine for the purpose of putting the squires out of the county representation; but when an earnest movement in that direction has been made by the tenant-farmers, the thing will have been accomplished. We have seen by the figures the monopolist squires cut in Parliament what poor creatures they are morally, and intellectually; and if the farmers select sensible men of real business talents for their candidates, and will act in concert, they will soon have the protectionist squires sufficiently submissive.

#### THE GAME-LAW VICTIM.

Our readers will recollect the case of Stephens, which we stated from the *Western Times*, and who, when before the bankrupt court, showed that he had been ruined by his landlord's game. Here we have a report of the final consummation of this poor farmer's ruin, who "is now working as a common day labourer."

#### END OF THE RABBIT CASE.

Mr. JAMES STEPHENS.—The insolvent had been a farmer of Mawgan, Cornwall, and came up for his final order. He was examined by Mr. Stogdon as to a bill of sale given to his landlord of all his property in July last. A sale took place in October. He was to receive £20; he received four five-pound notes, but he paid them back again towards the rent, after holding them a few days. He got no receipt for the money. The bill of sale stated that he owed to his landlord £210 on notes, with interest. He was now working as a common labourer. His crops had been damaged by rabbits to the amount of £75 in the last year, and the landlord refused to allow more than £2 on fourteen acres of wheat as consideration. Final order granted. — *Western Times*.

#### THE GAME LAWS.

The following petition was presented to the House of Commons, on Wednesday last, by Mr. Bright, signed by 92 tenant-farmers of the county of Edinburgh:—

"UNTO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED; The petition of the undersigned proprietors, tenant-farmers, and others connected with agriculture, in the county of Edinburgh,

"Humbly sheweth,—That your petitioners feel much aggrieved by the extent to which game is preserved, and the consequent destruction to their crops thereby, while not only are they deprived by the present game laws of all power of killing game of any kind, and thereby preserving their crops, but, although they take out a game certificate, they are not shot even over their own farms without incurring the risk of being prosecuted criminally for so doing, and of either paying a fine and expenses, or, on failure, to be sent to prison, and treated as felons for a period not exceeding two months; and not a few instances are on record where tenant-farmers have been so prosecuted, and interdicted from killing the game which were destroying the source from whence alone they could pay their rents.

"That the present game laws are calculated to create, and do create, heartburnings between landlord and tenant; and being administered by justices of the peace, who, in many instances, are landlords, and have game preserves themselves, and are members of game associations, it is almost impossible, even although these functionaries were conversant with law, they can be unbiased judges, or the law fairly and properly applied; and hence great distress exists, and not a few illegal convictions, it is believed, have taken place.

"Your petitioners, therefore, trust that your Honourable House will abolish the present game laws, and enact that every tenant farmer shall, on qualifying, have the right to kill game, and make rabbits his own absolute property. And, further, that justices of the peace shall have no jurisdiction in offences committed against any game law to be hereafter enacted; but that the same shall be tried by the sheriff, with a jury of five to be chosen by ballot.

"And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c."

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 3, 1845.

As this is our last publication before the opening of the Bazaar, we have devoted the greater part of our space to the subject. The ladies who have taken upon themselves the duties of secretaries have been indefatigable in their exertions to provide for the comfort and convenience of those who are to attend the stalls, and they will assemble in the Theatre on Tuesday, to complete the distribution of the stalls, and the general arrangements for the supply of attendance. It is desirable that as many of the ladies secretaries from the country as possible, or a lady from each town to which a stall is allocated, may attend this meeting, the last of the kind that can be held before the opening of the Bazaar; and that any who may not be able to attend, but may have information to afford, should address their communications to the Committee of Secretaries at the Theatre. The immense quantities of goods that have arrived this week will require so much time and labour for their arrangement that it will be necessary to limit the admissions strictly to those who have official duties to perform. The arrangements for the trains will be found in another part of this paper.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber of Deputies, on Saturday, M. Dozon brought forward his proposition for preventing, by fine and imprisonment, the practice of duelling, and asked the Chamber to appoint a day for his bringing the matter before it formally. The Minister of Justice opposed the proposition, on the ground that the common law was sufficient for all the purposes which the hon. deputy sought.

The report of the committee on the fortifications of Paris has been published. It appears that the armament for the walls will amount to 1226 pieces of cannon, and for the forts an additional number of 982; making a total of 2208 pieces. The salient parts of the wall are to be defended by a newly-invented gun, called the *canon-obusier* of 80, calculated to throw masses of grape to a thousand yards with the greatest precision. Between the wall and the forts there will be numerous field works for covering the roads and villages, supporting the external operations and sorties, maintaining provisions for those corps who might be obliged to take refuge under the walls, for providing artillery for menaced points; all which will require a powerful central reserve, but which will be made the subject of a special law.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following royal ordinance, dated Sunday:—"Considering that M. Guizot, our Minister Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs, has need, for his health, of some repose, we have ordained and do ordain as follows—the Count Duchatel, Minister Secretary of State for the Interior, is charged *ad interim* with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A meeting of the principal silk-manufacturers of Lyons took place a few days ago in that city, to consider the propriety of petitioning the Chamber of Peers against the introduction of Chinese silks into France. The petition was accordingly drawn up, and has just arrived at Paris, bearing 300 signatures. It states, that the Lyons manufacturers consider the importation of Chinese silks as certain to cause the complete ruin of their business, and contains tables, showing 35 to 40 per cent. difference in favour of the Chinese in all the markets where the silk goods of the two countries enter into competition.

MADRID.—On the 19th of April the Chamber of Deputies was engaged in discussion on the supplies for the Finance Department, when, in answer to a question from Senor Llorente, relative to the large expense of the coast guards, the Minister of Finance said great services had been rendered by that body and the Carabineros in preventing smuggling. Not fewer than 91 felons, laden with contraband goods, had been captured by them since February, on the coast of Huelva and Motril. With regard to any alteration in the tariff, he observed, that considering the state of the manufactures, and the serious interests connected with them, he had refrained from submitting any reforms to the appreciation of the Cortes during the present session. The question, however, had been under consideration, and would be brought forward at some future period.

SWITZERLAND.—Accounts from Lucerne of the 23rd ult. state, that a great number of persons had been condemned by the council of war to five years' imprisonment for not having answered the call to arms, and for having joined the five corps; for which latter offence, moreover, they are to be tried by the civil tribunals. The commissioner of Lucerne, and those of Berne, Soleure, Bale, Compagne, and Argovie, have concluded a treaty for the liberation of prisoners on condition of an indemnity fixed at 350,000fr.

The *New Zurich Gazette* of the 28th has the following from Lucerne, of the 27th:—"Yesterday the Grand Council unanimously ratified the treaty, concluded on the 23rd, relative to the ransom of the prisoners; but has issued a decree, imposing certain obligations on the Governments of the four cantons as regards the persons belonging to them who took part in the attacks upon Lucerne. The presence of the Foreign Ambassadors at Lucerne had for its object the promotion of the proceedings of the Federal Commissioners on behalf of the prisoners. They have advised the Government to grant a general amnesty."

We read in a letter from Mentz (Grand Duchy of Darmstadt), April 20:—"The criminal tribunal persists in its jurisprudence against duelling. It has just pronounced sentence of imprisonment for one year, with hard labour, in a fortress, against a merchant's clerk, who killed a sub-leutenant of dragoons in a duel about a year ago."

WEIMAR, April, 21.—The Government paper states that a commercial treaty has been finally concluded between this duchy and the kingdom of Portugal.

BRAZIL AND THE ZOLLVEREIN.—MANHEIM, April 20.—It is understood that the negotiations with the Brazilian Envoy, M. D'Abrantes, are so far brought to a result that a certain number of propositions have been drawn up, which either have already been, or will immediately be, submitted to the Governments of the Zollverein states for their approval. At the next Zollverein conference in Carlsruhe, it is probable that something more positive on this subject will be made known.—*Manheim Zeitung*.

ITALY.—Private letters from Romagna announce that the military commission sitting at Ravenna had condemned to death three political prisoners, and a number of others to the galleys. Among the former was a young man under 18 years of age. The *Sacra Consulta* at Rome has pronounced in the case of M. Galetti, a lawyer of Bologna, and sentenced him to the galleys for life. M. Serpieri, of Rimini, was to be imprisoned during 20 years, by order of the same exceptional tribunal.

A letter from Milan of the 21st ult. states that the Pope, a few days previously, had called together a congregation or meeting for secular purposes in Rome, at which it was determined not to allow railways within the Papal states, either those having their origin there, or as connecting links with the adjoining countries.

ATHENS.—Athens letters of the 10th of April mention that the anniversary of the declaration of Greek independence was celebrated on the 6th by a mere religious ceremony, in the church of St. Ireneus, and a general illumination at night.

CIRCASSIA.—It is announced that Count Woronzow, who has been appointed Governor of Circassia, left Odessa about the middle of March. One of the measures that will be taken by the Count, on his arrival at Teflis, seems to be more important than would be thought at the first glance; the Circassians, as we are aware, are accustomed to carry on a white slave trade, disposing of their children to the Turks; the Russian Government had attempted to abolish this traffic, and had even established cruisers to suppress it. Count Woronzow has determined to change this system, and proposes to authorize anew the commerce in Circassian slaves.—*Augsburg Gazette*.

DAMASCUS.—Advices from Damascus of the 26th of March stated, that the Mecca caravan had been this year more numerous than ever, and that no less than 3000 Persians accompanied it. The celebrated Sheikh Mahmoud, who exercised so great an influence in the Hauran, died at Damascus on the 20th ult.

BRAZIL.—According to commercial letters of the 1st of March, received from Rio Janeiro, the Brazilian Ministers had come to the resolution of fixing the import duties on British cotton manufactured at 20 per cent. advance on the old tariff. The following is a literal translation of the resolution submitted to the Chamber on the last day of February, and no doubt was entertained but that it would be passed by a large majority:—

"The Finance Committee proposed that, from and after the 1st July next, all articles of cotton manufacture in and of the produce of Great Britain, and her dominions, shall pay in the customs of Brazil, when cleared for consumption, 1-5th, or 20 per cent. over and above the amount of duties payable by tariff; and furthermore that the Government be authorized to suspend the payment of this differential duty so soon as the English Government will extend to Brazil the same reduction in the duty on her sugars as was recently adopted by the legislature of that nation with respect to foreign sugars generally."

UNITED STATES.—The *Washington Constitution* repeats the rumour that the British Minister, Mr. Pakenham, is charged with the negotiation of a treaty with the United States, "based upon reciprocal advantages to the products of each country in their respective markets." It states that it was current and generally believed at the capital.

FRIGHTFUL STEAM-BOAT ACCIDENT.—News has been received by the Waterloo, American packet-ship, which reached Liverpool on Thursday evening, of a frightful steam-boat disaster which occurred last month. The steam-boat *Swallow*, having on board about 350 passengers, left Albany for New York, and when opposite Hudson struck a rock and broke in two. The accident was the more appalling as it occurred at night. The helmsman of the boat brought the fire of the furnace in contact with the wood, and the vessel was soon wrapt in flames. The terror seemed to be at its highest when the boat broke in two: the water put out the fire, and the stern sank. At this critical moment the steam-boats *Express* and *Rochester* came up, and immediately got out all their boats, to pick up those who were in the water, and save the residue who were clinging to the wreck—of these the *Rochester* took on board 150, and the *Express* 30. Many were known, however, to have reached Hudson and Athens, as boats were promptly despatched from both places. The bodies of several passengers were found, and many others are missing. The loss of life is supposed to have been great.

##### DOMESTIC.

Prince Albert has forwarded to the Mechanics' Institution, in Southampton-buildings, the sum of £20, in aid of the fund now collecting to improve the library of that institution.

Viscount Loftus has been elected for the Duke of Marlborough's close borough of Woodstock, vice the Marquis of Blandford.

The late William Johnston, Esq., long a merchant and shipowner in Kirkcubright, has, by his will, bequeathed the magnificent sum of £3500 sterling for the immediate erection and endowment of a free-school.

The potters at Brettell Lane are suffering very much on account of the rise in the price of coal, but we are happy to say that the masters are bearing the whole of the burden, and thus showing a sympathy for the condition of their workmen, which reflects upon them much credit.—*Worcester Journal*.

On Saturday evening last a most destructive fire took place at Withersfield, where everything on the farm was consumed, including six score of sheep. It is not yet ascertained whether it is the work of an incendiary or not.— *Ipswich Express*.

The total number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts during the week ending on Saturday, the 26th of April, amounted to 904, a return exhibiting an increase on the averages of the last five springs, and a decrease on those of the last five years, the numbers being respectively 888 and 963.

On Tuesday afternoon a meeting was held in the great room at Exeter hall, to receive from the Rev. Dr. Wolff a narrative of his mission to Bokhara to ascertain the fate of Colonel Stoddard and Captain Conolly. Admiral Sir E. Codrington was in the chair, supported by Lord De Mauley, Lord Gage, Sir T. D. Acland, M.P., Assayd Kayat, Chevalier Dillon, Captain Grover, Dr. Yates, Dr. Major, the Rev. Dr. Goodchild, Captain Randall, Mr. H. Pownall, and a great many other military officers, clergymen, and civilians. The Rev. Dr. Wolff (having been introduced to the meeting by Captain Grover) gave a narrative of his mission, which occupied two hours and a half in delivery. The main facts have already appeared in the public papers. Some confusion was caused by the Rev. G. Stoddard, a relative of Colonel Stoddard, accusing Captain Grover of casting false imputations on the character of the deceased colonel and his relatives. Captain Grover replied that the only insinuation to which the rev. gentleman could possibly allude was that the relatives of his poor friend mourned for him before his fate was ascertained. After some further discussion, the thanks of the meeting were voted to Dr. Wolff, and it was agreed that a national subscription should be opened to present the rev. gentleman with some suitable testimonial.

We learn from good authority that flax will be grown this year, more or less, in every county of England, and, it is expected, somewhat extensively in Sussex. One gentleman will sow nine acres.—*Brighton Gazette.*

During the last two or three days the arrival of homeward bound vessels—more especially those in the foreign trade—in the river has been very great, and the pool and the docks now present an exceedingly crowded and bustling appearance. The tide of Tuesday brought up a large fleet—amongst which were no less than eight large East Indians.

Very numerous meetings are holding at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, in order to protest against the increased grant proposed by the Government to be given to the College of Maynooth. They are composed of persons delegated by congregations of various religious denominations throughout the empire, the great majority being from dissenting bodies.

Mr. Searge has withdrawn from the British and Foreign School Society because it has accepted pecuniary assistance from the Government.

From statistical information gathered by the active secretary to the Accident Relief Society, from the various hospitals and other sources, it appears that very nearly 50,000 of all descriptions occur annually, the great majority of which falls, of course, among the working classes.

The annual meeting of the Association for the Aid and Benefit of Dressmakers and Milliners was held, on Friday, the 25th ult., at the Hanover-square Rooms. Lord Ashley, as president, took the chair. The secretary read the report, which stated that the sum expended in pecuniary assistance amounted to £119. 16s. 1d.; whilst the expense for medical attendance, and medicines, for procuring change of air, was £54. 13s. 11d., and of money advanced as loans £13, making a total of cash expended in relief of £187. 10s.

On Monday morning last the unfortunate culprit Hocker was executed in front of the Old Bailey in the presence of an immense crowd of spectators. To the last he persisted in denying that he was the actual murderer of De la Rue, alleging that another party had committed the act, and charging him with being guilty of a double murder in permitting him (Hocker) to fall a sacrifice.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* of Friday week says:—"We repeat, in terms the most emphatical—and we would not venture upon the assertion in such a tone of confidence if we had not more than ordinary grounds for making the statement—that there is no intention on the part of her Majesty to visit Ireland this summer. It is probable that ere many days elapse an official announcement will be made of a determination, on the part of the Queen and Prince Albert, to go up the Rhine, with a view of paying a visit to the family of the illustrious Prince Consort."

On Monday the usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held at the Conciliation-hall, Dublin, Mr. Nicholas Maher in the chair. Mr. Smith O'Brien brought forward the address of the committee of the Repeal Association to the electors of the county Down, urging upon them to return, as their representative, one who, in Parliament and elsewhere, would defend their rights. The honourable gentleman, having moved the adoption of the address, said that during the course of the late debate Mr. May had declared that the repeal of the union would be fatal to England, and that the English people would never consent to it, were they even threatened with an united attack from France, America, and Spain. Firm as was that language, he would assert that no less firm was the determination of the people of Ireland. Mr. O'Brien seconded the adoption of the address, which was carried. Mr. Grey Porter addressed the meeting. Mr. O'Connell, in a speech of considerable length, moved the adoption of the following resolution:—"That the committee of the Loyal National Repeal Association be instructed to consider what will be the most appropriate manner of receiving the Queen to give her Majesty should visit Ireland, taking care that, while the greatest respect is paid to our Sovereign, she may not be allowed to remain in ignorance of the intention of the Irish people to persevere, under all circumstances, in their demand for the legislative independence of Ireland." Agreed to. The rent for the week was announced to be £117. 10s. 6d.

The *Armagh Guardian* states, on the authority of a Clones correspondent, that an attempt was made on Sunday last to burn the town of Clones. The reason T. O'Brien, it appears, was removed on Sunday night, and so it is that six houses were totally consumed. The loss of property is said to be considerable; some of the sufferers being deprived even of their clothes.

LOWELL AND ITS FACTORIES.—On entering Lowell, a stranger is naturally struck with the contrast presented

by that place, to an English manufacturing town. Here, in Bradford, for example, every building is of stone, or brick, solid, substantial, with little of the freshness that might be looked for in so rapidly an increasing town: there, in Lowell, though the mills and boarding-houses are generally of brick, the chief part of the other buildings, houses, hotels, and even churches, are of wood, and nearly the whole as fresh-looking as if built within a year. Here, with us, everything, externally, is discoloured with smoke; buildings, streets, and causeways, alike bearing a sooty covering; the mud of the streets, in colour and consistency, like blackish grey paint, and the air of heaven darkened as by a dense cloud: there, nothing is discoloured, neither houses, nor mills, nor trees—the red brick factories and boarding-houses, and the other edifices of wood painted in light colours, look as fresh as if just finished; the streets—dusty enough, indeed (for a deep dry covering of dust was on them when I was in Lowell)—were yet not black like ours; and the sky, unshrouded by smoke or cloud, was brilliant and clear—the sun darting down its unobstructed rays with dazzling and scorching power. There the trees and plants which, with us, soon become dingy after their foliage bursts out, and which, in some places, as in the churchyard of St. Peter's, being ever leafless, appear like the black stumps of the forest in America, the residue and remnants of the fire—there, in Lowell, were fresh and flourishing; the trees, with which some streets or mill precincts were screened and adorned, being verdant in their summer's foliage, and the neatly-kept gardens, here and there seen about the factories, being amply adorned with floral beauty. Hence, as to Lowell, large as it has grown, it is yet rural in its appearance, and, notwithstanding its being a city of factories, is yet fresh and cleanly.—*American Factories, &c., by the Rev. W. Scoresby.*

## THE FUNDS.

	Bar.	Nov.	Trans.	Wm.	Trans.	Per
	April 26	April 29	April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2
Bank Stock for A.C.	210	207	209	209	—	—
2 per Ct. Recd. Ann.	98	97	97	97	—	—
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	99	97	98	98	—	—
5 per Ct. Id. au ex d	10	10	10	10	—	—
Long. An. Ex. 1860	11	11	11	11	—	—
Cons. for Acct.	99	97	97	97	—	—
Ex. Bills, p.m.	6	6	6	6	—	—
Ind. Bds. 1000/100	71	71	70	70	—	—
India Stock	—	—	27	27	—	—
Belgian Bonds	101	101	101	—	—	—
Brassilian Bonds	—	88	89	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gullian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Columbian Vener.	—	15	15	—	—	—
Dutch	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	97	97	97	97	—	—
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63	—	—	—	—	—
Mexican	37	38	38	38	—	—
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. conv.	64	67	67	67	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	—	30	30	—	—	—
Do. 3 per Cent.	41	41	41	41	—	—

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, April 28.—The supply of English Wheat this morning was very moderate, and it was taken off readily at the prices of this day week. The demand for Foreign Wheat was only to small quantities at former rates. Though the supply of Malting Barley was not large, it was fully equal to the demand; the sale was slow, without alteration in price. Beans and Peas were scarce; the former were 1s. to 2s., the latter 1s. per qr. dearer. The supply of Oats altogether was only moderate; there was an increased inquiry from the country, but the advance for which Oats were held had the effect of checking business; there was, however, a fair sale at fully 6d. per qr. advance on the prices of this day week.

S. H. LUCAS and SON.

	BRITISH.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 45 to 54		
— Ditto — New — 42 — 48 — 44 — 54		
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old — 42 — 48 — 44 — 50		
— Scotch — — — 42 — 40 — 44 — 48		
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed — — — 21 — 23		
— Ditto — ditto — Potatoes — — — 23 — 26		
— Scotch Feed — — — 23 — 24		
— Limerick — — — 21 — 22		
— Ditto — — — Flax — — — 23 — 24		
— Cork — — — 20 — 21		
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black — — — 20 — 21		
— Sligo — — — 21 — 21		
— Galway — — — 18 — 19		
Barley — — — 28 — 33		
Beans, Mazagan — — — New — 31 — 33		
— Harrow — Old 38 — 40 — do. — 33 — 35		
— Small — do. — — — 42 — 44		
Peas, White, New — — — 34 — 36		
— Grey — — — 32 to 33 — Maple — 33 — 34		
Flour, Town-made — — — per sack of 48 lb. — 35 — 43		
— Norfolk and Suffolk — — — 33 — 35 — 34 — 36		

	FOREIGN.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Danzig, high mixed — — — 48 to 56		
— Rostock — — — 47 — 54		
— Stettin — — — 44 — 52		
— Hamburg — — — 42 — 48		
— Odessa — — — 42 — 46		
— Ditto — Polish — — — 47 — 50		
— Rumanian — — — 42 — 46		
— Ditto — hard — — — 40 — 44		
— Spanish — Red — — — 45 — 49		
— Ditto — white — — — 40 — 54		
— Australian — — — 50 — 58		
Barley, Stralburg — — — 73 — 77		
— Distilling — — — 29 — 31		
Oats, Archangel — — — — —		
— Astrakhan — — — — —		
— Dutch Brew — — — — —		
— Poland — — — 17 — 19		
Beans, Egyptian — — — 33 — 34		
— Peas, White — — — 33 — 36		
— Ditto Bolognese — — — 35 — 38		
Flour, Canada — — — per barrel of 196 lb. — 35 — 43		
— United States — — — 26 — 30		
— Danzig — — — 26 — 30		
— Australian, per sack of 280 lb. — 33 — 35		

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from April 21 to April 24, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	505	2702	37	1329	180
Scotch	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	—	—	67	—	—
	4513	1474	—	919	—

Flour, 773 sacks, — bbls.

FRIDAY, May 2.—Since Monday's return there is a fair arrival of wheat. The trade continues dull without any alteration. Some of the Wheat left over from Monday is still unsold. In Barley nothing is doing. There are 10,000 qrs. of Irish Oats fresh up this week, but the supplies of Foreign are trifling, and prices are fully 6d. dearer than Monday; but the business done

is not extensive. No alteration in Beans and Peas. The duty on Beans declined 1s. yesterday. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	47 0	—	54 0
Barley	42 0	—	35 0
Oats	17 40	10 60	16 0

Flour, 4600 sacks.

	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	6264	49s. 2d.	Rye	17 29s. 0d.
Barley	2574	30s. 8d.	Beans	11 12 34s. 3d.
Oats	23843	21s. 2d.	Peas	257 35s. 6d.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
22nd March	45	32	4	21	5	34
29th "	45	32	4	21	5	34
5th April	46	32	5	21	4	32
12th "	46	32	5	20	4	35
19th "	45	31	11	21	4	32
26th "	45	31	6	20	11	36

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 46s. 0d.; Barley, 32s. 2d.; Oats, 21s. 3d.; Rye, 30s. 5d.; Beans, 35s. 1d.; Peas, 35s. 9d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 6s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas, 7s. 6d.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	111149	486	12271	—	2817	1125	46357
Unit. King.	311025	1645	59266	—	12444	4770	243051

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25.

## BANKRUPTS.

- J. PLOWMAN, Oxford, ironmonger. [Gauntlett, Gray's-lane-place, Gray's-mn.]
- F. PAGE, Southampton, builder. [Smith and Atkins, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street; Mackay and Giribstone, Southampton.]
- G. PRACOCK, St. George's-road, Southwark, corn dealer. [Bickley, Mitre-court, Ely-place, Holborn.]
- J. U. WARREN, Ramsgate, boarding-housekeeper. [Lawrence and Piers, Bucklersbury.]
- G. G. TOTTER, Crescent-place, Pall-mall-road, jeweller. [Spyer, Broad-street-buildings.]
- R. NEWNES, Newton-by-Middlewich, Cheshire, brewer. [Walmsley, Chancery-lane; Hetherington and Woodburn, Liverpool.]
- J. JOHNSON, Nantwich, Cheshire, druggist. [Vincent and Co., Temple; Curry, Horns, and Statton, Liverpool.]
- W. WALKER, Eastwood, St. Staffordshire, dealer in pottery materials. [Chaloner, Hanley; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]
- J. LOWTHIN and R. J. BRINLEY, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, printers. [Gibson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.]
- J. NICHOLSON, Blackburn, woollen-dresser. [M'Pine, Barry, Milne, and Morris, Temple; Wilding and Fisher, Park-barn.]

## DIVIDENDS.

- May 10. I. Hagg, Colchester, tailor—May 16. F. T. Trivett, Northumberland-lane, Commercial-road East, draper.
- CRITICAL ATLAS
- May 16. W. Spencer, Wallingford, Berkshire, common brewer—May 16. T. Gorton, Jun., Grosvenor-row, Pimlico, bookseller—May 19. A. Knott, Brighton, miller—May 17. H. Coleman, Union-court, Old Broad-street, and Camberwell-grove, merchant—May 16. W. Dale, London-wall, bootmaker—May 19. J. Chapman, Bradford, Yorkshire, and Birkenhead, Cheshire, civil engineer—May 10. J. Kewley, Liverpool, tailor—May 10. J. Roberts, Liverpool, potato dealer—May 10. T. Lane, Hereford, coal merchant—May 19. J. Gray, Manchester, upholsterer—May 19. J. Henderson, Manchester, bookseller—May 19. T. Langston, Manchester, shoebroker—May 16. W. Howell, Jun., Liverpool, bookseller—May 16. T. Griffiths, Jun., Wem, wine merchant—May 16. W. Collins, Kirk Butterwick, Lincolnshire, shipwright—May 10. J. Booth, East Burton, woollen cloth manufacturer.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

- N. GRUT, Jun., Edinburgh, insurance broker—A. MENNIE, Inverness, blacksmith.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29.

## CROWN OFFICE, APRIL 28.

- MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.
- County of Kent, Western Division.—Thomas Austen, Esq.
- Borough of Westminster.—Henry Barkly, Esq.

## DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

- J. PEAVIOLU, Liverpool, hotel keeper.
- BANKRUPT.
- A. M. JOHNSON, West Smithfield, innkeeper. [Smith, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.]
- W. JOHNSON, West Smithfield, wine merchant. [Turner and Hensman, Basing-lane.]
- J. COOKE, Wem, Shropshire, brewer. [Walmsley, Wem; Jones, Birmingham.]
- T. O'ROURKE and W. BIRKS, Manchester, commission agents. [Chilton and Acland, Chancery-lane; Hanley, Birmingham; Foster, Manchester.]
- M. CHEETHAM and W. CHEETHAM, Manchester, place dyers. [Gregory, Foulton, Gregory, and Boardman, Bedford-row; Chow, Manchester.]
- J. GREGORY, Weston, Somersetshire, innkeeper. [Gray, Bristol and Bath.]
- R. BRIDGES, Preston, provision dealer. [Corthwaite and Co., Old Jewry; Pemberton, Liverpool.]

## DIVIDENDS.

- May 23. C. Crook, George-yard, Long-acre, livery stable-keeper—May 24. R. Dean, Minor-place, Lambeth, builder—May 20. T. Weston, Southampton, planter—May 26. H. Nichol, Halifax, Yorkshire, worsted spinner—May 23. J. Cree, Devonport, draper—May 23. H. Murch, Norton-under-Hamilton, Somersetshire, wool cloth manufacturer—May 23. R. P. Worth, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, victualler—May 23. W. Buttern, Sheffield, grocer—May 20. W. Britton, Horwaby, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—May 20. W. E. Nicholson, Halifax, Yorkshire, worsted spinner—May 20. W. Collins, East Butterwick, Lincolnshire, shipwright—May 22. J. Ash-bury, Holm-lay, Herefordshire, farmer—May 22. J. Varrod, Spalding, Lincolnshire, grocer—May 22. T. Lane, Hereford, coal merchant.

## CERTIFICATES.

- May 23. T. K. Gorbell, Bedford-place, Commercial-road, Stepney, bookseller—May 23. R. Swanton, and H. Oakley, Broad-street, warehousemen, and Grimby, Lincolnshire, box merchants—May 20. W. H. Mills, Mark-lane, wine merchant—May 20. G. Haywood, Luton, Bedfordshire, bricklayer—May 21. C. Burridge, Newark, Nottinghamshire, butcher—May 20. C. F. Warran, Huddersfield, china dealer—May 23. W. Reeves, Walsot, Somersetshire, coachbuilder—May 23. J. Huxford, Bolton-le-Moors, cotton spinner—May 20. C. Lewis, Bath, innkeeper—May 20. R. Marshall, Deptford, stonecutter—May 20. M. Martin, Bristol, apothecary—May 20. T. Brown, Old Bailey, innkeeper—May 20. T. Allen, Liverpool, and end and brewer—May 20. F. Pratt, Stoke-upon-Trent, miller—May 20. W. Broadbent, London, iron wire, flour dealer—May 20. F. Fothergill and J. M'Innes, Ben's Close, Northumberland, lamp black manufacturer.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

- R. WALKER and SONS, Dunblane, wool spinners—J. McILLIVARY, Nairn, road surveyor—A. PITTENDRUM, Aberdeen, advocate—ALDRIDGE, BRIDGEMAN, Lath, oil merchant.



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Duellings.  
The Murphree.  
Temptations of the Poor.  
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Desert do. 10s. 6d. 13s. 6d. 15s. 6d. 18s. 6d.  
Tea do. 8s. 6d. 10s. 6d. 12s. 6d. 14s. 6d.  
Table Forks do. 10s. 6d. 12s. 6d. 14s. 6d. 16s. 6d.  
Desert do. 6s. 6d. 8s. 6d. 10s. 6d. 12s. 6d.

C. Watson begs to Publicly and respectfully inform that he has been successful in his own, and that silver is not more different from Gold than his metal is from all others, as its intrinsic merits alone will bear it to be tested, and, from the daily increasing popularity he receives, he is convinced that nothing can prevent its becoming an article of universal use.

C. Watson's handsomely illustrated Catalogue, and Price Current is just published, and Families who regard economy and elegance should possess themselves of this useful Book, which may be had gratis, and post free, from the above address.

**H. R. H. the PRINCE of WALES,** by gracious permission of her Majesty, from a picture by Winterhalter, at Windsor Castle. The House of Brunswick at one view:—George I., George II., George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, George Caroline, Princess Charlotte Coburg, the Duke of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. The Robes of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Group. Mr. Cobden and Bishop of Exeter. "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—The Times. Open from Eleven to Ten. Admission, 1s.; Napoleon's Room, 6d.—**MADAME TUBAUD and SONS' Bazaar,** Baker-street.

**INTELLECTUAL PAPER-HANGINGS,** in which the writings of various authors are inserted in Ornamental Patterns, by **HENNELL and CROSBY,** Queen-street, Southwark-bridge-road, Manufacturers of Panel Decorations and all other kinds of Paper-hangings. For a specimen of Free-Trade and Literary Paper-hanging, see the Saloon of the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, Covent-garden Theatre.

**A SHOWER BATH,** with curtains, 12s. 6d.; ditto, with copper conducting tubes, from 60s.; sponging baths, 12s., 19s., and 21s.; hip do., 19s. and 20s.; toilet cans, 5s. 6d.; foot-tubs, 5s. 6d. Also, every description of Japan Ware thirty per cent. under any other house.—**It and J. BLACK** beg to call attention to the quality of their baths, as they are all manufactured to their premises, they can confidently warrant them for durability. The Illustrated Catalogue of Baths, and every description of furnishing ironmongery may be had gratis, or sent post free.—**Richard and John Black,** 336, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Established 1818.

**A BRONZED SCROLL FENDER,** for 10s. Ornamental Iron Ditto, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; Chamber Fire Iron, 5s. 6d. per set; Parlour ditto, 8s. 6d.; Superior ditto, from 8s. 6d. Their Stock also consists of an extensive assortment of Drawing-room Stoves, London made Dish Covers, Paper and Japan Tea Trays, superior Table Cutlery, Nickel Silver Ware, and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery, every article of which is marked at such prices that will fully convince purchasers of the great advantages resulting from cash payments.  
**RICHARD and JOHN BLACK,** 336, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent post free.—Established 1818.

**BETTS'S PATENT BRANDY.**—Sir, The sample of Patent French Distilled Brandy you sent me I have accurately examined; and having instituted a series of experiments on it and on the finest French Brandy, I have, in these comparative trials, been able to discover so little difference, either in their composition or effects, that they may be considered as identical; excepting that your Brandy is free from uncombined acid and astringent matter, which exists, more or less, in most of the Brandy imported from France.  
I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,  
**John Thomas Cochrane, Lecturer on Chemistry.**

To Mr. Betts. **John Thomas Cochrane, Lecturer on Chemistry.** Betts's Patent Brandy is prescribed by the highest medical authorities, in preference to French Brandy; and is exclusively used at Guy's, St. George's, St. Thomas's, the Westminster, and other Hospitals, and at the Manchester, Bristol, Brighton, and other Infirmarys. Quantities of not less than two gallons supplied at the Distillery, in stone jars at 18s. per gallon, exclusive of the jar; and in caped bottles at 20s. per gallon, bottles and case included, and not returnable.—**J. T. BETTS, Jun., and Co.,** 7, Smithfield-lane, London.

## ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE.

PATRONISED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, THE ROYAL FAMILY, AND THE

SEVERAL SOVEREIGNS AND COURTS OF EUROPE.

A FRAGRANT WHITE POWDER, prepared from Oriental Herbs of inimitable virtue for preserving and beautifying the TEETH.

It eradicates the facitious formation of tartar and thus leads a salutary growth and freshness to the gums. It removes from the surface of the teeth the spots of incipient decay, polishes, and preserves the enamel, imparting the most pure and pearly whiteness; while from its salubrious and disinfecting qualities, it gives sweetness and perfume to the breath, being an anti-scorbutic, the gums also share in its corrective powers; scurvy is eradicated from them, a healthy action and redness are induced, so that the teeth (if loose) are thus rendered firm in their sockets. As the most efficient and fragrant aromatic cleanser of the mouth, teeth, and gums ever known, ROWLAND'S ODONTO has now for a long series of years occupied a distinguished place at the toilette of the SOVEREIGNS and the NOBILITY throughout Europe, while the general demand for it at once announces the favour in which it is held by the public at large.  
Price 1s. 3d. per box, duty included.

CAUTION  
To protect the Public from Fraud, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have directed the Proprietors' Signature to be engraved on the Government Stamp, thus:—

**A. ROWLAND and SON, 92, RATTON GARDEN,** Which is affixed to each box.

ALL OTHER ODONTO'S ARE PRADULENT IMITATIONS.

## PILBROW'S ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY

and CANAL PROPULSION COMPANY (provisionally registered). Capital £400,000, in 80,000 Shares of £5 each. Instalment £1 per share.

Since the issue of the former Prospectus, the Provisional Directors have considered it desirable to negotiate with the Patentee for his whole right of Patents, instead of confining themselves to the United Kingdom and Ireland, as originally proposed; and the Directors have now the satisfaction of announcing to the public that they have agreed for the purchase of the British and Foreign right of Pilbrow's Atmospheric Railway and Canal Propulsion Patents. By this extended arrangement the Directors have obtained the patents upon much more advantageous terms for the propriety, in consequence of which the amount of call necessary to carry out the object and intention of the Company will be greatly diminished, and the prospect of immediate return considerably increased.

In lieu of Five Pounds, One Pound per share is considered ample to cover the expenses of purchase, and to lay down a line of sufficient length to prove the superiority of Pilbrow's Atmospheric principle.

The arrangement of this undertaking, however, necessarily involves many changes in the amount of capital and the number of shares must be considerably augmented, but the shares will still be continued at the same amount, viz., Ten-Pound shares, to meet the wishes of the original applicants.

An instalment of One Pound per share will be required on the signing of the deed of settlement.

**DIRECTORS.**  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Essex, Chairman.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Beaconsfield, Captain Lubbock.  
George Buckley Bolton, Esq.  
George Herbert, Esq.  
Lieutenant-Colonel Giffels.  
Resident Director—Dr. John Glegg Hewlett.  
Auditor—Thomas Edwards, Esq.  
Consulting Engineer—James Pilbrow, Esq.  
Engineers—Alex. Gordon, Esq., M. Inst. C.E.; Fred. Braithwaite, Esq., C.E.  
Standing Counsel—Thomas Webster, Esq.  
Solicitors—Messrs. White and Horrett.  
Secretary—Charles Collins, Esq.

**Bankers—London Joint Stock Bank, City Branch; Messrs. Cochrane, Bid-**  
dolph, Huddell, and Co., 41, Chancery-lane, London.  
Offices—6, King William-street, London.

The prominent advantages of this system of atmospheric traction are, that the continuous valve is dispensed with; roads are crossed upon a level without interruption of motion; one atmospheric railway can be intersected by another, thus saving bridges, approaches, and lockways; and it is confidently expected that a stationary engine every ten miles will be sufficient.

The system combines extreme simplicity with perfect efficiency, and that obtained with a small comparative expense in working and construction. It is estimated that a saving altogether upon the other plans of atmospheric railways (having the continuous valve) would be nearly £2,000 per mile; two miles or more can, on this plan, be laid for little more than the cost of one upon the other plans; and a saving in working or annual expenses of two-thirds.

Increased safety is ensured, also obstruction and destruction by weather and other sources are placed beyond probability by the motion being buried, &c.

The objects of the Company will be to dispose of Foreign patents; to grant licences to Railway and Canal Companies to use the invention, or lay down the works under contracts with the different companies, and to lay down an experimental line in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, by agreement with any existing company or otherwise.

The income derivable from these sources offers considerable advantages, while the expenses, with the exception of the purchase of the patents, and laying down the experimental line, are obviously small.

A Model, upon a scale of one inch to the foot, may be seen at work on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between twelve and three o'clock at the Company's offices, by application to the Secretary or officers of the Company.

Form of Application for Shares annexed to this Prospectus.

To the Directors of Pilbrow's Atmospheric Railway and Canal Propulsion Company.

Gentlemen, I request you to allot me Shares of

each in the above Company, and I undertake to accept the same, or any smaller number of shares that may be allotted to me, and to pay the deposit thereon, and to execute the deed of settlement.

Signed this day of 1845.

Name of the Proprietor or Tenant Address

## CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

In addition to Assurances on Healthy Lives, this Society continues to grant Policies on the Lives of Persons subject to gout, asthma, rheumatism, and other diseases, by their paying a premium in proportion to the increased risk. The plan of granting Assurances on unhealthy Lives originated with this Office in the early part of 1824.

Every description of Assurance may be effected with this Society, and Policies are granted on the lives of persons of all ages.

Table of Premiums for Assuring £100 on a Healthy Life.

Age.	For One Year only.	For 7 Years at an Annual Payment of	For 14 Years at an Annual Payment of
25	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30	1 1 0	1 2 2	1 3 8
35	1 2 1	1 4 1	1 5 3
40	1 5 2	1 7 2	1 8 3
45	1 8 9	1 10 4	1 13 6
50	1 12 2	1 14 8	2 1 6
	1 16 11	2 3 10	2 13 11

The sum accumulated and invested, for the security and benefit of the assured (exclusive of the proprietors' paid-up capital), already exceeds half a million sterling; and the income, which is steadily increasing, is now £201,500 per annum.

The two first divisions averaged 212 per cent. on the premiums paid. The third bonus, declared in January, 1842, averaged 228 per cent., and the future bonuses are expected to exceed that amount.

Further information may be obtained of **GEO. H. PINCKARD, Actuary,** 74, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London, or of any of the Society's agents.

## WANTED, by a Chemist and Druggist in London,

a respectable Youth as an APPRENTICE. Premium moderate. Corent-garden, London.

## STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CON-

TRACTION of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gently and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the **PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER**, which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or invisibly, without bands beneath the arms, uncomfortable restraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent post paid, by **MR. A. BIRNOK, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, London**, near the Bazaar; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

## GROWTH OF THE HAIR.—No great change can

be permanently brought about without going to the root of the evil. The root of the evil in defects of the hair, as in other cases, lies beneath the surface; mere ungents may gloss over, but will not remove the cause. The only preparation that acts unerringly, because in accordance with the principles, is **OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA**, which prevents the hair from turning grey, and the first application causes it to curl beautifully, frees it from scurf, and stops it from falling off, and a few bottles restore it again. Price 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. per bottle. No other prices are genuine.—**Oldridge's Balm,** 1, Wellington-street, the second house from the Strand.

## HOLYLANDS, 150, Strand (two doors west of

Somerset House), invite Gentlemen who desire the best description of Clothes at moderate prices, for cash payments only, to their very superior **MODEL OUTSIDE COATS**, for Spring wear, just now prepared in the most approved style, altogether better and more adapted for appearance and durability than are generally to be met with; called **Verona Elastic Cloth, Sultans and Gotha Coats**. Every article waterproofed.

## LIGHT SUMMER WATERPROOF OVER COATS

and WRAPPERS, from 50s. to 45s.—**Messrs. BURCH and LUCAS, Tailors, &c., 51, King William-street, City**, respectfully invite Gentlemen and Families to view their stock of Superior Cloth, Cashmeres, and Zephyrs, for Coats, Fancy Vestings, and Frockings, for the present season. The style and make of every garment guaranteed equal to any house in London, and at the very lowest remunerative prices. All garments of a slop description are excluded from this establishment.—**Messrs. Burch and Lucas, Tailors, &c., 51, King William-street, City**, opposite the statue.

## WHAT'S THE MATTER AT MOSES AND SON'S?

(A WHITESUNDA CHAT.)

"I say," said a gentleman, not along ago,  
"What's the matter at MOSES and SON'S? Do you know?  
No house in the City is crowded like this;  
The people are thronging the steps and the stairs,  
Look! look! every part of the wonderful Bait  
is crowded with persons—it seems a 'rum start';  
And I ask, as I did a few minutes ago,  
What's the matter at MOSES and SON'S? Do you know?"  
"Yes, I do," said his friend, "and I'll tell in a minute.  
For I'd have you to know that there's no racket in it;  
These multitudes there, who so eagerly pass,  
Are thronging the warehouse for Whitesunda dress.  
E. MOSES and SONS have distinguished their Mart  
By choice summer dresses, exceedingly smart.  
You can judge for yourself, from the crowds that you see,  
What capital bargains these garments must be.  
Is it likely the public would crowd the Mart so,  
If the dresses of MOSES were faulty? No, no!  
The people take notice when justice is done—  
And that's why they go to E. MOSES and SON."  
"Well done!" said his friend, "you're a famous logician,  
I think I shall go and amend my condition;  
I want a new suit, which is not at all dear,  
As the Whitesunda holidays now are so near."  
With this he stepped in, and obtained in a trice,  
A beautiful suit for a very low price.  
Let the reader do likewise, and quickly make one  
At the delectable-through Dress-Mart of MOSES and SON.

## LIST OF PRICES.

READY MADE.

Twoed Taglioni .. .. . from 6 7 6  
Ditto superior quality with silk collar, cuffs and facings .. 6 13 6  
Cordings and Chatterfields in light and gentlemanly materials .. 6 18 6  
Cashmerette Coats in every style and make, including the Magistrate  
a Pettico .. .. . 1 3 0  
Holland, Jean, Grand Drill, and Diagonal Blouses .. .. . 0 6 0  
Splendid Summer Vests .. .. . from 0 2 6  
Cashmeres and Persian ditto, in endless variety .. .. . 0 4 6  
Black and Fancy Satins .. .. . 0 0 0  
Cloth Trousers .. .. . from 0 0 0  
Twoed ditto .. .. . 0 4 6  
Spring ditto (woollen) .. .. . 0 6 0  
Dress Coats .. .. . 1 10 0  
Frock Coats .. .. . 1 10 0

## MADE TO MEASURE.

Twoed Coats; trimmed with silk .. .. . 0 15 0  
Cashmerette ditto, in any shape, handsomely trimmed, made in the first style of fashion .. .. . 1 10 0  
Haze Gotha ditto, handsomely trimmed .. .. . 1 10 0  
Quitting Vests, &c. &c., or three for .. .. . 0 6 0  
Cashmeres ditto, in choice patterns .. .. . 0 14 6  
Faint ditto, plain or fancy .. .. . 0 10 0  
Spring Trousers, in great variety .. .. . 0 12 6  
Twoed ditto, in choice pattern .. .. . 0 10 0  
Single-Milled Albert and Plain Box Trousers .. .. . 1 10 0  
Best Quality Black, or Dress, ditto .. .. . 1 10 0  
Dress Coats .. .. . 1 10 0  
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. . 1 10 0  
Frock Coats .. .. . 1 10 0  
Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. . 0 8 0

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

A new work, entitled "The Levitation of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free. Mourning to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following prices:—

Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 1 10 0  
Ditto, Jacket, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 0 10 0

IMPORTANT.—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, changed, or the money returned.

**UNWANN.** E. MOSES and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail Warehouse, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 154, Minster, and 90, Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.

CUTION.—E. MOSES and SON are obliged to guard the public against imposition, having learned that the unscrupulous (darkened of mind) connected with them, or in the same concern, had been reported to be many instances, and for obvious reasons. They have no connection whatever with any other establishment in or out of London; and those who do ever wish to purchase Cheap Clothing should (to prevent disappointment, &c.) call or send in 154, Minster, or 90, Aldgate, opposite the Church.

N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from report on Friday till sunset on Saturday, when business is resumed till sunset on Sunday.

London: Printed by **ROBERT PALMER** (of Providence place, Upper Kensington-lane, Lambeth, in the County of Surrey) and **JOHN CROFT** (of Number 37A, Strand, in the County of Middlesex), at their Presses, in the City of London, and published by **ARTHUR WATSON** Proprietor, of and at the Office of The League, Number 67, Fleet-street, London.

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# THE LEAGUE.

NO. 85.]

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalmtryple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,  
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Contributions to the Bazaar will continue to be received during next week.

### MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return censure pledge themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR man, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

### SUCCESS!

#### THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR IS OPEN.

Of the scene now presented by the interior of Covent-garden Theatre we confess we know not how to speak but in words that will seem to our readers at a distance extravagantly hyperbolic; while, to those who have witnessed that scene, any words will appear tame and feeble. We, elsewhere, record such of the particulars of this marvellous creation of the industrial genius of Great Britain as are capable of being rendered into language; but proceeding to an adequate idea of the magnificent whole, and no language can picture an exhibition every variety of that industry which has made this little island a queen among the nations. The brilliant success which now crowns the efforts of those thousands of our countrymen and countrywomen who have resolved to show what British industry, British skill, and British taste are capable of achieving

—a success concentrating on a single focal point of time and space the work of many months, and of every part of the United Kingdom—is such as really startles with its splendour even those who had watched the undertaking through every step of its progress, who had seen it growing under their hands day by day and week by week, and personally superintended every detail of its execution. Familiar as we have long been with this great work, both in its plan and details, we can hardly say that we knew much more, until the present week, than our readers at the other end of the kingdom, of what the final and total result would show. We had but most imperfectly realized to our minds that vast conception which the zeal of the Free-Traders of Great Britain gave us to execute, and which now stands before the world in all its finished magnificence, a spectacle without precedent and without rival.

But it is not as a mere spectacle that we can speak or think of our League Bazaar. It is not as a mere spectacle that it has been called into existence. We English are a serious people, with no especial fondness for shows, and little given to spend time, strength, and money on pageants. It is not for a piece of pageantry that our great manufacturing and mining capitalists have obeyed the suggestion of the women of Great Britain, and sent the bulkiest and costliest products of the loom, the forge, and the steam-engine to be exhibited under one roof with the fairy-like creations of woman's exquisite taste and delicate handiwork. This Bazaar is a very earnest business. It is business, and not sport. It is fraught with moral meaning. There is a deep, true soul in it all. It is the embodiment of a profound conviction. It is the utterance of a stern and inflexible determination. It is the product of a vast power. It is the national expression of a nation's idea and purpose. It is a nation's attestation of a grand truth. It is a nation's protest against an enormous wrong. It is a nation's manifesto against a gigantic iniquity. It is the British people's display of the might, and assertion of the rights, of that industry which a selfish and cruel legislation manacles and starves. Dazzling as our Bazaar is by its brilliancy, bewildering as it is by its complexity and vastness, there is still moral unity and simplicity in it—the unity and simplicity of that great idea which the beholder sees, at every turn, expressed in the word "FREE" that meets his eye, wrought in with every artistic decoration of the edifice, and reminding him, at each step he takes, of the sober Saxon purpose that is in and under all the material magnificence of the Norman-Gothic Hall.

Yes! British industry must, shall, and WILL be free—free to produce and exchange, to labour and enjoy, to earn and eat—free to replenish the earth with the products of its million-fold ingenuity, its ceaseless activity, its indomitable energy and perseverance—free to subdue the earth to its uses, and render all nations willing tributaries to its needs. If ever this were doubtful, it is doubtful no longer. The argument now presented, not to the mere logical understandings, but to the senses and souls of men, is of a kind that there is no gainsaying. The power of which this spectacle is the expression and embodiment is a power which not all the Richmonds and Buckinghams in creation can hinder from ruling Great Britain. There is no confuting nor resisting this mutely eloquent plea for the rights of industry. It would, we verily believe, convince and convert the Richmonds and Buckinghams themselves, if they would but come and see. Its effect on public opinion will be prompt and decisive. Its effect on that legislation which, sooner or later, reflects and expresses public opinion will be, though less prompt, not less decisive. Again and again do we congratulate the Free-Traders of Great Britain on the splendour of a success which is a worthy reward of nearly seven years of exertion and endurance, as it is the pledge of that complete and crowning victory which is already visible, not in the distance.

As a piece of pageantry, our Free-Trade Bazaar will fare, of course, very much like other pageants. It will be a nine-days' wonder—the gaze of the metropolis, the talk of the world—and it will pass away, and give place to other and newer wonders. In a few days the varied treasures which the labours of many months have slowly accumulated will all vanish from the public eye, and be dispersed for ever to the four corners of the empire. But the result of those labours will endure: as a moral demonstration, an utterance of national conviction and purpose, our Free-Trade Bazaar will live. It will live in the hearts and souls of those who, in it

and by it, have testified the depth and strength of their determination to realize the rights of industry. It will live in the recollections and hopes that will ever be associated with those visible memorials of its magnificence which will find an honoured place in thousands and tens of thousands of British homes. It will live in the renewed efforts against monopoly that will be sustained by its pecuniary proceeds, and stimulated and cheered by the national sympathy of which it is a pledge and assurance. It will live eventually in the statute-book of this great empire, which will, ere long, record the liberation of industry from every fetter of monopoly. It will live in the industrial ameliorations and commercial reforms which the example of the first industrial and commercial people of the world will call forth in every country under heaven. It will live in the happy homes of the emancipated millions of these islands, and in that peace on earth and goodwill among men of which extended and permanent commercial relations are the most efficient guarantee. True, the "Aladdin's palace" will go, some of these mornings, as it came, and men will see it no more; but the genius that willed this gorgeous structure into being—a genius more potent than any fabled spirit of lamp or ring—will live to work new wonders; first beating down the monstrous tyranny that shackles his giant limbs, and then expending his disenthralled energies in the godlike task of subduing universal nature to the obedience and service of universal humanity.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Thirteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 10.

Up till Easter, FREE TRADE was the absorbing question in the Legislature. Never in any former session were its triumphs in debate so brilliant, the frequency of its discussions so rapid, the admission of its principles so frequent, the humiliation of its opponents so extreme and judicious. A child might have perceived that its doctrines had passed from the mind of the nation at large into that of the House of Commons; and that we were but waiting the moment when that which has been established axiomatically in the minds of all men with the smallest portion of political intelligence shall become a primary principle in our legislation.

Since Easter, Free Trade has experienced a comparative lull in the House of Commons. Not, however, from any indifference—quite the reverse. Another question, that of Maynooth, is at present absorbing the public mind; and, though the Free-Traders in the House are prepared and preparing for discussion, they cannot command circumstances. Last week Mr. Ward's motion was postponed, in consequence of there being "no House;" this week there was again "no House," being the second Tuesday in succession on which this has occurred. After Whitsuntide, however, when other exciting matters are disposed of, FREE TRADE will resume its prominent place in the debates of the House of Commons.

There was, however, on Thursday night, a very amusing and a very instructive debate, which, though not arising on a direct Free-Trade proposition, indirectly raised the entire question, and exhibited the "Agricultural Mind" in a very whimsical state. Mr. HURR, in an able speech, proposed a resolution, the substance of which was, that corn from Australia should be admitted into the United Kingdom on the payment of the same duty as corn from Canada, namely—one shilling. It was a significant fact that the proposition was seconded, from the Government-side of the House, by Sir Walter James; nor less significant was it that Captain Rous, the Tory member for Westminster, should have enforced the claim by arguments such as any Free-Trade might use.

Sir George Clerk was put forward to oppose a proposition which, in its simplest and driest form of statement, might appear to be a demonstration. The one-shilling boon was given to Canada on specific grounds, and as a special favour; the benefit to Australia would be so small as not to make it worth the giving; and it was unadvisable once more to "tamper" with the Corn Law of 1842, and disturb the sensitive agricultural mind!

Mr. Labouchere, who followed, declared that our whole system of protection was rotten and vicious, and must be ultimately done away. But, though he had opposed the Canada Bill on principle, he could not see why, having granted a favour to one colony, we should refuse it to another.

Captain Rous then declared from the Ministerial benches, that those who had voted for the Canada Bill could not consistently oppose this proposition; and protested that it was the worst possible policy, in the world,

not to admit Australian wheat duty free, seeing that it was much esteemed by our millers, its dry qualities rendering it peculiarly suited for mixing with the damp wheat of England. After the gallant officer, rose

Mr. T. M. Gibson, who thought the honourable gentleman who had just spoken had taken a very sound view of the question submitted to them by his honourable friend; and knowing, as he did, how much the honourable gentleman was looked up to by the agriculturists of Suffolk, and how much weight they would attach to his opinion, he was quite sure that his assent to his honourable friend's proposal would tend to remove their alarm. He could not help suspecting that the right honourable gentleman the Vice-President of the Board of Trade was a little premature in his opposition to the motion; and he hoped that, after the speeches they had heard from the other side of the House, the right honourable gentleman the first Minister of the Crown would give his assent to its adoption. He was the more induced to this hope from knowing that such a course was not unusual with him. He remembered well that when his honourable friend the member for Lambeth brought forward a reasonable proposal, supported by sound arguments, the Vice-President of the Board of Trade then, as now, was rather precipitate, and gave it a premature opposition ("hear," and a laugh); that his negative was afterwards rescinded by the right honourable gentleman at the head of the Government, and that the motion was carried. He hoped that precedent would be followed on this occasion by the right hon. gentleman. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The Vice-president of the Board of Trade, it appeared to him, had shown symptoms of decided distress during the time of making his speech. He had certainly made use of some very extraordinary arguments. They might be official arguments; they might be found in the pigeon-holes of the Board of Trade, which his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton once alluded to; but they were hardly arguments which, in the present state of commercial intelligence, would go down with the country. ("Hear, hear.") To talk of its being a reason for keeping out Australian corn, that none would come in, was of all strange delusions the most ridiculous. The right hon. gentleman had talked of the alarm of the agriculturists. Even if some few ignorant persons at a market ordinary did express apprehensions that a measure of this House might affect the agricultural interest, he submitted that was not a ground for altering their legislation. They were bound to do what was right; if persons chose to be alarmed, they could not help it; such persons must take the consequences of their own folly. The right hon. gentleman at the head of the Government had, on a recent occasion, used this identical argument; he said it was difficult to do anything without giving rise to a panic, but, if he were satisfied in his own mind that the measure he proposed was a good one, he would not be deterred by the fear of awakening any unfounded apprehensions; he would do his duty, and take the consequences of passing the measure. ("Hear, hear.") Any one who had considered this question dispassionately must see that it was for the general welfare, not only of the colonies, but of the United Kingdom, that we should admit the colonial corn duty-free. It was a strange argument of the right hon. gentleman when he said that he would not give his consent to his honourable friend's motion, because it was not large enough, and did not embrace all the colonies, or lay down any great general principle. He (Mr. Gibson) was in favour of letting in corn from all the colonies, and also from foreign parts, free of duty. He must admit that there was force in the argument of the right hon. gentleman the late President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Labouchere), when he said there was danger in admitting it only from the colonies, because, by so doing, you gave the colonial growers a partnership in the monopoly, and, by extending the sphere, made it more difficult ultimately to get rid of the restrictions; but he (Mr. Gibson) thought that the advantages of doing so balanced the disadvantages. He was in favour of extending the field from which our supplies might be drawn, and would lend his assistance to remove every commercial restriction, and every obstacle interposed in the way of a free interchange of commercial commodities. Although they might make the Australian colonies in some measure opposed to the admission of corn into the United Kingdom free of duty, he would take the chance of that, because he knew that every step in favour of relaxation was, in fact, a step towards the object he had in view, that of an unrestricted trade in corn. He hoped that the right honourable baronet, if he were not prepared to agree to his honourable friend's motion, would explain clearly to the House what was the advantage obtained by keeping out Australian corn from the British market. It appeared a very natural demand, on the part of the colonists, that they should be allowed to sell their grain in the best market; and it was incumbent on those who denied it to them to show to demonstration what was the national advantage to the United Kingdom of maintaining such a restriction. They were often told of the necessity of planting colonies, in order to afford a field for our manufactures; but how could it be expected that our manufactures would find such a field if we refused to take the products of those colonies? ("Hear, hear.") He would implore the House not to proceed to such a course of folly and injustice as would be the consequence of rejecting the motion of his honourable friend.

Mr. Darby, Mr. Francis Baring, and Mr. Stuart Wortley followed, the latter opposing the resolution on the "agacious plea, that corn from Chili might be carried across the Pacific to Australia, and then reshipped, as colonial, to recross the Pacific, and undergo the Atlantic voyage, in order to be introduced into England."

Mr. Baring said, the hon. member who had just resumed his seat concluded his speech by saying that with these views he should, however reluctantly, give his vote against the measure. But what were the views of the honourable gentleman he (Mr. Bright) could not in any way find out. He thought he might, without running much risk, say that nine out of ten of those honourable members who had heard that speech were unable to say, distinctly, what the views of the honourable gentleman were upon this question. ("Hear, hear.") He (Mr. Bright) always watched the rising of that hon. member, because he wished to learn what was the sort of speech he intended to make; for although he confessed that, as a rule, he found the greatest difficulty to tell, while

hearing the speech of the honourable gentleman, what opinion he had formed upon the subject under discussion, yet he had not the smallest difficulty in telling which way the honourable gentleman would vote. From the honourable gentleman's speech of to-night it would appear that his faith had been very much shaken. He (Mr. Bright) did not expect that the honourable gentleman's speech would give much satisfaction to the large party whom he was supposed to represent. The honourable gentleman had said that it would have been as well, if not better, if the Corn Laws had never existed; yet he concluded by expressing a wish to nurse these infant colonies in Australia by the introduction of a law in corn. His honourable friend the member for Manchester (Mr. M. Gibson) had very happily described the speech of the right honourable baronet the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and the honourable member for Suffolk (Mr. Darby) had come forward as his commentator; and he (Mr. Bright) should say that the commentator was worthy of the text. ("Hear, hear.") From the speeches which had been made on both sides of the House he was enabled to gather this fact, that the real ground of opposition to the present motion was an indisposition to make any further change in the laws affecting the importation of corn, the impression being that such change might have some dangerous effect upon the agricultural mind. He wished to know what that agricultural mind was (laughter); or rather what this alarm was which was to form the guiding principle for legislation by that House. Some years ago the East India Company contemplated importing from India an article known by the name of "cutch," which was used for purposes of tanning. The agricultural mind of that day was alarmed lest it should interfere with the sale and price of their bark; and they intimated to some members connected with the East India Company that they had better not attempt to introduce cutch, or the agricultural interest might keep a sharp look-out the next time the East India Company's charter came to be considered by the Legislature. Then, in the case of the reduction of the duty on wool in 1824, a state of alarm in the agricultural mind was exceedingly prevalent, and yet the result showed that there was not a single thing to justify that alarm. Again, in 1812, when the right honourable gentleman (Sir R. Peel) altered the Corn Law, great alarm was felt by the agricultural mind, but there had not since been any proof that such alarm was well founded. So, in respect to the reduction of duty on cattle: that created great alarm in the agricultural mind; yet he thought the agriculturists would themselves admit that they still received a very fair price for their cattle. Again, the Canada Corn Bill created a great panic; and yet the returns showed that there had been larger importations of Canadian corn into this country before the passing of that act than had taken place in any year since. The article of wool last year became again the subject of alarm, by the Government abolishing the duty altogether. Certain individuals thought it would be injurious to the wool-growers of this country and the Australian colonies; and yet it was now unanimously allowed that the abolition of that duty had done no harm either to one interest or the other. He should like to know, then, how long this alarm of the agricultural mind—an alarm certainly created because that mind was not much enlightened upon questions of geography or of political economy—but he should like to know how long this ignorant alarm was to be brought forward in Parliament, either in support of measures which were decidedly bad, or in opposition to measures that were decidedly good? ("Hear, hear.") The question which the House ought to decide was, whether it was more important that the alarm of the agricultural interest should by no means be excited, or that the bread-eaters of the country should be allowed to obtain bread from every part of the world. He believed that the present state of the agricultural interest of this country illustrated the line of the poet, and that—

"Its strength was weaken'd by its very limping."

It had come so often to Parliament for help that it did not know its own power. He would say to them—"Take off your bandages, and form a just estimate of your own strength." He rejoiced that two hon. members on the Ministerial benches—the hon. and gallant member for Westminster (Captain Rous), and the hon. member for Hull (Sir W. James)—had spoken in favour of this question. He was glad to see this, and to see that parties were breaking down, and that, instead of honourable members being led by one man on this side of the House, or by one man on that side of the House, they were anxious to judge of each measure by its own merits. ("Hear, hear.") He did not wish to overrate the importance of the present motion, but he should vote for it because it proposed a measure in the right direction, and he was ever ready to accept everything that would tend in any degree to benefit the people.

Mr. Stafford O'Brien next spoke, and was answered by Mr. H. G. Ward, who referred to the immense admissions made on the other side in the course of this debate, especially by the hon. member for the West Riding of Yorkshire (Mr. S. Wortley), who had said that it would have been much better for the country had no Corn Laws been in existence. ("Hear, hear, hear.") On this point alone he had been clear, and on others his views were so obscure and clouded that it was not wonderful that the hon. member for Durham (Mr. Bright), in endeavouring to follow him, had wandered from the immediate question into the general subject of the Corn Laws. The hon. member for Northampton (Mr. S. O'Brien) had stated that the cotton mind had been once needlessly alarmed. This was true, but its alarm had produced no effect. The cotton mind did not assemble its forces in the rear of the Minister of the day, consequently it had not been listened to, and it was left to get over its fears as well as it could. The hon. member had also said that he would not pledge himself to an eternal refusal of justice; he was satisfied with a refusal of justice at the present moment, and year after year, when the justice of any claim was made as apparent as now, he would have an opportunity of assuring the House that he was not for eternal injustice, but thought that the time for a remedy had not yet arrived. ("Cheers.") It seemed, according to that hon. member, that the agricultural mind was at present in an unsettled condition—in a state of doubt and fluctuation; and for this reason he would not yet listen to the claims of Australia. Would he listen to them next year? ("Hear, hear.") Another point he had urged was, that the question was too narrow; that it embraced only one colony; that the motion asked too little. This might be called a Pebleshire sort of argument. ("Cheers and laughter.") The boon required ought not to have been confined to one colony; it was too

insignificant a matter; it was not like a huge grant of £25,000 in one sum, or the Pebleshire mode of arguing might have been got rid of altogether. ("Cheers.") The honourable member for the West Riding of Yorkshire had talked about noxious and injurious supplies of corn; while the population was rapidly augmenting every day did not seem exactly the fittest time to speak of importations of corn as noxious and injurious. ("Hear, hear.") He (Mr. H. G. Ward) recollected the time when the opposite side of the House was eternally lauding ships, colonies, and commerce. Colonies were then to be admitted to a large share of the protection enjoyed by some interests at home; but now it appeared as if only those colonies were to be favoured which grew nothing that could be brought into competition. Coffee, cotton, or sugar might be admitted; but the moment they produced corn for export their produce was to be strictly excluded. Seeing the present temper of the other side of the House, he could not but wonder how the Canada Corn Bill had been permitted to slip through Parliament. He was happy to be able to tell honourable members that the predictions he had made were likely to be completely fulfilled, for preparations were making for an extensive trade in corn from the United States through Canada. Such was the prospect, and honourable members sitting behind the Prime Minister did not dare to ask him to repeal the act, however noxious and injurious, as well as abundant, might be the importations under it. It was all very well for some of them to talk of such a thing to their constituents two or three hundred miles off, but they could not talk of it in the House of Commons. It had been proposed and passed by the Government of the right hon. baronet, because the Canadians made it very intelligible that their contiguity to the United States might render it expedient to conciliate; and what an example did this course set to Australia! Sooner or later, what was now asked must be conceded; not this year, perhaps, as the hon. member for Northampton had said; but whether it took two or three years to force the claims of justice on the House, they must in time be heard, and the hon. member for Gateshead, by persevering in his motion, would at length shame his opponents into compliance. The time had not yet arrived, but it would unquestionably arrive, and then the right hon. baronet, according to his wont, would step forward and say—"It is no longer possible to resist these demands founded upon such plain and obvious truths, and the agricultural mind, like the cotton mind, must be prepared to abandon its foolish apprehensions; party or class interests cannot now be regarded, and we must consult the benefit of the great body of the Queen's subjects, by granting what is required by Australia." The right hon. baronet would not use such language to-night; he did not look as if he would (cheers and laughter), but he must use it ere long. He might balance for a year or two longer between right and wrong, but the hon. member for Gateshead might feel assured that his motion was virtually carried. ("Cheers.")

This speech brought up Sir Robert Peel, who really made the poorest and most pitiable speech that ever dropped from his lips. It was painful to listen to a man of his capacity talking in the way he did. It was with perfect truth and justice that

Viscount Howick wished to ask the House whether any hon. gentleman who had listened to the speech of the right hon. baronet, had not felt for him the greatest compassion under the severe and painful task which had been put upon him that night? ("Cheers.") He owned that, in the course of the whole of his experience in that House, he had never yet heard a speech by a right hon. gentleman standing in the position of the right hon. baronet who had just delivered. ("Hear, hear.") What were the grounds upon which the motion had been resisted by the right hon. baronet? After having listened to his speech—knowing his ability, knowing with what power he could bring to bear in that House every thing which had the semblance of an argument affecting the case which he might have in hand—knowing this, he would ask, after they had listened to the right hon. baronet's speech, could they entertain a doubt as to the real justice of this case? ("Cheers.") The noble lord, then, in his clear and able way, exposed the fallacy of the arguments against the proposition; and, after some farther debate, the House divided:—

For the motion .. .. .	93
Against it .. .. .	117
Majority .. .. .	24

In the House of Lords, the Duke of Richmond had been muttering thunders, threatening what he would do, and what he wouldn't do, when the financial measures of the Government, which have passed the Commons, came on for discussion in the Lords. But from time to time he postponed his threatened demonstration; until Monday night last, when, to preserve the appearance of bare decency, he was under the necessity of getting up the *faux pas* of a Farmers' Friend opposition to the Government. On the occasion of the Auctions Duties Repeal Bill going through committee, he raised a feeble agricultural whine, repeating the Miles-and-Banks story about the county and poor rates. In the House of Commons there was a little freshness about the contemptible demand of relieving the landlords (not the tenant-farmers, as Mr. Milner Gibson ably showed) from contributing their quota to those local burdens which everybody has to bear; but the second or third edition of this demand in the House of Lords has nothing whatever in it to redeem its utter meanness and impudence.

The Duke of Richmond's speech, however, raised a brief discussion, noticeable as bringing out the fact, that though Sir Robert Peel has made some tolerable advances in the direction of Free Trade, all that has yet been done has been mere pottering and trifling when contrasted with the exigencies of the country.

The Earl of Dalhousie showed that any injury from the importation of foreign cattle was a laughable and ludicrous pretence; Lord Montagu approved by figures that any injury to the Canadian wheat and flour was literally as nothing when compared with the daily rapid multiplication of our population; and Lord Stanley stated that the importations of wheat from the United States was—decreasing! All this is both melancholy and absurd. National man,

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calling themselves noblemen and statesmen, debating whether half a dozen cows and sheep, a few barrels of Canada flour, or of salted provisions, will or will not injure a market where millions of industrious, ingenious, energetic people are the daily and hourly purchasers!

No more nibbling with principles. Free Trade in its entirety must and shall be sanctioned by the Legislature.

### THE BAZAAR.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

"MY DEAR SIR,—We yesterday forwarded to your address, Covent-garden, eighteen packages of goods for the Halifax stall, an inventory of which I herewith enclose to you. The goods will be delivered early on Monday morning. The total value of goods sent is, according to the prices attached, £493. 19s. 3½d. Since they were sent we have received several contributions more, and I have not the least doubt that it will be increased to £500. We have not yet completed our Bazaar purse, but I feel confident it will contain from £160 to £170. Be so good as write me by return, saying whether the goods have arrived safe; and also state the time you would wish the purse to be sent in.

Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"THOMAS DENTON.

"62, Warren-street, Fitzroy-square.

"DEAR SIR,—Herewith you will receive the articles intrusted to my care for the League Bazaar; and you will oblige me by acknowledging their receipt in the next number of the LEAGUE, for the satisfaction of the donors.

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"I am, dear Sir,

"WILLIAM ALLEN.

#### LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

	£.	s.	d.
The Misses Daniell, 14, Elm-tree-road	4	13	6
Mrs. Bennett, 5 Melina-place, St. John's Wood	do.	5	8
Mr. Wingfield, 39, Gt. Portland-street	do.	2	18
Mrs. Kinsick and Friends, 10, Tottenham-court-road (one article not marked)	do.	2	15
Mrs. Todd, 191, Oxford-street	do.	1	15
Mr. Parker, St. Marybone-lane	do.	1	2
Mr. Walker, 8, Upper Fitzroy-street	do.	1	10
Mr. J. Wilson, 18, Charles-street	do.	2	2
Mr. and Mrs. J. Hayes, Augustus-street, Regent's-park	do.	0	14
A.B., per Mr. W. Allen	cash	0	6
From Partner and Self, two table tops of our own manufacture	value	6	6
	£29	10	6

"Manchester.

"DEAR SIR,—We have forwarded to your address in London one hundred print dresses, as our contribution to the Free-Trade Bazaar.

"Wishing you every success, we are yours, truly,

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"REDDISH AND BICKHAM.

"Frome.

"SIR,—The remainder of the Frome contributions are this day forwarded, including a chest of hatters' cords, presented by Messrs. Gregory and Rawlings, £5; a box of books, from the Rev. John Jones and friends, value £1; Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations," 3 vols., presented by Mr. Suddamore, and two or three smaller articles: the whole amount of contributions we reckon at £131. 14s. value; name of each contributor being inserted in the list sent opposite the article, as also its value, and a card attached to the article with the value and name of the contributor.

(Signed) "ELIZABETH TURK, Hon. Sec."

"Sutton Bridge.

"DEAR SIR,—As one of the waggons to the League, I have brought up to the Council and delivered at Covent-garden Theatre, for the Bazaar, a quantity of Free-Trade produce wheat, in twenty-six small sacks, in a neat, strong, well-made wagon, exactly a fourth of the usual size of those used in these parts of Marshland. The wagon and sacks are marked 'Free Trade.'

"I have also to hand to you, or some one in your behalf, one sovereign, from a few Free-Traders, who wish to be designated 'Real Protectionists.'

"The cost, to me, of this little oddity is £7. With a sincere desire that your display may be very effective and very productive, I remain, my dear Sir,

"Yours very respectfully,

"AN AGRICULTURAL FRIEND.

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

#### OPENING OF THE BAZAAR.

We extract the following from the *Bazaar Gazette*, which will appear daily during the continuance of this great exhibition:—

Covent garden Theatre, where the Bazaar and Exhibition are held, is a structure of the present century, erected on the site of a former theatre, which was burned down on the morning of the 28th of September, 1808. The present edifice was erected from the designs of Sir Gilbert Smirke, within a period of ten months from the laying of the foundation-stone, at an expense of £150,000, not including the cost of scenery, theatrical properties, and similar decorations. The principal front is in Bow-street, and its design was pretty closely imitated from that of the Doric Temple of Minerva, in the Acropolis at Athens. Though magnificent in itself, the architecture is of too solemn and massive a character for the front of a theatre, and the proportions of the noble portico utterly fail in producing the desired effect, from the narrowness of the street in which they are situated; and for the same reason, the fine basso-reliefs representing the ancient and modern drama, situated above the windows, too often escape observation.

Under the portico is the vestibule, through which is the entrance to the Bazaar. Visitors ascend a wide staircase, decorated on each side with statuary, to the

Shakspeare-hall or saloon. On the left side of this hall is the exhibition of tapestry, shawls, and carpets, and in the corners next the passage are displayed a splendid mirror and a stall of chemical preparations. Passing through this hall, and turning to the right, visitors enter the box-lobby, the side wing of which will be closed during the Bazaar. On the left will be a stall for Miller's glass-works. Visitors will proceed to the left, and on coming opposite the central box of the dress circle, they will reach the entrance to the Grand Gothic Hall. The first view at the entrance is very imposing: the illuminated roof, with its Gothic mouldings and richly decorated arches, the two vistas of pillars extending along each side, and the gorgeous painted window at the remote extreme seem to realize the imaginary halls in the palace of Aladdin. The elevation of the dress circle above the level of the pit enables the visitor to take in the whole at the first glance, and hence the effect of the *coup d'œil* is most striking and imposing. There is a descent of a few easy steps into the body of the hall, where the stalls are situated, and we shall first describe those connected with the range of boxes on the right-hand side of the visitor at entrance.\* The boxes next to the entrance are themselves stalls, and are approached by a raised platform; they are divided between the towns of Northampton and Rochdale. The pillars projecting into the body of the hall extend from this point to the proscenium, and the stalls allocated to Yorkshire are placed between the pillars, the boxes behind serving for the display of goods, and also as magazines for the supply of the stalls. These four stalls are assigned to Halifax, Leeds, and Bradford; the towns being named in the order that the stalls follow from the entrance. In the centre of the hall is a double row of stalls, but we shall only describe that row now which is opposite and nearest to the box-stalls we have mentioned. Next the entrance are the stalls of Bolton, Stockport, and a Scotch burgh; then follow those of Swansea, Carlisle, York, Stockton-on-Tees, Hull, Beverley, Bristol, and Newcastle.

The stalls we have enumerated occupy half of the semi-ellipse which forms the part of the theatre in front of the stage, and which is usually compared to a horse-shoe. The stage itself being quadrangular, admits of a different arrangement. From the central line of stalls, adjoining that allocated to Bristol, there springs a series of stalls in the shape of a reversed L, the extreme of the letter joining the central stalls. The Newcastle stall is continued at right angles; then follow those of Huddersfield, Barnsley, Wakefield, and Bloomsbury, on the perpendicular side of the L; and at the top is the Kentish-town stall. Opposite to these, forming the right-hand side of the Gothic Hall, is first an ornamented door, and then two recesses, each richly illuminated with transparencies, painted to imitate stained glass: the first of these is the Peckham stall; and the second the Islington stall.

The right side of the upper part of the stage fronting the entrance is appropriated to the Metropolis, and is divided into three stalls, named in their order, from the right-hand corner, the City, Kensington, and Camden stalls. Returning again to the reversed L, which joins the central table, and which forms a recess of stalls just in front of the Camden (the reader will remember that as he turns into this recess he faces the door of entrance), at the turn next to the Kentish-town is the Sussex, and then the Norwood stall; at the horizontal line of the L are the Pentonville and Hoxton stalls; and we then again turn our back to the entrance, passing the St. Martin's and the Savoy stalls. The curved top of stalls, which unites the two central lines of stalls, is assigned to the contributions of the ladies of Sheffield.

Before we go down the other side of the hall we must enter, what would in ancient times be regarded as 'a chamber of dials,' a large recess at the extreme of the Gothic Hall, and forming itself a hall of superior decoration, illuminated by a large transparency, representing a Gothic window of the richest stained glass. The whole length of this magnificent apartment is laid out in refreshment-stalls, and the right-hand side as you enter is the book-stall, and opposite is the Post-office.

Returning to the stage, and turning to the right, we have to examine the remaining half of the Bazaar which is arranged on the same plan as that just described. At the stage end of the Bazaar there are three stalls next the wall assigned to Manchester, equal in extent to the London stalls on the opposite side; and there are in the side wall three recesses, each illuminated by a transparency, representing a window of stained glass, also occupied by stalls connected with Manchester. In the recess formed by the second reversed L, and the centre table, are the stalls assigned to Gloucester, Norwich, Exeter, Dudley, Warrington, Preston, and Lancaster. The outer side of the L, beginning at the top, opposite Manchester's stalls, are allocated to the contributions from Liverpool, Staleybridge, Ashton, and Bury; the end facing the body of the house is assigned to the Blackburn stall.

Crossing back from the stage to the body of the house, we have the boxes on our right, and the second central line of stalls on our left. This central line is given to the Midland Counties, and the stalls are assigned

\*A lithographed plan of the theatre, as laid out for the Bazaar, is published in 'The League Guide to London,' which is on sale (price 6d.) at the door of the theatre. The plan greatly facilitates the understanding of this description of the stalls.

in the following order, beginning from the stage, to Nottingham, Leicester, Derby, Coventry, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton. Near the top is a Scotch stall, and at the top is a stall for contributions from Colebrookdale, in addition to those in the saloon, to be described hereafter. The stalls on the right hand, between the pillars, in front of the boxes, are assigned to Scotland, and are distributed, beginning from the stage, to Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Paisley. The stalls in the boxes, next to the place of exit are given to the contributions from Shetland, Dunstable, and Luton.

The door of exit is separated by a thin partition from the door of entrance; it leads into the box lobby, from which visitors pass into the lower saloon. This noble room is divided into a central hall, and two spacious wings. The wing through which we enter is occupied by the Sheffield stall, and exhibits a gorgeous display of the articles for the manufacture of which that town has long been celebrated. In the central hall are arranged the contributions from the iron works of Colebrookdale, equally remarkable for the exquisiteness of their artistic design and the extraordinary finish of their execution. The remaining wing is assigned to the contributions from the Potteries, which consist of porcelain, chinaware, and similar products of the plastic art.

We next ascend the staircase leading from the central saloon to the upper boxes, and may at our choice go on to the upper saloon, or take a view of the Gothic Hall from the second circle of boxes. The upper saloon is the only part of the Exposition to which daylight is admitted. It has been papered and fitted up for the present occasion by Messrs. Hennell and Crosby, who have here introduced a novel style of decoration, which we deem likely to be very extensively popular. Free-Trade mottoes, selected with great taste and ingenuity, are enclosed in rich medallions, which form part of the design of the paper-hangings, and produce a most pleasing effect. We think that this style of decoration might be very effectively introduced into nurseries and schools, and be thus rendered subservient to the purposes of education. The upper saloon is designed for the exhibition of machinery, models, and works of art, and also as a place for promenade and conversation.

Leaving the saloon, visitors will obtain a very fine view of the Gothic Hall, and of the busy scene below in the body of the house, from the circle of the upper boxes. The lobby leads out on a winding staircase, which conducts to the hall in Prince's-place and the gate of exit. Visitors will not be allowed to retrace their steps through the house, as this would produce great inconvenience from crowds crossing in contrary directions.

We must now venture behind the scenes. At the Manchester side of the stage is a door leading to a gallery of apartments fitted up as dressing-rooms for the ladies; these are six in number, and are furnished with all suitable conveniences. At the end of the gallery is a large saloon, commonly called the king's-room, where refreshments are provided for the ladies attending stalls. The private boxes at each end of the house are also reserved for their use, and will be available for the meetings of sub-committees of stall-keepers.

On the opposite side of the house is a similar gallery of apartments, which includes two dressing-rooms for gentlemen, a refreshment-room, a committee-room (the old green-room), the superintendent's room, the chairman's room, the secretary's room, and the clerk's room. Opposite to the latter is a flight of stairs, descending to a suite of rooms on a level with the street, and in this range is situated the editor's room and the printing-office of this journal.

All necessary information respecting the means and cost of conveyance to and from the theatre will be found in the "League Guide to London," which, as we have already mentioned, may be purchased (price 6d.) at the door of the theatre.

The arrangements of the theatre and decorations were not completed, until late in the day of Wednesday, to such an extent as would admit the laying out and display of the goods in the greater part of the stalls; but by the zealous exertions of the ladies and their assistants, many of whom remained up the whole night, nearly all the stalls were completed when the doors were thrown open to the public, a little after twelve o'clock. We shall now name the stalls in the order in which they are numbered, briefly describing the chief contents of each.

No. 1, or first box on the entrance, is the NORTHAMPTON Stall. It contains a large assortment of boots and shoes, executed in better taste, and with finer finish, than any that have been ever produced in Paris. It affords a striking proof that no protection is necessary to British industry and ingenuity, and that our artisans, if allowed to contest with foreigners on equal terms, would have no reason to dread competition.

Nos. 2, 3, and 4. ROCHDALE.—This stall is very rich in decorated articles of furniture, the work of the ladies of Rochdale. There are several pieces of flannel, which is the staple manufacture of the town, and a large supply of plain calicoes. Among the Rochdale contributions, the most complete of their kind, though not the most showy, are several night-dresses for ladies, made of Irish linen, and beautifully trimmed.

No. 5. HALIFAX.—The contributions which have been forwarded to Covent-garden Theatre, for the Halifax stall, show that the skillful and industrious people of that important district are as zealous as ever in the good cause

of Free Trade; and also that they are not a whit behind other manufacturing towns in the variety, the beauty, and the ingenuity of their productions. To begin with royalty—for your true Leaguers are as loyal as they are patriotic—we must first notice the Queen's aprons. Some time ago Messrs. Thomas Gregory and Brothers, of Shelf, in the parish of Halifax, manufactured, and presented to her Majesty, a royal apron. It was made from the fleece of a favourite alpaca belonging to the Queen; and was most graciously accepted by her Majesty. The design, which was suited to the occasion, was exceedingly well executed. At the bottom of the apron is a handsome border, on which are the royal arms, and on each side of them is a beautiful figure of Britannia; the remainder of the space being filled with elegant drapery and flowers. In the centre of the apron is the royal crown, illumined by the rays of the sun, and surrounded by a truly national wreath composed of the rose, thistle, and shamrock. On each side of the apron is a border composed of various devices, flowers, &c.; and the whole is a magnificent specimen of what the jacquard engine is able to produce. Thirty of these aprons, made from the finest alpaca wool, have been presented to the Bazaar, by Messrs. Gregory; and will, we doubt not, be eagerly bought up by our fair countrywomen. Several carpets and rugs, of most exquisite workmanship and surpassing beauty, have been contributed by Messrs. John Crossley and Sons, of Halifax. These carpets are manufactured by a patent process; and, for richness of colour, elegance of design, and durability of texture, are, we believe, equal, if not superior, to anything of the kind ever exhibited in this country. From the spirited and wealthy firm of Messrs. James Akroyd and Son, there is a splendid and valuable collection of dresses and damasks, as novel in pattern as they are exquisite in texture and in colour. The artists of the town have also contributed some of their productions; and amongst the most prominent we may notice the Halifax coat of arms, painted for the occasion by Mr. G. Hedley; "Reading the LEAGUE," a shoemaker at his work, and his daughter reading to him the LEAGUE newspaper, painted by Mr. S. Baldwin; "an Algerine waiting to attack a Caravan," painted by Mr. Joshua Horner; and a very pretty water-colour landscape, by Mr. Elijah Crabtree, who, in contributing it, jocosely signs himself *Crabtree*. Several books have been presented, with the autographs of the writers; and there is a goodly array of needlework, and other fancy articles, from the industrious hands of the gentler sex. In concluding this notice, however, we must not omit to mention one peculiar feature of the Halifax contributions, viz., twenty fine home-fed and home-cured Yorkshire hams, enough to tempt the most fastidious epicure of "the land of Cockayne," and proving beyond a doubt, that, if they can promote the great object of the League, the good people of Halifax are not careful to "save their bacon."

No. 6. LEEDS.—This great metropolis of the ancient staple manufacture of England is well represented by a splendid variety of woollen goods, which completely fill the box in the rear. The front of the stall displays a great variety of needlework, and packets of thread, sewing cottons, &c.

Nos. 7 and 8. BRADFORD.—The principal contents of this stall are merinos for ladies' dresses, of which there is an almost overwhelming variety. In texture they are superior to any that have been produced on the Continent, and they fully equal the merinos of France in richness of colour. We were much struck with the taste manifested in the display of the article; they are festooned with very picturesque effect.

No. 9. PECKHAM.—The ladies of the Camberwell and Peckham stall have sent us the following list:—A most splendid specimen of penmanship, consisting of an extract from a sermon delivered at the New Meeting (Kidderminster) on the demise of the much-lamented Princess Charlotte, beautifully executed in the form of a funeral urn; contributed by Miss Linthorne. Elegant table-covers, beautifully constructed, of a rich cloth, with worked borders and bouquets of flowers in the centre, with sumptuous ottomans to match; from Frome; contributed by Mrs. Wood. A most elegant solid carved rosewood chair, covered with rich striped tabinet; manufactured and contributed by the workmen at Mr. William's furniture manufactory, Union-street, Borough. A very unique and ancient specimen bottle of sack (the friend of *Calatoff*), bearing date 1642; contributed by Mr. Bell. A very beautiful wrought purse, ornamented with silk flowers, brought from Constantinople. Very curious and beautiful specimens of art (the Norman Peasant Girl), accurately dressed in the costume of her country, brought from Normandy; contributed by Mr. W. S. Shove, of Blackheath. An elegant specimen of silk flower work, beautifully wrought on a ground of rich black satin, with bouquet of flowers and wheat in the centre; contributed by Mrs. Heywood. Two most exquisitely finished pencil drawings (The Gleamer, and Spanish Boy), designed and contributed by Mrs. Donkin. A very handsome music-stool, with rich covering, &c., contributed by Miss Fisher. A beautiful quilted shawl, with rich border; executed and contributed by Mrs. Williamson, of Rippon. A beautiful specimen of silk patchwork; executed and contributed by Mrs. Martin.

No. 10. ISLINGTON.—The gem of this stall, and one of the most interesting articles in the entire exposition, is a copy, in needlework, of Landseer's celebrated picture of "Hawking," which is in the possession of Lord Francis Egerton, and which many of our readers will remember to have seen displayed at one of the exhibitions of the Manchester Mechanics' Institute. There are also some exquisite water-colour drawings, one of which, "A View of Dover Castle," exhibits extraordinary mastery over the effects of light and shade in realizing the ideas of depth and extent.

No. 11. CITY.—This is a very miscellaneous stall, but its principal contents are embroidered articles, manufactured by ladies.

No. 12. KENSINGTON.—In addition to articles of embroidery, this stall contains a very elegant assortment of children's dresses.

No. 13. CAMDEN.—This is a very miscellaneous stall. In its front is a copy, in glass, of the Nelson pillar, in Trafalgar-square, with a beautiful thermometer attached; a revolving clock, of very singular workmanship, to which we shall direct more attention in a future number; a copy of Chantrey's statue of Watt, executed in ivory, by the Cheverton process (a recent discovery, by which busts and statues can be copied in any size, and in any material, with the most perfect mathematical accuracy); a skeleton clock, and some beautiful specimens of embroidery, contributed by the Ladies Bouverie. Above the stall are suspended some splendid Indian kincaubs, from the shawl manufactory of Delhi; and some printed Cashmere shawls, from Crayford, in Kent. These shawls are scarcely inferior either in texture or colour to the celebrated shawls and scarfs of the vale of Cashmere itself.

We must defer, for the present, our notice of the book-stall and refreshment-room, which are not yet completely arranged; and we may here add, that we shall revert more particularly in future numbers to articles of taste and *vertù*, displayed upon the stalls; but for the present we must confine ourselves to generalities. We may, however observe, that Miss Martineau's contribution, "Dawn Island," may be had at the book-stall.

Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. MANCHESTER.—The great metropolis of the manufacturing districts, and cradle of Free Trade, has occupied six large stalls, and has sent contributions sufficient to supply three times as many more.

No. 14 contains, among other valuable articles, a copy of the Nautilus cradle, that was manufactured for the Prince of Wales. A likeness of the infant prince, executed in wax, accompanies the cradle. There are also two models of beds, which will be highly appreciated by those who are furnishing a doll's house. Suspended against the wall is a bed-cover, which is the most extraordinary specimen of knitting we have ever seen. On each side of this, and continued to the two adjoining stalls, are some fine specimens of Manchester goods, including furniture chintzes, mousselines de laine, printed cashmeres for ladies' dresses, and balzorines.

In No. 15 we were much struck with a handsome case of stuffed birds, and a feather pelorine of very beautiful workmanship.

No. 16 contains a hundred children's dresses, contributed by one lady; a Free-Trade table-cloth, ornamented with portraits of Cobden and Bright, wrought into the damasking; and an abundance of patterns, of Free-Trade waistcoats, wrought of the richest silk, and decorated with the League pattern of the wheat-sheaf.

At stall No. 17 we noticed a beautiful collection of purses, mounted with gold, and decorated with real stones; a splendid chain, most richly embroidered, and a great variety of elegant shawls.

At No. 18 is the finest embroidered chair in the whole exposition; several covers for ottomans and sofas; and a great display of fancy needlework.

No. 20 is the first of the Scotch stalls, nearly all of which are filled with useful articles. This, the first of the series, is almost wholly occupied by contributions from Dunfermline, consisting of diapers, linens, &c.

DUNDEE and PAISLEY, occupy stall 21, which, however, only displays the name of the latter town, probably because its magnificent shawls overshadow other contributions. These are suspended in very tasteful festoons from the two higher arches of boxes, and when seen from the opposite side of the stage have a most pleasing and ornamental effect. Considerable skill and ingenuity have been displayed in their arrangement.

No. 22 is the EDINBURGH stall.—The front counter exhibits a very rich and varied collection of fancy articles, while the boxes behind are covered with pictures, painted teatrays, and handkerchiefs; festoons of Shetland shawls and embroidered scarfs are suspended from the boxes above, and have a light, airy effect, from the peculiar folds taken by the fleecy material.

Nos. 23, 24. GLASGOW.—This stall is one of the most thoroughly utilitarian in the Bazaar. It has a very rich variety of printed dresses for ladies, including muslin, balzorines, and mousselines de laine, all of which are ticketed at manufacturers' prices, and considering the fineness of their texture, and the beauty of their patterns, are wonderfully cheap.

The DUNSTABLE stall, No. 26, is a miscellaneous assortment of fancy work, and is not, at present, complete.

The LUTON stall, No. 27, is wholly occupied by straw-bonnets, so that the box at the entrance provides for the feet, and that at the exit for the head.

We should have been glad, had our space permitted, to have given in full the reports which appeared in all the daily papers of Friday of the opening of the great League Bazaar. The *Sun* and *Globe* of Thursday, the *Times*, the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Advertiser*, the *Post*, and the *Morning Herald* of Friday, have generally done impartial justice to the exhibition, and, with the exception of slight inaccuracies on matters of little importance, we have no fair grounds of complaint. The following report, in full, from the columns of the *Morning Herald*, is, perhaps, the best testimony we can give to our readers of the general effect of an exhibition which has commanded so much commendation at the hands of an avowed adversary:—

"The Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar, which has, for several months past, occupied the heads and fingers of all the male and female members of the League, was opened this day at noon, at Covent-garden Theatre. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable weather and the high price of the tickets of admission, the attendance at the doors was very numerous, and the staircase, saloons, and lobbies—even the body of the house itself,—was soon full to overflowing. The arrangements to prevent confusion appeared, however, to be very excellent, and to be well carried out by the stewards, so that, although visitors were almost subjected to the *peine forte et dure* during their transit, there was no complaint, but each appeared content to groan and bear it. The public were admitted only through the chief entrance in Bow-street, from whence they ascended, as during the dramatic exhibitions at the theatre, up the grand staircase to the Shakspeare saloon, now fitted up with tapestry, carpets, shawls, &c., so agreeably to resemble the show-room of a mercer. In this place also is a magnificent mirror, one such as giants only should survey themselves in, also an interesting stall of chemical preparations; and a box from Darlestone, in Staffordshire, containing coal and iron, the latter in its various stages from the rudest ore to the most polished and tempered metal, which is capable of being wrought by human ingenuity. In the box lobby on the left is a stall for Miller's glass-works, containing many remarkable curiosities, and also the apparatus at work by which they are produced, and glass thread is woven into soft and beautiful fabrics. Passing on to the centre of the lobby we find two boxes are removed, and come suddenly upon a scene so novel and romantic, so incongruous and grotesque, that for a moment we could fancy ourselves transported to the east, and about to deal with Turks and Mussulmans instead of the demure 'Friends,' in drab or lilac, who officiate at the stalls or throng so thickly below us. Certainly, in its palmy days, no visitor to Covent-garden ever witnessed on its stage a more complete transformation. The whole area of the pit and stage is boarded over, and transformed into a 'Norman-Gothic hall,' with an arched

roof, gaily decorated, and supported on each side by rows of ornamental pillars. The sides are covered with imitation panelling, with grotesque ornaments and devices, and numerous Free-Trade mottoes. At the extreme end is a large Gothic window so prepared and lit up as to resemble stained glass; there are also similar windows at the sides, and from the roof are suspended rows of illuminated lamps, which cast a rich but subdued light over the hall, and add very much to the beauty of the spectacle. We understand the whole of these arrangements were devised by Mr. Sloman, the machinist of the theatre, and Mr. Grieve, the well-known scenic painter, and carried into effect, under their superintendence, by Mr. Edwards, of Manchester. Descending a few steps we find ourselves in the body of the hall, which is 150 feet long by 50 feet wide, and is occupied by four rows of stalls, each about a yard in width, but divided into various lengths, in proportion to the wants of the occupants, and the value of their merchandise. Upon the stage, where the hall is wider, and in the refreshment room, there are additional stalls. The length of the counters is said to be 900 feet, and the whole appears to have been used to the best advantage. The stalls are not numbered, nor are the holders' names affixed to them, but they appear to have been allotted according to certain localities, the names of which are hung over them. Thus, on passing the slips in the centre boxes, we find the boxes on each side converted into stalls, the one being allotted to Northampton, and the other to Dunstable, and respectively filled with the staple commodities of these places—shoes and bonnets. Upon entering the hall we saw the stalls on the right allotted to Rochdale, Halifax, Leeds, and Bradford. These, as they are first in order, appeared to us also to be first in merit, both as to the quality of the articles displayed, and the taste shown in their arrangement. They contained chiefly fancy articles of needlework, toys of various descriptions, carpets, shawls, materials of various kinds for ladies' dresses and curiosities, among which may be mentioned a piece of muslin, printed by the late Sir Robert Peel, and a pen-and-ink portrait of the Queen, the lines of which, instead of being blank, are written words, and comprise the whole contents of a book which is attached to, and descriptive of, it. This singular specimen of ingenuity is to be raffled for at 2s. 6d. a head, and, strange to say, we saw several Quaker ladies pressing forward to have their names set down as gamblers for it. Opposite these stalls, and on the right centre of the hall, are the stalls allotted to Northampton, Stockport, Swansea, Carlisle, York, Stockton, Hull, Beverley, and Bristol. Then comes, at right angles, the Newcastle stall, followed by those of Huddersfield, Barnsley, Wakefield, and Bloomsbury, and the Kentish town stalls. Opposite these, and on this side the stage, are the stalls appropriated to the metropolitan districts, which are described as Peckham, Islington, City, Kensington, Camden-town, Sussex, Norwood, Pentonville, Hoxton, St. Martin's, and the Savoy. The stalls in the curved line at the top, which unites the two central lines of stalls, are allotted to Sheffield. The refreshment room is appropriately allotted to refreshment-stalls, with the single exception of a book stall, and is much resorted to by visitors, who really need some refreshment after their toil.



some and tedious passage to it. But, next to the creams and ices vended there, the chief object of attraction is a huge plum cake,—a cake, the idea of which could, we think, have occurred in a dream only to some imaginative schoolboy,—so vast in its expanse, so ponderous its size, so rich its ingredients, so delicious its fragrance. It is a Bury Simnel, and measures, we should think, some five feet in diameter, weighs 280lbs., and bears upon its broad surface a sheet of iced sugar so large as to have inscribed upon it nearly all the maxims which embody the religion of the League, and so sweet and richly ornamented as to almost induce the visitor to swallow them. We hear that it is to be cut up and distributed on the last day of the exhibition; but let the League beware how they previously admit a school to their Bazaar, for to resist the combined temptation of this cake and its Free-Trade inscriptions is, we think, beyond the possibility of schoolboy nature. In this room is also the 'post-office,' an ingenious device for (among other purposes) raising money, and disseminating Free-Trade doctrines. It is suggested to the visitor to knock and inquire if they have a letter for him, and upon his supplying them with his name and address, he is himself, in due time, supplied with a packet (not pre-paid), which, on receiving, he finds filled with League tracts and other Free-Trade publications. The scheme was so successful that the arrival of a 'foreign mail' was soon notified, and of course it brought with it a despatch for every applicant, and at the foreign rate of postage. Leaving the refreshment-room, but not before examining at the book-stall an ancient mass-book, printed at Madrid, with the music on the old system of notation, we return to the stage, and see before us on the right centre the stalls of Gloucester, Norwich, Exeter, Dudley, Warrington, Preston, and Lancaster. At the Dudley stall were some interesting fossils and mineral specimens from that place. The Lancaster stall, among other articles of interest, exhibited a miniature bedstead in mahogany, of very elegant construction; and the chief object of interest at the Preston stall was a model carriage made by the Preston Guild, which was certainly a pleasing exhibition of the taste and ingenuity of our countrymen. It was complete in all its appointments, and was offered for £35. Near to these was the Liverpool stall, at which was exhibited, together with miscellaneous fancy articles, as baskets, lace collars, book markers, &c., 'a lock of Sir Walter Scott's hair,' price £3. 3s.; and a wax medallion 'Portrait of R. R. Moore, Esq., with autograph,' price 15s. Of the latter there was a large supply at many of the stalls, but we are unable to speak as to the demand for them. There were also autographs, *ad libitum*, of Mr. H. Smith's 'Stanzas on the Bazaar,' and of the most renowned Free-Traders. Near these, and returning on the right, are the six stalls assigned to Manchester, three of which are in recesses illuminated by transparencies representing stained glass windows. These stalls contain a very elegant assortment of fancy articles, chiefly made by ladies. Among others, we particularly noticed some elegant painted satin and velvet cushions. One or two magnificent chairs having backs and seats covered with beautiful needlework, some elegant shawls and children's fancy dresses. There was also a nautilus cradle, in imitation of that made for the royal nursery, which excited general admiration. Opposite the Manchester stalls were those of Staleybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Bury. At the Ashton stall were several curiosities, from an old black-letter volume of 1568, entitled 'The Dial of Princes,' price £6, to a prize shoe made without seam or stitch by some ingenious local artist. Bury, also, was not without its curiosities, for it contributed a huge bear's paw, with a goodly collection of children's frocks, carpeting, and paintings and engravings. Returning still, we have on either hand the Scotch stalls and those of the Midland Counties. The tributary towns in Scotland are Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley, Shetland, and Dunfermline. Edinburgh sends chiefly miscellaneous toys, Paisley shawls, and the others ladies' work, toys, shawls, and table-linen. On the other hand, the Midland Counties also send chiefly their staple manufactures, as Nottingham, lace; Leicester, lace and hosiery; Coventry, ribbons, and a newly-invented gimp for bonnets; Birmingham, a handsome collection of hardware and fancy goods, in every respect of very superior quality; Bolton supplies a number of handsome footstools, slippers, and articles of that description, with autograph letters of the 'Rev. J. Fletcher,' and other eminent personages. Having thus traversed the body of the hall, we again ascend the steps through the boxes and, availing ourselves of the ample directions posted about, soon find our way through the lobby into the lower saloon, where we find collected the contributions of Sheffield, Colebrookdale, and the Potteries. And here, in our humble judgment, is to be seen the best portion of the exhibition. The Sheffield department contains contributions of the staple manufactures of that place, and the specimens are in the highest degree creditable to the enterprise, ingenuity, and skill of our manufacturers and artisans. Here are instruments and tools of almost every description, both of material and quality, and workmanship, from the revolving saw, which cuts through steel bars or gnarled oaks as easily as a knife divides a twig, to scissors, needles, and other things appurtenant to a lady's work-box, so minute, yet so highly finished and exquisitely modelled, that one might imagine them 'made to order' for Titania and her attendant fairies. There are also instruments of various kinds, so highly polished as to reflect the countenance like mirrors; and such a collection of knives, forks, spoons, surgical instruments, and ingenious tools of all descriptions as are rarely seen in London. Many of these, too, were much admired for their admirable finish, and the beautiful execution of several ornaments and devices adapted to the occasion, among which we may particularly mention a large pair of shears, on which were exhibited excellent full-length portraits of Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden. The exhibition from Colebrookdale, in the centre of this saloon, was no less attractive and no less worthy of attention. It consisted chiefly of ornamental iron works, in some of which our native artists appeared to have attained perfection. There were vases, fountains, bronzes, striking portraits of Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Villiers. American rocking chairs, and iron chairs of several descriptions, garden seats, and similar articles in great profusion, almost every one of which had round it a knot of admirers, who were loud in their eulogiums. At the other end of the saloon were china and earthenware from the Potteries; but as these were only partially unpacked we saw but little of them. The upper saloon has been

newly decorated for the occasion, having Free-Trade mottoes enclosed in medallions, on the hangings, the effect of which is novel and interesting. Stepping from this saloon into the upper circle, to take a bird's-eye view of the whole exhibition before leaving it, the spectacle is very fine and animating. The effect produced by the softened light of the rows of illuminated lamps, both upon the splendid roof and pillars, and the busy scene below, was very beautiful. It was also amusing to see the diligence in business of the amateur shopkeepers, and the difficulty with which, from the pressure of the crowd, a customer maintained his ground until he could complete a bargain. The impression produced was that the place was much too small both for the satisfactory exhibition of the goods, and for the accommodation of visitors. Probably to this cause we should attribute the absence of much of that taste in the arrangements of the stalls that is customary on such occasions. As it was, the articles generally were rather heaped together than displayed, which made the counters more resemble those of the wholesale than the retail dealer. There was also a palpable want of variety in the articles exhibited, more than three-fourths of the stalls consisting of miscellaneous articles of fancy needlework, which, however pretty in themselves, lost their interest when the view of them was so frequently repeated. As a Ladies' Bazaar, however, the experiment on the whole appeared to be successful. But as a great 'national exhibition' of our arts and manufactures by those of our manufacturers and artisans who are interested in Free Trade, which some of the Free-Traders affect to call it, the affair must be pronounced a total failure. With the exceptions we have particularly noticed, even those exhibitions of staple manufactures that were made contained very little in them peculiarly worthy of remark; and we feel satisfied they would never have been sent to that of France in this country. As to the attendance, it was, throughout the day, extremely numerous, a great number of the visitors being evidently from the country, brought up, probably, by the double inducement of the Bazaar and the May meetings. Among the persons present we noticed Sir J. C. Hobhouse, M.P., Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. Pitterson, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. M. Gibson, M.P., Mr. Brotherton, M.P., Mr. Hutt, M.P., Mr. Wilson, Mr. P. A. Taylor, and other noted Leaguers. The attendance of members of the Society of Friends, both male and female, was also very numerous. The prices of the various articles appeared to be quite as high as is customary on such occasions. We should add that a musical band was in attendance throughout the day, and played a number of popular airs very effectively."

#### NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.

##### Internal Arrangements for the Bazaar.

The prices of admission are as follows:—

	s.	d.
Saturday, May 10, day of Exhibition	5	0
Monday, " 12, Sale of Articles	2	6
Each succeeding day, do.	1	0

The theatre opens on the days of exhibition and sale at twelve o'clock—noon.

The entrance for the public is from Bow-street, up the Grand Staircase, and along a passage cut through the centre boxes of the Dress Circle into the body of the Theatre, thrown into the form of a "GOTHIC HALL;" and the visitors then pass along the stalls, and retire by the Hart-street side of the Theatre, so that the in-coming and out-going streams of visitors do not come into collision.

The Entrance for ladies attending the stalls, and the members of the Committee of Management, is at the Stage-door in Hart-street. Tickets are provided for all persons who are entitled to admission at the private entrance, without which no individual can, under any circumstances, be allowed to pass.

Carriages are to set down in Bow-street, and take up in Prince's-place, Hart-street.

#### THE SPECIAL RAILWAY TRAINS.

##### From Manchester, &c., to London.

The following arrangements are now completed:—The Trains for the convenience of parties residing in Manchester, Oldham, Bury, Stockport, Ashton, Stalybridge, Bolton, Rochdale, &c., will leave the Station of the Manchester and Birmingham Railway Company, London-road, Manchester, on the following days, each morning at Eight o'clock precisely:—

Saturday, May 10th, returning on Saturday, the 17th, giving six clear days in London.

Monday, May 12th, returning on Wednesday, the 21st, giving eight clear days in London.

Wednesday, May 14th, returning on Monday, the 26th, giving eleven clear days in London.

Arrangements have been made by which the whole journey will be performed in nine hours.

The RETURN TRAINS to Manchester will leave the Euston-square Station, London, on the above-named days, each morning at Nine o'clock.

Fares—For First-class Carriages (both ways), 38s. Second-class do., 29s.

##### From Liverpool to London.

Arrangements have been made for two Special Trains between London and Liverpool. One will leave Liverpool on Saturday, the 10th of May, at Eight o'clock A.M., and return on Saturday, the 17th of May, at Eight o'clock A.M. A second Train will leave Liverpool on Thursday, the 15th of May, at Eight o'clock A.M., and return on Monday, the 26th of May, at Eight o'clock A.M.

Applications for tickets must be made at the

office of the Anti-Monopoly Association, 7, Water-street, Liverpool.

First-class (up and down inclusive) . . 42s.  
Second-class (ditto) . . 30s.

##### From the West Riding of Yorkshire to London.

Arrangements have been made with the Midland and the London and Birmingham Railway Companies for Three Special Trains to London, namely:—

Saturday, May 10th, to return on Thursday, the 15th.

Wednesday, May 14th, to return on Monday, the 19th.

Saturday, May 17th, to return on Saturday, the 24th.

These trains will take up passengers at the places named, at the following scale of fares:—

	First Class.	Second Class.	Time of Departure.
	s. d.	s. d.	h. m.
Leeds to London and back	39 0	26 0	6 45
Normanton do.	37 0	25 0	7 30
Barnsley do.	35 6	24 0	8 0
Swinton do.	34 0	23 0	8 25
Sheffield do.	34 0	23 0	8 0
Masbro' do.	33 0	22 6	8 45
Chesterfield do.	30 6	20 6	9 30

And will arrive in London at 7 P.M.

The Down Trains will leave London at 9 30 P.M., and will occupy the same time in returning as in going up.

Tickets from Leeds to London may be had of Mr. T. MORGAN, 20, Commercial-buildings; and as the number by each train is necessarily limited for each town of the West Riding, and it has been arranged with the Railway Companies that the sale of tickets for each train shall close two days before the starting of each, it is earnestly requested that parties intending to avail themselves of these trains will apply as early as possible.

N.B. Luggage to each passenger limited to 50lbs., both first and second class; and it is to be distinctly understood that the Midland and the London and Birmingham Railway Companies, respectively, will not be liable, under any circumstances, for any passenger's luggage.

##### From Preston to London.

The Preston Train will start early on Whit Monday morning, and join the Liverpool one at the Warrington Junction. First-class fare, there and back, from Preston to London, not to exceed £2. 6s. 6d.; Second-class, £1. 15s.

##### From Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester to London.

Special Trains, containing a limited number of first and second class carriages, will leave Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester for London, on Saturday, the 10th, returning on the 15th; on Monday the 12th, returning on the 17th of May, there and back for one fare.

Passengers may exchange Return Tickets with each other as may suit their convenience.

##### Fares.

	A. M.	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Leaves Derby at . . . . . 5. 30	24s.	16s.	
" Nottingham . . . . . 5. 30	24s.	16s.	
" Loughborough . . . . . 6. 0	21s.	14s.	
" Syston . . . . . 6. 15	19s.	13s. 6d.	
" Leicester . . . . . 6. 45	18s.	13s.	

The Company cannot, under any circumstances, be responsible for passengers' luggage by these Trains. Each passenger allowed 50lbs. weight.

As a limited number only can be conveyed, tickets for the 10th must be taken not later than the 8th, and for the 12th not later than the 10th.

##### From Brighton to London.

Special Trains will leave Brighton on the mornings of the 12th, 13th, and 14th of May; and excursion tickets for the three days can be obtained at the railway station, at the following fares:—

First-class carriages (both ways) . .	12s.
Second do. do. . . . .	8
Third do. do. . . . .	6

##### From Birmingham to London.

At Birmingham some spirited individuals have entered into engagements with the proprietors of the line, by which they will be enabled to convey parties to the Bazaar at very low fares. Particulars to be obtained on the spot.

#### GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Excursion Trains will leave the following places for London on Monday the 12th and Tuesday the 13th instant, at the reduced fares for the journey Up and Down, specified in this advertisement, returning from London on Wednesday the 14th and Friday the 16th instant.

	Time.	Fares Up and Down.
		1st Class. 2nd Class.
From Exeter . .	7.30 a.m.	45s. 30s.
Tiverton-road . .	8 0 a.m.	42s. 28s.
Taunton . .	8 45 a.m.	39s. 26s.
Bridgewater . .	9.20 a.m.	37s. 24s. 6d.
Bristol . .	11. 0 a.m.	30s. 20s.
Bath . .	11.35 a.m.	28s. 6d. 19s.

The Return Trains will leave Paddington at half-

past two o'clock in the afternoons of the 14th and 15th instant.

As the company can only undertake to provide a limited number of carriages for these excursions, the tickets must be taken and paid for at the respective stations on or before Saturday the 10th instant, to secure places.

Any passenger wishing to return by the regular passenger trains on any day during that week, will be allowed the half cost of the excursion ticket, upon paying up the difference of fare for the journey back.

Further information may be obtained at the abovementioned stations on the Great Western Railway.

By order of the Directors,  
1st May, 1845. CHAS. A. SAUNDERS, Secretary.

#### Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c.

Special Trains will run from Cheltenham, Gloucester, Stroud, and Cirencester, both on Monday and Tuesday, the 12th and 13th of May, returning on Thursday and Saturday; fare, there and back, 21s.

#### Newcastle, Sunderland, Shields, &c., to London.

A Special Train will leave Gateshead, for London, on Thursday, the 15th inst., at six o'clock in the morning. Passengers from Shields and Sunderland will be taken up at the Brockley Whins Station, and from Durham at the Belmont Station.

Owing to the great demand for tickets, and to guard against delay on the line, and inconvenience to passengers, there will be no third-class carriages, but the fares will be reduced to the following low scale:—Fares, there and back—

First-class passengers . . . £2 14s.

Second-class passengers . . . 1 18

Passengers from Sunderland and Shields must be at these stations in time for the train leaving at a quarter before six, for Brockley Whins, where they will join the train from Gateshead.

A train will leave Durham at a quarter before seven.

As the train will consist of a limited number of carriages, tickets cannot be had at the intermediate stations after Tuesday, the 13th; and it is, therefore, particularly requested that parties will apply in time to prevent disappointment.

The carriages will leave the Euston-square Station to return on Friday, the 23rd.

The hour of departure will be announced before that day at the Euston-square Station, and at the League Offices, 67, Fleet-street.

DANIEL LIDDELL, Agent to the League.

#### NOTICE TO VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY DURING THE BAZAAR.

For the convenience of country visitors, who wish to provide themselves with comfortable but not expensive accommodation, we insert the following list of some of the most conveniently situated hotels and coffee-houses in the metropolis. The usual charges for beds per night are from 1s. to 2s.:

- York Coffee-house, Tavern, and Hotel, Charles-street, Covent-garden—W. Steward.
- Portugal Family Hotel and Tavern, 155 and 156, Fleet-street—S. Oliver.
- Bell and Crown Hotel, Holborn—Valentine Rider.
- Anderson's Hotel, Coffee-house, and Tavern, 161, Fleet-street—P. Clemow.
- George and Blue Boar Tavern and Hotel, 270, Holborn—R. T. Peters.
- White Horse Tavern and Hotel, Fetter-lane.
- Bedford Hotel, 12, Southampton-row, Russell-square—J. Campbell.
- Colonnade Hotel, Portland-road, Regent's-park—J. Grace.
- Exeter Hall Hotel and Tavern, 375, Strand.
- Prison's Hotel (late New Slaughter's Coffee-house), 82, St. Martin's-lane.
- George's Coffee-house, 213, Strand—Croft.
- Bull Inn and Hotel, 122, Holborn—W. Bond.
- Exeter Coffee-house, 87, Strand—Osmond.
- Gloucester Coffee-house, 376, Oxford-street.
- Clifford's Inn Coffee-house, 1, Clifford's Inn-passage, near St. Dunstan's Church.
- Wilkinson's Coffee-house, 6, Blandford-st., Portman-sq.
- Wright's Coffee-house, 2, Dean street, Oxford-street.
- Laver's Coffee-house, 69, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross.
- St. Martin's Coffee-house, 37, St. Martin's-lane—T. Rice.
- Arundel Coffee-house, 267, Strand—W. C. Cook.
- British Coffee-house, 6, Agar-street, Strand—J. Norrington.
- University Hotel and Tavern, Grafton-street East, Gower-street, New-road—W. White.

#### LAMENTABLE DELUSIONS IN NORFOLK AMONG SOME FARMERS WHO HAVE HEARD TELL OF THE LEAGUE.

The following letter was written by a friend visiting in Norfolk, in the summer of 1844, and sent at that time to a London morning paper, in which, however, it was not inserted.

The culture of Norfolk flax, mentioned in this letter, is an interesting subject. But I wish more particularly to present to draw attention to a topic which arises incidentally out of the flax question; one which the members of the League have no doubts upon, but in respect of which the Norfolk flax growers seem to be deplorably deluded; namely, whether the manufacturers of flax, being Free-Traders, are, or can be, friends of the Norfolk farmers.

I need say nothing of the Messrs. Marshall, of Leeds, in addition to what they say for themselves to Mr. Warnes, of Norfolk, in their letter here quoted. Neither need I offer to refute farther than it is done in the following letter, the stupid—yes, the absurdly stupid—assertion which the Flax Society of Norfolk puts forth, that the Free-Traders are the "enemies of agriculture, the advocates of national bankruptcy!" and of the application of the sponge to the national debt!"

Yet, though such nonsense is known to be nonsense, it may be a question how far it is proper to allow it to circulate without its antidote among the imperfectly informed farmers and timid owners of small landed property, who look upon such men as the heads of the Norfolk Flax Society as oracles of wisdom and truth.

Upon the other hand, if such people will not read anything but the selected contents of their own county newspaper,—got up for their party, to support it, and it solely, not to enlighten them with public facts,—there seems to be little hope of informing them of what is good for them to know.

In a little book, to be sold for one shilling, entitled "A Brief History of the Rise and Progress of the Anti-Corn-Law League, with Personal Notices of above Three Hundred of its leading Members, the kind of Business they are engaged in," &c., which is just published, and which will be found at the doors of Covent-garden Theatre during the Bazaar (or as advertised in the LEAGUE), an array of names and facts appear together, which will afford a curious commentary on the assertion of the Norfolk Flax Society, that the Free-Traders are the advocates of national bankruptcy.

I would refer particularly to the matter descriptive of factories and factory work, and of commerce, which follows the first names in the alphabetical list, "Ashton," "Ashworth," &c. These notices of manufacturing and commercial interests must make that singular notion of the owners of such interests being advocates of national bankruptcy appear to be a very singular notion indeed.

The comparative value of factory and farm labour, in respect of enabling the labourers to consume the products of the English farms, will also be found stated at some length. I may remark, that the names of manufacturers to which lengthened articles descriptive of their business are appended have been chosen, not that they are in any way remarkable above others, but that it was necessary to make a selection, and that the first names in alphabetical order were preferred.

I am, &c.,

REUBEN.

#### THE LETTER FROM NORFOLK.

"I am exceedingly anxious that public attention should be universally directed to the flax movement. We only need a ready market for the fibre to make it surpass all

crops that ever grew from English soil for profit. Even now, merely for the seed to mix with barley, or peas, or potatoes, or hay, or turnips, or parts of all these combined, to fatten cattle and sheep, and reproduce fertilizing manures for the wheat crops, the growth of flax is equal in profit to anything else.

"But when we add the value of the fibre, when properly prepared so as to suit our manufacturers, the worth of this plant to British agriculturists is of vast and, as yet, unspeakable price.

"But the growers must not, as in Norfolk, expect and attempt to bring down the manufacturers of it to their level; they must endeavour to rise to the level of the manufacturers. They must not expect the redemption of the labourers and the re-establishment of profitable employment in Norfolk, by attempting to march backward to the customs and feeble appliances of two hundred years ago. They must turn their faces, their hands, and their hopes forward.

"In most of the speeches made at the meetings, and in all the published pamphlets, I find the Norfolk Flax Society, so long as it existed, was devoted more to class warfare than to the encouragement of the growth of flax. It is difficult to say whether the pamphlets were circulated by the society for the purpose of decrying the Free-Trade party known by the name of the "League," or for the purpose of supporting the growers of Norfolk flax. To warn others I shall point out a few of the suicidal mistakes of that society.

"In one of its reports, dated March, 1843 (page 8), its chief writer speaks of Free-Trade advocates as 'that party which would delight to revel in the ruins of agriculture and in the application of the sponge to the national debt.'

"Now, first of the sponge to the national debt. Does any person seriously believe that commercial men have not the greatest of all interests at stake in the credit and stability of the nation? Are such capitalists as Samuel Jones Lloyd; as William Brown, who could borrow two millions sterling from the Bank of England on his own note of hand, and who transacted business in a single year to the extent of ten millions sterling; are such men as the Gunneys of Norwich, and a hundred more throughout the kingdom, who are capitalists like them, and advocates of Free Trade; are they not interested in the stability of national credit?

"If there is one thing that more than another secures England from revolution, it is the vast complication of her commercial interests. The landed property, merely as such, might undergo revolutions every year and be little the worse; it would remain in its place, and the plough and the harrow would make it next year what it was the

last year. But commercial credit and the vast intricacies of trade, and the refined and complicated mechanism of the factories, could not survive internal warfare and political convulsions. Those nations where property is only in land, as in Spain, can afford to have a revolution every six months, and be little the worse. If the Yorkshire and Lancashire factories were on strike for a single month, England would receive a shock greater than Spain or any other purely agricultural country has felt in any of their revolutions for these last thirty years.

"No, gentlemen of Norfolk; so far from the Free-Traders being advocates of sponging out the national debt and blasting national credit, they have, of all other people in these kingdoms, the greatest desire to preserve national credit. And I am afraid you must be charged with having knowingly and wilfully calumniated them when in the proceedings of your society you charged them with this design. Surely you would not have the world believe that you are so ill-informed and so weak of mind as to have believed that you were speaking the truth.

"But let that ill-considered flying shot of yours at the Anti-Corn-Law League pass. Here is something of far more practical importance.

"The League is spoken of as that party which 'would delight to revel in the ruins of agriculture.'

Now, you know well that the best friends your flax-growing projects have yet had are the Messrs. Marshall, of Leeds. You know that, unsought for and unknown to you, the Messrs. Marshall, on hearing that an attempt was making to grow flax in Norfolk, volunteered their advice and services to assist you. They offered to procure for you, through their agents at Riga, the best seed for sowing on such soils as yours, and the best advice for preparing the soils, as also instruction in the dressing of the flax. And they did more: they encouraged you by their opinion that good flax could be grown in Norfolk; and promised that if you produced it they would buy it.

Was this conduct on their part like that of persons who would delight to revel in the ruins of English agriculture?

Yet, of all the subscribers to the great League fund, the Messrs. Marshall subscribed the highest. The firm subscribed £500, and the chief partner added to that amount £300 as his personal subscription. He who would, according to the flax-growers of Norfolk, be at the very head of those who delighted to revel in the ruins of your agriculture, asked, by writing to Ireland, the address of a gentleman in Norfolk to whom he might write a letter. He got the address, and in the name of the firm he thus wrote:—

Leeds, Nov. 28, 1842.

"Sir,—We have been favoured with your address by Mr. Skinner, secretary of the Society for Improving Flax in Ireland, and take the liberty of writing to you on the subject of flax-growing, as we observe from your speech at the dinner at Belfast, that you have lately set on foot a society for encouraging the growth of flax in Norfolk.

"As we import a considerable quantity of flax yearly from Belgium and Holland for our establishment here, we are, of course, much interested in the success of any plan for increasing the quantity grown in England. We have lately paid a good deal of attention to the different modes of cultivation, &c., of the plant abroad, with the view of ascertaining which was the best, and of then endeavouring to get a better system introduced in those parts of England where flax is now grown, so as to make the flax crop a more valuable one to the farmer, and induce him to extend the cultivation of it.

"We believe both the soil and climate are suitable for the plant. At one time the flax grown in the east of Yorkshire was of as good quality as that grown in Belgium; but the growth since then has very much fallen off, chiefly owing to the farmers managing the cultivation and preparation of their flax in a slovenly manner, and partly owing to the landlords having a prejudice against the crop as an exhausting one, which would not be the case if your plan was adopted of using the seed for feeding cattle on the farm where the flax is grown. \* \* \*

The formation of such a society as you describe will be of great assistance to the farmers; and we shall have great pleasure in forwarding your views, by communicating any information that we have acquired with regard to the management of flax, &c.

"We remain your obedient servants,

"MARSHALL and Co."

This letter, coming, as it did, unasked, is surely not like a letter from those who would revel in the ruins of agriculture!

The Messrs. Marshall again wrote on the 3th of December, 1842, giving much valuable information to the Norfolk farmers on the subject of flax-growing.

But the same forgetfulness of who are the makers of the markets for beef and mutton, butter and cheese, and for corn, distinguishes not only the Norfolk Flax Society, but most other societies throughout the kingdom which are in any way related to agriculture.

In the proceedings of the Norfolk Society we have it stated, for instance, that £6,000,000 are paid every year to foreigners for flax, linseed, and oilcake, and that all this is a *dead loss* to the British farmer and the British nation. Whether the amount is exactly correct or not is a secondary question. The principle laid down by all the leading men of the Flax Society is this, that money sent out of the nation is a loss to the nation to the full amount of that money. They forget that it is sent abroad in exchange for something that the nation needs. They forget that the money comes from the countries in exchange for a native product to our merchants in exchange for manufactured goods which our merchants had to sell. They forget that the gold or silver



not grow on their estates, and that if it had grown in Norfolk or in England, or had been dug from the mines of England, it would have been valueless to those who held it, unless they could have sold it. They forget, or they do not know, that the gold or silver is useless, either as an article of food, or of raiment, or of furniture, or for any use connected with human necessities, if it cannot be exchanged. It is neither fit for the shires nor for threshing-mills—even if it were as plentiful as our iron. They forget, or do not know, that the value of every article of commerce decreases as it becomes plentiful; and that, if gold could pour into this country without being sent out of it in payment for articles of necessity and luxury, the result would simply be, that we would have a great deal of gold of little value, with few articles of necessity and luxury; they might as well say that a shopkeeper, by selling a shilling's worth of sugar for a shilling, is sending his money out of his shop at a dead loss to himself, when he sends the shilling to another shopkeeper in payment for another article which he is in need of, but has not got in his own shop. If he has got the article in his shop or in his garden, or if he could produce it for himself at less expense than it costs him to buy it, then he is sustaining a loss in buying it.

So with the Norfolk farmers. If they can produce linseed on their own farms to fatten their own cattle while they still send abroad for it, they sustain a loss. But their loss only amounts to the difference of expense of the foreign linseed over the expense of growing their own; taken from which, however, must be the value to them of having more people employed and lower poor-rates to pay.

The members of the Norfolk Society seem to have forgotten that the gold which they pay for linseed to fatten their cattle, and to produce manure for their cornfields, came to them in payment of cattle and corn which they sold. And it came to those who purchased the beef and the bread made of the cattle and corn, because those who sell beef and bread have been paid for the work they perform as master artisans, manufacturers, merchants, and so forth. They seem to forget that they would have neither gold nor silver if they could not sell their corn and cattle. And most assuredly they do forget that, after a man's own wants are supplied, the entire value of everything he possesses is his being able to find a market for it.

Throughout the proceedings of the Norfolk Society we see them making comparisons between the labourers and gentlemen of England and the labourers and gentlemen of countries abroad. They say, "The inevitable result must soon be the fall of English gentlemen as well as English labourers to a level with foreigners, if the designs of that party be accomplished which would deprive us of the right to revel in the ruins of agriculture and in the application of the sponge to the national debt."

Now, wherefore is it that either the English gentleman or the English labourer is superior to the foreigners? Why is it that the produce of the English soil sells for so high a price, while the soil itself is not richer, a great deal of it is much inferior to the soils of continental Europe? It is neither more nor less than because the countries of continental Europe are nearly all purely agricultural, without the great manufacturing communities that England has to consume and pay for the agricultural produce.

The Norfolk Society begins in the first sentences of its pamphlets to put the cart before the horse, and though there are occasional symptoms during their proceedings that the principles of nature and common sense are about to vindicate themselves, and the horse is about to get, as it should be, before the cart, it is immediately put back again.

The raising and selling of farm produce with them is the primary question; the power of consuming and paying for it is but a secondary consideration. The actual ability of the consumers to purchase and pay is seldom mentioned; the presumed ability of Parliament to compel consumers to pay certain prices is never lost sight of.

Sir Edward Stacey says:—

"Till the middle of the reign of George III., flax was cultivated, and assistance was given by the Legislature to its cultivation; but about the middle of the reign of George III. cotton was introduced, and the consequence was, that flax vanished from use; and what had the cotton manufacture done? It had subjected the agriculturists of this country to the payment of enormous sums of money for foreign food used in fattening cattle; and had besides transferred our trade to Russia, which country now supplied us with flax and hemp for cordage."

Does Sir Edward Stacey know what the price of beef was up to the middle of the reign of George III., and what it is now?

The following, from another distinguished member of the society, is plainer. Page 9, of Report, 1843:—

"Between twenty-five and thirty millions of money were paid to foreign nations last year for grain and seeds of various kinds, hemp and flax, oilseeds and manure, and manufactured goods, &c. &c., whilst the foreign demand for, as well as the home consumption of, our own manufactures has most materially decreased. Hence the melancholy state of the operatives in the manufacturing towns. Had a few only of those millions been paid to British, Scotch, and Irish farmers, for grain and provisions, the money would have circulated at home, and a portion of the benefits been conveyed to both town and country labourers."

Now, this is plain speaking—there is no mystery here.

It is simply, "You are Peter and I am Paul; Peter should be robbed to make Paul rich!"

Many more selections might be made from the proceedings of this society; but I shall only select one more.

At a meeting of the North Walsham Farmer's Club, out of which grew on the same day the Norfolk Flax Society, Mr. F. Clowes, in seconding a resolution proposed by Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, to the effect that subscriptions should be collected in aid of the growth of flax, thus spoke:—

"He thought, in considering all the bearings of the subject, the question of leases must not be lost sight of, for under the present stringent covenants there were many who dared not venture to grow linseed, although he was ready to admit there were some who would be allowed to do so. \* \* \* Liberal landlords, it should be recollected, made liberal tenants; and liberal covenants, they would find, was the only way by which the British farmer would be enabled to meet the competition of the foreigner." \* \* \*

Several lords and squires listened to this speech. But not a word did they say then, or since, about giving leases, nor of liberalizing the covenants of leases already existing. But landlords must relax some of the old feudal customs still retained in the management of land, if they would see their property improved and agricultural science keep pace with the progressive spirit of the age we live in. The culture of flax promises well; the preparation of the fibre for the manufacturers being conjoined with the feeding of cattle on the seed. But all the nonsense about restoring the distaff and the spinning-wheel must be for ever discarded. The flax must be prepared in the shortest and cheapest method to ensure its ready and extensive consumption. Machines in Norfolk must compete with machines elsewhere. It is an absurd fiction that machinery used in manufacturing throws people out of employment. The steam-engine and power-loom employ ten times the number of persons in making and in working them, and in preparing and disposing of the materials of the various manufactures, than ever could have been employed had nothing superior to the spinning-wheel and the hand-loom existed. Besides which there is the advantage—and a great, good, and glorious one it is—of cheaper clothing and other domestic furnishings for the great bulk of our population; and such domestic advantages are companions of improved morality and civilization.

#### THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND THE AUCTION DUTIES.

(From the Times.)

The Duke of Richmond must have determined to do what has been oftener talked of than done—to sacrifice himself on the altar of the agricultural interest. His speech against the repeal of the auction duties is a clear case of self-immolation. A man who pleads a cause, both hopeless and contemptible, on grounds that are sure to be scouted by everybody of common sense and information, must be acting from some unrevealed motive. It is well for the Duke that he is above the imputation of a cross—a hired defeat; but he must be victimizing either himself or his party, and we have no alternative but to choose between Quixotism and treachery.

His Grace's leading argument against the repeal of these duties was, that the tenant-farmer had been already exempted from them, and, therefore, that others should not be exempted; that the duties, in fact, should be retained, because the tenant-farmer had no longer a selfish interest in their repeal. The alleged fact in this argument is a gross misstatement; the avowed principle is as gross an injustice and absurdity. The tenant-farmer is not exempted more than others. The amount of sales by auction exempted from duty in the year 1840 was £36,511,409, while the only item in which the tenant-farmer is particularly concerned, viz., "sales of cattle, live or dead stock, corn stock, or unmanufactured produce of land, whilst they continue on the land," is £2,891,112, that is, not one-twelfth of the whole. But with the addition of woods, coppices, &c., and every other admissible item, the special exemptions of the agriculturists are not a tenth of the whole. As for the principle of the above argument, it must speak for itself. Every special exemption is a legitimate reason against the continuance of a tax, not for it. If the agriculturists first get themselves out of the scrape, and then, on that ground, do their best to keep others in it, we shall take good care for the future how we give them a special exemption. We shall find it necessary, for our own sakes, to leave them interested in the removal of the general burdens.

His Grace then draws up the case of the agriculturists in the following ingenious form:—

"If the noble lord had asked the question of the farmers of the country, many of them would say, 'Give us an entire repeal of the malt-tax.' But if they asked for that the Government said, 'How can we make up for so large a deficiency?' If, again, the farmers asked to be relieved of a portion of the county-rate, it was asked what would be the use of £200,000 or £300,000 spread over all the counties of England? Thus, in one case they were told they asked too much, and in the other that what they asked would be of no use at all."

And why are not both answers quite legitimate? If a hundred of his Grace's agricultural friends in smock-frocks came to his door and asked for a fat ox, he would very probably reply that he could not spare it from his own purposes. If they immediately lowered their demand to a barndoor fowl, the most obvious reply would be,—what use was that to a hundred hungry men? When the noble patron of the Agricultural Protection Society next attempts a dilemma, he must remember not to carry his horns quite so wide apart. The object of his onslaught escapes between them.

His Grace proceeds:—

"They wanted justice to be done them; on what principle was the landed interest of the country required to pay for the apprehension of every prisoner, for his maintenance in prison, and for the prosecution?"

It is unnecessary to answer the question on what principle the landed interest does this? because it does not do this, or anything like it. The county-rates do this; and the rates are not merely on land, but on all real property, of which land is only just about half. But we cannot stop. The Duke plunges on:—

"The Government paid half the expenses of the assizes and the sessions; but why should the counties pay anything towards the assizes? The county had no control whatever of this expenditure."

The county no control whatever! Why, who are the authorities that send prisoners to the assizes? If the county had not a special interest in keeping down the expenses of the assizes, it would transfer to them the work of the sessions. The county can control this expenditure by reducing the committals, not to speak of certain influences which the aristocracy are supposed to possess over the moral condition of the country. If Government were to undertake the whole cost of the assizes it would be obliged, in self-defence, to take with it the whole responsibility of committals. What would then become of the great "unpaid?"

The next sentence solicits our attention:—

"The land was very properly made to support a clergyman in every parish; but why was it forced to supply a chaplain in every workhouse and gaol? Why should the expense be thrown exclusively on the land?"

Properly or improperly, the land does neither. Only a small portion of the land is liable to a rent-charge in lieu of tithes, which the tenant-farmer merely pays to the resident clergyman, instead of the perhaps non-resident landowner. With much more justice may it be said that the land is made to support a landlord. If, too, there happens to be no ancient endowment, what becomes of the Duke's universal burden? As for the land being forced to supply a chaplain in every workhouse and gaol, we can only repeat that all real property does this. The expense is not thrown exclusively, but only half, on the land.

This error is persisted in to the last. "The land had also to bear the whole expense of maintaining the wives and children of those confined in prison, and of men transported." We never before heard that the land possessed a monopoly of crime, and that towns did not contribute their quota of prisoners and convicts, whose wives and children they have occasionally to maintain. Houses, quarries, mines, iron-works, fisheries, canals, railways, and a thousand other forms of property divide with agriculture the supply of crime, and the expense of its consequences. And when it is remembered that more than half the inmates in many of our gaols are there for offences against the game laws and the poor laws, and have been sent there with the ultimate intention of keeping down wages, and keeping up game, it is not unreasonable that the landowner should contribute rather handsomely to the expensive expedient. The Duke, however, in the heat of his noble argument, is not content with fighting against the burden of crime, he demands for land the profit on convicts:—"If a criminal who had any property was transported, whom did that property go to? It did not go towards the county-rate, but to the Crown. When recognizances were exalted, they also went to the Crown. Was it fair that one should bear all the loss, and the other take all the profit?" We must confess that for once the Duke has the better of us. He is right here. Certainly there ought to be a county ledger of the profit and loss on criminal causes; with the prison and assize charges on one page, and *per contra* the felon's pigs, and chairs, and crockery. Now and then a convict does not "cut up so ill." Justice ought to be assimilated to the habits of a mercantile country. But there is an important item we are astonished to find omitted in his Grace's list of agricultural grievances. When a man is hung, whatever charges "the land" has been at on account of his confinement and trial, his clothes all go to Jack Ketch. This is monstrously unfair. The "tenant-farmers," who have been at all the loss, have an undoubted right to the profit, viz., the wretch's smockfrock and boots.

One is tempted onwards. "There was not a session that did not throw some additional expense on the land, because the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not care how much the county-rates were burdened." The Chancellor of the Exchequer, of course, has no sympathy with rate-payers. If the opportunity offered, he would not hesitate to sell all the landowners and tenant-farmers in the country to the Turks, and apply the proceeds towards the redemption of the national debt. But what additional expense has been thrown on the land this session? To continue. "He wished the Consolidated Fund was charged with 15 or 20 per cent. of the poor-rate; the counties would still have enough to pay to make them look after the expenditure, and by the Government bearing part of it justice would be done." In the present state of the poor law, if Government paid 15 or 20 per cent. of the expense, the only result would be, that the Duke of Richmond would send 15 or 20 per cent. more of his labourers, their wives, and children, to the union-workhouse, and screw down wages 15 or 20 per cent. lower. If this answered, he would soon begin to ask 50 per cent. from Government, that he might send 50 per cent. more to the union, and get his labourers at 3s. 6d. a week instead of 7s.

We are forced to deny ourselves a few general remarks we had intended on this unique piece of dual eloquence. The running commentary must suffice. This, however, we will say:—we never yet read anything so uniformly, so compactly, so commendably erroneous. His Grace has never once stumbled on common sense or veracity. Not a principle, not a sentiment, not a fact is within sight of truth or propriety. The speaker flounders along through the mud of his argument without finding one stepping stone, one bit of *terra firma*. It reminds us of a story we have heard of a distinguished vocalist, remarkable for the painful accuracy of his ear. He was at a public dinner, where a concealed amateur volunteered a song. As soon as it was over the professional gentleman gave vent to his agonized feelings in a complimentary address. "Sir," said he, "I thank you. You have given me a greater treat than I ever enjoyed or expected to enjoy. You went through that song without being once in tune. Every note was wrong."

ADVANCE OF WAGES TO CABINET-MAKERS.—The cabinet-makers of Liverpool have made an advance of ten per cent. in the wages of their workmen. This is another practical proof of the fallacy of the monopolist's cry, "Cheap bread means low wages."—*Lancaster Guardian*.

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Sold at 67, Fleet-street, London; also by J. Gadsby, Manchester; and in the Great Hall at the entrance to the Bazaar.

**GAZETTE OF THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.**—A Daily Gazette will be published during the period that the Bazaar remains open, containing descriptions of the most remarkable articles exhibited on the stalls, a record of interesting incidents connected with the proceedings, and such other particulars as are likely to excite the attention of visitors, and of their friends in the country.—Sold at London, also by J. Gadsby, Manchester. Price 1d.—On receiving two postage stamps, Mr. Whitaker, 67, Fleet-street, will send a copy of any Number free to any part. There will be 14 or 16 Numbers in all. Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are now ready.

The Gazette reaches Manchester in the afternoon of the days of publication.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, May 7, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Hindley, Chas., Esq., M.P., Dukinfield, n. Manch.	100 0 0
Saunders, Robert, Crescent-house, Exeter	10 0 0
Wallace, William, Dundee	1 1 0
Saunders, Thomas, do.	1 0 0
Seaton, Charles, 52, Bold-street, Liverpool	1 0 0
Midcalf, W., Head-grove, Moss-side, Manchester	1 0 0
Smith, Edward, Pirs-vale, Sheffield	1 0 0
Hakey, Joshua, Halifax	1 0 0
Coop, Wm., Westthorpe, near Bolton	1 0 0
Gouldthorpe, John, and Co., Stockport	1 0 0
Morley, William, Eldon-square, Reading	1 0 0
Tweedale, Robert, Broadley-mill, Rochdale	1 0 0
Tweedale, Edmund, do.	1 0 0
Heap, Thomas, Ogden, near do.	1 0 0
A Friend to Free Trade, do.	1 0 0
Smallman, J., Quatford, near Bridgnorth	1 0 0
Woolrich, J., Quatford-lodge, do.	1 0 0
Macmillan and Grierson, Low-town, do.	1 0 0
Grierson, W., do.	1 0 0
Grierson, T. B., do.	1 0 0
M. H., do.	0 10 0
Hudson, Thomas, Quatford, do.	0 3 0
A Well-wisher, do.	0 2 6
A Friend, do.	0 2 6
Thompson, J., Coatyards, Nether-Wilton, Dorset	0 0 6
Patkinson, Henry, Hawick, N.B.	0 10 0
Burton, S. G., Oldham-street, Manchester	0 2 6

Wolverhampton.	
How, Alexander	1 0 0
Walker, William	1 0 0
Walker, J., Jun.	1 0 0
Walker, William, St. Paul's-terrace	1 0 0
Senex Amicus	1 0 0
Horton, Thomas, Snow-hill	1 0 0
Matthews and Ward, Cock-street	1 0 0
Walker, Henry, Cleveland-street	1 0 0
Adwallader, N., Compton	1 0 0
Barby, S. Jun., Sedgley	1 0 0

Crowther, William, and Sons, Gomersall, near Leeds	4 0 0
Thornton, Benjamin, do.	3 0 0
Hagshaw, Robert M., 9, York-place, Portman-square	3 0 0
Hanks, J. B., Honey-lane, Cheapside	1 0 0
Hanks, Wm., do.	1 0 0
Wood, Robert, 21, Houndsditch	1 0 0
Webb, C. J., 44, Oxford-street	1 0 0
Shield, Hugh, 28, Queen-street, Cheapside	1 0 0
Green, Wm. Frost, 44, Whitechapel-road	1 0 0
Mayer, John, Ripley, Surrey	1 0 0
Brady, James, 10, Gloucester-place, Kentish-town	1 0 0
Daniels, W. and A., 8, Aldermanbury	1 0 0
Allen, J. R., St. James's-street, Nottingham	1 0 0
Watson, Alexander, 6, Causeway-place, Edinburgh	1 0 0
Holmes, Thomas, Hull	1 0 0
Hogden, Thomas, Highgate, near Halifax	1 0 0
Tanner, T. W., Greenwich	1 0 0
Merryweather, Francis, 42, Bedford-street, Commercial-road East	1 0 0
Kennett, Charles, 3, Duke-street, Portland-place	1 0 0
Harris, E., Dighton-street, Bristol	1 0 0
Blackston, Major, Belmore, Lynton, Hants	1 0 0
Browning, Wm., 111, Minorities	1 0 0
Colman, Samuel, 3, Wyndham-place, Bryanston-sq.	1 0 0
Parrott, Mrs. Elizabeth, Union-street, Southwark	1 0 0
Aked, J., bookbinder, 1, Palsgrave place, Strand	1 0 0
Johns, Timothy, do., per J. Aked	1 0 0
Feenley, James, Lewisham	1 0 0
Kay, Hilbreth, chemist, Upton-place, Commercial-road East	1 0 0
McChyne, Robert, Leighton Buzzard	1 0 0
Pulling, Rev. J., Dapford	1 0 0
Danford, John, 81, Abgate High-street	1 0 0
Winter, Stephen, Hordle, near Lynton, Hants	1 0 0
A Friend, West Auckland	1 0 0
Foot, Archibald, 8, Union-place, Montrose	1 0 0
Gilbert, James, 3, Vault, Dundee	1 0 0
Newbold, Richard, Longton, Staffordshire	1 0 0
Munro, George, 17, Rose-crescent, Cambridge	1 0 0
Duncan, J., Greenock	1 0 0
Duncan, John, do.	1 0 0
Davies, Thomas, 1, Dean-street, Bristol	1 0 0
Steel, Robert, Journal office, Carlisle	1 0 0
Kennedy, F., Park-row, Leeds	1 0 0
Jones, George, grocer, Welshpool	1 0 0
Hall, Thomas, Iron steps, Bridgnorth	1 0 0
Hoodwin, Edward, Hanley, Staffordshire	1 0 0
A Farmer, and Friend to Free Trade	1 0 0
Cotts, John, Hanley, Staffordshire	1 0 0
Cox, Mr., 13, Weymouth-street	1 0 0
Hall, J., Keston	1 0 0
Attridge, Alfred, Wellington-st., Strand, per J. Aked	0 17 6
Moore, Thomas, Brompton	0 15 0
Sharp, Rd., surgeon, Hull	0 10 0
A Friend to the Cause, per J. Aked	0 10 0
Burber, Rev. H., 9, New Kent-road	0 8 0
Jackson, Edward, 7, Jackson's-place, Long-alley, Finsbury	0 2 6

Darlington.	
Howarth, Wm.	1 0 0
Inter, Wm.	1 0 0
Prase, John B., North-lodge	1 0 0
Bishop, Rev. A.	1 0 0
Conway, Robert	1 0 0
Sanford, Wm.	1 0 0
Tit, J., tax-spluer, Clentham-hill	1 0 0
Dickins, Mr.	1 0 0
Much, Mr.	0 2 6
Thirty-two farthings from school-children	0 8 0

Mason, Joseph	20 5 0
Mason, Joel	0 5 0
Allott, Jonathan	0 3 0
Shaw, Thomas	0 2 6
Swift, Nathaniel	0 2 6
Lambert, John	0 2 6
Gregory, Thomas	0 2 6
Congreaves, Walter	0 1 0
Wilson, William	0 1 0
Whittaker, Charles	0 1 0
Oaden, William	0 1 0
Gregory, William	0 1 0
Muscroft, Stephen	0 1 0
Wheatman, Thomas	0 0 6
Ashworth, Samuel	0 0 6
Constantine, R.	0 0 6

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions

TO THE BAZAAR.

Amount of Contributions received from OLDMAN, the particulars of which were stated in LEAGUE No. 84

Amount of Contributions received from WISAM, the particulars of which were also stated in LEAGUE No. 84

Heyworth, Laurence, Rumford-place, Liverpool	60 7 0
Ainsworth, Thos., The Plosh, Ravensglass	50 0 0
Ainsworth, Thomas, Faulkner-street, Manchester	40 0 0
Cooke, Henry, Richmond-mills, Yorkshire	10 0 0
Ashworth, George, and Co., Peel-street, Manchester	5 0 0
Foot, Archibald, 8, Union-place, Montrose	3 0 0
Roberts, J. and J., Cooper-street, Manchester	2 2 0
Miller, C. H., 8, Union-place, Montrose	2 0 0
Smith, Mrs. Wm., Craibtree, Sheffield	2 0 0
Broadfield, John, Cateaton-street, Manchester	2 0 0
Dickenson, James, Rosehurst, near Harrowgate	2 0 0
Greg, Samuel, Bollington, near Macclesfield	2 0 0
Wagner, Mr., Higher Broughton, Manchester	1 1 0
Staincliffe, Josh., Sutton Brewery, Macclesfield	1 1 0
A Friend at Langley, near do.	1 1 0
Swallow, Mrs. J., Nelson-st., C-on-M., Manchester	1 1 0
Lamb, Mr., Farnell street, do.	1 0 0
Taylor, Saml., 3, Prince's-street, do.	1 0 0
Orme and Taylor, Macclesfield	1 0 0
Alfrey, Thomas, do.	1 0 0
Jesper, Samuel, do.	1 0 0
Hine, Richard, Sutton, near do.	1 0 0
Hine, R. E., do.	1 0 0
Koules, Mrs. R., Concert Tavern, Oxford-road, Manchester	1 0 0
Corbushley, Joseph, Macclesfield	0 10 0
Newton, Thos., do.	0 10 0
Hooley, Abraham, do.	0 10 0
Hine, Stephen, do.	0 10 0
Hine, George, do.	0 5 0
Ryder, William, druggist, do.	0 5 0
A Friend to Free Trade	0 5 0
Stringer, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Haslam, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Kettle, Wm., do.	0 5 0
Hall, Micah, do.	0 5 0
Green, George, do.	0 5 0
Greaves, Josh., do.	0 5 0
Oldham, David, do.	0 5 0
Tipping, George, do.	0 5 0
Timmins, Mr., do.	0 2 6
Pearce, Josh., do.	0 2 6
Fallas, John, do.	0 2 6
Small sums, do.	0 2 6
A Friend, by Mr. Petty, Manchester	0 1 6
Sundry amounts collected by the Ladies' Committee	31 2 10
Faulkner, Chas., Newton-grange, near Manchester	10 0 0
Workpeople employed upon Bank-bridge and Clay-ton-vale print-works	7 0 0

Buchan, Laurence	5 0 0
Harvey, Mrs. Wm., do.	5 0 0
Oliver, Mrs., do.	5 0 0
Lees, Henry, do.	5 0 0
Marler, James, and Brothers, do.	5 0 0
Rider, Robert, do.	5 0 0
Hargreaves, John, do.	5 0 0
A Friend to Free Trade, do.	5 0 0
Heald, Mr., do.	5 0 0
Edwards, Wm., Brook-street, C-on-M., do.	5 0 0
Kershaw, Mrs., do.	2 0 0
Swindells, Mrs. John, do.	2 0 0
Mason, Mrs. J., do.	2 0 0
Satterthwaite, Mrs. T., do.	2 0 0
Carr, George, do.	1 0 0
Thistlethwaite, Isabella	1 0 0
Gidney, Ann, do.	1 0 0
Alcock, Miss, do.	1 0 0
Travis, John, do.	1 0 0
Evans, Edward, do.	1 0 0
Whittaker, John, do.	1 0 0
Harnes, Thomas, do.	1 0 0
Wilson, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Bradbury, Mr., do.	1 0 0
A Friend, do.	1 0 0
Stott, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Straw, Mrs., do.	1 0 0
Hlyth, Mrs. E., do.	1 0 0
Huss, S., do.	1 0 0
Mackerrow, Mrs., do.	1 0 0
Rydels, Miss, do.	1 0 0
Swallow, Mrs. John, do.	1 0 0
A Friend, do.	1 0 0
Burgess, Mr., do.	0 13 0
Wotton, W., do.	0 10 0
Ryder, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Withams, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Credson, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Smith, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Thompson, Mrs. John, do.	0 10 0
Woodrow, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Andrews, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Dougall, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Moss, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Jackson, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Randall, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
S. W., do.	0 10 0
Voltenecroft, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Handley, Thomas	0 10 0
Hawthornthwaite, G. T., do.	0 10 0
Robinson, George, do.	0 10 0
Holland, Miss, do.	0 10 0
N. E., do.	0 10 0
A Friend, do.	0 5 0
Anderson, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Croft, D., do.	0 5 0
Harrow, J., do.	0 5 0
Campbell, W., do.	0 5 0
Pawson, W. T., do.	0 5 0
Ord, W., do.	0 5 0
Dyson, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
W. B., do.	0 5 0
Hunt, Miss, do.	0 5 0
Bradley, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Franklin, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Shawcross, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Lees, Mrs. Henry	0 5 0
Lees, Mrs., do.	0 5 0

Owen, Mrs.	20 5 0
Woodfall, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Macartney, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Macgarrie, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Hankinson, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Norbury, J., do.	0 5 0
Warburton, Thomas	0 5 0
Burnet, J., do.	0 5 0
Bowering, Geo., do.	0 5 0
Gill, H. C., do.	0 5 0
Collins, Mr., do.	0 5 0

Duxbury, G.	1 0 0
Ingham, J.	1 0 0
Seaton, J.	1 0 0
Knight, J.	1 0 0
Knight, W.	1 0 0
Bowers, J.	1 0 0
Taylor, A.	1 0 0
Barnes, J.	1 0 0
Worwick, J.	1 0 0
Higginson, Mr.	1 0 0
Maccoll, J.	1 0 0
Ellis, E.	1 0 0
Donation	1 0 0

Proceeds of sales, on 30th of April, at Huddersfield, of articles contributed to the Bazaar and exhibited there	73 4 9
Do., do., on the 29th of April	27 4 3
Money taken at the door on the 30th of April	11 4 0
Do., do., on the 29th of April	7 8 0
Thornton, Benjn., auctioneer	5 5 0
A Friend	3 11 6
Walker, John H., do.	1 3 0
Tempest, Isaac	1 3 0
Hellawell, James	1 1 0
Harpin, Mr., Holmfirth	1 1 0
Winnenny, Mr., per Miss Kilner	1 0 0
Bain, Mr., High-street	1 0 0
Dyson, Mrs. Law	0 10 0
Turner, Mrs. John	0 10 0
Booth, Jonathan, Longroyd-bridge	0 8 0

A Free-Trader	10 0 0
Coppock, Mrs. Henry	5 0 0
Longson, J. and J., Sandy-lane	1 1 0
Bowles, David	1 0 0
Orme, Joseph	1 0 0
Jones, Peter, Lancashire-hill	1 0 0
Hallam, Ephraim	0 10 0
Hyde, Abel	0 10 0
A Friend	0 10 0
Longson, Mrs. James	0 5 0
Longson, Mrs., Rowland Hill Inn	0 5 0
Longson, Henry	0 5 0
Bowles, Mrs. D.	0 5 0
Coxon, Fredk., Lancashire-hill	0 5 0
Shawcross, Mrs. W.	0 5 0
Orme, Robt.	0 5 0
Longson, Miss	0 2 6
Longson, Abraham	0 2 6
Bowles, Mary Ann	0 2 6
Bowles, Thomas	0 2 6
Bowles, Eliza	0 2 6
Bowles, John	0 2 6
Bowles, Elizabeth	0 2 6
Bowles, Sarah	0 2 6
Shelmerdine, Elizabeth	0 2 6
Henshall, George	0 2 6
Sawyer, Joseph	0 2 6
King, Francis	0 2 6
Hyde, John	0 2 6
Stifford, Wm.	0 2 6
Holmes, Wm.	0 2 6

Hornbuckle, Thos.	0 2 6
Nightingale, Josh	0 2 6
Higham, Henry	0 2 6
Rostron, Thomas	0 2 6
Redfern, Wm.	0 2 6
Wilson, John	0 2 6
Cheetham, Josh.	0 2 6
Bayley, Peter	0 2 6
Haukison, Geo.	0 2 6
Bamber, Thomas	0 2 6
Clayton, Wm.	0 2 6
Hallott, George	0 2 6
Plant, Samuel	0 2 6
Wood, Cephas	0 2 6
Hamblen, James	0 2 6
Hulme, James	0 2 6
Taylor, A.	0 2 6
Longson, Miss Mary	0 1 0
Longson, Jane	0 1 0
Longson, Cephas	0 1 0
Longson, Charles	0 1 0

Whittaker, John, Hurst	10 0 0
Whittaker, Mrs. O., do.	10 0 0
Whittaker, Mrs. Robert, do.	10 0 0
Buckley, Mrs. John, Carrhill	10 0 0
Buckley, Mrs. R. H., Woodend	5 0 0
Mark, Mrs. Andrew, Mossley	5 0 0
Seville, Mrs., Wellfield-house	5 0 0
Seville, Mrs. Edward, Birch-house	5 0 0
Andrew, Mrs. J., Mossley	5 0 0
Andrew, Mrs. G., do.	5 0 0
Mayall, Mrs. G., do.	5 0 0
Shaw, Miss, do.	5 0 0
Kershaw, Mrs. J., do.	5 0 0
Hilton, Mrs. Edward, do.	1 10 0
Andrew, Mrs. F., do.	1 10 0
Hallwell, Mrs., Lees	1 10 0
Andrew, Mrs. C., Mossley	1 0 0
Shaw, Mrs. S. Jun., do.	1 0 0
Archfield, Mrs. Joseph, do.	1 0 0
Mayall, Mrs. John, do.	1 0 0
Shaw, Mrs. Gerrard, Hurst	1 0 0
Hurst, Mrs., do.	0 15 0
Hyde, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Lees, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Heap, Mrs., do.	0 10 0
Lees, Mrs. Stephen, do.	0 10 0
Ramsden, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Atherton, Mrs., Lees	0 5 0
Lowe, Mrs. L., do.	0 5 0
Handford, Mrs., Hurst	0 5 0
Hellas, Joseph, do.	0 5 0
Leech, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Hargreaves, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Clare, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Cooper, John, do.	0 5 0
Kay, Mrs. Joseph	0 5 0
Nicholson, Mrs. G.	0 5 0
Wallworth, Mrs.	0 5 0
Moss, John	0 5 0
Leech, Joseph	0 5 0
Wilde, Mr.	0 5 0
Nicholson, W., Lees	0 5 0
Bracewell, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Bracewell, Mrs. H., do.	0 5 0
Lawton, Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Chorlton, William, Hurst	0 1 0
Howard, James, do.	0 1 0
Kiam, Miss Elizabeth, do.	0 1 0
Morton, Miss Ellen, do.	0 1 0
Ashworth, Miss Sarah, do.	0 1 0
Lothman, Henry, do.	0 1 0

Collected by Mrs. W. Bayley, Mrs. F. Ryner, Mrs. Fownall, and Miss Ashton.

Collected by Mrs. W. Bayley, Mrs. Fownall, and Miss Ashton.



Denton, Andonshaw, &c. Collected by Miss Peacock.			Buckley, Mrs. Alderdale-lodge			210	0	0	Lees, Robert, and Sons, Dukinfield			230	0	0	Crooke, S. T.			41	0	0
			Peacock, William			5	0	0	Mason, Thomas and Hugh, Ashton-under-Lyne			11	3	0	Batty, S.			1	0	0
			Peacock, S.			5	0	0	Buckley, Mrs. James Smith, Ryecroft			10	10	0	Crossley, Mrs. John			1	0	0
			Christie, R.			5	0	0	Friends, per Mrs. Moorhouse			10	0	0	Spencer, T.			1	0	0
			Smith, G.			2	0	0	Reyners, Mrs. Park-view			10	0	0	Tillotson, S. B.			1	0	0
			Taylor and Rockliffe			2	0	0	Reyners, Miss, do.			10	0	0	Blakey, Joshua			1	0	0
			Batty, William			1	0	0	Reyners, Mrs. Alfred, Croft-house			10	0	0	Edleston, T.			1	0	0
			Dearden, Mrs.			1	0	0	Reyners, Mrs. Frederick, Bank-top			10	0	0	Denham, A.			1	0	0
			Adams, Mrs.			1	0	0	Platt, Peter, Welbeck-house			10	0	0	Brooke, R.			1	0	0
			Ollerenshaw, S.			1	0	0	Moorhouse, Edwin			5	5	0	Moorhouse, T.			1	0	0
			Irwin, John			1	0	0	Buckley, N.			5	0	0	Riley, John			1	0	0
			Schofield, Miss			1	0	0	Kershaw, Ralph			5	0	0	Wood, Mrs., Low-bridge			1	0	0
			Ousey, Mrs.			1	0	0	Kenworthy, B. M.			5	0	0	Sugden, Mrs., do.			1	0	0
			Walker, John			1	0	0	Heginbottom, George			5	0	0	A Friend, per Mrs. Bates			1	0	0
			Hartfield, Mr.			1	0	0	Stanley and Chadwick			5	0	0	Balm, W.			1	0	0
			Cartwright, Mr.			1	0	0	Gartside, Mrs. H.			5	0	0	Morley, John			1	0	0
			Schofield, James			1	0	0	Lees, Miss			2	12	0	Watkinson, George			1	0	0
			Brook, J.			1	0	0	Moorhouse, Mrs. E.			2	5	0	Swindel, Mrs.			1	0	0
			Wilcock, W.			1	0	0	Sutcliffe, Mrs.			2	0	0	Bairdson, John, jun.			1	0	0
			Whitehead, John			1	0	0	Sutcliffe, W. H.			2	0	0	Porter, Mrs. D.			1	0	0
			Massey, Mr.			1	0	0	Buckley, Mrs. W.			2	0	0	Waddington, Mrs. W.			0	10	0
			Shaw, Mrs. E.			1	0	0	Kenworthy, George			2	0	0	Bancroft, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Cheetham, Mrs. John			10	0	0	Knott, Mr.			2	0	0	Pohlman, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Bayley, Mrs. William			10	0	0	Kershaw, James			2	0	0	Styring, Mr.			0	10	0
			Leech, Mrs.			10	0	0	Lees, Miss, Dukinfield			2	0	0	Forbes, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Platt, Mrs. Robert			5	0	0	Bancroft, J. and J.			2	0	0	Wright, The Rev. P. J.			0	10	0
			Bayley, Mrs.			5	0	0	Buckley, C. J.			2	0	0	Turner, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Bayley, Henry			5	0	0	Two Sovereigns leagued together			2	0	0	Wavell, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Bayley, Charles			5	0	0	Kershaw, Miss S. A.			1	13	0	A Friend			0	10	0
			Lees, Mrs. Jeremiah			5	0	0	Oldham, Mrs.			1	10	0	Jardine, W.			0	10	0
			Johnson, Henry			3	3	0	Bancroft, Mrs. James			1	1	0	Ramson, Edward			0	10	0
			Harrison, Mrs. A.			3	3	0	Moorhouse, E., jun.			1	1	0	Garlick, T. H.			0	10	0
			Howard, Mrs. James			2	0	0	Moorhouse, Emma			1	1	0	Bancroft, James			0	10	0
			Gartside, Mrs. John			2	0	0	Shaw, Mrs. Thomas			1	1	0	Naylor, B.			0	10	0
			Hyde, Joseph, Moorgate			2	0	0	Coulthart, Mrs.			1	1	0	Binns, D.			0	10	0
			Woolley, Miss			1	0	0	Robinson, Samuel			1	1	0	Balma, L.			0	10	0
			Wrigley, Miss			1	0	0	Kershaw, Mrs. Ralph			1	1	0	Jackson, Mrs.			0	10	0
			A Friend from Liverpool			1	0	0	Leigh, Mrs. E.			1	0	0	Foster, James			0	10	0
			Johnson, Mrs.			1	0	0	Lees, Mrs. E.			1	0	0	Jennings, W.			0	10	0
			Cooke, William			0	10	0	Heginbottom, Mrs. Samuel			1	0	0	Metcalfe, W. A.			0	10	0
			Tordiffe, Mrs.			0	5	0	Gee, Mrs.			1	0	0	Clarkson, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Park, William			2	0	0	Ashton, Barnshaw			1	0	0	Wood, Mrs., Rhodes-street			0	10	0
			Alexander, James			1	0	0	Sunderland, Mrs. W.			1	0	0	Ingham, Richard			0	10	0
			Peck, Richard			1	0	0	Walmsley, Mrs.			1	0	0	Holt, John, Woolpack			0	10	0
			Smith, Richard			1	0	0	Kenworthy, Mrs. J.			1	0	0	Kidd, James			0	10	0
			Gerrard, P., Aspell			1	0	0	Knott, Mrs. J.			1	0	0	Lofthouse, James			0	10	0
			Atherton, John, Kirkless			1	0	0	Knott, Miss			1	0	0	Davies, Richard			0	10	0
			Crouchley, P., Lowton			1	0	0	Howarth, Mrs.			1	0	0	Oates, Mrs. Richard			0	10	0
			Worley, R., do.			1	0	0	Schofield, James			1	0	0	Drake, Mrs. G.			0	10	0
			Christopher, J., Aspell			0	10	0	Southam, J. H.			1	0	0	Elliott, Mrs., Low-bridge			0	10	0
			Waddington, J.			0	10	0	Southam, George			1	0	0	Stott, John			0	10	0
			Eglin, George			0	10	0	Garside, Mrs. Edward			1	0	0	Hargreaves, T.			0	10	0
			Atherton, Richard			0	10	0	Cooke, Mrs. F.			1	0	0	Denton, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Halliwell, James			0	10	0	Hyde, Mrs. P., Dukinfield			1	0	0	Abbey, B.			0	10	0
			Bleasdale, John			0	10	0	Hyde, Mrs. J., do.			1	0	0	Crowther, Jon.			0	10	0
			Barlow, John, pawnbroker			0	5	0	Hyde, Mrs. J., do.			1	0	0	Ackroyd, John			0	10	0
			Macmurdow, James			0	5	0	Collier, Miss			1	0	0	Crook, Mrs. Joseph			0	10	0
			Hopwood, P. R.			0	5	0	Ogden, Mrs. James			1	0	0	Wilcock, Mrs. George			0	10	0
			Rainford, W.			0	5	0	Ogden, Miss			1	0	0	Lofthouse, Mrs.			0	10	0
			Harrison, Henry			0	7	6	Ogden, Mrs. John			1	0	0	Thompson, Mr.			0	10	0
			Rigby, Thomas			0	5	0	Ogden, Mrs. A.			1	0	0	Walker, Mrs. J.			0	10	0
			Fairhurst, James			0	5	0	Tweeddale, Mrs. William			1	0	0	A Friend, per Mrs. Bates			0	7	0
			Kaves, Richard			0	5	0	Kerfoot, Mrs.			1	0	0	Crover, John			0	5	0
			Lund, John			0	5	0	Dean, Mrs.			1	0	0	Leyland, Mrs. F. A.			0	5	0
			Johnson, John			0	5	0	Aspland, J.			0	10	0	Bainforth, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Foster, George, Standish			0	5	0	Kenworthy, J.			0	10	0	Barber, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Anderton, John, Hindley			0	5	0	Hindley, Miss M. B.			0	10	0	Haigh, Mrs., Godley			0	5	0
			Sharples, Mrs., do.			0	5	0	Hindley, Mrs. C. P.			0	10	0	Green, Miss			0	5	0
			Turner, Rev. W., do.			0	5	0	Ashton, Mrs. Leach			0	10	0	A Friend			0	5	0
			Harrison, John, do.			0	5	0	Stanley, Mrs. John			0	10	0	Haigh, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Duckworth, Lewis, do.			0	5	0	Grundy, John			0	10	0	Stead, James			0	5	0
			Middlehurst, M.			0	2	6	Cluley, Mr.			0	10	0	Pickard, J.			0	5	0
			Walls, John			0	2	6	Street, Mrs.			0	10	0	Boddy, J.			0	5	0
			Bradin, Hugh			0	2	6	Jackson, Mrs. J. E.			0	10	0	M'Vine, W.			0	5	0
			Worley, William			0	2	6	Johnson, Mrs.			0	10	0	Kirby, Mr.			0	5	0
			Bullen, William, Pemberton			0	2	6	Mills, Mrs.			0	10	0	Blackburn, H.			0	5	0
			Riddlesworth, John			0	2	6	Taylor, John			0	10	0	Cole, S.			0	5	0
			Duckworth, James			0	2	6	Metcalfe, Mr.			0	10	0	Hebden, P.			0	5	0
			Smikin, J.			0	1	6	Cobley, Mrs.			0	10	0	Eckersley, Mr.			0	5	0
			Fishwick, H.			0	1	6	Palmer, Mr.			0	10	0	Farrar, John			0	5	0
			Ashton, Mrs. Thomas			10	0	0	Spencer, Mrs.			0	10	0	Morley, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Ashton, Samuel			10	0	0	Brooke, Mrs.			0	10	0	Walton, Miss			0	5	0
			Ashton, Miss, Sole-bank			10	0	0	Grime, William			0	10	0	Royston, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Thornley, Mrs.			5	0	0	Poult, William			0	5	0	Brown, Mrs. G. B.			0	5	0
			Hibbert, Samuel			5	0	0	Oliver, Mr.			0	5	0	Shard, T.			0	5	0
			Campbell, Mrs. George Andrew			5	0	0	Gregory, Joseph			0	5	0	Walker, Mr.			0	5	0
			Ashton, Mrs. Robert			5	0	0	Taylor, James			0	5	0	Webster, Mr.			0	5	0
			Thornley, Mrs. John			3	0	0	Newton, H.			0	5	0	Bell, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Thornley, Mrs. T.			3	0	0	Hilton, Miss			0	5	0	Ingham, Mr., Wat-street			0	5	0
			Hibbert, Mrs. William			1	10	0	Wimpenny, Mrs., Dukinfield			0	5	0	Hyde, M.			0	5	0
			Taylor, Mr.			1	0	0	Hollinworth, Mrs., do.			0	5	0	Hays, John			0	5	0
			Hibbert, Mrs. Thomas			1	0	0	Hall, Mrs. Robert			0	5	0	Brierley, John			0	5	0
			Hibbert, Mrs. Joseph			1	0	0	The Servants of Mrs. Reyners			0	5	0	Foxall, T.			0	5	0
			Heyworth, Mrs. Laurence			1	0	0	Haughton, Mrs., Ryecroft			0	5	0	Corney, Geo.			0	5	0
			Hibbert, Miss			1	0	0	Winstanley, Mrs., do.			0	5	0	Young, Mrs.			0	5	0
			Pownall, Mrs.			1	0	0	Dean, Mrs. John, do.			0	5	0	Mather, Mr.			0	5	0
			Collier, Mrs.			1	0	0	Outhwaite, Mrs., Ashton			0	5	0	Akroyd, Ell			0	5	0
			Brooke, Mrs.			1	0	0	Seel, Samuel			0	5	0	Blow, Miss			0	5	0
			Oldham, Mrs.			1	0	0	Cambell, Mrs.			0	5	0	Womersley, Mrs. J.			0	5	0
			Tinker, Mrs.			1	0	0	A Friend			0	4	6	Mitchell, Miss			0	3	0
			Goodfellow, Mr.			1	0	0	Heginbottom, John, Dukinfield			0	4	6	Johnstone, Miss			0	3	0
			Tinker, F.			1	0	0	Garlick, Mrs., Ryecroft			0	2	6	Roper, F.			0	2	6
			Donaley, Mr.			1	0	0	Mellor, Joseph			0	2	6	Gaukroger, Mr.			0	2	6
			Hayne, Mr.			1	0	0	Bentley, Thomas			0	2	6	Sunderland, Joseph			0	2	6
			Calvert, Mrs.			1	0	0	Radcliffe, Mrs., Waterloo			0	2	6	Fell, Hiram			0	2	6
			Thornley, Thomas			0	10	0	Morrell, Mr.			0	2	0	Smith, T.			0	2	6
			Woolley, J. and E.			0	10	0	A Friend			0	2	0	Smith, T., jun.			0	2	6
			Oldham, G.			0	10	0	Matley, Mrs., Ryecroft			0	1	0	A Friend			0	2	6
			Arden, Mr.			0	7	6	Ogden, Mrs.			0	1	0	Foster, Mr.			0	2	6
			Cheetham and Marsh, Misses			0	7	6	Warburat, Mrs.			0	1	0	Farrar, Mr.			0	2	6
			Smith, Mrs.			0	7	6	Heap, Mrs., Jonah			0	1	0	Lupton, T.			0	2	6
			Platt, Mrs.			0	5	0							Rawnaley, Mrs.			0	2	6
			Leah, Mr.			0	5	0							Cockerham, Mr.			0	2	6
			Hibbert, H.			0	5	0							Fox, Mrs.			0	2	6
			Shepley, Miss			0	5	0							Pircey, Mrs.			0	2	6
			Thornley, Mrs. W.			0	5	0							Hulmer, Wm.			0	2	6
			Oldham, P.			0	5	0							Blakey, Miss			0	2	6
			Holling, Mr.			0	5	0							Coton, Mr.			0	2	6
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Middleborough-on-Tea.	Anderson, John	21 0 0
	Baxter, Elliott	0 10 0
	A. B.	0 10 0
	Bewell, William	0 5 0
	Parmer, Thomas	0 5 0
	Griffith, John	0 5 0
	Anderson, Matthew	0 5 0
	Doughty, Henry	0 5 0
	Micholson, Walter L.	0 2 6
	Storm, James	0 3 0
	Harris, James	0 2 6
	Best, Christopher	0 1 0
	Sundries	0 1 10

Amount of Contributions received from NORWICH, the particulars of which were stated in LEAGUE No. 84 21 5 0

Amount of Contributions received from HUBBURY, the particulars of which were also stated in LEAGUE No. 84 2 16 0

Coalbrookdale, Darby, Mrs. Lucy	10 0 0
Salop, Contributions per cash box	6 0 0
Robinson, J.	3 0 0
Robinson, Mr.	1 0 0

Somerville, William, Dolm'n Mill, Pennycook	10 10 0
Evans, John, Hertford-street, May-fair	10 10 0
Priestman, J. and L., Malton	10 0 0
A Bazaar Purse, per Mrs. John Galsaby	10 0 0

Balance received from the Dewsbury Anti Corn-Law Association, after deducting the amount expended in the purchase of articles contributed to the Bazaar, per Joshua Walker 7 4 6

Friends at Newcastle-under-Lyne, per E. Thurnfield	6 4 0
Weymouth, Henry, Blythstone-square	5 5 0
Hall, Thomas Spencer, Custom House-quay	5 5 0
Hall, Wm. John, do.	5 5 0
Haine, Walter, Greenock	5 0 0
Richardson, William, Shepton Mallett	5 0 0
Long, Henry, Kintaford	5 0 0

Balance received from the Committee at Clayton, near Chorley, after expending £5. 1s. in the purchase of articles contributed to the Bazaar, per Thomas Coupe 5 0 0

Fordatt, Mrs., 27, Upper Bedford-place, Russell-sq.	5 0 0
Day, Christopher, Pewsey-road, Marlborough	5 0 0
Anstie, Paul, Devizes	5 0 0
Saxton, Mrs. N., Albion-place, Blackfriars	3 3 0
Ladies' Committee at Yarmouth, per J. Bayley	3 0 0
Mark, Thomas, Kilmarnock, a balance	2 4 0
Morrison, Messrs., Hygate, New-road	2 2 0
Heron, Robert, and Co., Kirkcaldy	2 0 0

From eight Sunderland Free-Traders, part of the first fruits of eight 40s. freeholders, per T. Adamson 2 0 0

Paxton, John, Herwick-on-Tweed	2 0 0
Humphreys, James, Wandsworth-road	2 0 0
Doubleday, Wm., Hamburgh	2 0 0
Hall, William, and Friends, Chippenham	1 10 0
Ferman, J., 6, Walcot-place, Hackney, from self and ten others	1 5 0

Hawes, William, Londonderry	1 2 6
Little, John, do.	1 2 6
Dixon, C., Chichester	1 1 0
Plant, Lucy H., East Bedford	1 1 0
Jackson, Mr., Woodbridge-street, Clerkenwell, a purse containing	1 1 0
A Gentleman at Chertsey	1 1 0
Nicholson, Dr., Penrith	1 1 0
Tremayne, John, Morris town, Devonport, per Mr. Burnett, Covent garden	1 1 0
Biffen, John, Chichester	1 0 0
Aytoun, Isabella, agriculturist, Balgogle, Fifeshire	1 0 0
Lambie, Marjorie, Yovod	1 0 0
Mallinson, A., Cirencester	1 0 0
Appleyard, T., Othello-street, Hull	1 0 0

A Friend, per T. A. Wilkinson, do.	1 0 0
Wilson, Joshua, Sunderland	1 0 0
Goodwin, Edwin, Hamley, Staffordshire	2 0 0
Roberts, Miss Mary, Pen-y-Bont, Ruthin	1 0 0
Aley, Mr., Manchester-terrace, Liverpool-road	1 0 0
Wannay, F., Arbonfield Mills, Reading	1 0 0
Harrison, Thomas, 119, Wood street	1 0 0
Parrott, Mrs. Elizabeth, Union street, Southwark	1 0 0
Craik, Charles, 35, Great Winchester-street	1 0 0
Watson, Mrs. G. A., Lodge-road, St. John's wood	1 0 0
Brettell, Thomas, Roper-street, Haymarket	1 0 0

A few Free Traders, Sutton-bridge, per Thomas Cook 1 0 0

Smallwood, Robert, Worcester-wharf, Birmingham, a watch and	1 0 0
Wilson, Edward, North Herley	1 0 0
Crawford, Archibald, merchant, Kilbarchan, by Paisley	1 0 0

Proceeds of a box during the exhibition of articles contributed to the League, one day, at Hall	0 11 6
Shihway, Wm., 5, Argyll-street, Regent-street	0 10 6
A Wellisher to the League, Sunderland	0 10 0
Cage, Charles, Wellington, Somerset	0 10 0
Hohne, Mary, Reading	0 10 0
Young, W., 34, Oxford-street	0 5 0
Mansell, James, Working	0 5 0
Phillimore, Samuel, Ebury, near Stroud	0 5 0
Langley, Miss G., Eaton-place	0 5 0
A B. per W. Allen	0 5 0

A Friend to Justice, by Mrs. J. L. Wheeler, 45, Gloucester-place, Kentish town	0 5 0
A. W.	0 1 0
Martin, Mr., 166, Regent street	0 5 0

Mr. per Mrs. Johnson, Stonefield-st., Islington	0 5 0
Baker, John, Cheltenham	0 2 6
Fullager, Rev. J., Chichester (with some old coins from G. Jeffrey, Batham)	0 2 6

Love, Master Samuel, 21, Thomas-street, Gibson-street, Waterloo-road	0 2 6
Fruton, Herbert, Hull	0 1 0
Kuton, W., do.	0 1 0

A Scotch Farmer's want's offering to the Anti-Corn Law League Bazaar, with his prayers for their success 0 0 0

Nottingham. A Friend	20 0 0
Duclos, Mr.	2 0 0
Freeman, Mr.	1 0 0

Canterbury. Wilkinson, W. A.	5 0 0
Wilkinson, Horace	5 0 0
Wilkinson, Conrad	5 0 0
Wilkinson, Mrs. W. A.	5 0 0
Wilkinson, Miss	5 0 0
Hinde, Miss	3 0 0

Huddersfield. Hinde, John, and Sons	1 0 0
Neave, John, copy	1 0 0
Sark, Edward, "the East-End-Ginney"	0 10 0
Cook, William	0 10 0
Parsons, W.	0 10 0
White, John	0 10 0
Heath, William, jun.	0 10 0
A few Friends from Wotton	0 10 0
Boughton, W.	0 7 6
Long, James	0 5 0
Leslie, Robert	0 5 0

Chapman, Mr.	0 2 6
Holmes, John	0 2 6
Lampton, South	0 2 6
Baker, Frank	0 2 6
Black, Edward, jun.	0 2 6
Fell, Edm.	0 1 0
Swift, Robert	0 1 0
Beale, W.	0 5 0

Blackburn. Eccles, Shorrock	210 0 0
Ridgett, Mrs., St. Albans	5 0 0
Pilkington, Miss	3 0 0
Briggs, Mrs., E.	2 0 0
Laurence, Mr.	2 0 0
Thwaite, John	1 1 0
Clemesha, Mr.	1 0 0
Shaw, H.	1 0 0
Brown, R.	1 0 0
Reilston, Mr.	1 0 0
Fisher, Mrs.	1 0 0
Murray, Mrs.	1 0 0
Harking, L.	1 0 0
Baron, Mrs.	1 0 0
Dickinson, Mrs.	1 0 0
Smaller sums	11 19 0

Members of the Westworth Mechanics' Institution. Moore, Francis	0 2 6
Cooper, Henry	0 5 0
Hague, Charles	0 2 6
Bram, B.	0 5 0
Beardshall, Wm., jun.	0 2 6
Poles, Wm.	0 2 6
Jackson, J.	0 2 6
Pirith, John, jun.	0 2 6
Mather, William	0 2 6
Payne, William	0 1 0
Robinson, John	0 1 0
Green, William	0 1 0
Burton, Thomas	0 1 0
Hartley, John	0 3 6
Brooke, Charles	0 1 0
Hinks, Thomas	0 2 6
Fallding, John	0 1 0
Henderson, Jos.	0 3 6
Horsfield, George	0 2 6
Hintcliffe, Abraham	0 1 0
Fallding, Josh.	0 2 6
Roots, John	0 2 0
Rogerson, A.	0 1 0
Cooper, Wm.	0 1 0
Turner, Jos.	0 0 6
Sykes, John	0 1 0
Oxley, Edmund	0 2 0
Hague, John	0 2 6
Horsfield, Samuel	0 2 6
Wilson, Henry	0 1 0
Sydney, Robert	0 1 0

## ERRATUM.

In LEAGUE, No. 84, for Sevine and Lees (which ought to have been printed Swire and Lees), Ashton-under-Lyne, £25, read Dukinfield Coal Company, Ashton-under-Lyne, £25.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXIX.

TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

(SECOND LETTER.)

MY LORD DUKE,—Each of the wise men of Greece rendered himself memorable by a single saying; your Grace, being the chief of our modern cunning men of "Grease," and seeing that no more apophthegms can be imported from that quarter, is solicitous to take advantage of the non-competition, and make a home-grown maxim for the market. Your success is splendid. The inspiration of protection was on your soul, when on Monday evening you interrupted Lord Dalhousie's laudation of the late financial measures by your never-to-be-forgotten ejaculation,

"We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber." That sentence deserves to be the response of a monopolist litany. Its truth is undeniable, its purpose is characteristic, and its selfishness is most transparent. It should be the motto of that sordid section of speculators in legislative partiality which your Grace represents. Do you grow the article? that is your first question; and then you are ready to legislate accordingly. Why, then, taxer of other people's trades for the advantage of thine own; thou Duke of dirty dealings, thou Charlemagne of chandlers, wouldst thou have nothing cheap but what thou buyest, nothing dear but what thou sellest? Make out an inventory of all the items in which thou art interested: turbot for thy table, and greaves for thy greyhounds, may be untaxed; "love me, love my dog;" but the wheat and the salmon, the whisky, the wood, and the lard,—there lay it on. Let no foreign interloper show himself in rivalry with our shop. Tax him out, and tax us up. Your inventory should be a schedule to every budget. On your catalogue might be framed a fiscal catechism for the House of Lords. Block up every chink through which the light of hope may penetrate to pinning millions. But for the Royal Oak of Boscobel there might never have been a Richmond: let its branches obstruct the remotest prospect of relief; success to wooden heads, and may no honest man be allowed a window in his breast, for

"We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber." In stating the fact, that glass is not grown by English landowners, your Grace has thrown light on the history and spirit of our taxation. Glass is a home manufacture in which, with fair play, we should have surpassed the world. The duties upon it were so much extracted from industry and trade, to save the pockets of the tax-eating and tax-levying classes. There are as many glassmakers in the country as there are landowners; but the one class belongs to those who have little to do with the taxes but to pay them, and the other to those who have little to do with the taxes but to enact them. From the latter part of the last century to 1831 the average duty on glass was quadrupled. In 1793 it was 8s. 8d. per cwt., and in 1831 it was 35s. 7d. per cwt. During that period the population increased sixty per cent. The quantity taken for use did not increase in proportion. It did not increase at all. It ought to have increased from 407,203 cwt. to 663,740 cwt., and it diminished to 374,361 cwt. Such was the mode

in which you, or your class, dealt with British interests and British industry. The worth of glass is in the labour and skill bestowed on the materials. They are cheap and abundant; for the healthiness of dwellings its use is of the first importance. As an article of export it goes mainly to our own possessions; more than half the trade it occasions is (including India) colonial. You love the labourer, my Lord Duke; and he needs it for the window of his cottage and the cucumber in his garden. I will not urge that, however; your Grace is still so sore on the salmon that we will cut the cucumber. It is difficult to thread one's way amongst the articles, my Lord Duke, in which you deal and huckster. I was just going to mention Glenlivet. But, alas! the Scotch drink it out of wooden quaighs; this reduction of the duty will make them take to glasses; and, you know,

"We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber."

What a shortsighted person you are; only a pettifogger after all. Did you see Sir Robert Peel's glass balance wheel? The curious thing; as delicately adjusted as his sliding scale. Your tenants will get cheaper watches, my Lord Duke; they will have a little more left to pay in rent. Watches will scarcely be worth taking. There will be less robbery on Goodwood race-course, my Lord Duke; and more custom for the gambling-booths. This invention is one of a thousand novel uses to which glass will be rapidly applied. Don't you see, my Lord Duke? More glassblowers will be born and bred; and they will want to buy something, besides timber, which you grow. People who earn, can pay. That is the sort of customers you need; and Peel's glass, like *Banquo's*, "shows you many more," whose food you may tax if you can; but which, untaxed, will yield you an honest profit. Besides, what said Lord Dalhousie to your ejaculation? "With respect to glass, relief to the amount of £400,000 had been afforded to the agricultural interest, and this was not merely a pounds, shillings, and pence benefit, but it would tend to improve the moral and social condition of the labouring population." You do not grow morals, my Lord Duke; and your gratitude is not excited by this relief. You opposed the repeal of the auction duty, which only bears upon the comparatively poor; your own class having long ago secured its own exemption. Your coadjutor, Lord Winchelsea, "certainly does not regard with indifference the importation of salted meat from America." You and he grow pigs. You are "not indifferent" to the "miserious labourer" having the chance of a bigger bit of bacon. No man is "indifferent;" only other folks are interested that he should get it; your lordships are interested in his not getting it. And then you have the face to come as a bold beggar upon the Consolidated Fund, for a portion of the county rates, which portion would be forthwith transmuted into rent, already from double to quadruple what it was fifty years ago. Now, reckon up the classes towards whom your opposition on the Auction Duty Repeal Bill and the Customs Duties Bill is an act of hostility. Besides others, the list specially includes the peasantry and the tenants; it proves the utter selfishness of the whole proceeding. You are for all remission that will grow into rent; you are for no remission that will not grow into rent. No matter that the farmers must buy timber; no matter that the labourers must buy lard, not being able to reach the price of butter. Do "we grow it?" That is all. If labourers were to live in houses of glass, and tenant-farmers fed on timber, it would be all the same: you would grudge the remission on glass, and grumble for greater protection to your trees, for

"We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber." In the "grand old times," my Lord Duke, people did without glass. "Of old time" (says Harrison's "Description of England," 1584) "our country houses did use much lattice, and that made either of wicker [*we grow osiers*] or fine rifts of oak in checkerwise [*we grow oak*]." I read also that some of the better sort, in and before the time of the Saxons, did make panels of horn [*we grow horns*]; and fix them in wooden calves" [*we grow timber*]; but all this was changed by the encasement and convenience of glass; and do you not think you are entitled to compensation? The selfishness of your class has impeded and limited the change which it could not prevent. You have taxed it back, and levied your tolls on the progress of civilization. Your order was first chivalric; then luxurious; and has now sunk into sordidness. Pierre de Blois, who wrote in the twelfth century, complains that the horses of the knights were more frequently loaded with implements of gluttony and drunkenness than with arms fit for battle. "They are burdened," says he, "not with weapons, but wine; not with javelins, but cheeses; not with bludgeons, but bottles; not with spears, but spits." And what burdens now, not your horses, but yourselves, when you go down to the House? The memory of what you have to sell, and what they do not grow; of what you have to sell, and what you have not to sell; of what you wish to buy, and what you do not wish to buy; of what can, if bestowed on the tenant, be squeezed out of him as rent, and of what cannot be squeezed out of him

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rent: a burden, my Lord Duke, not less unchivalrous than that which called forth the lamentations of Pierre de Blois.

Go to the Free-Trade Bazaar, and learn from that splendid exhibition a lesson of more wisdom, justice, and liberality than you have yet attained. See what industry can accomplish, and respect its rights. You will find none of your pitiful distinctions there. Venetian goblets will rest on plates of British oak; and your own plantations may have furnished the framework in which glassy fibres have been woven into regal mantles. The hewers of wood and drawers (drinkers too) of water are not forgotten there, nor in the objects at which the League is aiming; neither are they dissociated from those who twine the filiciest silk, or fashion the earliest metals. British industry, with its energy and enterprise, its capital, skill, and taste, can work for the world, and requires the world for its remuneration. Go, my Lord Duke: and as the varied light falls on the varied products, blending them into the harmony of usefulness and beauty, be not particular in picking out what grew on your own estates in Sussex or Argyleshire. Look beyond and above both. Think of the riches which Providence has stored up in nature, and of the faculties with which it has endowed humanity to render those riches subservient to common profit and enjoyment; nor turn away, sullenly muttering to yourself, "We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber."

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

#### GAME LAWS.

##### PETITIONS FROM FARMERS.

Last night Mr. Bright presented three petitions against the Game Laws, from proprietors, tenant-farmers, and others, of the county of Fife, in Scotland; one from the Dunfermline district, one from the Kirkcaldy district. These petitions are signed by a very large number of farmers, and may be taken to represent the general opinion of the tenantry of Fife on the subject to which they refer. We subjoin a copy of the petitions:—

"That, in the opinion of your petitioners, great injustice is done to all classes by the present Game Laws. That it seems to your petitioners highly unjust to extend the rights of private property so as to include the wild animals of the field, without at the same time making the owners liable for any damage they may do; for many parts of the crops of the farmers are very seriously injured, while, by the present law, it seems to your petitioners doubtful whether they can recover damages for the injury done. That it is the opinion of your petitioners that these laws have a highly demoralizing effect upon the labouring population, who, from their open injustice, cannot be expected to regard their infringement as any crime. May it, therefore, please your Honourable House to abolish these laws; or, if the rights of private property are extended to wild animals, to make the owners of these animals liable for all damages they may do. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

#### REGISTRATION APPEAL.

##### DECISION.

##### Baxter v. Newman.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.—Chief Justice TINDAL delivered the judgment of the court as follows:—In this case there were thirty-seven persons who claimed the right of voting for the ward riding of the county of York, in respect of the qualification described in the list of freehold shares in a mill, houses, and lands. The revising barrister found that the amount of the share possessed by each of the claimants in the real property in the company was sufficient to confer a vote, provided the interest acquired by such share could be considered as an interest in the real property. The objection taken before the court was that the interest acquired by the several claimants, the owners of such shares, was an interest in the property only, and not in land; but the revising barrister overruled this objection, as well as another which appeared to the cases of two of the claimants, Bateman and Brookbank, to which objection we shall afterwards refer, and he allowed the votes of all the other claimants. We are of opinion the revising barrister was right in his decision, and that the votes of the particular claimants ought to be allowed. That the claimants took a legal interest in the real property is placed beyond doubt. The freehold land was purchased with the money contributed by the several claimants, and by other shareholders, and conveyed to trustees, unto and to the use of the claimants, and assigns *absolutely*; the trusts under which the trustees were seized being declared in the partnership deed subsequently executed by the claimants and the several members of the copartnership created. The only question, therefore, is, whether the claimants take such an equitable interest in the property as will, by law, give them a right to vote; for the provisions of the 7 & 8 Wm. IV., 18 Geo. IV., and the 6 Vict., a person seized in equity of a freehold estate of the value of 40s. by the year, or the ground upon which we consider these claimants to be seized is this, that the property of which the claimants are seized in trust for the benefit of the shareholders who form the copartnership is freehold land, and that the copartnership by their committee are in possession thereof; that the trusts declared by the deed under which the copartnership was created entered into the deed by the means of such land and the mill erected thereon, and are not trusts which are inconsistent with the equitable seizure of the freehold in the copartnership; and that it is found by the revising barrister that the amount of the shares of each of the claimants in the

real property in the company is sufficient in value to confer a vote. It is undoubtedly true, as was urged at the bar, that the trusts declared by the copartnership deed are such as that a court of equity would deal with the real property as personally, so far as it was necessary to carry the intention of this trading copartnership into execution. In general there can be no question but that, for all purposes necessary to effectuate the intention of the parties, personal estate may be considered as real, and real estate as personal, by a court of equity, as in the ordinary instance of money agreed or directed to be laid out in land; so in the instance of a real estate under an absolute trust or direction to sell: and against the general rule our decision in the present case will not in any manner militate. But, notwithstanding this acknowledged doctrine of the court of equity, no one can deny that the land still remains land and nothing else; and there is no authority or decision that for the collateral purpose of giving a vote, which has no bearing on, or reference whatever to, the subject, that the deed of copartnership or the rights of the *cestui que trusts* should not remain just as they would have been without such declaration of trusts. For as to the declaration by the copartners in the deed, that the lands and buildings should be deemed and considered as of and in the nature of personal estate, and not real estate, we think the generality of these words must necessarily be limited by the subject-matter of the trusts declared by the deed, and that they can extend no farther than the object and purposes that the deed required. And, further, we think it may be considered to be a very doubtful question, whether the previous agreement of parties, or any authority short of an act of Parliament, can deprive the owner of a freehold of the right of voting for a member of Parliament, which is a right inherent in the owner of the freehold, not for his own benefit, but for that of the community of which he forms a part. But, however that may be, it appears to us such right is left altogether untouched by the objects and purposes for which the trusts of the deed now under consideration are created and declared. This deed declares no trust whatever of the freehold. If, as it appears by the statement of the case, that the land was purchased with the money of the several shareholders or copartners, it follows that under the present deed there was a resulting trust of the fee-simple inheritance for their benefit, so that each of them would be entitled to his share in the beneficial interest therein proportioned to his share of the purchase-money. The partnership deed does not alter the proportions in which the partners are interested, nor does it confer upon any stranger any portion of the interest in the land: it only regulates the mode in which the property shall be managed and enjoyed according to the quantity of interest of each shareholder therein. "And the estate,"—to use the language of Lord Eldon, in *Crawshaw v. Maule*, 1 Swanstone 521, when speaking of a freehold estate purchased by a partnership for trading purposes,—"the estate, though personal in enjoyment, is freehold in nature and quality;" and it is to the nature and quality of the estate we are to look, and not to the mode of enjoyment, when we have to decide whether it confer a vote. It was objected on the part of the appellant that the case of *Bligh v. Brett*, 2 Young and Collier, was an authority against the claimants, inasmuch as it proved that the shares of the company and profits thereof, if derivable from land, would be personal property, not real; but we think it sufficient to advert to a broad ground of distinction between that case and the present. In the case referred to the company, that of the Chelsea Water-works, was a corporation, created by act of Parliament and chartered from the Crown, of which the shareholders individually were co-proprietors; the whole of the legal property was vested in the corporation aggregate, which had the sole management and control of the real estate, having power to convert it into personalty, and then back again into realty; and that no person or individual copartner—having as an individual no more interest in the freehold than a perfect stranger—has an interest in the surplus profits of the concern until they are actually received. In the present case the freehold is in trustees for the benefit of the individual copartners in the trade, managed and conducted by a committee appointed by themselves. In the two other cases of shareholders in joint-stock companies, where the company has been incorporated by act of Parliament, the Legislature has expressly declared that the shares shall be deemed personal estate and transmissible as such, and not of the nature of real property. Such was the case of the Vauxhall Bridge Company, the Lancaster Canal Company, and others: in which cases it may be conceded there could be no freehold interest in the several shareholders as to entitle them to vote; whereas, in the case before us, there is no other than a voluntary declaration by the parties themselves, that the real estate shall be considered as personal. Upon the principle, therefore, that land, and mills built thereon, are the basis and subject-matter of the declaration out of which the profits arise which are to be distributed amongst the shareholders; that the trusts related only to the management and conduct of the land and mill, and the trade carried on by means of the same, and that there is no trust declared which is inconsistent with an equitable interest in the respective copartners; that the copartners are, by their committee, in possession; and, lastly, that the share of each man is sufficient to enable him to vote;—we think that the shareholders have an equitable seizure in a sufficient estate to entitle them to vote for the county. As to the objection raised against the right of the two claimants, Bateman and Brookbank, we see no ground whatever for considering the money borrowed by the trustees on bonds and notes as having the effect of a mortgage upon their shares, and, indeed, this objection was little relied on in argument. On the whole, we think the decision is right, and ought to be affirmed.—Judgment for the respondent.

A NEW SUGAR-ROOT.—The *Journal du Commerce* of Antwerp has a paragraph, stating that beet-root is threatened to be dispossessed of the empire it has for some years past usurped in Europe. A substitute has, it seems, been discovered in Austria, which unites all its virtues, without having any of its numerous faults. This substitute, which the Germans call *saccharula*, does not exhaust the soil, since it is attached only by a few very minute feeders, and it contains as much of saccharine matter as beet-root. It grows upon the surface of the earth, and acquires a very large volume.

#### REVIEW.

*The British Quarterly Review*, No. II. London: Jackson and Walford.

This number contains an admirable article on commercial reform, from which we shall make a few extracts, without adding any comment of our own, which would in truth be superfluous. The following argument in favour of Free Trade, derived from the late Population and Occupation Reports, though not altogether new, has the freshness of novelty from the striking light in which it has been put:—

"On the national policy of Free Trade we need add little, in point of general principle, to what has been said in the foregoing pages. But, before passing to those wider and higher considerations which it is impossible to dissociate from this question, we must advert to those results of statistical investigation which have recently demonstrated in so striking a manner—not the policy, merely, of Free Trade, which had been abundantly demonstrated before—but its urgent and instant necessity, as a condition of our national life. The occupation returns presented to Parliament last year by the census commissioners, have been frequently quoted in the Free-Trade controversy. They cannot be quoted too often—their practical results cannot be too perseveringly obtruded on public attention—while a shred of monopoly remains on the statute-book. That the population of this island increases at the rate of 230,000 annually—an increase which, as Mr. Chadwick has calculated, requires a new Manchester and Birmingham annually for shelter, and a new county of Surrey annually for sustenance (or their equivalents)—was known already, and is, of itself, sufficient comment on the madness of a legislation which restricts the demand for labour, and lessens the supply of food. It is now known that the whole of this annual increase of population is dependent for work, wages, and food, on trade and manufactures. Agriculture does not need, cannot employ, one of the 230,000 human beings yearly added to the British people. Agriculture employs not only a smaller relative proportion of the population than it did (comparing 1841 with 1831), but a smaller absolute number.\* The increase—the large, rapid, and steadily prosperous increase of commerce and manufactures, is thus a condition, not merely of national wealth and power, but of national existence. The mere preservation of the *status quo* is not enough. To merely preserve the *status quo*, would be to throw 230,000 of our people every year on the poor-rates, or to reduce the wages and subsistence of the existing population of workers to a beggary and starvation point, by a destructive competition. Our commerce and manufactures must not only not decline—they must grow; they must grow as fast as our population grows; they must grow faster than population, if there is to be any improvement in the condition of the people as to rate of wages and mode of living. From the hour that commerce and manufactures cease to grow at the same rate with population, comes revulsion and distress. Should growth ever be exchanged for retrogression and decline, the revulsion would be fearful, the distress calamitous and horrible, beyond description or conception. More demand for manufacturing and commercial industry, more room for the profitable employment of manufacturing and commercial capital, are henceforth necessities of national life. The peace and safety of the country require that commerce and manufactures should be perpetually wanting more hands, and offering more wages. But wages can only come out of profits of capital; and capital can only find increasing profits in an increasing export demand; and exports cannot be without imports:—and here monopolist legislation interposes—obstructing the imports, limiting the exports, curtailing the profits, cutting down the wages, stopping the demand for labour, and pauperizing the labourer.

"The coincidence of the economies of the Free-Trade questions with its morals and humanities is here obvious. No charity can be compared for extent and efficiency, with the justice of leaving industry to seek its own markets and earn its own bread. All mere charities are palpably and pitifully inadequate to meet the case of a labouring class, whose supply of labour has outgrown the demand for it. To improve the condition of a people which every year adds 230,000 to its numbers, except by, or in conjunction with, arrangements for giving a higher value to labour and securing a more ready and easy access to food, were a problem before which the philanthropy of a whole nation of Howards and Clarkson would sink abashed and confounded. The only power on earth capable of providing for a growing people in a full old-settled country, is *wages of labour, paid out of profits of capital*—the capital and its profits growing as fast as the people grow. Already has the recent revival of trade in the manufacturing districts—a revival produced by the operation of a beautiful harvest temporarily repealing the Corn Law—extended and diffused a larger amount of physical and moral good, than all the charities of the empire could have accomplished, had they funded their income for half a century, and then poured out their accumulated savings in one prodigious boom. Charity is good, but the paucity, central, all-comprehensive charity, were that which should widen the field of profitable and reproductive employment, make labour valuable, bring the labouring man into request, give a growing people room to grow, add Poland and the United States, Brazil and China to our territory, and make England a cheap and easy country to live in."

The absurdity of the differential duties on sugar are thus ably exposed:—

"Our first objection to the principle of moral differen-

\* *I.e.*, 1,215,264 in 1841, against 1,251,751 in 1831. It is proper to add, that the commissioners intimate a doubt as to the perfect accuracy of these figures, and are of opinion that, had their directions as to the mode of making the returns been more precisely followed, the result might have shown a small increase. The growing dependence of the country on the non-agricultural branches of industry is perhaps most strikingly shown by the figures expressing the altered proportions of the one section of our population to the other. In 1831, agriculture was to commerce, trade, and manufactures, as 28 to 42; in 1841, as 23 to 46."

tial duties, as adopted in 1844, and confirmed by the measure of the present session, is its impracticability. It may be right or wrong, wise or foolish, in the abstract, to make a custom-house distinction between free-labour sugar and slave-labour sugar, but, practically, it is impossible. By acts of our own, not now to be recalled, we have parted with our free agency in this matter. As a case of principle and national conscience, the question is taken out of our hands by circumstances now beyond our control. Our commercial treaties, with the 'most favoured nation' clause, over-ride our acts of Parliament. Legislate as we will in favour of free-grown sugar, and against slave-grown sugar, slave-grown sugar will come into our consumption—has come already. We need not remind the reader of the Venezuela importation. It is certainly a startling comment on our anti-slavery sugar legislation, that its first result has been the introduction of slave produce. It is not a little singular, too, that Lord Sandon, the head of the anti-slavery opposition of 1841, was the medium of communication in the business between the importing merchants and the Ministry whom that Opposition placed in office.\* While we write, another arrival of slave sugar has taken place from Louisiana, likewise admissible into consumption by virtue of a 'most favoured nation' treaty. What with the most favoured-nation treaties, and the false or fraudulent certificates which deception or bribery will easily obtain for the produce of slave-holding countries adjacent to those thus privileged, it is probable that a not inconsiderable portion of our future supplies will be drawn from polluted sources.

"The objection of impracticability would certainly be greatly weakened, as regards the moral influence of our legislation on other countries, could we plead that we do our best to maintain the distinction—that we are as consistent as our treaties will allow—that we act on principle up to that point at which our free agency and our responsibility terminate together. But we do nothing of the kind. We do not make it a principle of custom-house law to criticize the institutions of other countries, and exact certificates of moral origin as a condition of commercial intercourse. This fiscal morality is not a rule with us, but an exception; an exception limited to the single case of sugar, and to one class of transactions relative to sugar. We do not apply it to the hemp and tallow of Russia, though produced by the labour of slaves under the terrors of a worse instrument of torture than the cart-whip. We quietly ignore it in our dealings with Turkey and Africa. We make no difficulty about slave-grown rice and tobacco. We have just abolished all duty on slave-grown cotton. Twice, within three years, have we reduced the differential duty on slave-grown coffee. We ask no questions of gold and silver, the product of a far more cruel description of slave labour than that of the sugar-mill. We have lowered the duty on slave-raised copper ore; and Lord Sandon, the author of our saccharine morality, has headed a deputation to urge on the Government the policy of lowering it still further. We are moral only in sugar—and, in sugar, only by halves. With an exquisite nicety of conscience, we decline tasting slave-grown sugar (that of the most favoured nations excepted); but we do not refuse to make money by it. We import it, refine it, and export it—export it to our own colonies—feed our own freedmen with the product of their brethren's slavery. Certainly, there are excellent reasons why this singular exception should not be made the rule of our commercial policy. The consistent adhesion to the principle of refusing to trade with those nations who retain an immoral institution which ourselves have but recently relinquished, would throw the empire into confusion. But the question remains, What is the value and authority of a moral principle which no sane man would dare to recommend for consistent practical adoption? What moral weight or influence can be expected to attach to this exceptional and anomalous piece of legislation, at variance, as it is, with the whole of our daily acts, and with the fundamental conditions of our national existence?

"To suppose that the cause of negro emancipation can be advanced by this expedient, seems to us as unreasonable a hope as ever deluded good and sincere men. Not to dwell on the obvious consideration, that our demand for foreign free-labour sugar creates a vacuum in the market of the world which slave produce (if really the best and cheapest) will rush in to supply, by as sure a law as that by which water finds its level—we would remind our anti-slavery friends that this fiscal war against slave labour is a practical declaration of its economical superiority. It is an admission that, economically, our act of emancipation is a failure. This is a part of the subject which we feel most painfully. By excluding the labour of slaves from competition with that of freemen, we tell slave-holding nations that they have the advantage of us; that all that our philanthropists have for so many years been saying, of the superior economy of free labour, is a mistake; that, after trying both, we find slave labour to be the best. We do all that legislation can do, to justify the slaveholder's taunt, that one of our noblest moral acts has turned out a political blunder. We make our philanthropy a warning to other nations, instead of an example. By the same act by which we irritate the slaveowner's passions, we confirm him in his prejudices. We give ourselves the appearance of grudging him the possession of an advantage which ourselves have weakly and unthinkingly thrown away. A policy more fatal to hope for the negro race could not be. Slavery will never be abolished so long as the experience of the first commercial country of the world can be quoted in proof of the rashness of the experiment. Until it can be demonstrated, by *rois de fait*, that free labour can grow as good sugar crops as slave labour—which never will be demonstrated while protection exonerates the free cultivator from the necessity of thrift and pains-taking—slave-owners and slave-traders will, like Mr. Clay, the late candidate for the United States Presidency, treat the doctrine of the sinfulness of man claiming a property in man as a 'visionary dogma' and 'speculative abstraction.' Do our philanthropists sufficiently consider that the slaves of Brazil and the United States cannot be emancipated as ours were, by the force of public opinion and feeling in a European nation, invoking the overruling powers of an imperial legislature? Brazil and the United States have no mother country to fall back upon for compensation-money and protection. Their emancipation acts must be their own work, uncompelled and uncompensated—the result either of their sense of Christian

justice, or of their perception of commercial interest. Our legislation is equally unfavourable to the action of either influence. By the irritating non-intercourse policy, we cast away those moral influences of nation over nation, which naturally grow out of and accompany the relations of commerce, and close our best means of access to the public opinion and feeling of slaveholding communities: while, at the same time, our professed inability to compete with the slaveholder is a virtual confession that the commercial interest is on the side of injustice and oppression. There is but one way in which we can ever hope to emancipate the slaves of Brazil and the United States—we must meet and beat their masters in the open market of the world.

"A yet worse evil of our anti-slavery protectionist policy is its tendency to realize the melancholy hypothesis on which it is based. Protect free labour, and it will infallibly need protection. Legislate on the assumption that it is intrinsically inferior in productive power to slave labour—and it will be inferior. 'Protection is the bane of agriculture,' in our West India sugar plantations, as in our British corn-fields—as it is the bane of every sort of industry that has ever been taught to trust to it. What, precisely, would be the effect on our sugar islands, of the extinguishment of their monopoly, we can only learn by experience, though our past fiscal and commercial history supplies abundance of analogies from which the general outlines of that experience may be tolerably well anticipated. It is quite certain what is the effect of the existing monopoly—an absentee proprietary, a costly, slovenly, unscientific agriculture. To what extent emancipation has made a difference to the planter's disadvantage—if to any extent—may be matter of controversy; it is clear that emancipation is not that which makes the difference between the British West Indian and the Brazilian. Before emancipation, the 'interest' was as distressed and complaining, as deeply embarrassed and mortgaged, as unable to compete with foreigners, as it has ever pretended to be since. It is notorious that the twenty millions of pounds sterling which accompanied the emancipation (and which somehow are always forgotten in this question) saved not a few mortgages of West India property from the ruin with which they were menaced by the previous depreciation of their securities and insolvency of their debtors. It does not seem necessary to look deeper for the cause of West India distresses and inability to compete, than the fact—authenticated by evidence now sufficiently familiar to the public to entitle us to assume it as known and undisputed—that there has been no material alteration in the process of sugar-making for the last three centuries. The steam-engine is unknown in our sugar islands, and the vacuum-pan a rarity. Actually, at the commencement of this fourth century of our colonization of those islands, we are told that great progress is making with the use of the plough.\* That agriculturists who never go near their estates, and keep up an expensive staff of overseers, attorneys, and assistants, to grow sugar-canes on unploughed land, and manufacture sugar without the steam-engine and vacuum-pan, should want to be protected, is a state of things which one can quite well understand without any more explanation."

In the following passage is a forcible exposition of the moral influences of political economy:—

"The sort of antagonism which the supporters of commercial restriction are in the habit of assuming, between political economy and Christian morality, will be regarded by future generations with similar feelings to those with which we look back on the old theological objections to the Copernican astronomy. Even apart from the circling advocates of Christianity rank high as expositors of economical science, the assumption of a contradiction between doctrines of social philosophy verified by an adequate induction of facts, and those principles of social duty which Providence has authenticated as the laws of human action, is, in any case, sufficiently strange. Economical truth is not less divine than astronomical truth. The laws which govern the phenomena of production and exchange are as truly laws of God, as those which govern the phenomena of day and night. To ascertain, by inductive inquiry, the natural conditions of commercial and industrial prosperity is to ascertain the will of Deity with regard to a certain department of human conduct: to act in conformity with those conditions, so ascertained, is to act religiously. All truths of science become, when viewed with reference to their Author, religious truths, and draw after them religious duties.

"It is not difficult, we think, to discern a moral beauty and nobleness even in those special results of economical science which are most decried for selfishness and inhumanity. The familiar formula of Free-Trade

"\* The Governor of Jamaica, not many months since, in his address to the House of Assembly, congratulated them on the increasing use of the plough as a bright feature of the period of his administration! In the *Morning Chronicle* of the 21st of February last, we find the following extract from a Barbadoes newspaper:—"It is a most remarkable fact, that the art and practice of manufacturing sugar in the colonies should have been so long stationary, or should have made so little progress towards perfection, while almost every other branch of manufacture has been so greatly benefited by the discoveries of science, and by the application of the principles of scientific fact, the process of making sugar has proceeded in nearly the same undeviating course for centuries, and still continues to exhibit the rudest and most destructive features, involving a principle which, in its operation, subjects the planter to an enormous loss, the full amount of which he has been unable to estimate, because the absence of a better system has left him without the means of comparing its results. Three centuries have now completed their revolution since the sugar-cane was first introduced into the island of Barbadoes, from the Brazils. Considerable improvement appears to have been made in the quality of Jamaica first fell into the possession of the British; at which period, it is said, there were only three small sugar plantations established in this queen of the English Antilles. After the lapse of three centuries of practical experience in the manufacture of sugar has effected so little in the shape of improvement, it strongly tends to confirm the assumption, that the system hitherto pursued is radically defective, and that the evil is inherent and inseparable."

policy—"Buy in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest,"—certainly savours more of vulgar commercial prudence, than of philanthropy; yet what is it, but a brief vernacular description of the very course of conduct that the most enlarged and comprehensive philanthropy would dictate. Cheapness means abundance—excessive and extraordinary cheapness, superfluity. Dearth means scarcity in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest. To buy fact and effect, to take the products of the earth, and the creations of the human hand and brain, from the place where they are least wanted, to the place where they are most wanted—to bring need and superfluity together for mutual adjustment. That definition of trade which is the best rationale of it we know—the 'mutual relief of wants by the exchange of superfluities'—and of which the rule (i. e., relieving the wants that press most, by supplies drawn from where they will be least missed, is the obvious corollary, is something more than the dry formula of a dry science. It is warm with the humanities. It tells of human misery alleviated, human happiness increased and diffused, divine bounty so applied and improved as to yield the maximum of human good. Those laws which interpose between the respective wants and superfluities of such countries as Great Britain and the United States, of America—countries each possessing a power, practically unlimited, of supplying that which the other most needs; which forbid American corn to meet British manna; which forbid the boundless fertility of Ohio's prairies from feeding the hunger of Lancashire, and the boundless productiveness of Lancashire looms from clothing the nakedness of Ohio; which crowd the warehouses of Manchester with unsaleable shirts, and cover the quays of New Orleans with putrescent beef,—are laws whose mere impolicy and absurdity one almost overlooks in view of their sin against civilization and humanity."

We may probably return to this number of the Review again.

THE PROTECTIONISTS AND THEIR ALLY THE "Herald."—Mr. Miles is a truly estimable and respectable man. England has scarcely a more competent person to fill the post of county representative: but he neither added an iota of dignity to his own character, nor forwarded in the least degree the interests of the agriculturists, when he raised a debate in the House of Commons on the reduction of duty on "grease." The Duke of Richmond occupies a similar rank, and commands the esteem and respect of the farmers of England in a more than ordinary degree. But what imaginable object was gained by his fruitless resistance of the remission of the duties on auctions? Truth to tell, we do not see wherein the agricultural interests are especially concerned, either in "auctions" or in "grease." Nor do we understand in what way the landed interests are to be called upon to be grateful for remissions on coffee and glass, inasmuch as grease and auctions, coffee and glass, are things belonging alike to all classes of the community.—*Morning Herald*.

ALLOTMENTS OF LAND.—Earl Ducie, since Michaelmas last, has carried out the allotment system upon a large and generous scale in the parish of Wickwar, where to 71 cottagers he has caused to be allotted half-an-acre of land each, as close to their residences as the situation of the noble earl's property will permit. Each half-acre is measured to the tenant free from loss by roads, hedges, rows, or fencing, and the rent charged is 25s. per annum, payable half-yearly, when, if paid punctually, one shilling is returned, thus making the actual payment 21s. the half-acre; the tithe and all other parochial charges being paid by the landlord. About three years ago, the proposition was started of forming a reading society at Wickwar. On this coming to the knowledge of the Earl, he, as the largest landed proprietor in the parish, expressed much pleasure on hearing of the project, and, with the view of aiding its being carried into effect, he sent a cheque for £20 and a present of books. This society, we are happy to be informed, continues to flourish, and to be productive of much good. It consists of from 80 to 100 members, is going on remarkably well, and a subscription of 6d. per month from each member has been found sufficient to keep it in a state of prosperity and usefulness.—*Hereford Journal*.

CURED PROVISIONS.—There has been issued, by order of the House of Commons, an account of the quantities of cured provisions of all kinds imported into the United Kingdom from foreign countries and from the colonies, from the 5th day of January, 1843, to the 5th day of January, 1845; specifying the different kinds, the countries whence sent, the quantities of each kind entered for home consumption, and the amount of duty paid on the same respectively. Also the quantities of each kind re-exported, and whether taken for the use of the ship or for merchandise, the place to which the same were re-exported, and the number of bonds passed with regard to the same. The cured provisions imported in the year 1843 were as follows:—Salted beef, 60,633 cwt.; salted pork, 27,114 cwt.; hams of all kinds, 6919 cwt.; and bacon, 418 cwt. In 1844 the same articles were imported in the following quantities:—Salted beef, 106,766 cwt.; salted pork, 30,780 cwt.; hams of all kinds, 6732 cwt.; bacon, 36 cwt. In the latter year the following quantities were taken for ships' stores:—Salted beef, 77,218 cwt.; salted pork, 16,987 cwt.; hams of all kinds, 1298 cwt.

"\* See Dr. W. Cooke Taylor's 'Notes of a Tour in the Manufacturing Districts,' p. 154.

"† We could have wished, had our space allowed, to make some use of the valuable pamphlet lately published under the title, 'American Corn and British Manufactures,' which places in a most striking light the enormous folly of that system which raises a barrier between the one of these and the other. The whole case was, however, stated in two lines. The figures of the occupation returns made by the census commissioners of each country, sufficiently indicate the boundless possibilities of that mutually beneficial interchange which monopoly prohibits:—

	Agriculture.	Commerce, Trade, and Manufactures.
United States, 1840 .. ..	5,719,951 .. ..	3,494,356
Great Britain, 1841 .. ..	1,215,264 .. ..	3,110,356

"How suggestive are these statistics, of relief of wants mutually sought and offered by the exchange of superfluities! How perfectly is the one country the complement and complement of the other!"

\* See the Third Annual Report of the Council of the Liverpool Anti-Monopoly Association.



## AGRICULTURE.

## WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.

Tenant-farmers are rapidly finding out that the League is their best friend. What other body of men ever asserted the right of the industrious tiller of the soil to have his interests considered? Who ever ventured to inquire into the oppressions of the game laws, until Mr. Bright successfully enforced the farmers' view of that question? And now from whom do the farmers look for political emancipation, to whom do they turn when most severely pressed by the landlords' screw, but that great and powerful body of Free-Traders, the League?

In every direction we find the most devoted adherents of protection amongst the tenant-farmers, yielding more and more assent to the doctrines of the League; and the time is not far distant when the industrious capitalists who are engaged in the production of food will fully admit that a common interest exists between themselves and the industrious classes who are engaged in producing clothing and so forth. Farmers will soon sympathize with traders and manufacturers, as is natural, instead of being made catspaws by the owners of land. To those who have observed the working of the "protective" system, and the actual relations of tenants and landlords, it is matter of surprise that the farmers have submitted to be led blindfold so long, and that by a class with such an obvious interest in deluding them.

Nothing, in fact, but fear, as unfounded in reality as that created by their own scarecrows, has prevented the tenants of England from discovering the frauds which have been put upon them by their rent-loving landlords. The slightest examination of the circumstances of their own business would have told them the truth, and saved them from that severe lesson through which they are now making the discovery. Indeed, the very arguments used by the monopolist legislators, who arrogated to themselves the title of "farmers' friends," are entirely founded upon the interest of the landowners in monopoly, and the remedies they propose go altogether to "protect" rents. When amongst the farmers they deal largely in fictitious statistics, and raise the most ridiculous alarms and the most unfounded expectations; but when they get to Parliament these false pretences are thrown aside, and the landlords' interest is solely and broadly urged.

This is strikingly illustrated by the sham debate raised by the Duke of Richmond in the House of Lords, on Monday night, when he opposed the removal of the auction duty, in order to apply the

£300,000 or £400,000 towards the payment of the county rates. Now, what is the county rate but a fixed burden, not varying greatly in amount from year to year, which every prudent farmer takes into his calculation before he undertakes to pay a given sum as rent? But farmers are just now in a state of distress, because, after making an estimate of the amount of county rates and all similar burdens, they have been led into the error of expecting prices considerably higher than they have obtained, and of promising to pay rents according to the expected, not the real, scale of prices. The simple remedy for this would seem to be a reduction of rent; but, somehow or other, our landlord legislators cannot see that sort of remedy. Instead of that, they propose a direct transfer of £100,000 now paid as county rates into their own pockets, upon the shallow pretence of benefiting the farmer!! It is not the county rate which now oppresses the farmer more than when prices were higher, but the rent. The farmer is merely the hand which pays the rate; it is strictly a charge upon rent. And because landlords see they must lower their rents, they are trying to get some indemnity for themselves beforehand, by grabbing the county rates.

The Duke's motion was met by the President of the Board of Trade, who enumerated the benefits conferred upon the agricultural classes, in common with all others, by the reductions of duties upon articles of necessity and convenience, which Sir Robert Peel has made, and in so doing he said, "If the noble duke could see no benefit to the agriculturalist from the reduction of the timber duties, he could, no doubt, also deny that the reduction of the glass duties would do so." This drew from the monopolist Duke an avowal of that intense selfishness, which is the key to all our landlord legislation, and to the spirit of which we would especially direct the attention of tenant-farmers. The Duke said, "We do not grow glass, and we do not grow timber."

Now, had the Minister defended his measures by showing that if they had reduced prices they had also lowered rents, then the Duke would have exclaimed, "We receive rents, and do not pay them." And this spirit pervades every act of our monopolist landowners. In the same debate Lord Malmesbury, referring to the same question, the timber duties, said:—

"That [the tariff, &c.] was the first step which the Government took; what was the second? A heavy blow to the agricultural interest; he meant the remission

of the timber duties. The noble earl had talked of that measure as if timber were not the produce of this country; did not the noble earl know that in a bad year, when the seasons were unfavourable, the landed proprietor might redeem his loss by a fall of timber? And as to repairs, why, wretched and poor indeed must that estate be which was obliged to go abroad for timber for repairs."

Here we have clear definition of what these "farmers' friends" mean by the "agricultural interest," namely—"the growers of timber." Now, farmers certainly grow timber, but for whose benefit? Why, one of the greatest grievances of which farmers complain is hedgerow timber. Not long ago we walked round a farm with its tenant and the landlord, when they were marking timber, and the constant remark made by the tenant when the landlord was unwilling to remove a particular tree was this—"For every shilling you gain by the growth of that tree I shall lose a pound." And yet, forsooth, the keeping up a high protective duty on timber, "that when seasons are unfavourable the landed proprietor might redeem his loss by a fall of timber," is a benefit to the "agricultural interest." From such benefits farmers may well pray to be protected. We have never heard the damage done to the farmer by timber, where the fields are not very large, estimated at less than 4s. or 5s. an acre; and that excellent farmer, Mr. Huttley, of Essex, on one occasion said, at an agricultural meeting, "that he would not leave a stick large enough for a labourer to hang his bag upon."

If farmers will examine their business in all its details, and watch the effects of the landlord legislation upon each portion, they will find that the interest of the landowners and that of the tenants are directly opposed to each other, and that all the laws made professedly to protect the "agricultural interest," in truth, protect nothing but high rents. How is it that rents have been kept up for the last thirty years, but through the unrequited industry, or out of the capital, of the tenant-farmers? Every successive period of low prices since the war has been met by increased exertions on the part of farmers to meet their monopoly rents. The improvements which have taken place, and the consequent increase of production since 1814, are very considerable, and have all had their origin in the efforts of tenants to fulfil during periods of low prices the engagements made in the hope of monopoly-promised prices. It is not correct to say that much money has not been made by farming during the last thirty years, for large profits have been made; but then they have all gone to the landlord, while the farmers, as a body, have scarcely been able to hold their own. This is solely the consequence of the Corn Laws, and the system which has grown out of monopoly.

The working bees have been sucked dry by the drones, and all the while the drones have been pretending to legislate for the especial protection of the bees.

## THE USES OF ADVERSITY.

There can be no doubt that the farmers of England have been most grievously deluded by their landlord leaders in all that relates to agricultural politics; and we sincerely hope they will inflict a full measure of justice upon those leaders at the next election. But they must beware of continuing in the delusion after they have discovered the dishonesty of their political deceivers.

In many cases which have come before us, the disappointment of farmers, because their representatives have not done the impossible things they promised to do, takes the form of a threat to get some others to promise to perform the same impossibilities. This is absurd. The existing county members may justly be cashiered, because they knowingly, and for their own party objects, promised to do that which they knew they could not perform. But, in slinking off the political false pretenders, let farmers not cling to the false pretence. Such reflections naturally arose on reading a letter addressed by a Surrey farmer, Mr. Goldhawk, to Mr. Trotter, M.P. for West Surrey, in which the farmer denounces the deluder, but hugs the delusion. This has called forth a letter from Mr. Henry Drummond, a protectionist, in which he fairly admits that the game of monopoly is up, and that farmers must give up all that craving for artificial prices, which for thirty years past their political leaders have told them is a natural and a wholesome appetite the Legislature ought to gratify.

Mr. Drummond says:—

"All the persons, who by talents and position can ever become Ministers of the Queen, are unanimous in thinking that any fetters upon trade are injurious to the interests of the community; sooner or later, therefore, all restrictions will be abolished, whether they assume the name of 'fixed duties,' 'sliding scale,' 'protection to agriculture,' or any other. It is possible that, by raising and continuing a clamour against the words 'Free Trade,' those words may never make part of a law; but the thing will be equally effected."

This is true: the Corn Laws are doomed, and it is only a question between the two great parties of the State which shall give the final stroke to monopoly. Nobody affects to doubt this, except such antediluvian politicians as poor Lord Stauhope, or such men as the Duke of Richmond, who, having brothers and poor relations to provide for, keep up the sham opposition of "central protection societies." Farmers should understand the truths con-

tained in the following passage of Mr. Drummond's letter, where he says:—

"The only object I have in view is to prevent tenant-farmers from being deceived into the fancy that wheat can ever be in future on an average dearer than £10 a load, and to urge them to enter upon no lease calculated at a higher rate than that. Various modes of deception are practised upon them, not intentionally, but still the result is equally that they are deceived. It is deceiving to impute that they can go on paying rent calculated on wheat at £20 a load by becoming chemists, by purchasing artificial manures, by clamouring for remunerating prices, by the labours of agricultural protection societies, or by any other such nostrums."

What a host of landlord nonsense is dissipated by the above paragraph!

Mr. Drummond then admits that the landowners have hitherto made the laws, and for their own peculiar benefit, but that henceforth the House of Commons will be more and more influenced by the trading and industrious classes; and he adds:—

"The tenant-farmers are in very great distress, and being strongly excited, and ill-informed of the causes of that distress, are easily led by any one who promises them hope of relief from any source, however absurd it may be. They have no longer capital sufficient to cultivate their land: few have the capital wholly their own with which they are carrying on their business, but are paying interest for it, if not to some money-lender, at least to some of their own relations. If they will save themselves from total ruin, they must give up as much of their land as they have not sufficient free, unencumbered capital to manage; they must bestow more labour on that which they retain, for, through insufficient tillage, it is getting more and more exhausted."

This seems to throw the blame of want of capital too much upon the farmer; whereas, in three cases out of five, if the landlords would grant their farms on secure tenures and fair terms in other respects, there would be no lack of the required capital. But who will lend to a yearly tenant to improve his landlord's farm? Or what yearly tenant will sink much of his own capital in the land?

RETRIBUTIVE PROVIDENCE.—So sure as there is a Providence above, is it written that there shall be always ways in which those who wrong and defraud their neighbours shall in the end find out that they have made a rueful bargain.—*Col. T. P. Thompson.*

CORN-RENTS AND LEASES.—We think it desirable to give prominence to the following resolution, unanimously agreed to at the last monthly meeting of the Halesworth Farmers' Club:—"That a more general adoption of curren-rents, in connexion with permanent and modified leases, would place the tenant-farmers of this district in a comparatively better position than when under the liability of fixed money payments."—*Ipswich Express.*

MODEL FARMING.—Some time since J. Garratt, Esq., of Bishop's-court, a distinguished protectionist, gave up his model farm. This week, also, there has been a sale of stock at Powderham Farm, Lord Devon having retired from the business of practical farming. Lord Devon's farm is said to have brought a rent of £400 a year; it is reported that last year the noble lord, so far from getting his £400 a year out of it, was £60 out of pocket, which may be placed either to the account of bad farming, or bad prices.—*Western Times.*

FIRE INSURANCES.—From a return obtained by Colonel Sibthorp, M.P., relative to fire insurances, it appears that during the year 1844, the gross total amount of the sums insured by all the fire-offices, in town and country, on farming stock, exempt from duty, was £54,927,572, namely—£16,375,817 in the quarter ending the 25th of March, 1844; £5,080,772 in the quarter ending the 24th of June, 1844; £3,199,208 in the quarter ending the 29th of September, 1844; and £25,271,775 in the quarter ending Christmas Day, 1844.

INCENDIARISM.—About eight o'clock on Saturday evening week, considerable alarm was caused in the peaceful neighbourhood of Messing by the cry of "fire." It was soon ascertained that the scene of conflagration was in a wood at a short distance from the village, called "Fane Wood," in the occupation of Mr. Daniel Smith, of Easthorpe-hall, and belonging to the Hon. Col. Onslow. The wood in question measures about twenty acres, and is remarkable for the quantity of long dry grass with which the ground is covered, and this circumstance appears to have been taken advantage of by the incendiary to commit this almost unheard-of act of mischief, by which about one-twentieth of the wood was consumed.—*Ipswich Express.*

A fire broke out about nine o'clock on Tuesday evening, at a farm called "Roper's," in the parish of Bures St. Mary, about six miles from Sudbury, which destroyed the dwelling-house, two barns, a stable, cart-shed, horse-shed, sheep-yard, and the piggeries. Three horses, three colts, three cows, eight sheep, seven pigs, and all the fowls perished. One road-wagon, one harvest-wagon, three tumbrils, all the farming implements and harness, twenty-six sacks of barley, seven sacks of tares, and about two tons of hay were also destroyed. There can be no doubt but that the fire was the work of an incendiary. Three men, who were formerly in Mr. Taylor's (the occupier) employ, and who were discharged last week on suspicion of dishonesty, are now in custody on a further suspicion of having from revengeful motives fired the premises.—*Ibid.*—We lament to state that a most destructive fire took place on Friday night last, on a farm at Hanchet-end, in the parish of Haverhill, about two miles from the town, held off-hand by Mr. Frederick Olley, of Withersfield, on the boundary of which parish it abuts. About nine o'clock the farming man, who resided in the house, was going to bed, when he perceived a light proceeding from a straw-stack on the windward side of the premises, and the flames very quickly extended to a large and almost new barn, and other farm buildings, the whole of which, together with the farm house, inhabited by Miss Olley and a labourer's family, about 40 combs of threshed wheat and some beans, and a drill, were destroyed; and, shocking to relate, 136 sheep, 22 lambs, enclosed in a yard with hault walls, and 9 pigs were burnt to death. A considerable part of the furniture, the horses, and the cart-shed and carriages were saved; but with these exceptions the whole of the homestead and its contents fell a prey to the diabolical malice of the incendiary.—*Norfolk News.*

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 10, 1845.

The sensitive agricultural mind has been much alarmed by Mr. Hutt's motion for the admission of corn from the Australian colonies on the same terms as the corn of Canada. There was no shadow of argument adduced, beyond the plea for the panic terror into which the patrons of high rents and short leases would be thrown, if New Holland should send wheat into the English market. Agricultural minds being, unhappily, uninformed in geography, the nature of Australian competition could not be comprehended; the great parochial intelligence of Darby led him to believe that Australia was somewhere close at his doors, and Van Diemen's Land in the immediate vicinity of Mark-lane. Nature had granted him the protection of fifteen thousand miles of distance, but his imagination was either above or below the power of conceiving so much space: he candidly declared that "he did not know what the colonies were asking for," and insisted that a differential injustice should be perpetuated, for the enlightening of Mr. Darby's ignorance is an event reserved for the millennium. Mr. Stafford O'Brien pleaded timidity,—an excuse quite as valid as his worthy compeer's plea of ignorance. May Heaven send intelligence to the one, and courage to the other!

There was an important admission made by Mr. Wortley: he told the House that "it would be better for the country if it never had a Corn Law." Mr. S. O'Brien singularly illustrated the futility of protection, by referring to the cotton trade; the cotton-manufacturers sought protection in their days of ignorance, but, fortunately for themselves, were left without the imminence of exposure to competition sharpened their skill and stimulated their energies, and hence the manufacturers of cotton have attained a height of prosperity which may well be envied by the growers of corn.

The manifestations of the agricultural mind in this debate will excite contempt rather than indignation in the country; the miserable spirit that would exclude the little corn that could be grown in a colony scarcely wrested from dingoes and kangaroos belongs rather to the lowest class of backsters than to the country gentlemen of England. Sir Robert Peel was clearly ashamed of the course which his agricultural supporters compelled him to pursue, and his defence was so obviously a mere palliative that there can be little doubt of his meditating a great change, and probably a complete surrender of the entire question.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FRANCE.

FRANCE.—There has been a debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the subject of the Jesuits in France. It was commenced by M. Pons, who insisted on the necessity of at once putting in force the laws against that body. The Government replied, that they were prepared to do so as soon as the proper moment appeared to have arrived. M. Dupin spoke very strongly against the Jesuits, and M. Berryer and M. Lamartine on their behalf. Ultimately, M. Thiers moved, that, in the confidence that the Government would execute the laws, the Chamber would proceed to the order of the day. This was agreed to, and the discussion terminated.

The *Constitutionnel* says that the French Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent out an order to M. Perrin, the French Consul at Bolivia, to proceed to the Sandwich Islands, and enter into treaty with the authorities there. The Minister of the Marine has placed a ship of war at the disposal of M. Perrin, on the occasion of this mission.

BRUSSELS, May 1.—The King presided to-day in a Council of Ministers. The Chamber of Representatives did not terminate yesterday the debate on the convention. The project of law, as it now stands, retains the *statu quo* for rice, barley, and oats. It increases the number of the regulating markets to 22, which is at present 12. Wheat, when it rises to the price of 20 francs per hectolitre, may, according to the existing law, be imported into Belgium free of duty; in future it will pay 12s. 50c. per 1000 kilogrammes when the average is between 20s. and 22s. and 3s. when the average is between 22s. and 24s. Such are the changes at present contemplated in our corn laws.

SWITZERLAND.—A letter from Lucerne of the 1st informs us that the elections for the Grand Council of that state had commenced, and were proceeding in favour of the Liberals. In the town of Lucerne, out of seven members returned, six are of the Liberal party. The same letter gives an account of a curious sentence, at Nidwald, upon a Lieutenant Neroni who had joined the free corps in the attack upon Lucerne. He is condemned to stand in the public market-place for four hours afterwards to be imprisoned for six months, during which he is to receive "religious instruction."

According to the *Frankfurter Journal*, the official reports of the damages caused by the recent inundations in

Bohemia contain the most disastrous accounts. Five districts in particular have experienced immense losses. In that of Leitnitz alone not less than 49 villages were destroyed. Out of the 170 houses in the village of Kehl, not one was spared; and half of the hamlet of Lieben, principally inhabited by Jews, was carried away.

THE JEWS.—A letter from Warsaw, of April 23, states that the Emperor of Russia has published a ukase, declaring that all Jews must lay aside their costume and assume the national one. No one can escape from the effects of this decree longer than for five years from the present time, and even till then only by paying a sum of money.

GREECE.—Accounts from Athens describe the state of this country as anything but satisfactory. A great agitation prevailed in all parts of the kingdom, and the people were becoming more and more dissatisfied and irritated with the arbitrary and violent system pursued by the Government.

ALGERIA.—The *Akhbar*, of Algiers, of the 27th ult., gives the following from Blidah:—"While General de Bar was receiving the authorities of that town, on his arrival within it, a Morocco marabout took advantage of the occasion to preach the holy war in the market-place. Excited to fanatic frenzy, he armed himself with a yatagan, and rushing upon an army-agent engaged in purchasing cattle for the Government, killed him. Another person was wounded in attempting to arrest him, but he was promptly secured and put in prison."

AMERICA.—The ship *Sea*, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday evening, brings New York papers to the 14th of April. They contain an account of a frightful conflagration in the town of Pittsburg, which originated accidentally in the frame building of an ice-house. The destruction of property is said to be about 20 squares, and comprising from 1000 to 1200 houses. Many of the warehouses contained goods of immense value—they were grocery, dry goods, and commission houses, and their spring stocks had been just laid in.

It appears that an increased quantity of salted provisions may be expected from America during the approaching season. One house, that of Mr. N. C. Baldwin, of Cleveland, Ohio, is said to have killed and put up 3138 head of beef cattle for the English market, making a shipment from this one establishment of over 5000 tierces of beef. No doubt this will be laid hold of by the over sensitive and dissatisfied agriculturists, and made to frighten our timid farmers. The real fact is, that every ounce of this meat will be consumed by those who, but for such a timely addition to our own home stock, would have been destitute of meat altogether.

The Great Western steam-ship, Captain Matthews, has again reached Liverpool, on Friday morning early, with her usual punctuality. Her news from New York is to the 21st ult. The principal topic of interest in the papers is the effect of the speeches of Sir Robert Peel and Lord Aberdeen on the Oregon question upon folks in the United States, and it is with great pleasure we announce that, so far from any warlike feelings being excited, the very opposite was the case. War seems to be the most distant from their thoughts. No apprehension seems to be entertained of any war between Mexico and the United States. From the one-sided statements in the American papers it would appear that the Texans are rather favourable to the annexation project.—*Herald*.

WEST INDIES.—The royal mail steamer *Clyde* arrived at Southampton on Monday night. From Jamaica her dates are to the 24th ult. We learn from Jamaica, that the ex-President of Hayti, Herard had sailed from that place for Hayti, in the Colombian (schooner) *El Grenadina*, purchased for the purposes of the expedition. His motives are strongly suspected, and it is much to be feared that this enterprise will once more plunge that unhappy country in all the horrors of a civil war. The inhabitants of Barbadoes were in a state of constant alarm from the attempts of incendiaries to destroy property. In one or two instances plantations had been discovered on fire, and but for timely assistance would have endangered a vast amount of property. Yellow fever had made its appearance, but there was no fear that it would become general or prove fatal to the natives attacked. Coal had been found in some parts of Barbadoes at no greater distance than five feet underground. It was reported to be of superior quality. Sufficient time having elapsed to allow the news of the reduction of the sugar duties to spread through the different islands, it may be supposed, from what appears in the various journals, that the merchant and planting interests are perfectly satisfied with the consideration they have received from the government.

MEXICO.—The *Clyde* also brings advices from Mexico, down to the 2nd of April. The whole country is represented as being in a most unsettled and disturbed state. Nothing is yet decisive as to the ultimate fate of Santa Anna. He was still confined in the Castle of Perote, the existing Government being by far too insecure, and on too fragile a footing, to adopt any measures regarding his future destiny. Nearly the whole population are much disappointed in the advantages which they anticipated from the deposition of Santa Anna. They had begun to lose confidence in their present rulers. The mercantile community, in particular, were highly dissatisfied in regard to the promised alterations in the tariff, which had not yet been ceded to them. A large military force was ready to support any movement—in short, another civil war was considered inevitable, unless a more energetic Government came into power. A plot had been discovered amongst a portion of troops for declaring in favour of Santa Anna and a federal government: it was, however, suppressed for the present.

NEW GRANADA.—We have been favoured with the following extract from a letter received by a mercantile house in this town, dated Barranquilla (a town at no great distance from Carthagena), March 15, which is probably the latest intelligence in this country from the which it describes, appears to have been one of the most extensively fatal, as well as most destructive to produce and property, of which we have any record:—"An awful day's journey thence Bogotá, at the head of the Magdalena. A part of one of the snowy mountains gave way, and a torrent of snow, mud, gravel, &c., overflowed the plains for six square leagues, burying everything under it. It was, as its first outbreak, to have topped the highest trees, and that a thousand souls have perished. I do know that this will affect commerce at all; but I am sadly afraid that the greater part of the tobacco plantations are ruined *pro tem*." The plains of Maraquita,

which are near the city, and in the province of that name are tablelands on the middle range of the Andes, which slope down to the city of Maraquita. The plains are on the western bank of the River Magdalena, and at a great distance from the peak of Tolima, which is 13,500 feet above the level of the sea.—*Manchester Guardian*.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The overland mail from Bombay arrived on Tuesday. The dates are, from Bombay to the 1st of April; from China to the 7th of February; from Calcutta to the 21st. The troubles in the southern Mahratta country were over, a vast number of prisoners having been taken. The chiefs at length surrendered themselves. The troops are now nearly all withdrawn. The expedition which Sir Charles Napier led into the territories of the Jackranees, Doonkies, and Boogies, lying in the mountainous tracts to the westward of Poona, has been successful.

The Panjab continues the scene of outrage, treachery, and intestine war. The events during the past month have been of the most extraordinary nature that can be imagined, even by the reader of Oriental history. At the date of our last, troops were marching towards Jumbou to attack Goolab Sing. Rajah Lall Sing had been appointed commander of the assailing force, which amounted to about 10,000 in all, with about 50 guns. About the third week in February, negotiations were in progress to avert a conflict. Goolab Sing undertook to give an immediate gratuity of £5,000 to the soldiers, promising a gift of half a million to be afterwards received by the state. The deputies sent to Jumbou had received the money, and were on their way back again, when they were set upon, robbed, and murdered, by order of Goolab Sing! As might have been imagined, this act of unparalleled treachery infuriated the army, who resolved to proceed immediately to punish its perpetrator. They were met, however, on their way, attacked or defeated by the Jumbou troops, with the loss of about 2000 killed and wounded. Afraid that victory might desert him, Goolab Sing forwarded a sum of money as a peace-offering to the defeated soldiers, who readily accepted it, and agreed that no further notice should be taken. The Governor-General maintains a strong force along our frontier, but seems determined that the British Government shall not, until compelled by the most imperative necessity, interfere.

From China there is nothing of importance.

## DOMESTIC.

## FALL OF YARMOUTH SUSPENSION BRIDGE, AND IMMENSE LOSS OF LIFE.

A most awful calamity occurred at Yarmouth, on Friday afternoon, by the falling of the suspension chain bridge across the Were. Nelson, the clown to Cooke's company of equestrians, quartered in the town, was exhibiting the feat of being drawn up the river in a tub by four grooms. There was an immense concourse of persons assembled on the bridge (report says 500), when, suddenly, the centre of it gave way, and the whole mass were precipitated into the river.

The *Norwich Mercury*, of Saturday, says:—"It is with an almost overwhelming feeling of awe that we attempt to draw upon our faculties for a description of a scene of horror it has never yet been the lot of any journalist in the county, it in England, to record. In vain do we endeavour to select words which may, in the most fitting manner, portray the agony of mind which, alas! affects half the venerable population of Yarmouth."

It appears that thousands of spectators had assembled on both banks of the river to witness the voyage, leaving the bridge comparatively clear. "The clown," says the *Norwich Mercury*, "commenced his feat with the flood tide at the drawbridge, and had entered the North River. There were many persons on the bridge, and as he drew near the multitude rushed upon it to obtain a full view as he should pass underneath. Already had he reached Bessey's-wharf, not far from the bridge, when one or two of the rods were observed to give way. An instant alarm was given to quit the bridge. Alas, the caution came too late! The chains broke, and, quick as the passing thought, one entire side fell, and the whole mass of human beings, whose numbers were estimated at from 300 to 600, were swept into the river below. The bridge, which but an instant before was horizontal, had become perpendicular."

The scene which followed is not to be described. Amongst those on the balustrade were multitudes of children, who, with men and women, were all mingled in one death-struggle. Quick as thought, almost, twenty-seven children, all girls, were snatched from the water. Others, more exhausted, followed, and several who were insensible were, by proper treatment, quickly restored. Some of the men and women struggled to the bank, but multitudes perished, and, at length, those who were exerting themselves to save drew nothing forth but dead bodies. "In every street," says the paper above quoted, "are to be seen one or more bodies extended on biers, returning to those homes from which, but some short minutes before, they had passed in health and life. The consternation, the agony of the town, is not to be described. It is as if some dread punishment was felt to have fallen upon its inhabitants. Every face is horror-stricken, every eye is dim!"

The inquest on the bodies is in course of being held. The actual number of those identified amounts to 75, and four are still missing, making a total of 79; a number much less than was at first supposed.

The *Morning Post* of Saturday says, it is generally believed in well-informed circles that her Majesty will certainly visit Ireland about the latter end of July, and subsequently proceed to Germany for a short period.

The number of petitions presented against the May-moath endowment, according to the latest return, was 7629, which were signed by 982,862 persons; the number for the grant was 46, signed by 15,483 persons.

The barristers of the Oxford circuit have passed a resolution prohibiting all members of the bar from reporting for any newspapers; and the "Law Magazine" states that the example is to be followed by other circuits. The reason is stated to be the systematic exclusion of Sergeant Talfourd's name from the law reports of the *Times*, most of which are furnished by barristers.

The *Hampshire Chronicle* states that guano is being manufactured in immense quantities in Liverpool, from sand, tanners' waste, sulphate of ammonia, and a brown substance. This rubbish, costing a mere trifle, is sold to careless country people at £4 to £5 per ton, while the genuine guano is worth between £7 and £8.

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The total number of explosions in the Northumberland and Durham collieries, from January, 1743, to June, 1845, inclusive, was 91, attended with the loss of 1247 lives, averaging 13 for each explosion.

The steam-vessel Tiger, which arrived on Monday afternoon in the River from Cork, was run into by a large brig on the night of Sunday last, off Dover. A man who, with his wife and child, was asleep on the side on which the collision took place, immediately snatched the infant away from its mother, and was following the rest when he put out his hand to grasp hold of the bulwarks, not knowing, in the darkness which prevailed, that they had been carried away, and in one moment both he and the child were precipitated into the waves, and were never seen more.

On Sunday morning, about ten o'clock, a frightful murder was committed at the residence of Mr. John Drake Finch, of South-street, Greenwich, solicitor, by Martha Bricksey, aged 18 years, the under-nursery-maid in Mr. Finch's family. The victim was a child of Mr. Finch, aged ten months, whose head she almost severed from its body with a bread knife. The wretched girl immediately acknowledged the deed, alleging that it was done entirely through a momentary impulse, and for which she could not in the remotest degree account. She has been committed for trial.

The usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association took place on Monday in the Conciliation Hall, and was numerously attended. Mr. M. J. Barry, a barrister, presided. Mr. O'Connell addressed the meeting at some length, chiefly with reference to an expression made use of by Sir James Graham, to the effect that the conviction of the conspirators in Ireland was quashed in the House of Lords on merely technical points. Mr. W. S. (O'Brien, M.P.), announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Porter, in which he tendered his resignation as a member of that association. He had joined them probably with some precipitation, and had withdrawn from amongst them with equal precipitation. The rent for the week was £406. 3s. 6d.

Vast quantities of vegetables, especially broccoli and leeks, besides greens and cabbage plants, are twice a week imported into the Clyde from Dublin, which are reasonable supplies at this season of the year. A great quantity of ground adjoining Dublin is now exclusively devoted to the cultivation of kitchen vegetables for supplying the Scotch and English markets in the early part of the spring.

For the last fifty years the potato crop was never known to be so widely sown in the south of Ireland, at so early a period of the season as in the present year. This important branch of husbandry, which used to extend to the month of June, will be completely finished before the second week of May.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

Another dreadful murder has been committed in the county of Leitrim. The unfortunate victim upon the present occasion was forced from his bed in the dead of the night, dragged out into the open air, and shot in the presence of his wife and children.—*Dublin Mail*.

A very great number of vessels have arrived daily for more than a week past from all parts of the globe, and particularly of the larger class, from the East and West Indies, China, and the Mauritius, bringing immense cargoes of every description of merchandise. The General Steam Navigation Company's steam-ship Columbine, which reported on Monday from Rotterdam, had on board 11 oxen, 16 cows, 29 packages of fish, about 350 packages of butter, a large quantity of cheese, and other articles of Dutch produce and manufacture.

On Wednesday afternoon a numerous meeting of the friends of education was held in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institution, Chancery-lane, for the purpose of promoting the erection of a new reading-room and an increase of the library of that institution. Lord Brougham was in the chair. Amongst the ladies present was Miss Martin. The Chairman said that the managers of the institution had convened the present meeting as an appeal to the public to relieve them from some difficulties into which they had fallen. The institution had had an average of 1000 members for many years, but a few months ago that number was found to have sunk to 600. That diminution was to be attributed to the smallness of the library, and the want of sufficient accommodation for the readers. The meeting was next addressed by Lord Ronald, Mr. Ewart, M.P., the Bishop of St. David's, Mr. Knight, Mr. J. S. Buckingham, and others, and resolutions expressive of the importance of the prosperity of the Mechanics' Institution were carried unanimously, as also a motion for opening a fund to make additions to the library. The following were amongst the subscribers announced:—Prince Albert, £20; the Marquis of Lansdowne, £25; Charles Knight, Esq. (the publisher), £20; the Hon. C. P. Villiers, £5; Earl Darnley, £5; the Bishop of Durham, £5. 5s.; and G. Gore, Esq., £5. Thanks were then given to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

Within the last few weeks a new disease has been very prevalent in the dairies in and around the metropolis. It chiefly attacks cattle in the hinder extremities, paralyzing the limbs, and presents many of the ordinary symptoms of pleuro-pneumonia. The disease with which cattle have been generally affected for the last three years, although not extinct, have very greatly diminished.

Wednesday afternoon a respectable dressed man, having the appearance of a mechanic, was observed by the police walking in large letters on the pavement, between the fountain in Trafalgar-square, the words "Napoleon for ever." Upon being desired to desist, he positively refused, and they immediately proceeded to take him into custody, when he broke from their grasp and threw himself into one of the reservoirs. The water was, however, too shallow to drown him, and the police having drawn him out, he was carried on a stretcher to the Gardner's-lane station. He is supposed to be insane.

REVIVAL OF TRADE AT MERTHYR.—An advance of 10 per cent. has taken place in all the surrounding works. This is considered only as a beginning—a step to something still better. The spirit in which this is received by the workmen generally is that of gratitude, while the sun-shine all around them, and the further early advance is cherished, apart from all discontent. It is a favourable circumstance that the principal streets of Merthyr are now opening their eyes, after a deep and protracted sleep. The dreary appearance of bill-boarded shutters and doors is effectually giving way to exhilarating signs of life and business.—*Merthyr Journal*.

## THE FUNDS.

	Mon. May 3	Tues. May 5	Wed. May 6	Thurs. May 7	Fri. May 8	Sat. May 9
Bank Stock for Ac.	210 1/2	—	209	209	—	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2
3 1/2 per Ct. Rd. Ann. ex. d.	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
Long. An. Ex. 1860	11 7-16	11 1/2	11 5-16	11 5-16	11 5-16	11 5-16
Cons. for Acct.	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2	98 1/2
Exc. Bills, pm.	59	59	56	56	56	56
Ind. Rd. un. 1000l.	—	—	71	70	—	—
India Stock	278	278	277	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2	99 1/2
Brasilian Bonds	89	89	89	89	89	89
Buenos Ayres	—	44	43	43	—	43
Chilian	100	100	98	99	—	100
Columbian Venes.	—	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	—	15 1/2
Danish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	—	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63 1/2	64 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2	63 1/2
Mexican	38 1/2	38 1/2	37	37	37	37
Peruvian	—	31 1/2	—	30	—	30 1/2
Portug. conv.	—	67 1/2	67	67	67	67
Spanish 5 per Ct.	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2
Do. 3 per Cent.	41 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	41 1/2	41

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, May 5.—The supply of Wheat this morning was moderate, and last Monday's rates were readily obtained. There was a very limited demand for Free Foreign at former rates. The supply of Barley was rather short, and though the trade was not brisk the prices of this day week were obtained without difficulty. Beans and Peas were 1s. dearer. The supply of Oats was very moderate, and an advance of 6d. per qr. from that day week was established on all descriptions; though it had at the same time the effect of checking the demand. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

## BRITISH. Per Imperial Quarter.

Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 46 to 54		
Do. Ditto New 42 to 48	44	54
Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old 42 to 48	44	50
Do. Scotch 42 to 46	44	48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed 21 to 23		
Do. Ditto ditto Polands 23 to 24	25	26
Scotch Feed 23 to 24	25	27
Limerick 21 to 22		
Ditto Fine 23 to 24		
Cork 20 to 21		
Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black 20 to 21		
Sligo 20 to 21		
Galway 18 to 19		
Barley 28 to 33		
Beans, Mazagan New 31 to 33		
Do. Harrow Old 38 to 40 do. 33 to 35		
Do. Small do. 42 to 44		
Peas, White, New 34 to 38		
Do. Grey 32 to 33 Maple 33 to 34		
Flour, Town-made per sack of 280 lbs 35 to 43		
Do. Norfolk and Suffolk 33 to 35 34 to 36		

## FOREIGN.

	FRANK. IN BOND.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Dantzic, high mixed 48 to 56		
Do. Rostock 47 to 54		
Do. Stettin 44 to 52		
Do. Hamburg 42 to 48		
Do. Odessa 42 to 46		
Do. Ditto Polish 47 to 50		
Do. Russian soft 42 to 46		
Do. Ditto hard 40 to 44		
Do. Spanish Red 45 to 49		
Do. Ditto White 40 to 54		
Australian 56 to 58		
Barley, Grinding 35 to 37		
Do. Distilling 29 to 31		
Oats, Archangel 17 to 19		
Do. Stralsund 17 to 19		
Do. Dutch Brew 17 to 19		
Do. Poland 17 to 19		
Beans, Egyptian 32 to 34 26 to 27		
Do. Peas, White 33 to 36		
Do. Ditto Bollers 30 to 38		
Flour, Canada per barrel of 126 lbs 25 to 26		
Do. United States 26 to 30 18 to 20		
Do. Dantzic 26 to 28 18 to 20		
Australian, per sack of 280 lbs 33 to 35		

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from April 28 to May 5, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	6593	659	1837	356	178
Scotch	—	—	373	—	—
Irish	—	—	13601	—	—
Foreign	548	3897	2021	7084	—

Flour, 6103 sacks, — bars.

FRIDAY, May 5.—Except an advance of 1s. in the duty on Barley, there is no alteration to mention in our market since Monday. There is not much English Wheat fresh up since the beginning of the week; but a cargo or two of Foreign have arrived, and the trade is very dull at late rates. Of Foreign Barley and Oats there have been considerable arrivals. In neither is there much doing, but Oats continue firm. No alteration in Beans and Peas. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 3rd of May to the 5th of May, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	7783	—	4080
Barley	2760	—	10970
Oats	4269	3450	12370

Flour, 6190 sacks.

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending May 6, 1845.

	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	6613	48s. 5d.	Rye	4 30s. 0d.
Barley	1119	20s. 10d.	Beans	63s. 35s. 10d.
Oats	10431	21s. 4d.	Peas	18s. 34s. 11d.

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
30th March	45 10. 32 4. 21 5. 30 0. 34 10. 34 8					
5th April	46 5. 32 5. 21 4. 29 0. 35 0. 35 7					
12th "	46 5. 32 5. 21 4. 29 0. 35 0. 35 6					
19th "	45 11. 31 11. 21 4. 23 1. 35 1. 36 1					
26th "	45 11. 31 11. 21 4. 23 1. 35 1. 36 1					
3rd May	46 0. 31 2. 21 4. 23 1. 35 1. 36 10					

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 40s. 11d. 1/2; Barley, 31s. 11d. 1/2; Oats, 21s. 2d. 1/2; Rye, 30s. 4d. 1/2; Beans 63s. 4d. 1/2; Peas, 35s. 11d. 1/2.

Stock of Corn in Bond, April 5, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	111149	486	12371	—	3017	1125	47257
Unit. King.	811025	1645	89250	—	12444	4770	242581

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, MAY 5.

## BANKRUPT.

J. H. HENSMAN and F. HENSMAN, Adelphi-wharf, Strand, coal merchants. (Turner and Hensman; Hensing-lane.)  
E. SLATER, Montpellier-square, Brompton, cabinet maker. (Ford, Planers'-hall, Broad-street.)

W. C. TUPPER, Catherington, Ham Pe, grocer. [Ivimey, Chancery-lane; Pufford, Portsea.]  
L. LEPASTRIER, Alfred-street, River-terrace, Islington, clock maker. [Hussey, Basing-lane, Broad-street.]  
J. E. SMIRK, Broad-court, Basing-street, Covent-garden, licensed victualler. [Spiller, Canon-street, Bishopsgate.]  
B. CHANDLER, Stanmore, Ironmonger. [Ashley, Shoreditch.]  
T. OLIVER, Prestbury, near Cheltenham, livery stable keeper. [Manning, Craven-street, Strand; Bridges, Bristol.]  
H. NICHOLS, Colford, Gloucestershire, auctioneer. [Wilkes, Gloucester.]  
J. LEE, Tadcaster, Yorkshire, porter merchant. [Parkinson and Co., Gray's-inn; Thompson, Tadcaster; Dickinson, Leeds.]  
T. R. KNOTT, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, druggist. [Hulton, Bolton; Sutton, Manchester.]  
J. COOKE, Wem, Shropshire, brewer. [Walsley, Wem; James, Birmingham.]  
T. CAPAS, Aston juxta-Birmingham, builder. [Parks and Co., Bedford-row; Mottram and Knowles, Birmingham.]  
H. PARES, Loughborough, Leicestershire, painter. [Brown, Nottingham; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]  
J. HEATON, Ludlow, stationer. [Wootton, Tokenhouse-yard; Anderson and Co., Ludlow.]  
T. HODGKISS, Wellington, Shropshire, licensed victualler. [Jennings, Chancery-lane; Palmer, Birmingham.]  
H. WARR, Bridport, currier. [Clowes and Co., Temple; Temple and Son, Bridport; Terrell, Exeter.]

## DIVIDENDS.

May 23. J. Hextall, Regent-street, laceman—May 23. J. Bear, Ramsgate, draper—May 27. S. Glyde, Southampton-row, Russell-square, and Yeovil, Somersetshire, grocer—May 29. T. K. Gorbell, Commercial-road, Stepney, bookseller—May 29. R. Kershed, Pulborough, Sussex, timber merchant—May 29. J. Greaves, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, ale merchant—May 30. J. Ward, Manchester, engineer—May 23. J. Thorp, Manchester, merchant—May 23. G. Croxton, Manchester, glass dealer—May 30. J. Metcalf, Macclesfield, silk manufacturer—June 6. J. Heggibotham and G. Peck, Manchester, machine makers—May 23. N. Roswell and J. de P. Ogden, Liverpool and New York, merchants—May 27. G. W. Travis, Sheffield, joiner—May 27. W. Moss, Kingston-upon-Hull, woollen draper—May 23. G. E. Leefe and J. Yates, Fore-street, Cripplegate, wholesale haberdashers.

## CERTIFICATES.

May 23. J. Brown, Skinner-street, Snow-hill, manufacturing perfumer—May 23. W. Green, Gorleston, Suffolk, cattle dealer—May 23. E. Clouston, Holborn, stationer—May 30. J. Richardson, Fish-street-hill and Cornhill, boot maker—May 27. R. Greenwood, Bradford, Yorkshire, bookseller—May 30. J. S. Rowe, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, draper—May 30. E. Brown, Birmingham—May 30. W. Daniel, Manchester, cabinet maker—May 23. J. P. Birley, Brompton-row, Brompton, plumber—May 23. J. B. Rayner and T. S. Carter, Coleman-street, lamp manufacturers—May 23. W. R. Gould, Finsbury-place South, carver—May 23. J. Thorley, Northampton, glass dealer—May 23. E. S. A. Findlay, Grafton-street, Fitzroy-square, milliner—May 23. R. Atkinson, Whitehaven, Cumberland, ironmonger.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

A. CONNELL, Glasgow, merchant.

## TUESDAY, MAY 6.

## CROWN-OFFICE, MAY 6.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.  
Borough of Woodstock.—Viscount Loftus.

## BANKRUPTS.

W. THURNELL, Leadenhall-street, upholsterer. [Pain and Hatherley, Basinghall-street.]  
G. WARRINER, Lloyd's Coffee-house, City, tavern keeper. [Kiss and Son, Fenchurch-street.]  
R. ROBINSON, King William-street, Strand, wholesale spirit merchant. [Shirreff, Lincoln's-inn-fields.]  
J. and T. BATT, Old Broad-street, City, dealers in silk. [Crowder and Maynard, Coleman-street.]  
E. S. DARVELL, Great Tower-street, City, colonial broker. [Lawrence and Ploas, Bucklersbury.]  
D. CRASER, Woolwich, Kent, victualler. [Teague, Crown-court, Cheap-side.]  
W. J. TAYLOR, High-street, Camden-town, grocer. [Burton, Powis-place, Great Ormond-street.]  
R. CROSS, Colchester, Essex, corn merchant. [Milne and Co., Temple; Walsh, Sudbury.]  
W. BRESNAN, Aston, Staffordshire, innkeeper. [Bowen, Stafford; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]  
W. START, Sutton, Nottinghamshire, lace maker. [Cowley, Nottingham; Mottram and Knowles, Birmingham.]  
H. BENT, Brierley-hill, Staffordshire, chain maker. [Ryland, Birmingham; Sharpe, Field, and Jackson, Bedford-row.]  
J. HAIGH, Honley, Yorkshire, clothier. [Cumming, King-street, Cheap-side; Brook and Freeman, Huddersfield.]  
J. W. NEWTON and F. J. NEWTON, Rotherham, Yorkshire, spirit merchants. [Badger, Rotherham; Blackburn, Leeds.]  
C. HALL, Sheffield, grocer.  
J. BROWN and A. URQUHART, Manchester, carpet warehousemen. [Johnson, Son, and Weatherall, Temple; Hitchcock, Buckley, and Tidwell, Manchester.]  
M. HUMPHRIES, Manchester, joiner. [Gregory, Faulkner, Gregory, and Bourdillon, Bedford-row; Bell, Manchester.]  
G. LAWRIE, Fleetwood-upon-Wyre, Lancashire, chemist. [Sedlow, Sons, and Torr, Chancery-lane.]  
M. COX, Weymouth, Dorsetshire, ironmonger. [Phillips, Weymouth; Combe, Staple-inn; Terrell, Exeter.]  
T. FORSYTH, Durham, hotel keeper. [Griffith, Raymond-buildings, Gray's-inn; Trotter and Hodgson, Bishop Auckland.]

## DIVIDENDS.

May 20. J. C. Johnson, Laurence Pountney-hill, Cannon-street, City, merchant—May 20. J. Johnson, Little Abington, Cambridgeshire, builder—May 20. A. M. Southy, St. Mary-at-Hill, City, wine merchant—May 20. B. and T. E. Jackson, Brompton-street, upholsterers—May 20. G. Winning, Dover-street, Piccadilly, upholsterer—May 20. C. Teasdale and R. Toulson, Westminster Bridge-road, furnishing warehousemen—June 4. H. Turner, Thobald's-road, Bedford-row, cowkeeper—May 28. H. Bunley, Upper York-place, Portland town, builder—June 6. W. Meek, Southampton, ironmonger—May 29. J. Potter and W. Maude, Manchester, calico printers—May 28. W. Heggibotham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, cotton spinner—May 29. J. Jones, Chester, Cheshire, joiner—June 17. H. W. Blackburn, Bradford, Yorkshire, woolstapler—June 17. J. Prior and H. Brady, Kingston-upon-Hull, brush manufacturers—June 12. J. W. J. S. G. and J. Wood, Liversedge, Yorkshire, machine makers—June 12. R. Elliott, Sheffield, merchant—May 29. W. Harris, Castle Hayes, Staffordshire, brickmaker—May 29. W. Ambrose, Ayr, Gloucestershire, timber merchant—May 29. W. Adamson, Hexham, Northumberland, butcher—May 29. J. Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, cooper.

## CERTIFICATES.

May 20. J. Taylor, Market-street, May-fair, carpenter—May 27. W. Meek, Southampton, ironmonger—May 30. R. Kipling, Wood-street, Cheap-side, warehouseman—May 28. J. Burwell and T. Hall, Thetford, Norfolk, iron founders—May 28. H. Turner, Thobald's-road, Bedford-row, cowkeeper—May 24. W. Henderson, Sunderland, mercer—May 27. W. Ferguson, Liverpool, draper—May 27. J. Jones, Chester, Cheshire—May 30. E. Brown, Huddersfield, merchant—May 27. R. Chapman, Friar-street, City, furrier—May 27. J. Forrester, New-cut, Lambeth, grounds merchant—May 27. W. Holmes, Gough-street, New-road, marble merchant—May 27. H. Hurreton, West Smithfield, cattle salesman—May 27. C. H. Howard, Colchester, tallow chandler—May 27. H. Beutley, Liverpool, commission agent—May 20. T. Robinson, Ecclestone, Lancashire, lime burner.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. DAVIDSON, Aberdeen, painter—A. M'ARTHUR, Jun., Tarbert, Argyllshire, merchant.



This day is published, price One Shilling.  
**THE HISTORY OF THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF**  
 the NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE; containing Biographical Sketches of George Wilson, Esq., Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P., and the whole of the Council of this enlightened, industrial, and humane Confederation.  
 B. D. Cowling, Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn, London; Abel Heywood, Oldham-street, and J. Gadsby, Manchester; and all Booksellers.

**MUCH'S LETTERS ON AGRICULTURE.**  
 Just published, small 4to., 1s. 6d. sewed, or 2s. cloth.  
**A SERIES OF LETTERS ON AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT;** with an Appendix. By JOHN JOSEPH MUCH.  
 With Four Plates of the Farm and Machinery. London: Longman and Co.; and may be had of all Booksellers in town and country.

Just published, price 3s., cloth boards.  
**THE PRACTICAL COTTON-SPINNER;** showing the Methods of calculating the different Machines made use of in a Cotton spinning Factory. Also, an easy method of changing systems to any first wanted, with accuracy, ease, and despatch. By ALFRED KENNEDY, Cotton spinner.  
 A. Pullerton and Co., 104, Newgate-street, London; 64, Merion-street, Leeds; 20, Lower-street, Piccadilly, Manchester; 9, Great Patrick-street, Belfast; and 4, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

**LIFE OF THE REV. JOSEPH BLANCO WHITE:**  
 written by himself. With Portions of his Correspondence. Edited by JOHN HAMILTON THOM. 3 vols. post 8vo., with Portrait, price 3s.  
 "This book will improve the life (Blanco White's) reputation. There is much in the peculiar construction of his mind; in its close union of the moral with the intellectual faculties, and in its restless desire for truth, which may remind the reader of Doctor Arnold."—*Examiner*.  
 John Chapman, 121, Newgate-street.

**LIFE OF JEAN PAUL FR. RICHTER,** compiled from various Sources. Together with his Autobiography. Translated from the German. Two vols. paper cover, 7s.; cloth, 8s.  
 "Apart from the interest of the work, as the Life of Jean Paul, the reader learns something of German Life and German thought, and is introduced to writers during its most distinguished period—when Goethe, Schiller, Herder, and Wieland, the great stars of Germany, in conjunction with Jean Paul, were there, surrounded by beautiful and admiring women, of the most refined and exalted nature, and of princely rank. It is full of passages so attractive and valuable that it is difficult to make a selection as examples of its character."—*Liquor*.  
 John Chapman, 121, Newgate-street.

**THE WELCOME GUEST OF EVERY HOME.**  
**THE FAMILY HERALD.**—The cheapest and most extensively circulated of English Periodicals. Vol. II., price 7s. 6d., containing all of the "Wandering Jew" that has yet appeared in Paris, and upwards of a hundred other highly interesting tales, will be ready the second week in May. No. 103, being the first of a new volume, will be published May 3. A contemporary says, "We warmly recommend the 'Family Herald.' It is what we can say of so few of the cheap periodicals now-a-days—it is a safe book to add to the precincts of the family circle."  
 Published weekly at One Penny, and monthly at Sixpence, by G. WIGGS, 421, Strand, and may be had by order of all Booksellers. If you have never perused this gem of the press, buy a number and judge for yourself. Families residing in the colonies or distant parts of the country will find this a cheerful and instructive companion.

**GREAT LEAGUE BAZAAR.**—A splendid large engraving of the INTERIOR OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE, taken during this magnificent scene, showing the gorgeous fittings and transparent Gothic Roof, the various Stalls, &c., will appear in the PICTORIAL TIMES of Saturday next, May 10. Three views of the Great Bazaar, the Dreadful Accident at Great Yarmouth, and many other beautiful illustrations of the events of the week. Price 6d. stamped. Office, 251, Strand.

Parties transmitting six postage stamps can have this magnificent number sent to any part of the United Kingdom postage free.  
 "The Grand Panorama of London, 13 feet long, the largest engraving in the world, beautifully bound, is one of the prettiest presents that can be given, and can be forwarded, free of expense, to any part of the kingdom upon remitting 2d postage stamps to the Publisher.

**CLOWN, AND THE CORN-LAW LEAGUE.**  
 "JOEY," the CLOWN OF LONDON, has infinite pleasure in telling all his broad eating admirers that he will appear on THURSDAY MORNING next, by special permission of the League, in person at the Gothic North-west of Covent-garden Theatre, and give to all purchasers of "The Clown of London" a splendid ENGRAVING of this magnificent BAZAAR (measuring nine inches by six inches), representing the interior with its thronging thousands and its varied and costly contents. An admirable caricature also, designed by Punch's best pencil, of "The Bakers, Bright and Golden, with the troublesome Peel removing the loaf of the League from the tray." Innumerable other funny cuts and fashions will appear as usual in "The Clown." No advertisement taken this week. Sold everywhere by everybody, price Four Farthings. Office, 251, Strand.

**JONES'S £4. 4s. SILVER LEVER WATCHES,**  
 warranted not to vary more than 1 minute per week, are selling at the tenth of a mathematical instrument with the elegance of an ornament of taste. The receipt of a Post office order for it, above the price, a Watch will be sent free to any part of the kingdom. Read Jones's "Sketch of Watch Work," sent free for a 2d. stamp.

**THE RAILWAY COMPANION,** comprising sandwich box, decanter, and drinking cup, in a compact leather case. Dictionary, travelling writing books, envelopes and dressing cases; ladies' companions, portfolios, blotting books, inkstands, gold and silver ever polished pencil cases, pens and ivory tablets, &c.; bibles and prayers, in plain and elegant bindings. Name plates, &c., for 2d. 4d.; two best cards, 2s. 6d.; superior letter paper, from 6d. the ream; note paper, from 2s. the ream; with every article in stationery of the best quality and lowest prices, at LINDSAY'S, No. 143, Strand, facing Catherine-street. Best envelopes, 1s. the 100.

**TEA TRAYS, TEA UTENSILS, KNIVES AND FORKS, DISH COVERS, &c., at G. WATSON'S,** 41 and 43, Barbican, and 14, Norton Folgate. Established half a century. A set of 3 Paper Tea Trays, including the largest size inside, 35s.; very richly ornamented all over, 5s.; a set of three, and up to £14. Japan Tea Trays, 7s. 6d. a set, and upwards. A 8-gallon London made Bread Tea Tray, 3s. 6d. a set, and upwards. A 8-gallon London made Bread Tea Tray, 3s. 6d. a set, and upwards. A 8-gallon London made Bread Tea Tray, 3s. 6d. a set, and upwards. A 8-gallon London made Bread Tea Tray, 3s. 6d. a set, and upwards.

**TRAY TABLES, 11s. per doz.** Desserts, 5s. 6d. per pair. Ivory Table-knives, 11s. per doz. Desserts, 5s. 6d. per pair. 21 inch handsome balance hands 10s. 6d. per pair. 21 inch balance hands, largest and best made 10s. 6d. per pair. Dishes with Watson's Albino Plate handles, equal to silver 23s. 6d. 10s. 6d. per pair.

G. WATSON'S handomely illustrated Catalogue and Pattern Book, now just published, will Families who regard economy and elegance should possess themselves of this useful book, which may be had gratis and post free from the above address. Sole Inventor of the celebrated Albino Plate, which is so rapidly superseding silver.

**THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.**  
 The high estimate formed by the public during the ten years NIPPON and BURTON'S chemically purified material has been before it, made into every useful and ornamental article usually made of silver, particularly into cutlery, the characteristic purity and durability of silver, has called into existence the deleterious compounds of "Albino Plate," "Royal Silver," and others so called substitutes; they are at best but imitations of the genuine articles manufactured, with the view of satisfying the purchaser, by Nippin and Burton, and sold only by them.

**NICKEL ELECTRO-PLATED—THE REAL NICKEL SILVER.** Introduced and made only by Nippin and Burton, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Wilkinson and Co., is beyond all comparison the very useful and ornamental, and the high character of the method of plating, (the by them only) are, as it regards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied at any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver.

Treatment, per dozen. Nickel Forks 1s. 6d. Nickel Knives 1s. 6d. Nickel Spoons 1s. 6d. Nickel Teaspoons 1s. 6d. Nickel Table Forks 1s. 6d. Nickel Table Spoons 1s. 6d. Nickel Tea and Coffee Sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices with engraving, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free. Nippin and Burton, 21, Old-street, corner of Newman-street (from Wall-street). Established 1855.

**Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen** Pattern. Pattern. Victoria. Dessert ditto and ditto, 12s. 0d. 12s. 0d. 12s. 0d. Tea ditto and ditto, 10s. 0d. 10s. 0d. 10s. 0d. Great ditto 8s. 0d. 8s. 0d. 8s. 0d.

**NICKEL ELECTRO-PLATED—THE REAL NICKEL SILVER.** Introduced and made only by Nippin and Burton, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Wilkinson and Co., is beyond all comparison the very useful and ornamental, and the high character of the method of plating, (the by them only) are, as it regards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied at any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver.

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## CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

In addition to Assurances on Healthy Lives, this Society continues to grant Policies on the Lives of Persons subject to goit, asthma, rupture, and other diseases, by their paying a premium in proportion to the increased risk. The plan of granting Assurances on unhealthy Lives originated with this Office in the early part of 1824.

Every description of assurance may be effected with this Society, and Policies are granted on the lives of persons of all ages.

Table of Premiums for Assuring £100 on a Healthy Life.

Age.	For One Year only.	For 7 Years at an Annual Payment of	For 14 Years at an Annual Payment of
25	1 1 0	1 2 2	1 3 8
30	1 2 1	1 4 1	1 6 1
35	1 5 2	1 7 2	1 9 2
40	1 8 9	1 10 4	1 13 6
45	1 12 2	1 14 8	2 1 0
50	1 16 11	2 3 10	2 13 11

The sum accumulated and invested, for the security and benefit of the assured (exclusive of the proprietors' paid-up capital), already exceeds half a million sterling; and the income, which is steadily increasing, is now £101,500 per annum.

The two first divisions averaged 42 per cent. on the premiums paid. The third bonus, declared in January, 1812, averaged 428 per cent., and the future bonuses are expected to exceed that amount.

Further information may be obtained of Geo. H. PINCKARD, Actuary, 78, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London, or of any of the Society's agents.

**A SHOWER BATH,** with curtains, 12s. 6d.; ditto, with copper conducting tubes, from 50s.; sponging baths, 12s. 19s. 21s.; hip do., 19s. and 20s.; toilet can, 5s. 6d.; foot-tubs, 5s. 6d. Also, every description of Japan Ware thirty per cent. under any other house.—R. and J. BLACK beg to call attention to the quality of their baths, as they are all manufactured on their premises, they can confidently warrant them for durability. The illustrated Catalogue of Baths, and every description of furnishing ironmongery may be had gratis, or sent post free.—Richard and John Black, 316, Strand, opposite Somerset House. Established 1814.

**FRYER'S WASHING MACHINES.**—These Machines entirely supersede the necessity of the laundry brush, and the still more destructive rot of washing powders. No family is now safe from these evils without home washing. All washing may be done in these Machines in one quarter of the usual time, producing a far better colour, and with not one hundredth part of the wear of hand-washing. Laundresses may save 75 per cent. in the cost of labour, and every family one-half of their future outlay for linen, who have their washing done in them. The prices are from 24s. to 112s. Also a Machine, price 21s., that will wash, wring, and mangle equally well. Prospectuses, with numerous references to persons who have long had them in constant use, may be had at the Manufactory, 1, Brown's-lane, Spital-square.

**THE ATRAPILATORY, or LIQUID HAIR DYE;**  
 the only dye that really answers for all colours, and does not require re-doing but as the hair grows, as it never fades or acquires that unnatural red or purple tint common to all other dyes. ROSS and SONS can, with the greatest confidence, recommend the above dye as infallible, if done at their establishment; and ladies or gentlemen requiring it are requested to bring a friend or servant with them, to see how it is used, which will enable them to do it afterwards without the chance of failure. Several private apartments devoted entirely to the above purpose, and some of their establishments having used it, the effect produced can be at once seen. They think it necessary to add that, by attending strictly to the instructions given with each bottle of dye, numerous persons have succeeded equally well without coming to them.  
 Address: Ross and Sons, 120 and 122, Bishopsgate-street, the celebrated Perfumers, Perfumers, Haircutters, and Hairdressers.—N.B. Parties attended at their own residences, whatever the distance.

**BARTLE and JARVIS, 203, STRAND,** supply a splendid PROOK COAT, with silk facings, from 35s. to 60s.; Dress Coat, same quality, from 32s. to 55s. Fit warranted, being cut upon a peculiar plan entirely their own, calculated to fit every shape and size without difficulty, and at the same time, it may be observed, the prices are the same as those charged by the puffing coppersellers.

**OUTFITS TO AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLONIES.**—Parties leaving England will find it greatly to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'S, 165, Fenchurch-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Gaiters, Boots, Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the voyage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles. Bedding, Military Accoutrements, Cabin and Camp Furniture of every description.—Liste, with Prices added, forwarded by post.

## THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

Our subject (the recent eclipse of the sun) is, certainly, rather a singular one; and yet we will endeavour to show by and-by, that the theme we have chosen will clearly apply. When we saw the dark shadow which partly concealed the beautiful lustre which Phœbus reveals! We thought of that marvellous "illumination" the trade, and which never as yet has been "cast in the shade." Competition may constantly strive to "eclipse" the manner which MONNERY'S warehouse eclipses! But still the sun's dress must of MONNERY and SON will "enlighten" the trade as it ever has done. Competition, in fact, is no more than a "spark." Which will "go out" and remain "in the dark?" But the warehouse of MONNERY—the "Temple of Fame"—"Resplendently shines" with a "glorious fame." Thus, reader, we've humbly endeavoured to throw a "light on the subject," whose truth all should know: And now we request that you'll come to the work. And wisely make purchase of "light" dress or "dark." We've all "shades" of colour in every perfection, and none on our clothing can "cast a reflection." Wherever you go you will find there are none To equal the garments of MONNERY and SON.

The new work entitled "The Monarch's Mant," with full directions for self-measurement, may now be had on application, or forwarded "post-free."

LIST OF PRICES.

READY MADE.	MADE TO MEASURE.
Twoed Tailcoats .. .. .	1 10 0
Ditto superior quality with silk collar, cuffs and facings .. .. .	1 10 0
Collegiate and Chesterfield in light and gentlemanly materials .. .. .	1 10 0
Cashmere Coats in every style and make, including the Regatta .. .. .	1 10 0
Holland, Jean, Grand Drill, and Diagonal Blouses .. .. .	1 10 0
Collegiate Summer Vests .. .. .	1 10 0
Cashmere and Persian ditto, in endless variety .. .. .	1 10 0
Black and Fancy Matins .. .. .	1 10 0
White Trousers .. .. .	1 10 0
Twoed ditto .. .. .	1 10 0
Spring ditto (woolens) .. .. .	1 10 0
Drum Coats .. .. .	1 10 0
French Coats .. .. .	1 10 0

**MADE TO MEASURE.**  
 Cashmere Coats, in any shape, handsomely trimmed, made in the first style of fashion .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Black ditto ditto, handsomely trimmed .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Quilling Vests, 6s. 6d., or three for .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Cashmere ditto, in rich patterns .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Bath ditto, plain or fancy .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Spring Trousers, in great variety .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Twoed ditto, in choice patterns .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Single Milled Albert and Plain One Trousers .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Dress Coats .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. . 1 10 0  
 French Coats .. .. . 1 10 0  
 Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. .. . 1 10 0

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
 A new work, entitled "The Labyrinth of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free. Measuring to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following prices:—

Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 1 10 0  
 Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers .. .. . from 0 10 0

**REMARKS.**—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, or changed, or the money returned.  
 Wholesale: E. J. MONNERY and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail Wool-Drapers, Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 165, Minster, and 55, Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.

**CAUTION.**—E. J. MONNERY and SON are obliged to guard the public against imitations, having learned that the unscrupulous-like falsification of being connected with them, or it's the case concern, has been resorted to in many instances, and for obvious reasons. They have no connection what-soever with any other establishment in or out of London; and those who do send to 165, Minster, or 55, Aldgate, opposite the Church.

N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from sunset on Friday till noon on Saturday, when business is resumed till twelve o'clock.

## BATTLE OF WATERLOO.—NEW MODEL.

A very large scale, representing the splendid Charge in the battle of the Battle by the British Heavy Cavalry under the Marquis of Anglesey, and the British Infantry under Sir Thomas Picton.

Admission, One Shilling. Open from 11 Morning till 9 Evening.  
 "One may read bulletins and despatches, and histories, for a month, without obtaining the clear idea of the movements, which a glance at the Model will convey."—*Bell's Weekly Messenger*.

**H. R. H. the PRINCE OF WALES,** by gracious permission of Her Majesty, from a picture by Winterhalter, at Windsor Castle. The House of Brunswick at one view.—George I., George II., George III., George IV., William IV., Queen Charlotte, Queen Caroline, Princess Charlotte Coburg, the Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. The Robes of George IV. restored. The British Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, and St. Patrick. The National Group. Mr. Cobden and Bishop of Exeter. "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—*The Times*. Open from Eleven to Ten. Admission, 1s.; No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, No. 13, No. 14, No. 15, No. 16, No. 17, No. 18, No. 19, No. 20, No. 21, No. 22, No. 23, No. 24, No. 25, No. 26, No. 27, No. 28, No. 29, No. 30, No. 31, No. 32, No. 33, No. 34, No. 35, No. 36, No. 37, No. 38, No. 39, No. 40, No. 41, No. 42, No. 43, No. 44, No. 45, No. 46, No. 47, No. 48, No. 49, No. 50, No. 51, No. 52, No. 53, No. 54, No. 55, No. 56, No. 57, No. 58, No. 59, No. 60, No. 61, No. 62, No. 63, No. 64, No. 65, No. 66, No. 67, No. 68, No. 69, No. 70, No. 71, No. 72, No. 73, No. 74, No. 75, No. 76, No. 77, No. 78, No. 79, No. 80, No. 81, No. 82, No. 83, No. 84, No. 85, No. 86, No. 87, No. 88, No. 89, No. 90, No. 91, No. 92, No. 93, No. 94, No. 95, No. 96, No. 97, No. 98, No. 99, No. 100.

**WHITSON HOLIDAYS.**  
**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—The Atmospheric Railway, exhibited by a Working Model, having a power to carry visitors. A curious Mechanical Hand on a person who has lost his natural hand. Dr. Ryan's Lectures on the Chemistry of Domestic Elements. Lectures on Character, with Musical Illustrations, by Mr. Russell, accompanied by Dr. Wallis on the Piano-forte, every evening at eight o'clock. New and beautiful objects in the Chemist's experiments by the Diver and Diving-bell. Working Models described daily.—Admission, One Shilling; Schools, half-price.

**WHITAKER and CO.'S FINEST JET WRITING INK.** WARRANTED NEVER TO CHANGE COLOUR.  
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 No. 7, Farringdon-street, east side, near Skinner-street.—JOHN MARDEN respectfully informs Visitors to London that they can obtain accommodation during their residence in the Metropolis at the above address, on reasonable terms. The arrangements have been made to supply the comforts of home. A Private Sitting-room can be had if desired.

**INTELLECTUAL PAPER-HANGINGS,** in which the writings of various authors are inserted in Ornamental Patterns, by HENNELL and CROSBY, Queen-street, Southwark-bridge-road. Manufacturers of Panel Decorations and all other kinds of Paper-hangings. For a specimen of Free Trade and Literary Paper-hanging, see the Saloon of the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar, Covent-garden Theatre.

**TO VISITORS OF THE ANTI-CORN-LAW BAZAAR.**  
 Whilst in London, you are invited to taste a sample of genuine OLD PORT WINE, bottled at Oporto, warranted three years in bottle, which is to be sold for cash at 38s. per dozen, large bottles, bottles included. On show at PIERCE'S Wine Deposit Cellars, 38, Fenchurch-street, who will pack the same at 6d. per dozen.

**THE BEST STEEL PENS.—GEORGE and JOHN DEANE** have constantly in stock a large assortment of WINDLE'S CELEBRATED STEEL PENS, comprising not less than one hundred and fifty varieties adapted to all the exigencies of Penmanship. Deane's Two-hole Black Pen, the very facsimile of the natural quill, is the general favourite with the clergy, the legal profession, and with merchants, bankers, and their assistants.—George and John Deane, 46, King William-street, London-bridge.

**TO MANUFACTURERS and OTHERS.**—In a locality possessing many manufacturing advantages, but when from a variety of causes, the trade at present carried on has, to some extent, fallen away, a Committee has been formed for the purpose of promoting, by any means in their power, the establishment of NEW MANUFACTORIES, and they would be willing to receive proposals from, and to assist to a reasonable extent, any persons who would furnish suitable employment for a portion of their unemployed population.—Apply by letter only to B. care of Messrs. Barker and White, 33, Fleet-street.

**BEAVER, GOSSAMER, and FRENCH VELVET HAT MANUFACTORY,** 50, Old Change, Cheapside, London.—Purchasers of Hats are respectfully informed, that at this establishment they may be supplied with every description of HATS, CAPS, &c., manufactured on the most improved principle of strength adapted to all sorts of wear and shapes, varied and most modern. The choice from a large stock of newly-manufactured goods is offered, and the prices will be found low for the various qualities. Parties visiting London will find it advantageous to purchase as above.—50, Old Change, one door from Cheapside. May 1, 1815.

**STOOPING OF THE SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION OF THE CHEST** are entirely prevented, and easily and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER, which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or inwardly, without bands beneath the arms, uncomfortable restraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent per post, by Mr. A. BRYSON, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, near the Bazaar; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

**A BRONZED SCROLL FENDER,** for 10s. Ornamental Iron Ditto, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 5 feet 6s. 6d.; Chamber Fire Irons, 1s. 6d. per set; Parlour ditto, 2s. 6d.; Superior ditto, from 6s. 6d. Their Stock also consists of an extensive assortment of Drawing room Stoves, London-made Dish Covers, Paper and Japan Tea Trays, superior Table Cutlery, Nickel Silver Ware, and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery, every article of which is marked at such prices that will fully convince purchasers of the great advantages resulting from cash payments. RICHARD and JOHN BLANK, 210, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Their illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent per post free.—Established 1816.

**FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.**—The largest Assortment of Stoves and Fenders, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on Sale at RIPPON and BURTON'S extensive Warehouse, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street (just removed from Wells-street). Bright steel fenders, 4 feet, from 10s. each; ditto ditto, with ornate ornaments, from 40s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with steel bar, 10s. 6d.; Iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s. 6d.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s. 6d.; 4 feet, 11s. 6d.; wrought Iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s. 6d.; bright register stoves, with ornate ornaments and two sets of bars, from 4 guineas; ditto, with ornate ornaments, from 29. 10s.; black dining-room register stoves, 3 feet, 3s. 6d.; 3 feet, 30s.; bedroom register stoves, 2 feet, 16s. 3 feet, 21s. The new economical Thermo stove, with fender and radiating hearthplate, from 24. 8s.; fire irons for chambers, 1s. 6d. per set; handsome ditto, with ornate heads, 6s. 6d.; newest patterns, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire-irons, with ornate and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in furnishing ironmongery 20 per cent. under any other house, while the extent and variety of the stock are without any equal. The money returned for every article not approved of.—Detailed Catalogue, with Engravings, sent (per post) free. Established (in Wells-street) 1808.

**ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL**  
 PATRONIZED BY  
 HER MAJESTY "THE QUEEN,"  
 H. H. PRINCE ALBERT,  
 THE ROYAL FAMILY.

**SEVERAL SOVEREIGNS AND COURTS OF EUROPE.**  
 This elegant, fragrant, and transparent Oil, in its preservative, restorative, and beautifying qualities, is unequalled over the whole world. It preserves and reproduces the hair, even at a late period of life; prevents it from falling off or turning grey; restores grey hair to its original colour; frees it from scurf and dandruff, and renders it soft, silky, curly, and glossy. Facts abundantly proved by innumerable testimonials, which are even for inspection at the Proprietors'. It preserves its virtues unimpaired by change of climate, and is alike in use from the frigid to the torrid zone—from the assemblies of St. Petersburg to those of Calcutta and the remote West. For children it is especially recommended, as forming the basis of a beautiful Head of Hair.  
 Price 2s. 6d., 7s., family bottles (equal to four small) 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s.

**CAUTION.**  
 Each genuine bottle has the words ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL engraved in two lines on the wrapper; and on the back of the wrapper small lines, containing 22,000 letters.  
 Sold by the Proprietors, A. ROWLAND and SON, 25, Market-garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers.  
 "All others are FRAUDULENT COUNTERFEITS!"

London: Printed by ROBERT PALMER (of Providence place, Upper Kensington lane, Lambeth, in the County of Surrey) and JOHN CLAYTON (of Number 30, Strand, in the County of Middlesex), at their Printing Office, Number 30, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin in the Vintry, in the City of London, and published by AUGUSTUS WATSON, Proprietor of and at the Office of THE LEAGUE, Number 57, Pump-court, in the Parish of St. Dunstons-in-the-West.—Saturday, May 10, 1855.





# THE LEAGUE.

No 86.]

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Gough, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,  
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

Contributions to the Bazaar will continue to be received during next week.

### MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return answers pledge themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR MAN, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn-Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

### THE WESTERN STATES OF THE AMERICAN UNION.

The Times of Thursday last, in its American intelligence, has one passage more fraught with significance to the Free-Trader, more deeply condemnatory of monopoly, and more fitted to stimulate the efforts of every philanthropist and Christian in the cause of commercial liberty, than anything that could have been written by the sternest foe to land-hold legislation. Our contemporary's American correspondent, who signs himself "A Genevese Traveller," is speaking of the temper of different sections of the people of the United States with reference to peace and war, says—"Unfortunately, many of the western people, as I believe, are not only willing, but anxious, to embark in a war with Great Britain, with or without cause: it would open a new and enlarged market for their agricultural products, and cause a great expenditure of public money among them."

We do not consider it necessary to assume the absolute and unqualified correctness of this writer's statement, which, we would fain hope, conveys at least an exaggerated account of the belligerent dis-

positions of the western people of the American Union. But there is, we fear, no reason for doubting that it is from the western states that the peace of the world is, at this moment, most seriously menaced. It is to that section of the Republic that peace presents the fewest attractions, and that war holds out the most seductive temptations. It is there that those ties of a common ancestry, a common language, and a common faith, which ought especially to unite all the members of the Anglo-Saxon family of nations, are least felt and likeliest to be snapped asunder on slight occasion. The "small cloud" lowers the most darkly and densely over the valley of the Mississippi. When we add that these western states are rising into social and political importance, at a rate of growth of which there is scarcely another example in history; that it is thither that the stream of emigration from the older states of the Union flows the fastest and most steadily; that it is there that population increases the most rapidly; that it is these states whose influence must eventually, and at no very remote period, preponderate in American politics;—we have said enough to show that the state of things described by the Times' correspondent, or any state of things at all approaching to that, is charged with the worst perils to every interest of civilization and humanity. The present "cloud" may pass away. Already it seems to be passing away, like so many preceding ones that have of late years appeared on the western horizon. But deep-seated feelings of hostility to Great Britain, festering at the heart and centre of the American Union—a permanent interest, or supposed interest, in war, on the part of those states which are rapidly advancing towards political ascendancy in the councils of the Republic—must, if long allowed to operate unchecked, produce not "small clouds" merely, but hurricanes and tornadoes.

And this is monopoly's doing. Those western people ought to be, would be, were it not for monopoly—are, in the obvious plan of Nature and Providence—the great peace-party of the American Republic; bound to us in closer and firmer ties of mutual interest, affection, service, and dependence than ever before united nation and nation. Peaceful traffic with those western people ought to be, to them as to ourselves, a first necessary of life—a thing, in no case or contingency, for no imagined interest or honour, to be put in hazard. Those western people abound and superabound in the things which we most need; they are bare and poor in the things which we produce and over-produce. They are richer in the raw material of life, and (relatively to their wants and powers of consumption) poorer in everything else, than any other people under heaven. They are the agriculturists of the Union. Their country is the wheat-growing country of America—the finest wheat-growing country of the world—with a salubrious climate, a virgin soil of unrivalled fertility, and (for an inland region) unequalled facilities for cheap and rapid transit. Take Ohio, as a specimen of the immense resources, the marvellous progress, and the prospective political importance of these Western States. The territorial surface of Ohio is upwards of 40,000 square miles—i. e., about one-fifth part larger than Scotland. At the close of the last century, this territory was an Indian hunting-field; and when, in 1802, it became a member of the Union, its estimated population was but 50,000. At the last census, in 1840, it numbered 1,515,160 souls. Its surplus wheat produce, in 1842, was 14,000,000 of bushels; yet, of its 20,000,000 of acres of arable land, little more than one-third are yet brought under cultivation. The total value of its exported produce, in 1840, was 19,670,981 dollars. And this noble state—we quote from the publication to which we are indebted for the preceding statistics—"forms but a small portion of that magnificent country which stretches from the Alleghenies to the Rocky Mountains; a country through which the mightiest rivers roll, where an unimpeded navigation of a few days interchanges the productions of the tropics for those of the frigid zone; a country which, at the close of the present century, may be supporting a population of 50,000,000; in whom the predominating political influence of the Union must be centred, and whose resources as a producing country must cause its commerce to be sought for by all nations."

Such is the region to whose resources we refuse the development for which God and nature designed them, and whose people we are allowing to shoot up into social predominance and political ascendancy, filled with all the rancorous bitterness con-

"American Corn and British Manufacturers." Clarke, London.

sequent on a non-intercourse policy that is even more ruinous to ourselves than to them. "Unfortunately," indeed! They would, if we would only let them, feed us out of their exuberant and overflowing stores, and set and keep the whole industry of our empire busy working for them at handsome wages. As matters stand, they are longing to fight us; waiting and watching for a quarrel with us; "not only willing, but anxious," we are told, "to embark in a war with Great Britain, with or without cause." The connexion of cause and effect is here obvious. The "new and enlarged market for their agricultural products,"—which they must have somewhere and somehow, which they cannot have in Lancashire and London,—they hope to find in the United States' Admiralty and War-office.

Can there possibly be a more emphatic condemnation of monopoly than this—a more significant and melancholy illustration of its suicidal impolicy, its downright madness and wickedness? Bitter and reckless enmity, where there might have been cordial and zealous friendship! The fiercest repulsion, where nature designed the closest union! Arsenals of war ready to spring up, where there might have been granaries of wheat and warehouses of commerce! A great and powerful people, of our own race and language, growing up to hate us, willing and anxious to pick quarrels with us, "with or without cause!"

The present precarious and dangerous state of our political relations with the American Republic loudly calls on all Free-Traders to urge forward their great work with every energy that they are capable of exerting. We do not speak with reference to the Oregon question merely. The difficulties of this will probably be surmounted;—mainly, however, by the aid of those commercial interests and ties which still continue to exist despite the influence of an anti-commercial legislation, and whose pacific power was recently so manifest in the equanimity with which the mercantile community of New York received a startling and warlike piece of political intelligence. But it is plain that nothing can eventually save civilization and humanity from the hideous disaster of a war between the two great nations of the Anglo-Saxon race, but a radical reform of our commercial code—a wide and rapid extension of our commercial relations. It is cheering to know that in all our efforts towards this end we have the sympathies and co-operation of the best minds of the American people themselves. There, as here, the moral and religious aspects of Free Trade are recognized no less clearly than its bearings on economical interests. America has statesmen and legislators as deeply imbued as ourselves with the conviction, that all the nations of the earth have a common interest in the work of the Free-Traders of Great Britain. It is with heartfelt satisfaction that we record, from time to time, the utterance, by distinguished public men of the United States, of such sentiments as those recently expressed by General McDuffie:—"A SYSTEM OF FREE-TRADE, ADOPTED BY ALL NATIONS, WOULD BIND THEM TOGETHER BY BONDS OF COMMON INTEREST AND MUTUAL GOODWILL, WHICH THE AMBITION OF RULERS COULD NEVER TEAR ASUNDER; EVERY NATION WOULD REJOICE IN THE PROSPERITY OF ALL NATIONS, AS BEING ESSENTIAL TO ITS OWN."

### THE BAZAAR.

The public interest during the past week has continued with daily accumulating force. On Tuesday, the first day of admission at one shilling, long before twelve o'clock, crowds of respectable visitors thronged the portico and parapets in front of the theatre; and within a very short time after the doors were opened every part of the vast hall was rather blocked than filled with an eager and wondering multitude. This overwhelming pressure, outside and in, continued without any apparent abatement during the whole day. The doors were repeatedly closed,—indeed they were hardly open for more than a few minutes at a time throughout the day,—and thousands of persons, crushed and wearied with the heat and pressure of the throng, returned to their homes despairing of admission. The same degree of pressure and excitement continued throughout the whole of Wednesday; and in the afternoon of that day the ladies attending the stalls sent a strong representation to the Council of the League, declaring that they were unable to bear the pressure of the overwhelming crowd, which had filled every inch of available space in the body of the hall, and effectually put an end to all facilities for buying and selling. At the same time those in charge



of the doors sent in the most anxious reports of the fearful amount of pressure from without, declaring that there was peril to life and limb in its continuance. Under these circumstances, the Council resolved, though with great reluctance, to raise the price to half-a-crown, and at the same time to place such restrictions on admission as would effectually prevent too severe a pressure. Advertisements and placards were immediately issued, apprising the public of this necessary change in the arrangements. On Thursday the pressure was considerably relieved by the increased charge; and throughout the day the theatre, though occasionally too overcrowded for any thing like comfortable locomotion, was upon the whole not inconveniently thronged. The half-crown charge for admission will be continued only for a day or two, by which time it is hoped that the pressure will have sufficiently abated to ensure the safety and convenience of visitors by a recurrence to the lower charge.

Amidst the multitude of visitors from all ranks and classes it is impossible to give anything like a complete list of the more distinguished personages whom interest or curiosity has induced to visit the Bazaar. We subjoin, however, the names of such of our visitors as we have personally recognised in the throng—whether eminent from mere position, or noticeable for their zealous attachment to, or prominent services in, the cause of Free Trade:—

Earl Radnor, Earl Ducie, Countess Clarendon, Earl Cowper, Earl Craven, Lord Canterbury, Lord Ranelagh, Lord Robertson, Lord Auckland and Hon. Miss Eden, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord Howick, Lord Provost of Glasgow, Hon. C. P. Villiers, Hon. Edward Bouverie, M.P., Ladies Bouverie, Hon. W. Cooper, Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Sir Edward Colclough, Sir William Molesworth, Sir John Ware, Sir John Easthope, M.P., John Bright, Esq., M.P., Doctor Bowring, M.P., Howard Elphinstone, Esq., M.P., Raikes Currie, Esq., M.P., Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P., William Ewart, Esq., M.P., J. T. Leader, Esq., M.P., James Pattison, Esq., M.P., Col. Wood, M.P., T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P., W. D. Christie, Esq., M.P., Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., Wynn Ellis, Esq., M.P., Morgan O'Connell, Esq., M.P., J. L. Ricardo, Esq., M.P., W. Aldham, Esq., M.P., Benjamin Smith, Esq., M.P., G. Duncan, Esq., M.P., Samuel Jones Lloyd, Esq., G. R. Porter, Esq. (Board of Trade), Mr. Macgregor (Board of Trade), William Brown, Esq., (Liverpool), Rev. J. P. Smith, D.D., Rev. Dr. Jenkyn, Rev. Dr. Massey (Manchester), Rev. Dr. Reed, Rev. Dr. Price, Rev. Dr. Harris, Rev. Dr. Cox, Rev. Dr. Hutton, Rev. Richard Fletcher (Manchester), the Mayor and Mayoress of Bolton, the Mayor and Mayoress of Manchester, Bailie Haastie (Glasgow), Bailie McLaren (Edinburgh), Captain Viner, George Wilson, Esq., E. Baines, Jun., Esq. (Leeds), — Birchall, Esq. (Leeds), T. Bright, Esq. (Rochdale), Walter Buchanan, Esq. (Glasgow), James Coates, Esq. (Paisley), George Ashworth, Esq. (Rochdale), John Hoyle, Esq. (Rochdale), Samuel Heap, Esq. (Rochdale), Benjamin Heap, Esq. (Rochdale), Summers Harford, Esq., John Brooks, Esq. (Manchester), John Whittaker, Esq. (Ashton), Thomas Ashton, Esq. (Hyde), J. B. Potter, Esq., Ashton Yates, Esq., Martin Thackeray, Esq., James Wilson, Esq., C. Lattimore (Wheatthampstead), Arthur Morse, John Armstrong (Lancaster), Messrs. Darby (Colebrookdale), M. D. Hill, P. A. Taylor, H. S. Foster (Cambridge), — Forbes, — Milligan (Bradford).

(From the Bazaar Gazette.)

Large additions have been made to all the stalls since the first opening, and the articles displayed have been rendered more characteristic of their several localities.

The Shakspeare-room is that part of the Bazaar to which the largest additions have been made. It may be regarded as a new Manchester stall for the exhibition and sale of printed goods, but it also contains some splendid specimens of drapery, contributed by Messrs. Dewar and Co., of Dunfermline, which have surpassed all former productions of the loom in similar materials.

One of these is a communion cloth, having the Bible and Crown damasked in the centre, and a crucifix on each side; the damasking is of silk, and the ground unbleached flax; this difference of material gives a strength and depth to the shading, which throws out the pattern in high relief. Opposite to this is a table-cloth, manufactured by the same gentlemen, Messrs. Dewar and Co., of Dunfermline, containing a coat of arms, similarly damasked. Around the room are printed ladies' dresses, of muslin, and similar materials, contributed by Messrs. Hoyle and Co., Swanwick and Johnson, Cobden, and several other manufacturers. Mr. Hertz has sent several dresses of printed lace, a new style of dress, of such light and gossamer texture that it seems as if it had been woven by fairy hands. Certainly Titania herself could not have desired more unsubstantial and, at the same time, more graceful robes.

The Shakspeare-hall also contains a large collection of very splendid table covers, sofa covers, and curtain hangings, some of which are marked as contributed by the Messrs. Dewar, while others bear the name of Rawson and Co., Curtis and Madeley, and some other firms, whose names we shall publish in a future number. We noticed also some velvets, contributed by Messrs. Ramsay and Co.

The entrance through the lobby into the theatre has been decorated with portraits of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, exhibited for sale.

Instead of proceeding into the body of the hall, we shall on the present occasion proceed to the lower saloon, for the purpose of inspecting the Sheffield stall, and its wondrous display of cutlery. Amongst the articles displayed, we were amused to find a coffin for the

Corn Laws, with a proper mortuary plate, a blank being left for the date of the death.

Some beautiful specimens of table cutlery, in handsome cases, are exhibited, from the manufactory of Messrs. Hargraves; the exquisite style in which they are finished, and the taste displayed in the handles, ferules, and other fittings, have attracted universal admiration. Several splendid pairs of scissors, of universal richness, in an elaborate style of ornament, have been contributed by Mr. Prior, Mr. Peach, and Messrs. Rudd and Wainwright. Those sent by the last-named gentlemen have for ornament admirable likenesses of Cobden and Bright, cut in the solid steel.

In the midst of so much that is beautiful it is difficult to know where to commence a more detailed account of the Sheffield stall. We will, however, in the first place, draw especial notice to the superb specimens from the extensive manufacturing establishment of William Greaves and Sons, Sheaf works, Sheffield. These consist of a selection of carpenters', curriers', and ship-builders' tools and files, and steel articles not ordinarily (as it would be thought) possessing the capability of much display. We assure our readers, however, that this intractability is overcome by a splendour of finish only inferior, as we are credibly informed, to their solid intrinsic qualities.

William Greaves and Sons have furnished one specimen which we will attempt to describe. It is a solid bar of steel, showing at one extremity about six inches of the steel in its first crystallised state after fusing.

The next six inches exhibit the same bar of steel, drawn out under hammers, into a round suitable for dies for coining.

The next six inches into a square for edge tools, &c.

The next octagon, for chisels and turning tools.

The next triangular, for machinery purposes.

The next flat, for razors, table knives, &c.; and, finally, the bar is elongated into a spear blade about 11 inches long; the whole highly polished, and ornamented in exquisite etching, save only the first six inches of the raw unhardened steel, which is left in its virginally rough state, as an interesting contrast to the finished blade at the other extremity. It is not easy to convey in words a correct idea of this unique and, to the inquiring mind, very interesting specimen of the staple manufacture of Sheffield. To be correctly judged of it must be seen. The same establishment (W. Greaves and Sons) exhibits specimens of carriage springs, remarkable alike for exquisiteness of workmanship and high finish.

Two new stalls have been erected in the upper box lobby. The first of these are Millar's glass works, with specimens of spun and woven glass, and an immense variety of vitreous ornaments, executed with great taste and skill. We could not avoid noticing an elaborate hunting piece, in which fields, trees, horses, hounds, and huntsmen are all of glass. There has been a very successful effort to give character and expression to the figures of the dogs and men, by studying the effect of attitude and position.

We particularly noticed a gold-backed knife, valued at twenty guineas, and several cases of table knives and forks, sent by Messrs. Nowill and Sons; an exquisite model of a steam-engine, executed with equal taste and accuracy, so as to be at once a handsome ornament in a drawing-room, and a valuable teacher of mechanical science. This model was contributed by Messrs. Chesterman and Co. There are also several telescopes, and an assortment of powder-flasks. There is a very rich and varied assortment of plated ware, including trays, stands for bottles, and liqueur cases.

Among the many additions made to the Bazaar, one of the most interesting is a potter's wheel, displayed in actual operation. The "thrower," as the pottery-worker is technically designated, has appeared at nearly all important exhibitions of mechanical products and skill in the north of England; and, in addition to his great manual dexterity, he has the power of describing the processes of throwing and moulding, so as to render them perfectly intelligible to spectators. His name is Thomas Mollart, and he has come up to the Bazaar from the factory of Francis Morley, Esq., of Shelton, in the Staffordshire Potteries.

The art of throwing is one which requires great delicacy of touch and dexterity of manipulation, because the slightest impression on the plastic material, during the rapid revolution of the wheel, produces an instantaneous and unalterable effect.

The china and porcelain stall at the upper end of the saloon exhibits some noble specimens of Wedgwood's unrivalled jasper vases, from New Etruria, in the Staffordshire Potteries. Among them is a fine copy of the Portland or Barberian vase, so recently broken in the British Museum.

We noticed several new contributions in the Gothic Hall. We may mention a lady's scarf, formed of the feathers of the peacock and Guinea fowl, worked into flower patterns, and producing an effect equally gorgeous and unique; there is a smaller scarf similarly worked with feathers, but we did not ascertain from what birds they were obtained. These curious articles were sent to the Lutington stall by Mrs. Hobson, of 5, Hamilton-place, New-road.

While we stood at the Camden stall, a very curious and interesting contribution was brought by Mrs. J. Gadsby. It was a series of card-medallions, each containing a lock of the hair of some celebrated leader of the League. We were glad to find that Mr. George Thompson's locks are in the collection, our clever contemporary Punch having led us to fear that all the hair of his head had been long since exhausted.

A new stall has been erected for Barnley, at the left-hand side of the entrance of the refreshment-room. It displays a large assortment of druggists and table-cloths, the patterns of which afford the most gratifying evidence of the progress that has been made in the art of design. No Jacquard goods of similar materials exhibited in Paris, during the great national exposition of last year, approached even remotely the excellence of those on the Barnley stall.

In addition to the monster stunnel cake, from Dury, displayed in the refreshment-room, a splendid cake, most tastefully ornamented, was exhibited on Monday. It was sent to the Bazaar by Mr. Wedderspoon, of Dundee.

Among other novelties, we must not omit to mention a monster sheet of pottery tissue paper, displayed in the outer hall. It is a mile long, and has been manufactured entirely from the old ropes of a coal-mine.

A whimsical illustration of the game laws is displayed on the Bristol stall. A case of stuffed birds exhibits partridges and their young brood, most admirably preserved, and so well wired into their natural position that at a distance they might be mistaken for life. Above them is a very excellent emblematic type of a vigid game-keeper, in the shape of a fox; and the stuffing of this animal is not less artistically executed than that of the birds. By the cleverness of the preserver, the fox has been given the most roguish look and attitude that can well be imagined. It would require a very slight exertion of imagination, to fancy that Reynard was just returning from having played his pranks on Bruin the Bear.

A correspondent sends the following notice of the curiosities of the Bazaar:—

At Stall 25.—Besides the elegant display of fine Shetland shawls, handkerchiefs, and other knitted work, there are some curious oriental articles, chiefly collected by Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, during a tour in the East. Among these are—a beautifully embroidered scarf, worn by the Egyptian ladies as a nuptial veil. It was made by Arab girls, of the Protestant Missionary School at Grand Cairo, conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Leider.—An Oriental fan, from Constantinople. Turkish ladies' embroidered slippers, from do.—Ratcatlacoomb, a favourite Turkish sweetmeat, from do.—A handsome Egyptian pipe, and embroidered tobacco pouch.—Egyptian fly whisks, made from the leaves of the palm date tree.—Petrified wood, from a petrified forest in the desert of Suez.—An Indian hammock, made of dried and coloured grass.—A piece of the rock of Gibraltar, beautifully polished.—Lisbon caskets, &c. &c.

Visitors to the Shetland stall should not omit to possess themselves of a small pamphlet, entitled "A Letter to the Duke of Richmond," &c., which states a fact of the oppression of the Corn Laws on the poor fishermen of the Shetland islands, more severe, perhaps, than any other on record. Bound-up files of a Shetland newspaper, also to be found there, may be considered by many as a literary curiosity.

**THE MODEL ROOM.**—The first article in this room we have to notice is Budding's machine for cutting grass plots, pleasure grounds, bowling greens, &c., manufactured by John Ferrabee, Phoenix Iron Works, near Stroud, Gloucestershire. The use of this machine offers many important advantages over the ordinary method of cutting grass plots, &c., with a scythe. It may be so adjusted as to leave the grass passed over by it of any regular length at the pleasure of the operator, and it leaves a more even and uniform surface than can be produced by the most skilful mower. The grass cut off may be collected in the box, rendering sweeping afterwards unnecessary; and, as the machine can be used best in dry weather, the gardener is enabled to cut his lawns at the most convenient time, instead of being obliged, as with a scythe, to wait for rain or heavy dews. It is very durable, easily sharpened and kept in order, and its management is extremely simple; printed directions for which are sent out with every machine.

Mr. W. Gover's removable window-sash: this is an ingenious contrivance to obviate the danger of exposing servants or glaziers on the outside of windows; and, from the facility it affords of cleaning upper windows in season, we hope the plan will receive from builders and the public generally that attention which so important a matter as the safety in life and limb of a large number of our fellow-creatures unquestionably demands. Mr. Gover, we believe, has been at considerable trouble and expense in preparing and improving his apparatus, which, it will be perceived, reduces the friction of the sashes very materially, and thus facilitates their movement, besides preventing them from shaking or rattling when closed.

By the principle of this patent, the sashes may be taken with facility into the room, by merely casting off certain metal stops fitted to each; the width of the sash is only equal to the distance between the pulley-stile and the front of the opposite bead, which is five-eighths or three-quarters of an inch thick, the difference being made up by the four stops when fixed upon the side corners of the sash. The two upper stops of each sash are so constructed that the pulley-rope is fixed to the stop on each side; the stops fix with a screw into metal plates, secured on the four corners of the sash. The sashes may thus be taken into the room at pleasure, by merely unscrewing and removing the stops, which (to prevent them from running to the top of the window-frame by the falling of the weight in the box) are hung on the studs at the side of the window, the weights being thus suspended till wanted again for the sashes, when the stops are replaced on the sides of the sash. The five-eighths are, of course, gained in the breadth, which again becomes equal to the entire width of the sash-frame.

The removable sash offers an excellent opportunity for ventilating, particularly in hospitals, public offices, &c.

The small double washing machine.—This machine will wash the most delicate, as well as every other description of linen, without the possibility of injury or wear, cleaner, and of a better colour than when washed by the hand, it being cleansed not by rubbing one part against another, which wears out linen very much, but by alternate pressure and by forcing the water through the linen.

By J. Haywards.—Specimens of furnishing iron: wougey, brass curtain rods and cornice poles, purified wrought nickel silver finger-plates, and models of self-acting kitchen ranges, stoves, fenders, and fireirons.

By Wall and Cooper, of Sheffield.—Specimens of saws: machine, straw, tobacco, and snuff knives, machine plane irons, ledger blades, spiral cutters, and calico webs.

An ancient lock from the strong box of Turlton's Hall, Wolverhampton, manufactured by Messrs. Moreton and Langley, Wolverhampton. The lock is of somewhat larger dimensions, and contains much curious workmanship, and possesses 14 bolts, the whole of which are moved by a single key, working from the centre.

By Messrs. Bentumple and Clark, &c., Albany-street, Regent's-park.—A working model of a frame for making spermaceti, moulded wax, and composite candles. The moulds are made entirely of pure Cornish tin, without a particle of alloy.

A model of the cast-iron framing employed in the extension of the London Brewery belonging to Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co., in the support of their large fermenting tuns, as well as some of their vats. The first of these circular frames was erected in the month of Sep-

tember, 1832. On the 25th of October following, the vessel which it had to support was finished, and, in order to form some idea of the size of this vessel, it may be interesting to know that upwards of eighty persons dined very comfortably at the bottom of it: an account of the dinner appeared in the *Morning Advertiser* on the following day. To the curious it will be interesting to know that this vessel cannot have had less than 1,200,000 barrels of beer fermented in it, amounting in weight to about 200,000 tons.

A group of alabaster figures on a marble slab, which is sure to attract attention; in front of it are models of the Eddystone Lighthouse, and Cleopatra's Needles. A case of horsehoes, constructed on a new principle, by Mr. Rogers, veterinary surgeon; a collection of beads used in the African markets for the purchase of slaves; a collection of shells, ores, &c., from Cornwall, contributed by J. Parry, Esq., of Devonport; and several specimens of the effects produced on various articles by the great fire of Hamburg, are among the miscellanies in the room.

The following machines are shown in full work:—Pillows for lace-making, worked by females; a very beautiful stocking frame; Dyer's patent machine for making and fixing teeth in cards; an engine for striking coins or medals; a warp-lace machine; and, as we have already mentioned, a potter's wheel on the lobby.

Along the table are seen, the model of the front of a ship, constructed for the purpose of developing the principles of the lever applied to the working of the windlass in raising the anchor; several models of steam-engines exhibiting some new and ingenious improvements in construction; two air-guns, and several fowling pieces; an electrical machine; a varied assortment of carpenters' tools; and several fossils. We must direct particular attention to a chest of tools from Leeds, designed for gentlemen amateurs of carpentry; it is as beautiful as a lady's cabinet, and the contrivances for saving room are equally simple and ingenious. It has been constructed by the best manufacturer of tools in Great Britain, and has been contributed to the Bazaar by Mr. Bewley, of Leeds. We were much struck by two surface plates, on which so smooth a surface has been gained that when one is laid upon the other the upper plate will hold the under suspended by mere atmospheric pressure.

In a case are shown the varied products that can be derived from potatoes and from wheat. A very interesting case exhibits all the stages of manufacture through which two sorts of flax pass from the raw state to the perfect cloth; and two other cases similarly illustrate the processes of the wool and cotton manufactures.

There are several beautiful models of ships and steamers; religious associations give peculiar interest to that of the missionary ship, the *John Williams*.

Davy's patent elastic and repellent India rubber saddle and collar, contributed by the inventor and patentee, Mr. Edward Davy, of Crediton, near Exeter. The peculiarities in the construction of this saddle consist, first, in the substitution of India rubber elastic webs for the hempen webs commonly used in the formation of the seat of the saddle, whereby great ease and comfort is afforded to the rider, and much relief from pressure to the horse. The degree of elasticity on the seat may be tempered according to pleasure, by straining the elastic webs more or less tightly across the saddle-tree, and, in either case, a flatter and better seat is obtained than by means of any of the numerous plans which have been devised for rendering saddles elastic. This saddle possesses many other advantages which we need not particularize.

In consequence of the large contributions received from Clackmannanshire, including the towns of Alloa, Kellerahar, Alva, Tillinultrie, Gallsbiele, &c., the stall originally allotted to Dunstable has been assigned to the Clackmannanshire display of tartans, shawls, and tweeds. The sales were placed under the able management of Mr. Robert Halliday, of Erie-street, Cheapside, London, and Mr. John Archibald, of Kellerahar. The great success of this stall was well tested by the amount of receipts; and the success was richly merited, for the tartans and shawls were equally novel in design and tasteful in execution. It should be mentioned, as a proof of the public spirit of the contributors, that the patterns were designed for the autumnal season, and that they have risked the danger of having them imitated and pirated by prematurely displaying them at the Bazaar. Nor must we omit the patriotic sacrifice made by the gentlemen attending this and the other Scotch stalls: with them time is money, and from the tact, talent, and skill which they exhibit as salesmen, the value of their services cannot be estimated by comparison with any amount of pecuniary contribution.

A new stall has been erected for Dundee at the end of the stage, adjoining the other Scotch stalls: it is occupied by fine specimens of sheeting; duck prepared without starch, a new and valuable process, for which a patent has been obtained; check dowlas, very well suited for shooting jackets; striped bedding, and sailcloth. Though these articles do not possess the brilliancy of the articles displayed on the fancy stalls, they well deserve the attention of visitors who wish to make themselves acquainted with the staple manufactures of the country. But Dundee is not unrepresented in the higher departments of taste and design; an exquisite model of the magnificent triumphal arch erected on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to that town, is displayed on the table in the outer lobby, and it is highly creditable to the architect.

We must briefly mention some new and valuable contributions to the Sheffield stall. One of these is a statue of Hercules slaying the Nemean lion; the attitude of the hero is particularly fine, and has been skillfully chosen so as to bring out most forcibly the muscular development of superhuman strength. The countenance expresses a consciousness of power, unalloyed with any trait of ferocity, and the swing of the massive club is given with such startling effect that it almost seems to be in motion, and the imagination is strained to conceive what has checked the fall of the blow. A very splendid collection of files has been contributed by Messrs. Vickers and Co., set in a frame of polished steel, which could not be surpassed either in beauty or temper. It is only justice to the stall, the zeal and attention of the gentlemen attending the Sheffield stall are above all praise, and we are bound, in mentioning them, to add, that their labours began before the Bazaar was opened, and their exertions ever since have been indefatigable.

Passing from one great mart of metal manufactures to another, we shall now say a few words of the Birmingham stall, which is situated in the body of the hall. Our attention was first drawn to some magnificent specimens

of glass dishes, of a delicate amber colour, with the ornamental parts plain. These are fully equal to any articles of the same description exhibited at the Parisian exposition, and, indeed, we can safely say that we nowhere in France met with such crystalline purity in glass as we have seen in the contributions from Birmingham. We may instance, on this very stall, a pair of elegant single lustres, the drops of which are as pellucid as that

“Which the rose supplies,  
When a dew drop lies  
On its leaves of a summer's morning.”

A bronze candelabrum, of exquisite design and finish, also demands attention; there is a totality in the original conception which we have often found wanting in modern candelabra, particularly those which are constructed in the style of Louis Quatorze or Louis Quinze. The designer, in this instance, has kept steadily in view the great principle of decorative art—that ornamentation must be connected with adaptation, and that every detail, however minute, must have some reference, not necessarily direct, to the object and purpose of the article, as well as the original thought developed in the design. The neglect of this law at the Parisian exposition was equally lamentable and flagrant. We saw there candelabra and vases, the designs of which reminded us of Lord Roscommon's couplet describing French epic poems—

“Such are these things, which, like a sick man's dreams,  
Vary all forms, and mingle all extremes.”

Among other articles on this stall we noticed a very fine sword for an infantry officer, of the pattern ordered in the new regulations; the temper of the blade could not be surpassed; and, however averse we may feel to weapons of war, we cannot avoid admiring the skill displayed in their manufacture. We also noticed three paper maché trays, the shapes of which are newly-registered patterns, and the colouring perfectly gorgeous. Not the least interesting part of the exhibition on the Birmingham stall is a series of specimens of the beautiful results that have arisen from the recent application of galvanism, or voltaic electricity, to plating; that is, covering one kind of metal with a thin plate or coating of another kind of metal. Electro-plating will, no doubt, produce a great revolution in the application of the fine arts, in increasing the mercantile value of industrial production in England; the coating which it deposits is imperishable. We have seen silver electrically plated on an iron surface, which could not be cut by the best engraver's tool. It is gratifying to the true friends of humanity to learn that the process of electro-gilding involves no process injurious to the health; while that which it is about to supersede exposed the workmen to the inhalation of the most noxious and deleterious of all gaseous exhalations, the fumes of sublimated mercury.

We must not omit to notice two beautiful finger-plates of glass, cut into a rich design of floral wreaths; the finish of which is far beyond any that could be obtained elsewhere at such moderate expense.

At the adjoining stall of Wolverhampton we found a very fine collection of spurs, bits, and stirrups, manufactured for the South American market, by Messrs. Moreton and Langley. And also a new species of horse-shoe, designed chiefly for hunters; the lower plate, being angular instead of horizontal, gives firmer footing, does not clog with snow or soft clay, and greatly lessens the danger of cutting the corner of the forefoot in leaping or galloping, by the overreach.

The Preston stall is filled with beautiful articles. It seems invidious to particularize; but we are at once attracted by the broad, good-humoured countenances of “Tumulus and Meary,” two Lancashire peasants, who have come purposely to see the Bazaar, and who have certainly had as many admirers as any of the country arrivals. There is also a beautiful little carriage, price £30; and an exquisite screen, representing a German fortune-teller kneeling before a beautiful girl, for whom she is unravelling the future. There is a splendid hearth-rug, and several sets of miniature four-post bedsteads, completely furnished for their wooden and waxen inhabitants. There are also portraits of Messrs. Cobden and Bright, in elegantly gilt frames; and many other valuable articles too numerous to name.

Next to Preston is Lancaster stall, which has contributed its quota, and sent two sturdy Highlanders, a beautiful painting, and many other interesting things.

The Exeter stall is very rich in minerals and fossils. It also exhibits some beautiful stuffed birds, a hearth-rug of exquisite beauty, made by a blind lady, &c.

Next is the Dudley stall, well stocked, and contains, amongst other valuables, a fender and fireirons of exquisite workmanship, mounted with silver, very cheap at £20.

The Bazaar was densely crowded throughout the whole of Tuesday; and this circumstance, in the early part of the day, prevented the sales from being so brisk as on the previous days. About two o'clock the crush was a little abated, and the sales became very brisk in every part of the hall. We have not been able to ascertain the number of visitors or the amount of money received. The Council have decided to publish a full statement at the conclusion of the Bazaar, before which time it would be very difficult to obtain anything like perfect accuracy.

Several new stalls have been opened. We shall begin by mentioning an additional table placed in the Shakspeare-hall, for the exhibition of lawns, printed goods, and the other manufactures of South Lancashire. Near them we observed a pile of a new material, silk embroidered on woollen, which admits of the most ingenious and beautiful designs of the jacquard loom, being exhibited with a strong effect of light and shade, so as to give the appearance of something like high relief to the most prominent parts of the woven devices. This new and beautiful material is chiefly designed for waistcoat patterns. Those exhibited in the Shakspeare-saloon are decorated with Free-Trade devices, artistically designed and cleverly executed. In connexion with the Free-Trade waistcoats we may notice the Free-Trade pocket-handkerchiefs displayed at the Bury stall; and we do so the more readily because the rapidity with which they are being sold will probably exhaust the stock before our paper appears in print.

We cannot pass the Bury stall without noticing a literary curiosity. A copy of the original edition of Tim Bobbin's etchings is there exhibited. It is an invaluable record of Lancashire character and costume, in a state of society which is fast passing away even from the memory of tradition. Tim Bobbin's humour as a caricaturist, though sometimes coarse, or at least such as would be deemed coarse in this fastidious age, is always natural.

We sincerely hope that this rare and precious work will fall into the hands of some one by whom it will be appreciated. Sure we are that its fortunate possessor could turn it to good account, by having copies taken either on stone or zinc, or having impressions multiplied by the new process of anastatic printing.

Another Free-Trade article attracted our notice at a very rich stall, divided between the contributions of the ladies from Coalbrookdale and the cloths from Gloucestershire. We allude to a Free-Trade sofa cushion, richly embroidered with ears of wheat in heavy gold, and most tastefully formed and fringed. On inquiry, we learned that this beautiful article, though left for exhibition, is already sold, and that the price received for it was ten guineas.

The first new stall we have to notice is erected in the hall between the Shakspeare-saloon and the entrance lobby of the dress circle of the boxes. It is designed for the display of rugs and carpets.

A second stall has been erected in the hall between the exit lobby of the dress circle and the lower saloon. It is intended for hats, children's caps, &c.

A third stall in the same hall is nearly completed, which is intended to be an armoury, for the display of the guns, swords, pistols, &c., which have been sent up from the iron districts.

The Leeds stall has been a scene of activity since the opening of the Bazaar, and very considerable sales have been effected. The variety of ornamental furniture is rich and extensive; and although much has been sold, yet we are happy to state, for the advantage of those who may not yet have visited the Bazaar, that numerous beautiful articles are still on hand; amongst which we would particularly recommend to notice a splendid banner-screen, embroidered on white satin; and a choice screen, with the royal arms in beautiful needlework. There are several chairs and ottomans finished in very superior style. Indeed, it is impossible to give anything like an adequate idea of the diversified display at this stall,—worked hearth-rugs, counterpanes, table-covers, pictures, models, and a beautiful assortment of foreign trifles. We can but regret the limited space allowed for showing to advantage the valuable and liberal contributions which have been sent from Leeds.

In the model-room may be seen a beautiful steam-engine, of one-horse power, also sent from Leeds, and for which a raffle is being got up in 10s. shares. There is a curious collection of relics from the fire at Hamburg, in the year 1812, to be seen in the lobby, which, for want of space, cannot be placed upon the stalls. This applies to many other articles of manufacture and curiosity dispersed in different rooms, also belonging to Leeds.

We have to notice, among recent novelties, an improved register stove, registered by F. Brown, Luton, Beds. This stove possesses advantages of no ordinary character, being constructed in manner securing the greatest amount of heat with the smallest amount of fuel; producing a remarkably cheerful and pleasing effect; being exceedingly simple, and requiring no extra attention; which, combined with a perfect control of the draught, and the certainty of its being an effectual preventive for a smoky chimney, cannot fail to secure its general adoption.

In the hall, between the second box lobby and the lower saloon, is another interesting novelty. It is J. Crowther's stone self-acting filter, for rendering water beautifully clear, bright, and sparkling, without any trouble or inconvenience whatever. The advantages which this apparatus possesses are, extreme simplicity, and low price; facility of cleansing when foul (cleansing not being required oftener than once in twelve months); capability of being made of any form or size, and of being fixed in any situation; and lastly, the filtered water may be drawn off either by tap or pump, as circumstances require. The quantity they are capable of filtering depends entirely upon the superincumbent pressure of water to be filtered. When the outer vessel is fully charged, it will filter at the rate of 100 gallons per diem; but in proportion to the diminution of the weight of every square inch, so will it diminish in the quantity filtered, and become more limpid and slow in its working.

In the saloon, on a long range of tables, are arranged for sale a large variety of curiosities—fossils, minerals, geological specimens, petrifications, &c. &c. There are also three large autograph books, distinguished as the Queen Elizabeth Book, the Queen Victoria Book, and the George III. Book; they are superbly bound, each containing from sixty to seventy autographs, and ornamented with illuminated borders of different designs. Many of the signatures are rare and curious; those of the Anti-Corn-Law leaders are in each volume. The estimated value is thirty guineas each, and they will be raffled for separately. The tickets, 10s. each, may be had in the saloon, where the books are exhibited. Many curious autographs are also mounted on cards, and are sold separately.

The piece of needlework, copied from a painting by Landseer, “The Return from Hawking,” alluded to in a previous number of the *Gazette*, was worked by Mrs. Fenton, of Moorgate-street, and took her eighteen months in working. It contains seven hundred and fifty thousand stitches; therefore, the needle had to be passed through the canvas fifteen hundred thousand times. It is what is called the “tent stitch,” and is considered a very superior specimen of this work, and shows to what perfection it may be brought. There is also a smaller one at the same stall (No. 10), the subject “John Anderson,” which is considered very superior, and well worth attention. It is worked by the same lady.

As an instance of the variety of articles to be met with, we may mention that on the Kensington stall are exposed for sale two sets of clergymen's bands, and some medals, beautifully executed by Clint, commemorative of the abolition of the Test and Corporations Act, in 1825. At this stall may shortly be had a very few copies of the last work of that amiable man, consistent politician, and graceful poet, Leigh Hunt, “Imagination and Fancy,” with his own handwriting on a leaf of each book, written expressly for this occasion. We have reason to believe that the writing will consist of a few lines of original poetry, having reference to the great cause in which we are engaged.

The price of Miss Martineau's work has been reduced to 2s. 6d., and is now to be had at most of the stalls.

Some very beautiful verses, on the season, and on the operation of the Corn Laws, have been contributed by a lady, and they have been set to music by her sister. We have the authority of Mr. W. J. Fox, through whom both contributions have been received, to say that the



music is fully equal, if not superior, to the poetry. The music has been engraved expressly for the Bazaar, under the superintendence of Mr. Novello, and is only to be had in the theatre.

Turning to a very different subject, we call attention to the marmalade, a large quantity of which has been received from Mr. James Keillers, of Dundee; and we can say from personal experience, that it is very much superior to what is ordinarily sold at the shops in London. It is to be had at the confectionary stall, at the usual price of 1s. the jar, and some abatement is made for a quantity.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Of the new contributions, the following letter from William Brown, Esq., of Liverpool, the eminent merchant, deserves public notice and earnest study. It will be seen that the Bazaar is to be enriched by a quantity of sugar, slave-grown. It may seem a misapplication of the term to say enriched, yet, if this Bazaar is rich in anything, it is rich in articles made from raw materials slave-grown; and it is rich beyond any one's power to cavil at. And more, it is rich in the products of those who have been slaves, and are but now emerging from bondage, in company, as we may truly enough say, with commerce and manufactures. Mr. Brown's letter is as follows:—

“Richmond-hill, May 11, 1845.

“MY DEAR SIR,—I send you an order on my bankers for £100 towards the League Fund, and Mrs. Brown has contributed to the Bazaar here, £25. Many thanks to you, and our other active friends, for the exertions you are making for the good of our common country and the benefit of all mankind. Every day I am more and more convinced that the public mind is better informed, and coming round to the inestimable advantages of Free Trade. Their will must soon be irresistible. I send also a sample of 15 hogsheads of New Orleans slave-grown sugar. What an absurdity our admitting it for home consumption from the United States, and refusing it from Brazil! Can we expect anything but hostile retaliation from the latter? Slavery I deplore as much as any man; but it is not by trying to coerce other nations that we are to get rid of it. I will come to London, if I can, after the Halifax steamer comes in, to see what you are all about; how the Bazaar comes on. The samples of the sugar are duplicate; pray give one to Mr. James Wilson, and the other, when you have done with it, to Mr. McGregor, of the Board of Trade. Ever yours respectfully,

“Geo. Wilson Esq.” “W. BROWN.

The following letters announcing donations have been received:—

“Brouty Ferry, near Dundee, April 24, 1845.

“As a friend to Free Trade and to the Anti-Corn-Law League, and as my income has been extremely limited for several years past, the only donation I can offer at present is a copy of one of my works, entitled ‘The Sideral Heavens,’ which, small as the gift is, will not, I trust, be refused, as a small token of my approbation of the principles of the League, and an expression of my wish that the objects it proposes to accomplish may be speedily attained. “THOMAS DICK, D.D.”

“Hackney, May, 1845.

“MY DEAR SIR,—I have been from home several weeks, but now beg to transmit to the Bazaar copies of two of my works; regretting only that some others of a more general kind are not in my possession and out of print. I am, yours faithfully,

“F. A. COX, D.D.”

We have been requested to insert the following copy of a letter addressed to George Wilson, Esq., by the author of ‘The Origin of Sunday Schools,’ &c.:—

“Birmingham, May 13, 1845.

“SIR,—I have instructed my publishers to forward to you (as my humble contribution to the Free-Trade Bazaar) the few copies remaining unsold of my ‘Origin of Sunday Schools,’ and ‘Letters on the New Postage Plan.’

“Sunday schools may be regarded as typical of Free Trade in Education, whilst the new postage plan embodies the principle of Free Trade in ideas, or (as the poet beautifully expresses it) in ‘thoughts that breathe and words that burn.’

“As an ardent well-wisher to the great cause which you and your coadjutors have so nobly espoused, I beg to subscribe myself, Sir, yours very respectfully,

“THOMAS CLARK, Jun.”

“To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

“Wagon and Horses, Thomas street, Manchester.

“SIR,—Not having an opportunity of attending the Bazaar, and being desirous of assisting in carrying out the benevolent suggestion of supplying a few of the many distressed agricultural labourers with beds, as suggested in No. 83 of the LEAGUE, we herewith send you cash to purchase six beds, you having the power to present them to any deserving objects of charity.

“Mr. Thomas Woodward .. .. 5 0

“Mr. John Wilson .. .. 5 0

“Mr. John Aspel .. .. 5 0

“Mr. Joseph Gurnal .. .. 5 0

“Mr. John Scotland .. .. 5 0

“Mr. James Aspel .. .. 5 0”

“Manchester.

“DEAR SIR,—As Mr. Bailey is not going to the Bazaar, and as I may be too busy to see Mr. Thompson to-morrow, I wish you to purchase for me, and get forwarded to some of the most needy of the Dorchester labourers, as many of the beds we before spoke of as £5 will purchase; for I can scarcely believe that anything in the shape of a bed can be had for 3s., therefore I fix no quantity. I thought to have gone up and spent considerably more, but sickness in the family and other circumstances forbid both.

“Yours truly,

“Mr. Barratt, Manchester.” “THOM. CLARK.

HONITON.—Among the various contributions received, we have to thank our friends at Honiton, Devon, for some very beautiful specimens of Honiton lace articles, a splendid silk pillow, &c., all of which have come safe to hand, and will, we doubt not, meet with a ready sale.

BLACKBURN.—The names of some of the contributors to the Bazaar having been omitted in our last week's paper, we have been requested to insert the following instalments:—The mechanics and tuckers at Messrs. W. Eccles and Co.'s mill, one power-loom, £50; Wm. Eccles, Esq., a steam-engine, complete, £15; Mrs. Wm. Eccles, a bed-quilt, 40; Mr. and Mrs. Ashburn, in cash

and articles, £3. 8s.; Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, £1. 3s.; Mary Walmsley, 2s. 6d.; Betsy Walmsley, 5s.; E. Leaver, 5s.; E. Thornley, 3s.; Mrs. Carr, 5s.; E. Thompson, 7s. 6d.; T. Taylor, 2s. 6d.; P. Broughton, 5s.; S. Butterworth, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Leaver, 3s.; E. Aspdon, 2s. 6d.; Jane Jackson, boxes, 4s.; Mr. Haworth, 5s.; J. Hindle's family, 6s.; M. Southworth, 2s. 6d.; Henry Taylor, 1s.; Mrs. Birtwistle, 3s.; Mrs. Cornelia, 3s.; E. Smith, 1s.; Friends, 5s.; Miss Tetley, baby's cap and hood, 3s. 7d.; two pair fancy clogs, by Ann Walsh, 4s.; Abraham France, one pair elegant satin shoes, 10s.; a friend, 5s.; Mrs. P. and J. V., 10s.; Thos. Wilkinson, shoes, 10s.; Mrs. Towers, work and knitted articles; Miss Baillie, articles, value 9s.; Mrs. Shorrocks, box and cash, 7s.; Mr. Hacking, £1; Mr. Railton, £1; Mr. Pickup, 10s.; Mr. and Mrs. Baron, bag and cash, £1. 17s.; Mr. G. Baron, work, £2; Mr. Knox, shawl, £1. 12s.; Mr. Hutton, do., £1; Miss Thwaites, a frock; Miss Swithenbank, a hassock; Mr. Brindle, two work-boxes; Mrs. Hargreaves, a velvet brush; Mrs. Pickering, brushes, £4. 16s.; Fisher, Liverpool, several articles; Mrs. Dickinson, £1; Mr. Robt. Barton, £1.—*Blackburn Mercury.*

KIRKALDY.—On Wednesday, last week, there were sent off to the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar in London, as free-will offerings from the friends of Free Trade in Kirkaldy, a goodly number of useful, ornamental, and fancy articles, consisting of books, pictures, ladies' fancy work, curiosities, &c. &c., with specimens of the cloth manufacture of the place, such as bed-tick, table linens, towelling, canvas, &c., of superior quality; also two chairs of antique workmanship, made especially for this purpose, from part of the timber of the celebrated Adam Smith's house, besides twelve ladies' purses valued at £5 each, and about £30 in money, amounting in all to about £160 sterling, which, we think, shows that Free-Trade principles are not losing ground in Kirkaldy.—*Fife Herald.*

We have received from Dundee a long list of contributions and subscriptions, which we cannot insert this week, owing to the lateness of the hour at which it reached us.

THE ROCK HARMONICON AT THE BAZAAR.—The performances of the Messrs. Harrison on the rock harmonicon, at the Anti-Corn-Law League Free-Trade Bazaar, having created quite a sensation, some account of the harmonicon itself may not, perhaps, be uninteresting to our readers. The rock harmonicon is composed, in the first place, of a wooden frame, with four horizontal bars of wood crossing it from right to left, on which (being properly padded) are placed stones or portions of certain sorts of rock, properly cut into sizes, &c., and regularly arranged in musical order, like the keys of a pianoforte. The performers, of whom there are three, are each provided with two wooden hammers, with which they strike the stones, and thus make them discourse most excellent music. The manner in which the Messrs. Harrison perform is really astonishing, and proves that they must be accomplished musicians, thoroughly versed in the principles of their art, for unless they understood the principles of harmony it would be impossible for them to perform as they do on this the most perfect rock harmonicon that has ever yet been exhibited. It has a complete chromatic scale from the top to the bottom, and its compass is so great that it is capable of performing any operatic music, however difficult. The arrangement of the keys is most ingenious, and, whether as a beautiful musical instrument, or as an ingenious piece of mechanism, it is well worth attention and inspection. The stones from which the notes are produced were brought from the mountain of Skiddau, in Cumberland.—*Sun.*

#### THE BAZAAR AND THE PRESS.

(From the Spectator.)

If it seem like reversing the usual order of things to be going to a theatre in broad daylight, the scene that meets the eye on entering is far more startling. Instead of the horseshoe sweep of boxes with Grecian scrolls terminating at the massive pillars of the proscenium, the long perspective of a Gothic hall stretches across pit and stage, the vista column and Tudor arches terminating in mimic painted window. The roof is bright with gay colours, produced by transparent paintings; and, in lieu of heraldic blazonry, escutcheons charged with a bunch of wheat-ears on an azure field, and inscribed with the motto “Free,” the badge of the League, are seen in every direction. Gothic lanterns of gay colours shed light upon the moving throng that now fills the gangways, and on the heaps of manufactured articles piled up and hanging down on every side. The coup d'œil is novel and striking: a bazaar held in a baronial hall; Paisley shawls streaming from the walls instead of banners, and the triumphs of manufacturing industry and skill taking the place of trophies of war; and, instead of painted beauties, living eharms, glowing with health and cheerfulness, animate the scene. The contributions from each town occupy a separate stall, above which its name is described, and occasionally the arms of a civic corporation appear. Manchester requires three stalls; and some of the suburban districts of the metropolis furnish forth a counter. The multifarious articles exhibited for sale defy description; and we may venture to say that such a variety never was got together in a bazaar before. For instance, at the head of the staircase is an enormous mirror, in a superb frame, priced at £200, while in the lobby are grindstones and sacks of wheat; at one stall an elegant gilt chair, covered with embroidery in needlework, attracts admiration of the lady's taste and industry; while at another a dissection of a horse's head, with the nerves and blood-vessels properly filled, excites attention. Dolls of large size, richly dressed, or laid in coats of beautiful workmanship, with satin coverlets, are conspicuous in the toy department; embroidered cushions, and smaller fancy articles of female workmanship, also abound. Manufactured goods of every description, from shoes and neckerchiefs to dresses and table-covers, mostly the best of their kind, form the staple; books also find a place; but the only pictures we caught sight of were those painted on iron for screens and tea-boards. The lower saloon is appropriated to cutlery and metal-work; and the upper to porcelain and other sorts of hardware.

(From the Economist.)

The most important and stirring sensations, in the presence of this great national exhibition, will probably be viewed altogether apart from the place and its gorgeous display, though necessarily excited by them. We see stalls bearing the inscription of nearly every important

town and neighbourhood in the kingdom, containing the richest specimens of all that art and ingenuity and taste can display, presided over by the votaries of a great principle, and by those who have been moved to a compassionate sympathy for the sufferings of the great masses of our fellow-countrymen in the recent years of scarcity and distress;—who, now that those clouds are passed, and a more happy and prosperous period accompanies a time of plenty, are still willing to make any personal effort or sacrifice to save their neighbours and their country from a recurrence of such scenes as have stricken with grief and sorrow the hearts of the stoutest during the late years of suffering. We see in all that there surrounds us a silent but eloquent proclamation of the will, the persevering and untiring determination of a people expressed in a way that no statesman can safely overlook. A visit to this scene, with a knowledge of all that has preceded its construction, and a knowledge of the objects and principles which it demands, is well calculated to produce an impression and conviction on the mind of any reflecting man, whatever his previous opinions may have been.

(From the Sun.)

This is the first attempt at anything like an exposition des arts et des métiers in this country. The Governments of the Continent, to encourage the ingenuity of their subjects, have such an exposition every three years. That which the Government has neglected to do here the energy, enterprise, and assiduity of the men of the Anti-Corn-Law League has done for us, and done it infinitely better, in all probability, than it would have been done by the Government. Even should the Corn Laws be totally repealed this session, we hope that the National Anti-Corn-Law League will form itself into a committee for the purpose of giving, at stated periods, an exposition in the metropolis of the arts and manufactures of the country. The thousands who congregate in the metropolis every season, and who will flock to this Bazaar because it is the fashion, will become acquainted, many of them for the first time, with the skill and ingenuity of their fellow-subjects in the manufacturing districts. This cannot but be productive of good, and, therefore, we hope that this exposition will be, if not annually, at least triennially continued. Should such be the case this will be another obligation which the members of the Anti-Corn-Law League will have conferred on this country.

(From the Patriot.)

The glittering scene which, for several days, has been attracting thousands of visitors to Covent-garden Theatre, will be found, on subsequent reflection, a fertile source of moral instruction. The first thought that occurs to the ruminating spectator, after escaping from the dazzling blaze of unwonted splendour and the bewildering variety of the fruits of womanly ingenuity and industry, is something of this sort:—“Well, it is all over with the Corn Laws.” Never, indeed, was doom written in such distinct or in such gay characters. It is impossible to pass through the heaped-up piles of worsted-work, and all sorts of knick-knackery, without bearing away the impression, that a cause which has elicited so many myriads of voluntary offerings from so many myriads of the fair women of England, has passed that period in its history when the least doubt remained of its ultimate and even speedy triumph. But what the spectator sees is, in reality, only a small part of the affair. For once, the power-loom and the spinning-jenny, with the tread-chivalry, have given way to the primitive manufactures of the sisters of Penelope. Upon those stalls we see scarcely anything but what has been manufactured with the ivory mesh, dexterously whisked about by still whiter fingers; but, in the lobbies and ante-rooms around, there are bales upon bales of every sort of manufacture in wool, silk, and cotton, the result of that stupendous power which really sustains the greatness of our country, and before which the “agricultural mind” is now in the last throes of agonizing dread.

Yes, the League is a great fact; but this Bazaar is a greater fact still: and it affords us no little satisfaction to have entered the lists in this grand rivalry of devotion to the cause of the people. Our fair friends have made contributions more ingenious and more beautiful, and our great manufacturers have presented offerings more splendid and more costly; but we confidently challenge the whole array of contributors to produce one which could be viewed with greater interest by any well-constituted mind, than that which we venture to claim as, in some sort, our own contribution. In some obscure corner of the theatre, probably where no eye can see them, or where, if seen, they will be passed by wholly unregarded, lie some huge bundles of stocks, sufficient to make 500 beds, together with sundry bales of quilts, blankets, and sheets; the design of which is, to enable benevolent persons to purchase, at the nominal price of five shillings, a perfect bed-suit for gratuitous bestowment upon the poor peasants in Oxfordshire and Dorsetshire. How poor peasants in Oxfordshire and Dorsetshire. How came they there? In the Patriot of March 20 there appeared, from that indefatigable friend of the poor, the Rev. W. Ferguson, of Bicester, a letter addressed to Mr. Harcourt, one of the members for Oxfordshire, which we inserted at the writer's request. (A shire, which we inserted at the writer's request. A picture turning to that letter it will be found to convey a picture of misery in the midst of plenty not to be surpassed by the most destitute or squalid court or alley in the city of London, or any part of the empire. This harrowing description of utter destitution found its way from our columns into those of the LEAGUE and the Economist, and, whether owing to its original insertion in the Patriot, or to its transcription by our contemporaries, those interesting contributions to the League Bazaar which we have noticed are the gratifying result. We are sure that it must rejoice the heart of our excellent friend Mr. Ferguson, in the midst of his own deep domestic affliction, to find that he has been the means of inducing the friends of Free Trade to provide some relief for the miserable and neglected peasantry among whom he labours. Mr. Ferguson may be heard of by application at our office, and we will be happy, we are sure, to be made the medium of relieving the distresses of those whose miserable condition his benevolent researches have brought to light.

(From the Sentinel.)

The moral teaching of the League Bazaar will give a new definition of the word “destructive.” It is labour, the source of all wealth, he who fetters labour is the real destructive. Hitherto, we have legislated solely for the protection of property, and those who have made the laws have narrowed the significance of the term into exclusive limits; according to them, “Property simply

denotes the possessions held by those who make the laws. The disfranchised are the mere tributaries of the property class. The pheasant of a squire is sacred; the labour of a working man is a fit subject of spoliation. A poacher is qualified for a gaol; a taxer of bread is qualified for the senate. A poacher steals game, because the owner of game has stolen his labour. The League Bazaar is an announcement to the world that labour is property, and its protection freedom. When these views are popularised and generalised—when the middle ranks can understand them as intelligibly as the operative ranks do understand them—we shall have a new interpretation of the word "destructiveness," and the mask will be torn from the face of imposture.

(From the *Christian Examiner*.)

Reader! have you seen the Bazaar? If not—for once we say—go to the theatre! We have been there, and still would go. The sight is magnificent; and the moral impression produced by it most salutary. We have no intention to attempt any description of a scene so splendid. No language we could use would convey any adequate conception of it. As a display of taste and of artistic skill, the arrangements are perfect; and, as a moral demonstration of the power of public opinion, when concentrated on a just and benevolent object, it will produce a powerful impression on the national mind. All honour to the ladies of England—no—but to the ladies of the United Kingdom—for the wisdom, and energy, and zeal, with which they have commenced and perfected this admirable scheme! And all honour to the wise heads and warm hearts of that band of brothers who have originated and sustained the mighty movement, for the promotion of Free Trade. As we stand in that splendid hall, we could not but feel that the doom of monopoly is sealed!—die it must—die it shall. May its exit be peaceful!

THE PROVINCIAL PRESS.—Many of our provincial contemporaries have devoted no small portion of their space to graphic descriptions of the Bazaar, accompanied by a large and accurate engraving of the interior of the theatre. We must particularly mention the *Bristol Gazette*, which has given an entire supplement, containing the most copious details and a fine engraving of the theatre.

#### RAILWAY RETURN TRAINS.

##### London to Manchester, &c.

The Trains for parties residing in Manchester, Oldham, Bury, Stockport, Ashton, Stalybridge, Bolton, Rochdale, &c., which left Monday, May 12th, will return on Wednesday next, the 21st inst.; and that which left Wednesday, May the 14th, will return on Monday, the 26th.

Parties holding railway return tickets to Manchester for the 24th, can return on the 26th of May.

##### London to Liverpool, &c.

The Train which left Liverpool on Thursday, the 15th of May, will return on Monday, the 26th of May, at eight o'clock A.M.

##### London to Leeds, &c.

The Train which left Leeds, &c., Wednesday, May 14th, will return on Monday, the 19th; and that which left Saturday, May 17th, will return on Saturday, the 24th.

These Trains will leave London at 9 30 P.M., and will occupy the same time in returning as in going up.

##### London to Newcastle, Sunderland, Shields, &c.

The Train which left Gateshead on Thursday, the 15th of May, will return on Friday, the 23rd of May.

##### Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, to London.

The Return Train will leave the Euston-square Station this day (Saturday), the 17th inst., at half-past One o'clock in the afternoon.

The Newcastle special railway train, having thirty-two carriages, arrived in London on Thursday night.

#### WHITFIELD EXAMPLE FARM.

How to make the Labourer and the Landowner thrive together.

In again referring to Mr. Morton's book on the "Nature and Property of Soils," and to that portion of it descriptive of Whitfield Example Farm,—what it was and is; what it was when little labour and small capital were employed upon it; and what it is now, when a comparatively large number of people and a really large capital are employed upon it,—I give one or two passages to begin with, which formed the conclusion of the extracts before given. Their repetition is necessary to introduce the details of expense under the old system which follow. Mr. Morton, writing of the farm as existing up to 1839, and as a large portion of England and Wales exists up to the present month of May, 1845, says:—

"There is no fixed system of cropping, nor is there any plan for executing the work which must be performed. No arrangement is made for the performance of any one set of husbandry; all is left to chance; if the work be done soon after his neighbour's, the farmer thinks that all is well. We need not be disappointed, therefore, at the result of such management.

"The whole of the potato crops belonging to the labourers is of course carried off the land; and the little straw which the wheat crop produces is made into hulk, as it is called, for thatch. Some of this is kept for part, therefore, of the produce of the arable land which is reserved on the farm is the barley straw, the hay from the river, and the potatoes and wheat which the family consumes; all the rest is taken off the land.

"The expenses attending this mode of farming are not very great. The workmen employed are two men, a cowman and ploughman, a boy and two women in the

house to manage the dairy. In harvest there are sometimes two mowers and two men to make the hay. There may be thus four additional men for ten or twelve weeks during the hay, corn, and potato harvests. The expenses of the labourers may, therefore, be stated as follows:—

Two men by the year, at 9s. per week, one boy at 3s., two women at 4s. each	£75 8 0
Say 4 men in harvest for 10 weeks, at 12s. each	24 0 0
Tradesmen's bills, carpenter, blacksmith, &c., house and cow doctor's bill	15 0 0
Housekeeping, say for four, at 4s. per week each	41 12 0
Forty bushels of malt, at 7s.	14 0 0
	£170 0 0

"The value of the produce of this farm may be taken as under, which is as near as can be obtained:—

For the last 21 years the cows have not averaged 2½ cwt. of cheese each, which gives 62½ cwt. for 25 cows, which, at 50s. per cwt., is	£156 5 0
The butter of 25 cows, at 30s. per cow	37 10 0
A fat pig sold for every five cows, five pigs, at £3	15 0 0
Eighteen calves, at 10s. each	9 0 0
Seven old or young heifers and calves, at £9	63 0 0
"Sold:—	
Wheat, 168 bushels, at 7s.	58 16 0
Barley, 80 bushels, at 4s.	16 0 0
Eight acres of potatoes, dunged, at £7	56 0 0
Ten acres of potatoes, not dunged, at £4	40 0 0
Eight acres of teasels, at 30s.	12 0 0
	£463 11 0

"This estimate of the expense and of the produce is taken from Mr. Thomas's statements and my opinion of the crops.

"The amount of capital which Mr. Thomas may have employed on this farm can only be estimated by calculating the value of his live and dead stock, and the expense of labour for one year; and it may be stated thus:—

Twenty cows, at £10 each	£250 0 0
Seven two-year olds, at £7 each	49 0 0
Seven year olds, at £4 each	28 0 0
Seven calves, at £2 each	14 0 0
Five horses, at £15 each	75 0 0
Two sows and pigs, say	10 0 0
Two waggons, two carts, two ploughs, one drag, two harrows, one roller, harness	60 0 0
Dairy and household furniture, say	70 0 0
One year's expense of labour	170 0 0
	£726 0 0

"The profits, if any, will appear by deducting from the value of the produce—

The expense of labour	£170
The rent and taxes	265
	435 0 0
Leaving only, as interest on the capital employed	28 11 0
	£463 11 0

#### TRUTHS FOR FARMERS.

(From Mr. Mechi's Letters.)

##### WEEDS.

"Flax is an instructive crop; for any agriculturist, to attempt such cultivation, will find out by dear-bought experience that it is of no use to attempt to grow flax and weeds: these must all be plucked out, let the cost be what it may. This would probably lead to a weed-reform in our own crops, wanted badly enough."

##### SAVE A SHILLING AND LOSE A POUND.

"We are too apt to attach such vast importance to the importation of foreign meat and corn that we overlook other products of equal or greater pecuniary amount, and neglect producing our own flax, oil-cake, and oils."

##### WHY SEND OUR WORKING POPULATION TO CULTIVATE OTHER LANDS, AND NOT OUR OWN?

"Whilst we are studying emigration to get rid of our surplus population—the sinews of our strength—we have several millions of acres praying to be cultivated. Add to these at least another million or two occupied by useless fences and unprofitable timber—what a field for investment of labour and capital! with a considerable portion of our cultivated land merely half-farmed!!"

##### WHAT DOES GOOD CULTIVATION DO FOR OUR LABOURERS?

"I employ permanently on my farm and the adjoining one I rent (together 173 acres landlord's measure) ten men and four boys, with a considerable amount of casual labour; besides occasionally hiring some ploughs and cartage. I consider it wretched policy to allow your work to get into arrear for the value of a little extra labour. Formerly £2 per week paid all the wages on this farm."

##### LAND OF THE SAME QUALITY DIFFERENT IN VALUE; WHY?

"The immovable or stationary propensity of our farmers is strongly illustrated by the comparative rent and value of land of the same quality in different counties. In one 20s., or more, per acre; in another, 10s. or 12s. It is too frequently the case that low rents and bad farming go together; and that the higher the rent (irrespective of the quality of the land) the better and more profitable the farming; the more comfortable the position of the labourer. This fact suggests a great many considerations; *be an acre difference in rent is thought much more of than the loss by mismanagement or bad farming of one sack of wheat per acre, which is worth 28s.*"

##### AN ARGUMENT FOR DRAINING.

"Strange as it may appear to those unacquainted with chemistry, it is a fact that the air we breathe contains all the elements or materials of solid matter: the earth and its inhabitants, the sea and its fishes, the birds of the air, the

diamond and the feather, the granite rock or plastic clay, are alike formed from air, and resolvable into air. The Almighty wisdom, by the laws of attraction, cohesion, gravitation, and compensation, prevents any alteration in their relative positions. A magazine may explode, a city may burn away to air, an island disappear, but the general economy of nature is undisturbed: order reigns in tranquil grandeur. If air, then, is so important a material, how essential is it that by perfect drainage we should admit its passage through our sodden and, at present, impervious soils, and so render available to vegetable production our subterranean territory."

##### BUY FOOD FOR CATTLE, AND SAVE MANURE.

"In fact I have a great notion that it pays uncommonly well when corn, &c., is cheap, to lay out £1000 per annum, or £10 per acre, in purchasing food for pigs or other stock, provided we can make them return that amount, or near it, over and above their prime cost, and leave us their manure as a profit. This at present I have succeeded in doing with pigs. But whilst abundance of stock must be the farmer's sheet anchor of manure, we be to the unfortunate wight who neglects to keep them warm, dry, and well fed; and who wastes their manure by washing it down the brook. His account-book, if ever such a man kept a correct one, would show him a ruinous pecuniary loss."

With these extracts I at present close Mr. Mechi's instructive little book. The subject of the last extract is one that has been treated of in this paper already, and will be so again. If the reader finds *Whitfield Example Farm* introduced in this number of the LEAGUE, the introductory remarks will contain the continuation of the subject now attracting so much attention—the purchase of food for cattle to make manure at home, rather than the purchase of manure abroad.

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of a pamphlet from Burton-upon-Trent, by M. T. Bass, Esq., on "the Advantages of employing a greater Amount of Manual Labour in Agriculture." But I have not yet had the pleasure of reading it.

##### ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### SALISBURY FREE-TRADE READING ROOMS.

The first annual meeting of the subscribers was held at the rooms in St. Thomas's Churchyard, on Thursday evening, the 8th instant, when C. SQUAWBY, Esq., was called to the chair.

The SECRETARY read the Committee's report, by which it appeared that the subscriptions for the past year amounted to £54. 9s. 2d. Among the donations received were £5 from the Earl of Radnor; £5 from C. B. Wall, Esq., M.P.; and £2 from the Hon. E. P. Bouverie, M.P.

The average number of subscribers during the past year has been about 165, and upwards of 160 applications are received every week for papers to read at home.

The subscribers were indebted to the National Anti-Corn-Law League for occasional supplies of newspapers containing intelligence of the movements of that great Free-Trade Association.

The report having been received, thanks were voted to the Earl of Radnor, the Honourable E. P. Bouverie, M.P., and C. B. Wall, Esq., respectively, for their donations and subscriptions; to W. Burrows, Esq., the proprietor of the *Wills Independent*, for his kindness in furnishing the rooms since their opening with his valuable paper gratis; to the National Anti-Corn Law League, for contributions of papers; to the Committee of past year, for their successful exertions; to Mr. T. Griffin, the treasurer; and to Mr. W. Dawkins, the secretary.

A considerable sum was raised towards the debt on the establishment, before the close of the meeting, by the voluntary contributions of the persons present; and the meeting separated with every demonstration of pleasure and satisfaction.

#### FREE-TRADE DEMONSTRATION AT MIDDLESBRO' ON-TUES.

(From a Correspondent.)

On Tuesday, 29th of April, the inhabitants of Middlesbro' and its vicinity met together at a social tea party, which was held in the long room at the Exchange, for the purpose of assisting the Bazaar Fund, and more fully disseminating a knowledge of Free Trade principles.

The meeting was of the most enthusiastic character, receiving a double interest from the fact that the provision, which was most ample, was the free gift of the ladies, who so kindly assisted and presided on the occasion.

Upwards of 300 persons sat down to a substantial and elegantly furnished repast in high spirits and good humour, which continued throughout the whole evening.

The endeavours of the Committee were most kindly seconded by the owners of the various manufactories, which, with many of the principle shops in the town, were closed at an earlier hour. The really splendid appearance of the tea tables was much assisted by the uniformity and elegance of the services, which were all lent by Mr. Isaac Wilson, earthenware manufacturer; and also by the tasteful decorations of the room, which were highly creditable to the workmen who superintended them.

The table being cleared, H. Holkew, Esq. (of the firm Holkew and Vaughan, large ironmasters, resident in Middlesbro', and whose works have much contributed to the prosperity of the town), was unanimously called upon to preside.

The meeting was addressed at considerable length, in speeches at once humorous, argumentative, and convincing, by George Crawshaw, Esq., of Gateshead; Henry Pease, Esq., of Darlington; the Rev. J. M'Dowell; Mr. J. Whalley; Mr. W. Ainsworth, of Stockton; the Rev. C. Bingley; Mr. Wm. Fallows, of Middlesbro'; and Mr. Wm. Taylor, who, in a well-turned and complimentary speech, thanked the ladies for their valuable services; which was responded to by three hearty cheers from the whole company.

The evening was enlivened in the pauses between the speeches by many well-executed glee and duets, the Middlesbro' Glee Club having handsomely volunteered their services for the occasion.









Second Edition, Third Thousand, containing an improved Plan, with the numbers and names of the Stalls, and References, price Sixpence.

**THE LEAGUE GUIDE TO LONDON**, containing ample directions for all persons visiting the Metropolis to find their way from the various railway stations to all parts of the town; lists of the principal places of amusement and exhibitions; a minute description of the arrangements made for the great Free Trade Bazaar; and coach and cab fares, omnibuses, &c., from the theatre to all parts of the town. A variety of miscellaneous information, connected with the most remarkable places in London, will be interspersed so as to enable visitors to blend amusement with instruction during their stay. An authentic lithographed plan of the Theatre, as laid out for the Bazaar, with references for the guidance of visitors, will be prefixed to the titlepage.

Sold at 67, Fleet-street, London; also by J. Gadsby, Manchester; and at the Book Stall, and in the Great Hall at the entrance to the Bazaar.

**GAZETTE OF THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.**—A Daily Gazette is being published during the period that the Bazaar remains open, containing descriptions of the most remarkable articles exhibited on the stalls, a record of interesting incidents connected with the proceedings, and such other particulars as are likely to excite the attention of visitors, and of their friends in the country.—Sold at the respective stalls, and at the Office of the League, 67, Fleet-street, London; also by J. Gadsby, Manchester. Price 1d.—On receiving two postage stamps, Mr. Whitmore, 67, Fleet-street, will send a copy of any Number free to any part. There will be 14 or 16 Numbers in all. Nos. 1 to 9 are now ready.

The Gazette reaches Manchester in the afternoons of the days of publication.

**EASE IN CHURNING.**—JAMES RICHMOND begs to solicit a trial of this new invention, which is on the upright principle, and offers advantages over every other in use; the apparatus attached to it is exceedingly simple and powerful, being so constructed that a child may churn without fatigue.

Victoria Implement Works, Salford, Manchester.

N.B. Grass-cutting and Improved Grass-spraying Machines.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, May 14, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

From the hands of Messrs. Milligan, Jowitt, and Co., Bingley Mills, Bingley, Yorkshire	£10 15 2
From the hands of do., Harden Mill, Bingley, Yorkshire	7 0 0
*Thomas, Fripp, and Thomas, Bristol	5 0 0
*Holmes, William, 91, Watling-street (second donation this year)	2 0 0
An Old Conservative at Bridgton, Glamorgan-shire, converted to Free-Trade principles by reading the speech of Mr. Cobden, M.P., on Agricultural Distresses	2 0 0
346 Penny Subscribers of the Working Classes of Wellingborough, per J. Marriott	1 8 10
Grant, Harding, 6, Kender-street, New Cross, Deptford	1 1 0
*Ward, Wm. Henry, 38, Seething-lane	1 1 0
Blackman, John, 10, Tayman's terrace, Philipot-st., Commercial-road East	1 1 0
*Lyne, Samuel, 51, Newman-street, Oxford-street	1 1 0
*Taylor, Wm., Bocking, Essex	1 1 0
*Daniels, W. and A., 3, Aldermanbury (second subscription this year), per R. Baily	1 1 0
Moore, J., pawnbroker, Woolwich	1 1 0
*Talbot, Frederick, Kidderminster	1 1 0
*Hammerley R. and T., Shelton, Staffordshire	1 0 0
*Harris, M., and Son, Salford	1 0 0
*Hutton, John, Copar, Rife	1 0 0
*Steward, J. and T., Chemical and Medical Hall, Bull-ring, Kidderminster	1 0 0
*Gilles, O., Bedford Lodge, Bishop Auckland	1 0 0
*Jenkinson, Joshua, Darlington	1 0 0
*Hir, W. B., Salford	1 0 0
Griffith, Joseph, merchant, Rook-st., Manchester	1 0 0
*Rowley, John, Swadlowcote, near Burton-upon-Trent	1 0 0
*Kilner, Thomas, Carr-house, near Huddersfield	1 0 0
*Bowker, E., Accrington	1 0 0
*Kingley, Charles, Fairford, Gloucestershire	1 0 0
*Harrison, Abraham, 16, Haverstock-hill, Hampstead	1 0 0
*Law, John, Kidderminster	1 0 0
*Robb, Alexander, Liverpool	1 0 0
*Dear, James, Hertford	1 0 0
Constable, W., Marine-parade, Brighton	1 0 0
Hole, Charles, tanner, Cowley, near Oxford	1 0 0
Vicars, Robert, leather factor, Hermonday	1 0 0
*Harrison, W., Tunbridge, Kent	1 0 0
Booth, Joseph, Tooling	1 0 0
*Jackson, Henry, plumber, 51, Broad-street, Golden-square	1 0 0
*Jones, Charles, Hanley, Staffordshire	1 0 0
*Stanley, Adam, Horley-fields, Wolverhampton	1 0 0
*E. gland, Wm., Warmington-road, Westbury, Wiltshire	1 0 0
*Mulligan, Gilbert, Banbridge, Ireland	1 0 0
*Page, G. T., 3, Delahay-street, Westminster	1 0 0
*Wigley, George, Burslem, Staffordshire	1 0 0
*Massey, Thomas, Moreland-road, do.	1 0 0
*Gould, Alfred, Stroud, Gloucestershire	1 0 0
*Hunter, Walter, Bow, Middlesex	1 0 0
*Foster, Geo., High-street, Sheffield, per G. Johnson	1 0 0
Blair, James, King-street, Dudley	1 0 0
Storer, James, 27, St. John-street-road, per Mr. John Jackson, Woodbridge-street	0 10 0
Bullock, John, 14, Woolmanhill, Aberdeen	0 7 6
Kilburn, John, 2, Cannon-lodge	2 2 0
per Quinlin	1 0 0
*Gregory, John, Greenfield Lodge, Lanesdale	1 0 0
*Gregory, Professor, 9, Inverleith-place	1 0 0
*Forayth, James, baker, Aberdeen	1 0 0
Dunlop, Murray, James, High-street	1 10 6
*Murray, J. B., Dock-street	1 0 0
*Kennedy, J., Tay & Tyne Shipping Compy.	1 0 0
Hall, Tapp, B. A., merchant	1 0 0
*Jones, Joseph	1 0 0
*Jones, Mrs.	1 0 0
Batley, Raley, Joshua, Healey	1 0 0
near Dewsbury, *Thurmond, James, Batley Carr	1 0 0
per C. Greenwood, *Butterworth, John	1 0 0
Fence, *Fisher, J. J.	1 0 0
*Gregory, N.	1 0 0
*May, W. H.	1 0 0
*Cox, James	1 0 0
*Holt, William	1 0 0
*Cooper, William	1 0 0
*Hibbett, John, 9, Washington-st., Iverton, Liverpool	1 1 0
*Thistlethwaite, John, 79, Oldham street, Manchester	1 0 0
Jones, Thos., 8, York-place, Beetham-road, do.	1 0 0
Marlin, Henry, Halifax	1 0 0
Forbes, N. M., Park row, Leeds	1 0 0
*Shaw, J. B., Nicholas street, Manchester	1 0 0
*Wood, Joseph, shopkeeper, York-shire-st., Rochdale	1 0 0
Wood, Thos., 43, St. Stephen's street, Salford	1 0 0
Boulton, Francis, Jun., Clifton-park, Birkenhead, near Liverpool	1 0 0
Edwards, Thomas, Hay-hall, near Huddersfield	1 0 0
*Pattinson, Josh., Wigton, Cumberland	1 0 0
Maxon, John, at Southams and Brothers', Ashton-under-Lyne	0 5 0

Duffin, C., and Co.	£2 0 0
Coey, Edward	1 0 0
Kinnear, Patrick, Commercial-court	1 0 0
Henderson, Robert	1 0 0
M'Allister, Charles	1 0 0
Currell, Daniel, Jun.	1 0 0
Moon, Alexander	1 0 0
Connor, John, York-street	1 0 0
Orr, David, Falls	1 0 0
Kinack, J. M.	1 0 0
Rose, James, Nelson-street	1 0 0
Miller, Arthur K.	1 0 0
Campbell, William, George-street	1 0 0
Tennent, Thomson	1 0 0
Boys, Samuel, Donegal-street	1 0 0
Coates, Wm., Foundry	1 0 0
Kennedy, H., Falls	1 0 0
Duffin, Adam	1 0 0
Corbitt, Thomas	1 0 0
M'Vicker, John, Arthur-street	1 0 0
M'Dowal, Robert, Ann-street	1 0 0
Porter, Edward, High-street	1 0 0
Arnold, John, do.	1 0 0
Blow, Edwin	1 0 0
Neil, Robert, Church-lane	1 0 0
M'Vay, Mr.	0 10 0
Kelso, Mr.	0 3 0
*The Workmen of Thomas, Fripp, and Thomas, Bristol	1 0 0
*Knowles, William, Park-place, Clifton	1 0 0
*Knowles, Mrs., do.	1 0 0
*Prowse, James, St. James's, Burton	1 0 0
*Hedges, William, Broad-quay	1 0 0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions

#### TO THE BAZAAR.

Leah, H., Bradford, Yorkshire, per J. H. Forbes	50 0 0
Courtald, Taylor, and Courtald, 2, Carey-lane, Wood-street, balance of a contribution of £50, after expending £33. 18s. 9d. in the purchase of articles sent to the Bazaar	16 1 3
Staly- (Mellor, J., per Miss Hyde	10 0 0
bridge, Various contributions, per Mr. Robt. Platt	5 12 0
Hwale, Mr.	5 0 0
Hoole, Francis, solicitor, Sheffield	5 0 0
Townend, George, and Brothers, Cullingworth-mills, near Bradford, Yorkshire	5 0 0
Balance received from Warrington, after expending £21. 7s. 4d. in the purchase of articles contributed to the Bazaar	2 16 2
Pumfrey, Mrs. Charles, Droitwich	2 0 0
Sinclair, J.	1 1 0
Kidd, Henry, Dunfermline	1 1 0
A Lady	1 1 0
Swale, J. T.	1 1 0
Hodgson, James, Hamburg	1 0 0
Webb, Richard, Calcut-farm, near Reading	1 0 0
A North Essex Tenant-Farmer, per S. Blyth	1 0 0
Enclosed in a miniature coffin from Sheffield, for the interment of "Corn-Law Monopoly," by the Contributor for payment of the burial fees	1 0 0
Dillon, Mrs.	1 0 0
Story, Mrs. Mark, 212, Gilesgate, Durham	1 0 0
Pyne, Samuel, 51, Newman-street, Oxford-street	1 0 0
Patterson, John, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne	1 0 0
A Tribute to the Bazaar Fund from a few Welsh Tradesmen who will rejoice to see Free Trade established	0 14 0
A few Agricultural Labourers near Durham	0 13 0
Inglis, H., Dunfermline	0 10 6
Kilner, Mr.	0 10 0
Le Braton, Mr.	0 10 0
Buckley, Miss, Ruthin	0 10 0
Clark, Ebenezer, Snarebrook, Essex, per Mrs. T. F. Gibson	0 10 0
Vallas, Mr., East India-road, per Mrs. Bateman	0 10 0
Dixon, Carr E., engineer	0 10 0
The Silk Printers of Mr. Tucker's Factory, West Ham Abbey	0 8 0
Bonner, Mr., and friend, per D. Bealey, Jun.	0 5 0
Wilberforce, H.	0 5 0
London, Mr.	0 5 0
Clarke, J., wine merchant, Upton-on-Severn	0 5 0
Williamson, Charles, Cateshill, Godalming	0 3 6
For the Carriage of a Parcel from Burslem	0 3 6
Disney, H. B., pilot, Lowestoft	0 2 6
Taylor, James C., Torrington	0 1 0
Pidgeon, S., Coalbrookdale Iron Works, Bristol	0 1 0
Culverwell, J. P., do.	0 1 0
An Enemy to Monopoly, do.	0 1 0
Grimshaw, Mr.	15 0 0
Barnes, Mr., Church, near	5 0 0
Simpson, James, Fox-hill Bank, near	5 0 0
Westall, Mr., White Ash, near	5 0 0
Westall, Robert, do.	2 0 0
Pollard, James, Fox-hill Bank	2 0 0
Gatty, Mr.	2 0 0
Maxwell, H.	1 0 0
Barnes, Joseph	1 0 0
Spencer, S.	1 0 0
Walmley, Mr.	1 0 0
Bowker, E.	1 0 0
Kutwile, Thos., Church, near	1 0 0
Farbrother and Crowther, do.	1 0 0
Hiddle, James	0 15 0
Davy, Mr.	0 10 0
Fish, Richard	0 10 0
Greenwood, Thomas, Church, near	0 10 0
Ralph, Thomas, do.	0 5 0
Greenwood, John, do.	0 5 0
Harbottle, Mr.	0 5 0
Greenhalgh, J.	0 5 0
H. L.	0 5 0
Swain, Robert	0 2 6
Hindle, Robert	0 2 6
A Friend	0 2 6
A Friend	0 2 0
A Friend	0 1 0
Northy, Philip	1 0 0
Genke, Wm. Ford	1 0 0
Cadell, Thomas	0 10 0
Northy, William, Jun.	0 2 6
Cotton, Richard	0 2 6
Brown, William	0 2 6
Bilson, George	0 2 6
Lee, Samuel	0 2 6
Northy, Wm., sen.	0 2 6
Polkinkorne, Louisa	0 2 6
Polkinkorne, Walter	0 2 6
Williams, Thomas	0 1 0
Woodgate, John	0 1 0
Rocke, William	0 1 0
Trebllock, John	0 1 0
Taylor, William	0 1 0
Weyford, John	0 1 0
Bellison, John	0 0 6
Higgins, Robert	0 0 6

Arkcoll, John	£1 0 0
Ellis, Charles	1 0 0
Pybus, James	1 0 0
Hooker, J. S.	1 0 0
Cooper, Thomas	1 0 0
Southern, David	0 10 0
Fish, William	0 10 0
Briggs, Edward	0 10 0
Edmett, G. and T.	0 10 0
Crandall, Wm.	0 10 0
Laker, Thos. and John	0 10 0
Nelms, Richard	0 10 0
Chaplin, Robert	0 5 0
Heathorn, Charles	0 5 0
Busby, James	0 5 0
H. B. B.	0 5 0
A Friend	0 5 0
Whiting, George	0 5 0
Bentley, G. A.	0 2 6
Standon, Thomas	0 2 6
J. B.	0 2 6
Sheen, Thomas	0 2 6
Allwork, Henry	0 2 6
W. B.	0 2 6
Pine, Thomas	0 2 6
Stevens, Wm.	0 2 6
Pescott, Mr.	0 3 6
Five Friends	0 6 0
Crowley, C. S.	10 10 0
Crowley, Henry	10 10 0
Sterry, Richard	5 0 0
Barrett, Richard	3 0 0
Haynes, Joseph	0 10 0
Pledge, Robert	0 10 0
Denmark-hill, Surrey, Collected by Miss Brewin.	5 5 0
Brewin, Mr.	2 3 0
Boutcher, Mrs.	1 0 0
Oldney, Miss	0 10 0
Hollis, Mr.	5 0 0
Cotton, Mr.	2 0 0
Dennis, Mr.	1 0 0
Grundy, Mr.	1 0 0
Priest, Rev. E. T.	1 0 0
Caswell, Mr.	1 0 0
Milne, Mr.	1 0 0
Robinson, Mr.	1 0 0
Presland, Mr.	1 0 0
Jones, Rev. W. A.	1 0 0
Williams, Mr.	1 0 0
Bartram, Mr.	0 10 0
Hester, Mr.	0 10 0
Richards, Mr.	0 10 0
Mann and Son, Albion Brewery, Whitechapel	1 0 0
Allen, Edward, Plymouth	0 10 0
Hawson, Mrs. James, 75, Whitechapel-rd	0 10 0
Oliver, John, 35, do.	0 10 0
Green, Mrs. Robert, 65, do.	0 5 0
Dexter, John Creed, 125, do.	0 5 0
King, Capt. John, 1, Ocean-row, Stepney	0 5 0
Irving, Mr., draper	0 3 0
Clarke, Mr., cabinet-maker	0 2 6
A Friend (stationer)	0 1 0
Alcock, Mr., shoemaker	0 1 0
Nixon, Mr., farmer	0 1 0
Robson, Miss, dressmaker	0 1 0
Bunting, Mrs., Swan-street, Minorca	1 1 0
Bunting, Miss, do.	1 1 0
Adams, John, Penchurch-street	1 0 0
Cook, Mrs., Goodman's-yard	0 5 0
A Friend	0 10 0
Archer, Robert	0 10 0
Halstead, George, and Brothers	0 10 0
Halstead, Richard	0 10 0
Royle, George	0 10 0
Chorlton, John	0 10 0
Tomlinson, William	0 10 0
Wadsworth, J. G.	0 10 0
Howarth, Richard	0 5 0
Howard, Thomas	0 5 0
Swann, James	0 5 0
Matley, John	0 5 0
Herd, Archibald	0 5 0
Matley, William	0 5 0
Hoult, Job	0 5 0
Matley, James	0 5 0
Echofield, James	0 5 0
Walker, John	0 5 0
Stanney, James	0 5 0
Nuttall, William	0 5 0
Thompson, John	0 5 0
Hamilton, James	0 5 0
Tomlinson, John	0 5 0
Wagstaff, John	0 5 0
Moss, John	0 5 0
Chadwick, Alexander	0 5 0
Tinker, Nimrod	0 5 0
Coup, Joseph	0 5 0
Higginbotham, Isaac	0 5 0
Jackson, John	0 5 0
Burdekin, John	0 5 0
Bromley, Jonathan	0 5 0
Turner, Samuel	0 5 0
Nuttall, Benjamin	0 5 0
Makin, Thomas	0 5 0
Butterworth, William	0 5 0
Antrobus, Edward	0 5 0
Bardley, Aron	0 5 0
Holgate, Benjamin	0 5 0
Walker, John, brazier	0 5 0
Willis, Doctor	0 5 0
Hall, John	0 5 0
Whittaker, John	0 5 0
Shepley, William	0 5 0
Mellor, James	0 5 0
Holgate, Charles	0 5 0
Berry, Kemp	1 1 0
Warren, T. P.	1 0 0
Goodbehere, Mr.	0 10 0
Cunliffe, M., Jun.	0 10 0
Soul, J.	0 10 0
Lord, John	10 0 0
Hulth, Robert and Richard	10 0 0
Parashaw, John	5 0 0
Munn, Robert (in addition to goods)	5 0 0
Hawson and Hawthorth	5 0 0
Ashworth, Richard	5 0 0
Taylor and Hoyle	5 0 0
Atken, Thomas and John	5 0 0
Hamilton, George	5 0 0
Bacon and Ackroyd	1 1 0
Hudge and Maden	1 1 0
Hoyle, Joshua	1 0 0
Howarth, James, and Brother	1 0 0
Whitehead, A., Water New Church	1 0 0
Carter, James	0 10 0
Stanfield, John	0 10 0
Brough, J. J., and Co.	5 0 0
Hawthornley, W. and R.	5 0 0
Johnson, James	1 0 0
Birch, Thomas	1 0 0

Amount received at League Meetings		£27 10s			
Small sums, per W. Strowbridge, Holloway-st.		1 3 4d			
Mauder, Samuel, Heavitree		1 1 0			
Sercombe, George, merchant		1 1 0			
Trehane, Mr., Fore-street		1 1 0			
Latimer, T., <i>Western Times</i> office		1 1 0			
Besley, T., <i>Devonshire Chronicle</i> office		1 1 0			
Richards, C., Bedford-circus		1 1 0			
Farris, George, High-street		1 0 0			
Lang, Isaac, Fore-street		1 0 0			
Nicholls, J. P., Bridge-street		1 0 0			
Sercombe, T., do.		1 0 0			
Pinn, Joseph, do.		1 0 0			
Mauder, G., Exe-island		1 0 0			
Welford, Mr., Paul-street		0 10 6			
Westlake, Mr., Fore-street		0 10 6			
Wake, R., Heavitree		0 10 6			
Harham, Dr., Mount Radford		0 10 0			
Tonar, Mr., High-street		0 10 0			
Burrington, John, do.		0 10 0			
Davies, Samuel, do.		0 10 0			
Brewer, W., South-street		0 10 0			
Bastard, W., do.		0 10 0			
Keresteman, Major		0 10 0			
Brock, Mr., Fore-street		0 10 0			
Bastard, Richard, Friars		0 10 0			
Davy, S., Wear, near		0 10 0			
Helling, Rev. Mr., Clifton-place		0 10 0			
Bastard, S. S., Summerland-place		0 10 0			
Sent by Post to S. Mauder		0 10 0			
Congden, J., Subscription-rooms		0 10 0			
Tuckwell, Mr., Bridge-street		0 10 0			
James, Mr., Exe-island		0 10 0			
Commin, Messrs., North-street		0 10 0			
Branch, Mr., West-quarter		0 10 0			
Dorville, H., Alphonson		0 5 0			
Brailley, Mr., Heavitree		0 5 0			
Haydon, S., Mount Radford		0 5 0			
Wilkey, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Discombe, Mr., St. Sidwell		0 5 0			
Titherly, Mr., High-street		0 5 0			
Ball, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Tanner, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Ridge, W., do.		0 5 0			
Keeth, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Farrant, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Thornley, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Taylor, Dore, and Co., do.		0 5 0			
A Friend, South-street		0 5 0			
Foweraker, Mr., Castle-street		0 5 0			
Pryer, Merlin, St. Thomas		0 5 0			
Treffry, Mr., Fore-street		0 5 0			
Stone, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Davey, W., do.		0 5 0			
Butchers, Mr., do.		0 5 0			
Tanner, Captain, Summerland-place		0 5 0			
A Friend		0 5 0			
V., a Friend		0 5 0			
Huxtable, Mr., Magdalene-street		0 5 0			
Upright, Mr., miller, West-quarter		0 5 0			
A Friend, per W. Strowbridge, Holloway-st.		0 5 0			
Megridge, Mr., Bridge-street		0 3 0			
Clark, John, Heavitree		0 2 6			
Hulpin, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Pickard, John, do.		0 2 6			
Sparke, Thomas, Mount Radford		0 2 6			
Heard, Mr., St. Sidwell		0 2 6			
Burrington, S., High-street		0 2 6			
Couch, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Tucker, W. K., do.		0 2 6			
Pickard, Mr., jun., do.		0 2 6			
Brown, Mr., 7, South-street		0 2 6			
Knight, Mr., corner of do.		0 2 6			
Chaplin, Mr., South-street		0 2 6			
Welch, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Trow, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Rex, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Sandford Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Francis, Mr., St. Thomas		0 2 6			
Burrington, G., Fore-street		0 2 6			
Baker, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
A Friend, do.		0 2 6			
Helmere, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Burrington, F., do.		0 2 6			
Marks, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Burne, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Quick, Mr., King's-lodge		0 2 6			
A Friend		0 2 6			
J. B.		0 2 6			
Orchard, Mr.		0 2 6			
Strong, W.		0 2 6			
Norcombe, Mr., corner of North-street		0 2 6			
Northam, Mr., Shilbay		0 2 6			
Spicer, Mr., West-quarter		0 2 6			
Wills, Mr., do.		0 2 6			
Trimble, Mr., Mint		0 2 6			
A Friend, per W. Strowbridge, Holloway-st.		0 2 6			
Do., do.		0 2 6			
Subscriptions under 2s. 6d.		0 13 6			
Proceeds of the sale of articles contributed by Mrs. John Mayson and Friends, of Manchester, to the Bazaar		07 10 0			
Proceeds of the sale of articles and small donations in money, contributed to the Bazaar by a few of the Ladies of Colne and neighbourhood		40 13 6			
Wardley, James, Darwen		5 0 0			
Pitt, Messrs., Hatfield, near Glossop		5 0 0			
Kershaw, John, The Hurst, do.		5 0 0			
Shorrocks, James, Darwen		5 0 0			
Hatfield, John, Cowbrook, near Glossop		2 0 0			
Lupton, Thomas, Hanley, Staffordshire		1 0 0			
Dodd, Catherine, Ashton-st., London-rd., Manchester		0 13 1			
A Churchman		0 10 0			
Condit, Rev. Wm., Hindley, near Wigan		0 10 0			
Small donations from Darwen		1 1 10			
Routledge, Samuel, Huddersfield		5 0 0			
Two Friends		2 0 0			
Redfern, John, do.		1 0 0			
Proceeds of Sales, do.		0 8 0			
Carter, John, do.		0 8 0			
Jackson, William, do.		5 0 0			
Higgin, Thomas, do.		2 0 0			
Barrow, C., do.		2 0 0			
A Friend, per Mr. Armstrong, do.		2 0 0			
Gawthorpe, Mrs., do.		2 0 0			
Hensel, Mr. Armstrong's silk mills, do.		2 0 0			
From Wray, near do.		1 6 0			
Huglin, Thomas, do.		1 0 0			
Taylor, John, do.		1 0 0			
Taylor, Messrs., do.		0 10 0			
Johnson, C., jun., do.		0 8 0			
Condon, J., do.		0 8 0			
Preston, Thomas, do.		0 8 0			
D. J. Joseph, do.		0 8 0			
Mansel, Robert, do.		0 8 0			
Hall, Richard, do.		0 8 0			
Tanner, Mrs., do.		0 8 0			
Beyth, David, do.		0 8 0			
Hamilton, Mrs., do.		0 8 0			
Meredith, John, do.		0 1 0			
Brewin and Whetstone		15 0 0			
Whetstone and Gilling		5 0 0			
Gilling, Mrs.		1 10 0			
Vickers, H.		1 0 0			
Hull, T.		0 10 0			
Murray, Miss A.		0 10 0			
Maxfield, Mr.		0 10 0			
Barnard, Mr.		0 10 0			
Ireland, Miss		24 6 0			
Ireland, Mrs. Jos.		1 5 7			
Ashworth, Mrs.		4 10 9			
Barnes, Mrs. C.		1 2 0			
Barnes, Mrs. J.		0 18 10			
Burton, Miss		0 18 8			
Cheetham, Miss		5 12 3			
Sutcliffe, Mrs.		1 0 0			
Gornall, Mrs.		2 10 0			
Scott, Miss		3 13 0			
Kershaw, Mrs.		1 3 6			
Todman, Miss Sarah, Manchester		1 6 0			
The Workpeople in the employ of Messrs. John Barratt, Sons, and Darblshire, Newton-heath, near Manchester		2 17 8			
Allen, John and Rd., 11, New Brown-st., do.		2 2 0			
Ramsbottom, J. and J., Minorca-mill, Rochdale		1 1 0			
A Friend, per Mrs. Sutcliffe, Fallowth, nr. Manchester		1 0 0			
Shawcross, John, Gorton, near do.		0 5 0			
Hunter, Robert, Newton, near do.		0 2 6			
A Friend, Medlock-mill, Greenacres-moor		6 0 0			
Mayall, S. and J., Greenacres-moor		5 0 0			
Wainwright, John, and Sons		5 0 0			
Dyson, A., and Brothers		5 0 0			
Wainwright, Joseph		5 0 0			
Barlow, George		5 0 0			
Saville, Isaac, and Sons		5 0 0			
Wright, Edward, Vineyard-mill, Greenacres-moor		2 0 0			
Potter, James		2 0 0			
Holladay, James		2 0 0			
Horwood and Monkman		2 0 0			
Brierly, Brothers		2 0 0			
Jackson, John, and Son		2 0 0			
Schofield, James		2 0 0			
Chadwick, Thomas		2 0 0			
Earnshaw, George		2 0 0			
Chadwick, John		2 0 0			
Lees, Jas., Nerr Earth-mill, Greenacres-moor		2 0 0			
Rentley, John		2 0 0			
Taylor, Isaac, cotton spinner, Greenacres-moor		1 10 0			
Whitehead, Jerry, Turf-lane-mill, Royton		1 10 0			
Buckley, John		1 0 0			
Riley, Samuel, draper		1 0 0			
Milne, Abraham, cotton spinner, Primrose-mill		1 0 0			
Brooks, James, brickmaker, Broadway-lane		1 0 0			
Cooper, Reuben, grocer		1 0 0			
Byrom, Joseph, agent		1 0 0			
Chadwick, Miss		1 0 0			
Bradbury, Joseph, Black Swan, Greenacres-moor		1 0 0			
Boyd, A., machine maker, Horse Edge-street		1 0 0			
A. B. C.		1 0 0			
Brewer, James, Royton		1 0 0			
Shaw, Stanley		1 0 0			
Ashworth, James		1 0 0			
Walton, John, cotton spinner, Royton-street		1 0 0			
Ormerod, William		0 10 0			
A Friend		0 5 0			
Walker, Richard, Esq., M.P.		5 0 0			
Grundy, Mrs. Edmund, The Wild		5 0 0			
Ashton, Mrs. Richard, Limefield		5 0 0			
Grundy, Edmund, Park-hills		5 0 0			
Grundy, Messrs. T. A. & J., Union-st.		5 0 0			
Hacking, Richard		5 0 0			
Smith, Mr.		5 0 0			
Grundy, Samuel, Lark-hill		5 0 0			
A Friend, per the Misses Hamer, Summerseat		5 0 0			
Grundy, John, Belle-vue		5 0 0			
Richardson, Messrs. William, and Sons, Lilly-hill, near		5 0 0			
Grundy, Mrs. Edmund, Park-hills		2 0 0			
Grundy, Miss, do.		1 0 0			
Grundy, Miss Sarah, do.		1 0 0			
Grundy, Robert, do.		1 0 0			
Collected by Mrs. Robinson Jackson and John Kay.		2 0 0			
Openshaw, Jonathan, Bank-house		1 0 0			
Wrigley, Mrs., Ash-meadow		1 0 0			
Wrigley, Miss, do.		1 0 0			
Mrs. Wood. Rigby, Mr., Spring-street		1 0 0			
Fletcher, Messrs., Unsworth, near		2 0 0			
Polding, Mr., Bank-street		1 0 0			
Jackson, Robinson, do.		1 0 0			
Wilkinson, Mr., Joiner		0 5 0			
Hamer, R.		0 5 0			
Barlow, T.		0 2 6			
Fletcher, Mrs., Harm-brook		0 2 6			
Bridge, Miss		0 2 6			
Lomax, Mrs.		0 2 6			
Kay, Miss		0 2 0			
Howarth, Mrs., Moss-side		0 1 0			
Kay, Miss R.		0 0 6			
Taylor, James, Stanley-street		0 0 6			
Livesey, Mr., Heap-bridge		1 0 0			
Larigo, Mr., Fleet-street		1 0 0			
Whitworth, Mr., Water-mill		0 10 0			
Foxcroft, Mr., Heap-bridge		0 10 0			
Shaw, James, druggist		0 10 0			
Grundy, Miss, White Horse		0 5 0			
Howarth, Mr., Old Market-place		0 5 0			
Rogerson, Mr., Paradise-street		0 5 0			
Barritt, John, druggist, Rock-street		0 5 0			
Farrow, Jacob		0 2 6			
Park, L., saddler		0 2 6			
Walker, Robert, Stanley-street		0 2 6			
Rothwell, Mr., North-street		0 2 6			
Owen, John, Free-town		0 2 6			
Hallpike, John, Paradise-street		0 2 0			
Hall, Mrs. Wm., Heap-bridge		0 1 0			
Haywood, James, do.		0 1 0			
Leach, Wm., Water-fold		0 1 0			
Cass, Mr.		0 1 0			
Nuttall, C., carrier		0 1 0			
Noble, D., Stanley-street		0 1 0			
McDale, Mr., do.		0 0 6			
A Friend		0 0 6			
Shaw, John		0 15 0			
Crossdale, Mr.		0 10 0			
Battersby, Mr., clogger		0 10 0			
A Friend, per Mr. Acroft		0 10 0			
Openshaw, J., Red Lion Inn		0 10 0			
Dunderdale, Mr.		0 10 0			
Warburton, Mr.		0 10 0			
Wolstenholme, Mr.		0 7 6			
Scholes, Mr.		0 5 0			
Bird, Mr.		0 5 0			
Cropper, Mr.		0 5 0			
Huckley, Mr., hatter		0 5 0			
Ingham, Mr.		0 2 0			
Lord, Rd., draper		0 2 6			
Mimpton, Mrs.		0 2 6			
Howe, R.		0 2 6			
Hessdale, Mrs.		0 2 6			
Brown, Mrs.		0 1 0			
Ashworth, Mr.		0 1 0			
A Friend		0 1 0			
Openshaw, John, Bolton-street		2 2 0			
Walker, R. jun.		2 0 0			
Kenyon, Mr., New-road		2 0 0			
Percock, Gavin, Hollis's-vale		1 1 0			
Walker, John, Stand		1 1 0			
Woolner, John, Black Bull Inn		1 1 0			
Pilkington, T., and Son		1 0 0			
McLean, Mr.		1 0 0			
Mucklow, Mr., Elton		21 0 0			
Walker, J., Scholes		1 0 0			
Harrison, Jos., Union-square		1 0 0			
Lord, Mrs., do.		1 0 0			
Wood, Mrs. Josh., New-road		1 0 0			
Howarth, Mrs. F., Silver-street		1 0 0			
Kay, Mrs. James, Paradise-street		1 0 0			
Holt, Thomas, Butcher-lane		1 0 0			
Holt, John, do.		1 0 0			
Coope, Samuel, do.		1 0 0			
Ashworth, Josh., Fleet-street		1 0 0			
Pomfret, Mr., painter		1 0 0			
Park, James, Stanley-street		1 0 0			
Potts, Mr., Bolton-street		0 10 0			
Shaw, R., do.		0 10 0			
Shaw, R., do.		0 10 0			
Clemishaw, Mrs., Bury-lane		0 10 0			
Walmsley, H., do.		0 10 0			
Allinson, Dr., Union-street		0 10 0			
Vickerman, Mr., Union-square		0 10 0			
Smithills, James, Seedfield		0 10			



## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXX.

TO THE HON. C. P. VILLIERS, M.P., &amp;c.

SIR,—The Free-Traders of Great Britain are expecting your annual motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws with that full reliance upon your doing justice to their cause which you have earned by so many years of able and consistent advocacy. They await the repetition of your effort quietly, but not indifferently. That you should obtain a majority is not in their dreams; nor will your dividing in a minority darken their hopes. They know that the time is not yet; but they also know assuredly that it is coming. They look to see you at your post; and you will be there. An important duty is to be done; and it is a matter of course that you discharge it faithfully and zealously. Meetings are not held, nor petitions forwarded, to strengthen your hands; for encouragement is known to be needless, and there is no discouragement to call for counteraction. The work goes on, noiselessly and surely. The silence is that of mutual confidence which cannot be shaken, and of conscious power which cannot eventually fail.

Whether much progress, or little, or none at all, be made as to numbers, upon a division, in the House of Commons, is a very subordinate concern. No great question is carried there by individual conversions. The margin of independent and convertible members is too small to allow the transmutation of a minority into a majority by any process of argument or persuasion. You speak, not for immediate impression, but for an ulterior result. Every triumphant debate helps forward the time when Free Trade must be consistently adopted by the Government as the policy of the country. The altered tone of party leaders, on both sides of the House, is a surer mark of advance towards that period than any votes of individual members. Majorities will be forthcoming when they are required. The rats will run when the ship founders. Future Muckenzies will discover that they are voting for monopoly, because Free-Trade propositions are not sufficiently comprehensive. The men of majorities can cut dirt when they are hidden; and find "to the right-about face" amongst the easiest of evolutions. You can afford to disregard visible movement towards a Parliamentary majority. You are laying the rails on which any Government that can be formed must consent to run, if it would long escape the danger of upsetting the coach.

One advantage attends this return of your annual motion: you will encounter opponents who have more thoroughly exposed themselves than in any former year. The name of "farmers' friend" is become a byword. Tenants and labourers see what their patrons are. The mask of "protection" has fallen from the features of Rent. Agricultural associations are angry debating societies. The world makes merry with Miles, laughs at Lord, and takes Richmond to be another term for the ridiculous. All plausibility and coherence is gone from the cause of monopoly. Its game is up of oppressing one class by duping another class. The last Corn Law has more rapidly falsified its promises than did preceding Corn Laws. Those who, as yet, fail to see what is wrong, bitterly feel that something must be wrong. There is talk, on market days, of corn-rents and leases. The phalanx of hostility which formerly presented itself is divided, disheartened, and full of mutual recriminations. One principle has been let slip, and no other principle has been laid hold of. You will only find a mob of sophisms opposed to your array of arguments. It is not in the nature of a chaos to be permanent: order must triumph over disorder. "Protection" has led agriculture into the confusion; but what can "protection" do for its extrication? Free Trade, from high vantage-ground, calmly watches the storm below; beholding not an armament to be destroyed, but shipwrecked sailors to deliver.

Although no demonstrations of support are offered you in the form of meetings or petitions, yet Free-Traders are not idle. They are maturing a more efficient co-operation. They are experimenting on the degree of electoral power which the constitution has placed within their reach. One name on the registration list is worth many names at the tail of a petition. For the present, you and your co-adjutors in the House of Commons represent multitudes who are only (but will not continue to be only) virtually represented. This is a better way of backing our friends than by mere words. "Speak, hands, for me," said Cæsar, as he struck down the usurper while others were kneeling. "Speak, votes, for us," say the Free-Traders, while others are petitioning. The legal emancipation of industry must be won by the electoral emancipation of the industrious. Fagot votes have been made heretofore; but our votes will make the fagot that typifies the strength of union.

Another indication of the feeling that is with you, in your repeated and untiring efforts, may be seen in the Banner at Covent-garden Theatre. I pass over all other lessons taught by that extraordinary exhibition: its display of skill, taste, and industry, and its many pleadings on behalf of their rights

whose works it represents. Take only this fact, a most important one, it evinces determination. What a mass of contributions! What huge piles, yet unpacked, awaiting the clearing of the loaded stalls, and ready to fill that large space again and again! And from what a mass of contributors they come. Those contributors are of all classes, followers of all occupations, spread through all the gradations of society,—from the wealthy who give of their abundance, to the poor whose mites show the contrast of disposition and of means. This munificent supply is the supplement of similar local efforts, and of repeated money contributions. The purchasers, moreover, act under the same motives as the contributors. Buying is another form of subscribing. Here is evidence of the earnestness of multitudes. No opposition can crush, nor any delay wear out, a spirit that shows itself in such manifestations. It has a strength of will that must prove resistless. The people are determined on the destruction of monopoly. They pray for it, and they work for it; they give for it, and they buy for it; they devote to it their time, their money, and their goods; and they will have it. Else were there no laws of cause and effect in human action; no reasoning from the past to the future; no power in perseverance or in truth; and no guidance of a beneficent and impartial Providence.

We are at our posts as you, Sir, are at yours; and, while putting our own shoulders to the wheel, we note with satisfaction how steadily you pursue the course you have marked out for yourself in Parliament, undiverted either to the right hand or the left by any political or personal inducement. Your public career is identified with this great cause. You adopted it in its feebleness, and you are one with it in its might. Your name is inwoven into the record of the struggle, and will be emblazoned in the glory of the triumph. Compared with the pure fame which you will achieve, how worthless is the transitory power of party leaders, pursuing crooked paths, surrounded by suspicions, guided by no principle, and, even when they are the inconsistent agents of benefit to a nation, conquered into the good they do by better men, whose perseverance has made the expediency to which they succumb.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

STATE OF TRADE IN BELFAST.—The *Banner of Ulster* gives a most gratifying account of the continued and increasing prosperity of the commerce and manufactures of Belfast. New flax-spinning mills are in progress—new factories for the manufacture of machinery are erected—the house of Newton and Taylor, of Leeds, have taken a piece of ground for an extensive factory of this kind—new streets for the residences of the operatives are laid out, and the import and export trades are steadily increasing.

THE SUGAR TRADE.—A circular of an eminent firm in Liverpool says:—"Since the reduction of the duty on sugar, the deliveries have exceeded by 10,000 tons those of last year to the same period, yet up to the 14th of February, when the reduction was first announced, the consumption of this nutritious, wholesome, and favourite article of food differed but little in quantity to that of former years, thus showing that the humbler classes of society have become consumers of it, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer will find the loss of revenue not so large as he contemplated."

SUGAR DUTIES.—Application has been made on the part of the Government of the United States of America, the State of Venezuela, and the United States of Mexico respectively, claiming under treaties the admission of sugars, the growth of those countries respectively, at the duties of £1. 8s. and £1. 3s. 4d. per cwt. Her Majesty's Privy Council have ordered that, from henceforward, such shall be the case, subject to the production of the like certificates and the same declarations as are in the act required with respect to sugars the growth of China, Java, or Manilla.

THE LATE EARL OF DURHAM AND THE CORN LAWS.—Mr. George Harcastle, of Sunderland, has forwarded to the League Banner a framed and glazed portrait of the late Earl of Durham, engraved by Turner, after Lawrence's celebrated picture in Lambton-castle. It will be extremely interesting and gratifying to the admirers of his lordship, and to the friends of Free Trade, to be reminded of the facts recorded in the following memorandum, with which Mr. Harcastle's contribution is indorsed:—"On the 3rd of March, 1816, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer made a motion for the second reading of the Corn-Law Amendment Bill, Mr. Lambton opposed it, and moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He deprecated the haste with which the measure was hurried through its stages, and declared that he never would vote in support of a bill against which the wishes of the people had been so strongly, so generally, and so unequivocally expressed, as they had been against the present. Mr. Lambton's motion was lost by a majority of 162—56 voting for his amendment, and 218 for the original motion. Three days afterwards, while the bill was still before the House, the approaches to which were occupied by an armed military force, Mr. Lambton rose and stated that he considered such occupation contrary to the principles of the constitution, and moved that the House adjourn. He said, that, in coming to perform his duty in the House, he found himself menaced by a military force, and had been nearly ridden down by a squadron of horse, formed in front of the door of the House, all the avenues to which were beleaguered by soldiers under arms. Such were the circumstances under which the Corn Laws were forced upon the country, in spite of the prayers of the people and the indignant remonstrances of patriots like the noble-hearted John George Lambton." An autograph letter, written by the late Lord Durham, accompanies the portrait; and Mr. Richard Halcro, of Sunderland, has presented to the Banner a framed and glazed engraving of the monument to the Earl of Durham, erected on Peasmarsh-hill.—*Gateshead Observer*.

## REVIEW.

*Sybil; or, the Two Nations.* By B. Disraeli, M.P. Author of "Coningsby." London: Colburn. This is a work of higher purpose and more finished execution than "Coningsby"; it teems with suggestive philosophy, equally deep and extensive, and affords so much scope for the exercise of reflection and the development of novel axioms into their results that we seem to have read more volumes than we have perused pages. The great characteristic of the work is its revelations of maxims, which must live for ever in the political world like the laws of the Medes and Persians, which change not, because their truth is felt the very moment that they are enunciated, and the only wonder is that they have not been familiar in our mouths as household words from the very dawn of history. The basis of this fiction—if that can properly be called fiction which deals in the evolution of those great realities that lie beneath the superficial appearances which men vaguely but usually call facts—is the condition-of-England question; and this question arises from the neglect of the stern reality that England consists of two nations—the rich and the poor; to which we may add that the history of both nations, in all its parts and forms, remains to be written. Mr. Disraeli's views of historical persons and events must be thoroughly understood before entering on the consideration of the ultimate aim and tendency of his political philosophy. We shall, therefore, begin by quoting a few of those sketches, reserving all comment until we have enabled our readers to see the direction in which they are likely to be led; for the passages we are about to quote may be regarded as guide-posts erected in a country that has been very imperfectly explored. There is much truth in the sketch of the rise of one of the new aristocratic families that sprung from the Reformation:—

"Egremont was the younger brother of an English earl, whose nobility, being of nearly three centuries' date, ranked him among our high and ancient peers, although its origin was more memorable than illustrious. The founder of the family had been a confidential domestic of one of the favourites of Henry VIII., and had contrived to be appointed one of the commissioners for 'visiting and taking the surrenders of divers religious houses.' It came to pass that divers of these religious houses surrendered themselves eventually to the use and benefit of honest Baldwin Greyhound. The King was touched with the activity and zeal of his commissioner. Not one of them whose reports were so ample and satisfactory, who could baffle a wily prior with more dexterity, or control a proud abbot with more firmness. Nor were they well-digested reports alone that were transmitted to the sovereign; they came accompanied with many rare and curious articles, grateful to the taste of one who was not only a religious reformer but a dilettante; gilded candlesticks and costly chalices; sometimes a jewelled pix, fantastic spoons and patens, rings for the fingers and the ear; occasionally a fair-written and blazoned manuscript—suitable offering to the royal scholar. Greyhound was noticed; sent for; promoted in the household; knighted; might doubtless have been sworn of the council, and in due time have become a minister; but he was a discreet ambition—of an accumulative rather than an aspiring character. He served the King faithfully in all domestic matters that required an unimpassioned, unscrupulous agent; fashioned his creed and conscience according to the royal model in all its freaks; seized the right moment to get sundry grants of abbey lands, and contrived in that dangerous age to save both his head and his estate."

"The Greyhound family, having planted themselves in the land, faithful to the policy of the founder, avoided the public gaze during the troubled period that followed the Reformation; and, even during the more orderly reign of Elizabeth, rather sought their increase in alliances than in court favour. But at the commencement of the seventeenth century, their abbey lands infinitely advanced in value, and their rental swollen by the prudent accumulation of more than seventy years, a Greyhound, who was then a county member, was elevated to the peerage as Baron Minney. The heralds furnished his pedigree, and assured the world that, although the exalted rank and extensive possessions, enjoyed at present by the Greyhounds, had their origin immediately in great territorial revolutions of a recent reign, it was not for a moment to be supposed that the remote ancestors of the Ecclesiastical Commissioner of 1530 were by any means obscure. On the contrary, it appeared that they were both Norman and baronial, their real name Egremont, which, in their patent of peerage the family now resumed."

Mr. Disraeli believes that the new aristocracy founded by the Tudors, and enriched by the spoils of churches and religious houses, gradually formed themselves into an oligarchy resembling that of Venice, and that the Revolution established them in preponderance of power; for after that the power of the Crown was a mere nullity, and popular representation little better than a popular delusion. George III., at his accession, made an energetic effort to emancipate himself from the yoke of the oligarchy. The political revolutions that followed are thus powerfully described:—

"The situation of the Venetian party in the wane of the eighteenth century had become extremely critical. A young king was making often fruitless, but always courageous, struggles to emancipate his national royalty from the trammels of the factious dogship. More than sixty years of a Government of singular corruption had alienated all hearts from the oligarchy; never indeed much affected by the great body of the people. It could no longer be concealed, that, by virtue of a plausible phrase, power had been transferred from the Crown to a Parliament, the members of which were appointed by an extremely limited and exclusive class, who could no

responsibility to the country, who debated and voted in secret, and who were regularly paid by the small knot of great families that by this machinery had secured the permanent possession of the King's treasury: Whiggism was rampant in the nostrils of the nation; we were prostrated on the eve of a bloodless yet important revolution; when Rockingham, a virtuous magnifico, alarmed and disgusted, resolved to revive something of the pristine purity and high-toned energy of the old Whig connexion; appealed to his 'new generation' from a degenerate age, arrayed under his banner the generous youth of the Whig families, and was fortunate to enlist in the service the supreme genius of Edmund Burke.

Burke effected for the Whigs what Bolingbroke in a preceding age had done for the Tories: he restored the moral existence of the party. He taught them to recur to the ancient principles of their connexion, and suffused those principles with all the delusive splendour of his imagination. He raised the tone of their public discourse; he breathed a high spirit into their public acts. It was in his power to do more for the Whigs than St. John could do for his party. The oligarchy, who had found it convenient to attain Bolingbroke for being the avowed minister of the English prince with whom they were always in secret communication, when opinion forced them to consent to his restitution, had tacked to the amnesty a clause as cowardly as it was unconstitutional, and declared his incompetence to sit in the Parliament of his country. Burke, on the contrary, fought the Whig fight with a two-edged weapon: he was a great writer; as an orator he was transcendent. In a dearth of that public talent for the possession of which the Whigs have generally been distinguished, Burke came forward and established them alike in the Parliament and the country. And what was his reward? No sooner had a young and dissolute noble, who with some of the aspirations of a Cæsar officer realized the conduct of a Catiline, appeared on the stage, and after some inglorious tergiversation adopted their colours, than they transferred to him the command which had been won by wisdom and genius, vindicated by unrivalled knowledge, and adorned by accomplished eloquence. When the hour arrived for the triumph which he had prepared, he was not even admitted into the Cabinet, virtually presided over by his graceless pupil, and who, in the profuse suggestions of his teeming converse, had found the principles and the information which were among the chief claims to public confidence of Mr. Fox.

Hard necessity made Mr. Burke submit to the yoke, but the humiliation could never be forgotten. Nemesis favours genius: the inevitable hour at length arrived. A voice like the Apocalypse sounded over England, and even echoed in all the courts of Europe. Burke poured forth the vials of his hoarded vengeance into the agitated heart of Christendom; he stimulated the panic of a world by the wild pictures of his inspired imagination; he dashed to the ground the rival who had robbed him of his hard-earned greatness; rendered in twain the proud oligarchy that had dared to use and to insult him; and, followed with servility by the haughtiest and the most timid of its members, amid the frantic exultation of his country, he placed his heel upon the neck of the ancient serpent.

The character of Lord Shelburne—which, by the way, Mr. Disraeli has been the first to appreciate, and the delineation of which is one of the best pieces of political portraiture we have ever seen—is thus powerfully traced:—

"The name of the second Pitt remains, fresh after forty years of great events, a parliamentary beacon. He was the Chatterton of politics; the 'marvellous boy.' Some have a vague impression that he was mysteriously moulded by his great father; that he inherited the genius, the eloquence, the state craft of Chatham. His genius was of a different bent, his eloquence of a different class, his state craft of a different school. To understand Mr. Pitt, one must understand one of the suppressed characters of English history, and that is Lord Shelburne.

"When the fine genius of the injured Bolingbroke, the only peer of his century who was educated, and proscribed by the oligarchy because they were afraid of his eloquence, 'the glory of his order and the shame,' shut out from Parliament, found vent in those writings which recalled to the English people the inherent blessings of their old free monarchy, and painted in immortal hues his picture of a patriot king, the spirit that he raised at length touched the heart of Carteret, born a Whig, yet sceptical of the advantages of that patrician constitution which made the Duke of Newcastle, the most incompetent of men, but the chosen leader of the Venetian party, virtually sovereign of England. Lord Carteret had many brilliant qualities: he was undaunted, enterprising, eloquent; had considerable knowledge of continental politics; was a great linguist, a master of public law; and, though he failed in his premature effort to terminate the dogship of George II., he succeeded in maintaining a considerable, though secondary, position in public life. The young Shelburne married his daughter. Of him it is singular we know less than of his father-in-law, yet from the scattered traits some idea may be formed of the ablest and most accomplished minister of the 18th century. Lord Shelburne, influenced probably by the example and the traditional precepts of his eminent father-in-law, appears early to have held himself aloof from the patrician connexion, and entered public life as the follower of Bute in the first great effort of George III. to rescue the sovereignty from what Lord Chatham called 'the Great Revolution families.' He became in time a member of Lord Chatham's last administration; one of the strangest and most unsuccessful efforts to aid the grandson of George II. in his struggle for political emancipation. Lord Shelburne adopted from the first the Bolingbroke system: a real royalty, in lieu of the chief magistracy; a permanent alliance with France, instead of the Whig scheme of viewing in that power the natural enemy of England; and, above all, a plan of commercial freedom, the germ of which may be found in the long-maligned negotiations of Utrecht, but which in the instance of Lord Shelburne were soon in time matured by all the economical sciences of Europe, in which he was a proficient. Lord Shelburne seems to have been of a reserved and somewhat stately disposition; deep and ardent, he was however brave and firm. His knowledge was extensive, and even profound. He was a great linguist; he pursued both literary and scientific investigations; his house was frequented by many of letters, especially those distinguished by their political abilities or

economical attainments. He maintained the most extensive private correspondence of any public man of his time. The earliest and most authentic information reached him from all courts and quarters of Europe; and it was a common phrase, that the minister of the day sent to him often for the important information which the cabinet could not itself command; Lord Shelburne was the first great minister who comprehended the rising importance of the middle class; and foresaw in its future power a bulwark for the throne against 'the Great Revolution families.' Of his qualities in council we have no record; there is reason to believe that his administrative ability was conspicuous; his speeches prove that, if not supreme, he was eminent, in the art of parliamentary disputation, while they show, on all the questions discussed, a richness and variety of information, with which the speeches of no statesman of that age except Mr. Burke can compare.

"Such was the man selected by George III. as his champion against the Venetian party after the termination of the American war. The prosecution of that war they had violently opposed, though it had originated in their own policy. First minister in the House of Lords, Shelburne intrusted the lead in the House of Commons to his Chancellor of the Exchequer, the youthful Pitt. The administration was brief, but it was not inglorious. It obtained peace, and, for the first time since the Revolution, introduced into modern debate the legitimate principles on which commerce should be conducted. It fell before the famous Coalition with which 'the Great Revolution families' commenced their fiercest and their last contention for the patrician Government of royal England.

"In the heat of that great strife, the King, in the second hazardous exercise of his prerogative, intrusted the perilous command to Pitt. Why Lord Shelburne on that occasion was set aside, will perhaps always remain a mysterious passage of our political history, nor have we space on the present occasion to attempt to penetrate its motives. Perhaps the monarch, with a sense of the rising sympathies of his people, was prescient of the magic power of youth in touching the heart of a nation. Yet it would not be an unprofitable speculation if for a moment we paused to consider what might have been the consequences to our country if Mr. Pitt had been content for a season again to lead the Commons under Lord Shelburne, and have secured for England the unrivalled knowledge and dexterity of that statesman in the conduct of our affairs during the confounding fortunes of the French Revolution. Lord Shelburne was the only English minister competent to the task; he was the only public man who had the previous knowledge requisite to form accurate conclusions on such a conjuncture; his remaining speeches on the subject attest the amplitude of his knowledge and the accuracy of his views; and in the rout of Jena, or the agony of Austerlitz, one cannot refrain from picturing the shade of Shelburne haunting the cabinet of Pitt, as the ghost of Canning is said occasionally to linger about the Speaker's chair, and smile sarcastically on the conscientious mediocrities who pilfered his hard-earned honours.

"But during the happier years of Mr. Pitt, the influence of the mind of Shelburne may be traced throughout his policy. It was Lansdowne-house that made Pitt acquainted with Dr. Price, a dissenting minister, whom Lord Shelburne when at the head of affairs courageously offered to make his private secretary, and who furnished Mr. Pitt, among many other important suggestions, with his original plan of the sinking fund. The commercial treaties of '87 were struck in the same mint, and are notable as the first effort made by the English Government to emancipate the country from the restrictive policy which had been introduced by the 'glorious Revolution' memorable epoch, that presented England at the same time with a Corn Law and a public debt. But on no subject was the magnetic influence of the descendant of Sir William Petty more decided, than in the resolution of his pupil to curb the power of the patrician party by an infusion from the middle classes into the Government of the country. Hence the origin of Mr. Pitt's famous and long-misconceived plans of Parliamentary Reform. Was he sincere, is often asked by those who neither seek to discover the causes nor are capable of calculating the effects of public transactions. Sincerely? Why, he was struggling for his existence! And when baffled, first by the Venetian party, and afterwards by the panic of Jacobinism, he was forced to forego his direct purpose, he still endeavoured partially to effect it by a circuitous process. He created a plebeian aristocracy, and blended it with the patrician oligarchy. He made peers of second-rate squires and fat graziers. He caught them from the alleys of Lombard-street, and clutched them from the counting-houses of Cornhill. When Mr. Pitt, in an age of bank restriction, declared that every man with an estate of ten thousand a year had a right to be a peer, he sounded the knell of 'the cause for which Hampden died on the field, and Sydney on the scaffold.'

"In ordinary times the pupil of Shelburne would have raised this country to a state of great material prosperity, and removed or avoided many of those anomalies which now perplex us; but he was not destined for ordinary times; and, though his capacity was vast and his spirit lofty, he had not that passionate and creative genius required by an age of revolution. The French outbreak was his evil demon: he had not the means of calculating its effects upon Europe. He had but a meagre knowledge himself of continental politics; he was assisted by a very inefficient diplomacy. His mind was lost in a convulsion of which he neither could comprehend the causes nor calculate the consequences; and, forced to act, he acted not only violently, but in exact opposition to the very system he was called into political existence to combat; he appealed to the fears, the prejudices, and the passions of a privileged class, revived the old policy of the oligarchy he had extinguished, and plunged into all the ruinous excesses of French war and Dutch finance."

No preface is necessary to introduce the sketch of the Duke of Wellington:—

"The Duke of Wellington brought to the post of first minister immortal fame; a quality of success which would almost seem to include all others. His public knowledge was such as might be expected from one whose conduct was already formed an important portion of the history of his country. He had a personal and intimate acquaintance with the sovereigns and chief statesmen of Europe, a kind of inspiration in which English ministers have generally been deficient, but without which the management of our

external affairs must at the best be haphazard. He possessed administrative talents of the highest order.

"The tone of the age, the temper of the country, the great qualities and the high character of the minister, indicated a long and prosperous administration. The only individual in his cabinet who, from a combination of circumstances rather than from any intellectual supremacy over his colleagues, was competent to be his rival, was content to be his successor. In his most aspiring moments, Mr. Peel, in all probability, aimed at no higher reach; and, with youth and the leadership of the House of Commons, one has no reason to be surprised at his moderation. The conviction that the duke's government would only cease with the termination of his public career was so general, that the moment he was installed in office the Whigs smiled on him; political conciliation became the slang of the day, and the fusion of parties the babble of clubs and the tattle of boudoirs.

"How comes it, then, that so great a man, in so great a position, should have so signally failed? Should have broken up his government, wrecked his party, and so completely annihilated his position, that, even with his historical reputation to sustain him, he can since only reappear in the councils of his sovereign in a subordinate, not to say, equivocal character?

"With all those great qualities which will secure him a place in our history, not, perhaps, inferior even to Marlborough, the Duke of Wellington has one deficiency which has been the stumbling-block of his civil career. Bishop Burnet, in speculating on the extraordinary influence of Lord Shaftesbury, and accounting how a statesman, so inconsistent in his conduct and so false to his confederates, should have so powerfully controlled his country, observes, 'HIS STRENGTH LAY IN HIS KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLAND.'

"Now, that is exactly the kind of knowledge which the Duke of Wellington never possessed.

"When the King, finding that in Lord Goderich he had a minister who, instead of deciding, asked his royal master for advice, sent for the Duke of Wellington to undertake the Government, a change in the carriage of his grace was perceived by some who had the opportunity to form an opinion on such a subject. If one might venture to use such a word in reference to such a man, we might remark, that the duke had been somewhat daunted by the selection of Mr. Canning. It disappointed great hopes, it baffled great plans, and dispelled for a season the conviction that, it is believed, had been long maturing in his grace's mind; that he was the man of the age, that his military career had been only a preparation for a civil course not less illustrious; and that it was reserved for him to control for the rest of his life undisputed the destinies of a country, which was indebted to him in no slight degree for its European pre-eminence. The death of Mr. Canning revived, the rout of Lord Goderich restored, these views.

"Napoleon, at St. Helena, speculating in conversation on the future career of his conqueror, asked, 'What will Wellington do? After all he has done, he will not be content to be quiet. He will change the dynasty.'

"Had the great exile been better acquainted with the real character of our Venetian constitution, he would have known that, to govern England in 1820, it was not necessary to change its dynasty. But the Emperor, though wrong in the main, was right by the by. It was clear that the energies that had twice entered Paris as a conqueror, and had made kings and mediated princes at Vienna, would not be content to subside into criminal insignificance. The duke commenced his political tactics early. The cabinet of Lord Liverpool, especially during its latter term, was the hotbed of many intrigues; but the obstacles were numerous, though the appointing fate, in which his grace believed, removed them. The disappearance of Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Canning from the scene was alike unexpected. The Duke of Wellington was at length prime minister, and no individual ever occupied that post more conscious of its power and more determined to exercise it.

"This is not the occasion on which we shall attempt to do justice to a theme so instructive as the administration of his grace. Treated with impartiality and sufficient information, it would be an invaluable contribution to the stores of our political knowledge and national experience. Throughout its brief but eccentric and tumultuous annals we see continual proof, how important is that knowledge 'in which lay Lord Shaftesbury's strength.' In twenty-four months we find an aristocracy estranged, without a people being conciliated; while on two several occasions, first, the prejudices, and then the pretensions of the middle class, were alike treated with contumely. The public was astonished at hearing of statesmen of long parliamentary fame, men round whom the intelligence of the nation had gathered for years with confidence, or at least with interest, being expelled from the cabinet in a manner not unworthy of Colonel Joyce, while their places were filled by second-rate soldiers, whose very names were unknown to the great body of the people, and who under no circumstances should have aspired beyond the Government of a colony. This administration which commenced in arrogance ended in panic. There was an interval of perplexity; when occurred the most ludicrous instance extant of an attempt at coalition; subordinates were promoted, while negotiations were still pending with their chiefs; and these negotiations, undertaken so crudely, were terminated in plique—in a manner which added to political disappointment personal offence. When even his parasites began to look gloomy, the duke had a specific remedy to restore all, and, having allowed every element of power to escape his grasp, he believed he could balance everything by a beer bill. The growl of reform was heard, but it was not very fierce. There was yet time to save himself. His grace precipitated a revolution which might have been delayed for half a century, and never need have occurred in so aggravated a form. He rather fled than retired. He commenced his ministry like Brennus, and finished it like the tall Gaul sent to murder the rival of Sylla, but who dropped his weapon before the undaunted gaze of his intended victim.

Here is the view taken of the results of the Reform Bill:—

"The Reform Act has not placed the administration of our affairs in other hands than conducted them previously to the passing of the measure, for the most efficient members of the present cabinet, with some very few exceptions, and those attended by peculiar circumstances, were ministers before the Reform Act was contemplated. Nor



has that memorable statute created a Parliament of a higher reputation for public qualities, such as political ability, and popular eloquence, and national consideration, than was furnished by the old scheme. On the contrary; one House of Parliament has been irretrievably degraded into the decaying position of a mere court of registry, possessing great privileges, on condition that it never exercises them; while the other chamber that, at the first blush, and to the superficial, exhibits symptoms of almost unnatural vitality, engrossing in its orbit all the business of the country, assumes on a more studious inspection somewhat of the character of a select vestry, fulfilling municipal rather than imperial offices, and beleaguered by critical and clamorous millions, who cannot comprehend why a privileged and exclusive senate is required to perform functions which immediately concern all, which most personally comprehend, and which many in their civic spheres believe they could accomplish in a manner not less satisfactory, though certainly less ostentatious.

"But, if it have not furnished us with abler administrators or a more illustrious senate, the Reform Act may have exercised on the country at large a beneficial influence. Has it? Has it elevated the tone of the public mind? Has it cultured the popular sensibilities to noble and ennobling ends? Has it proposed to the people of England a higher test of national respect and confidence than the debasing qualification universally prevalent in this country since the fatal introduction of the system of Dutch finance? Who will pretend it? If a spirit of rapacious covetousness, desecrating all the humanities of life, has been the besetting sin of England for the last century and a half, since the passing of the Reform Act the altar of Mammon has blazed with triple worship. To acquire, to accumulate, to plunder each other by virtue of philosophic phrases, to propose a Utopia to consist only of wealth and toil,—this has been the breathless business of enfranchised England for the last twelve years, until we are startled from our voracious strife by the wail of intolerable serfage.

"Are we then to conclude, that the only effect of the Reform Act has been to create in this country another of those class interests, which we now so loudly accuse as the obstacles to general amelioration? Not exactly that. The indirect influence of the Reform Act has been not inconsiderable, and may eventually lead to vast consequences. It set men a-thinking; it enlarged the horizon of political experience; it led the public mind to ponder somewhat on the circumstances of our national history; to pry into the beginnings of some social anomalies which they found were not so ancient as they had been led to believe, and which had their origin in causes very different to what they had been educated to credit; and insensibly it created and prepared a popular intelligence to which one can appeal, no longer hopelessly, in an attempt to dispel the mysteries with which for nearly three centuries it has been the labour of party writers to involve a national history, and without the dispersion of which no political position can be understood and no social evil remedied."

We shall conclude, for this week, with the description of the death of William IV. and the accession of Queen Victoria:—

"Hark! it tolls! All is over. The great bell of the metropolitan cathedral announces the death of the last son of George III. who probably will ever reign in England. He was a good man; with feelings and sympathies; deficient in culture rather than ability; with a sense of duty; and with something of the conception of what should be the character of an English monarch. Peace to his manes! We are summoned to a different scene.

"In a palace in a garden—not in a haughty keep, proud with the fame, but dark with the violence of ages; not in a regal pile, bright with the splendour, but soiled with the intrigues, of courts and factions—in a palace in a garden, meet scene for youth, and innocence, and beauty—came the voice that told the maiden who must ascend her throne!

"The council of England is summoned for the first time within her bowers. There are assembled the prelates and captains and chief men of her realm; the priests of the religion that consoles, the heroes of the sword that has conquered, the votaries of the craft that has decided the fate of empires,—men grey with thought, and fame, and age; who are the stewards of divine mysteries, who have encountered in battle the hosts of Europe, who have toiled in secret cabinets, who have struggled in the less mercurial strife of aspiring senates; men too, some of them, lords of a thousand vassals and chief proprietors of provinces, yet not one of them whose heart does not at this moment tremble as he awaits the first presence of the maiden who must now ascend her throne.

"A hum of half-suppressed conversation which would attempt to conceal the excitement, which some of the greatest of them have since acknowledged, fills that brilliant assemblage; that sea of plumes, and glittering stars, and gorgeous dresses. Hush! the portals open; she comes! The silence is as deep as that of a moonlit forest. Attended for a moment by her royal mother, and the ladies of her court, who bow and then retire, Victoria ascends her throne; a girl, alone, and for the first time, amid an assemblage of men.

"In a sweet and thrilling voice, and with a composed mien which indicates rather the absorbing sense of august duty than an absence of emotion, the Queen announces her accession to the throne of her ancestors, and her humble hope that Divine Providence will guard over the fulfilment of her lofty trust.

"The prelates and captains and chief men of her realm then advance to the throne, and, kneeling before her, pledge their truth, and take the sacred oaths of allegiance and supremacy.

"Allegiance to one who rules over the land that the great Macedonian could not conquer; and over a continent of which even Columbus never dreamed: to the Queen of every sea, and of nations in every zone.

"It is not of these that I would speak; but of a nation nearer her footstool, and which at this moment looks to her with anxiety, with affection, perhaps with hope. Fair and serene, she has the blood and beauty of the Saxon. Will it be her proud destiny at length to bear relief to suffering millions, and with that soft hand which might inspire troubadours and guerdon knights, break the last links in the chain of Saxon thralldom?"

LIBRARIES.—Libraries are as the shrines where all the relics of the ancient saints, full of true virtue, and that without delusion or imposture, are preserved and reposed.

## AGRICULTURE.

### MORE COMFORT FOR COUNTY MEMBERS.

In politics, as in other affairs, the easiness with which dupes are deceived forms no excuse for the deceivers; and perhaps none of the deceived are more angry, when they have discovered the deception, than those who have been more than half consenting to the fraud. The man who obtained the folk's money to see him get into a quart bottle must have doubtless chuckled at his own ingenuity and the gullibility of his dupes, so long as tickets for the show were selling and the day of the promised performance was distant; but how was it when the wonder-mongers found that the exhibitor had no more power to get into the bottle than they had? It was no use for the luckless conjuror to say men cannot get into quart bottles; that it was physically impossible; the laws of nature forbid it: for the instant response was, You promised to do it, you took from us what you wanted, our money, to enable you to do it, and do it you shall, or we will find somebody else who will; at all events return us our money, obtained from us under false pretences. And suppose that, in answer to this hubbub, the conjuror should calmly say, "True, I did promise to get into the bottle, but I find it impossible to do so; but I think you will be quite as much gratified if, instead of getting into the bottle, I show you how I can swallow its contents. As for returning the money,—that is out of the question, it is contrary to my sense of my public duty." The aspect of the relations between the conjuror and the non-conjured spectators would, at this stage of the controversy, be somewhat threatening. Now, this very neary represents the relative positions of the monopolist county members and their Pro-Corn-Law agricultural constituents. The county members, when elected, promised to do that which most of them then knew, and all now admit, to have been impossible; and they have no more right to expect that the farmers, whom they tricked out of their votes, are to be appeased by demonstrating the impossibility of performing the things promised, than the conjuror had to expect his constituents to be quieted by the same argument. The farmers fairly enough say, Possible or impossible, you promised to do it, and do it you shall; or at all events give us back that which was the payment for its performance, the county representation. The following extracts from the *Morning Post's* report of the *Exeter District Agricultural Protection Society* puts this in a strong light. The society met

"For the purpose of considering the propriety of memorializing the county members on the present depressed condition of the agricultural interest."

The meeting is said to have been attended by "a large body of tenant-farmers,"—though the reporter judiciously abstains from mentioning the number,—while a few squire and clergymen are specified by name. Sir R. W. Newman (in the chair) read the excuses of the county members for non-attendance.

Wm. Porter, Esq., opened the first fire on the county members, though it was not a very raking one:—

"He regretted very much that a necessity should have arisen for convening this special meeting, and he did think it reflected somewhat upon the members for the county that they had not acted up to the professions they had made on their election. (Hear, hear.) He did think, when they had occasion to ask their representatives to give their strenuous support to the agricultural interest, it did look a little as if those representatives had not given that strenuous support which they ought, and which they promised to give. (Cheers.) He recollected, at the last election, that many of them had come forward, and had stated certain measures which they were prepared and anxious to support; but it had been with them as it had been with many other members, as soon as they had been elected they had ceased to recollect those measures—they had gone with their party, and, forgetting the measures to which they were pledged, had remembered only the men. (Cheers.)"

The remedy for all this is to elect members who are of the people, and of no party; and Mr. Porter concluded by moving the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, viewing with serious alarm the great depreciation in the value of agricultural produce which has taken place within the last few years, respectfully but firmly call upon the members for the county to urge on the Ministers the necessity of supporting the agricultural interest, and by every means in their power to seek to place agriculture in a better position."

This is sad nonsense, and means only that the monopolist landlords have not yet quite exhausted their pretences for deluding the farmers into the support of high rents. Mr. Porter only hinted doubts and hesitated dislike of the tariff and the Canada Corn Bill, while Mr. Trood, a farmer, proposed to "urge upon the county members the necessity for revising those laws;" a suggestion about as practical as if they had been "urged to revise" the law of gravitation. Mr. Trood and his fellow-tenants, however, may fairly say they "promised as much and more, when we elected them."

J. Palk, Esq.—another squire—followed, who, amidst much Canada-Corn-Bill absurdity, gave the following testimony to the uncertainty the Corn

Laws had brought into the business of a farmer. He said:—

"He believed that the feeling of the landlords throughout the country was to meet the tenants in a fair and liberal spirit, not only with respect to the expenditure of capital in permanent improvement, but with reference also to the duration of leases. But so long as they found in every session some new theory, unjust towards the agriculturists, and wholly unfounded in fact, broached and favourably received, it was very difficult for any landlord to know what lease he could grant, and very difficult for any tenant to determine what lease he ought to take. (Hear, hear.)"

Let tenants assume that prices will be moderate, and then insist upon long leases, and then they need not be alarmed at the buggaboo story of any mortgaged squire about foreign competition. Mr. Palk concluded with a true landowners' resolution, to shift the local taxation which falls on rent—and little enough it is—upon the shoulders of the industrious community:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, land has to bear, in addition to the land-tax, peculiar burdens in the shape of rates (more particularly the poor, highway, and county rates), and it would be a great relief to agriculture to make them a national charge, to which property of all descriptions should contribute."

To accomplish this truly landlord-patriotic scheme

"The landlords and tenants must act together. (Cheers.) Day by day they must strengthen the bonds which united them. (Hear, hear.) It was folly to say that either could exist without the other—together they must rise or together fall. It would never do for the landlord to be lukewarm or the tenant distrustful. The landlord must be active, and the tenant must have full confidence in him, if they would hope to force upon the Legislature those measures which were absolutely necessary to the existence of agriculture."

The contrary of all these pretences is the truth. Has not the tenant had "full confidence" in the landlord the last thirty years? And has not the result of that confidence been to strip the tenant of his capital to uphold the landlord's rent?

Mr. George Turner, a farmer, who formed one of the deputation of the "Central Protection Society" to Sir Robert Peel, bore testimony to delusions under which the tenant-farmers brought the present Ministry into power, and he ended with this notable bit of logic:—

"He had been an extensive practical farmer for a great number of years, and he declared to them that he had never paid so much upon his estate as he had done within the last three years, and he had never received so little income. (Hear, hear.) If that was not a clear case for demanding some assistance from the Legislature he did not know what was."

Did it never occur to Mr. Turner that monopoly rents and natural prices, together with restrictions upon the import of cheaper cattle provender, might have something to do with the diminution of his income from farming? We should like to know what practical measure of "assistance" the Legislature could give him, save one, namely—Free Trade.

Mr. Chapple, a farmer, then, in a fierce speech, said:—

"Every man who was farming land at twenty shillings an acre at the present price was losing money. (Hear, hear.) What, then, was to be done? It might be that the members would say, 'Tell us what to do.' His answer to them would be, 'Let them go to Sir Robert Peel and tell him plainly that they will not support him to ruin us.' (Hear, hear.)"

And he wound up with this peremptory resolution:—

"That the secretary be directed to forward a copy of these resolutions to each of the county members, with a request that he will use his most strenuous exertion to force on the attention of her Majesty's Ministers the principles contained in them."

Now, if farmers would look reasonably at the history of our Corn-Law legislation, and the alternations of high and low prices by which it has been accompanied; and if they would notice that all the gains of monopoly—if any gains there have been—have gone into the landlords' pockets in the shape of high rents, they could not fail to perceive that all these topics urged at protection only serve to misdirect their attention from the real remedy. Let them get their business on a safe foundation, and farming, when skilfully conducted, will become as profitable as any other business.

Sir R. W. Newman, in returning thanks, remarked on some of the passionate sentiments of the previous speakers, saying:—

"That, however efficient their county members might be, and however efficient other county members might be, he almost doubted whether justice would be done them, unless they were prepared to suggest, or to assist them, members in pointing out, some ill which should be taken; and this they had hitherto neglected to do. ('We are very ready to do it.') Although these meetings were all very proper, no doubt they could hardly have had as- perimented of late."

He thought there should be an inquiry:—

"All he wanted was fair play. (Hear, hear.) He thought they had had very foul play. (Hear, hear.) There was nothing like truth; and truth was not to be elicited by hearing only one side. Let them have a fair opportunity of stating before a competent tribunal that which they believed to be the truth, and let those who

thought differently have the same opportunity. The legitimate mode of proceeding would be by an inquiry before a parliamentary committee; and before that committee every interest in the country should take a full opportunity of expressing its own views; then let the evidence on either side be collected, and let the Parliament decide. Let those who said the agriculturists had peculiar burdens prove their assertion if they could."

Now, this is in effect what Mr. Cobden and the Free-Traders have been asking for, without success, at the hands of the squirearchy. The only change we would make in the proposition is, that the landowners should prove their peculiar burdens if they can, for no one can be honestly asked to prove a negative.

#### "HEAVILY ENCUMBERED ESTATES."

We have often had occasion to quote from the *Morning Post* some very simple confessions by landlord correspondents, that the chief object of the Corn Laws is to save the nominal owners of "heavily encumbered estates" from the necessity of cutting their coats according to their cloth; but, perhaps, the most forcible illustration of the shifts to which some of the mortgaged proprietors are driven to save appearances will be found in the following advertisement, which appeared in the *Post* of Monday:—

"To Sportsmen.—Shooting over about 5000 acres, nearly 500 of which are covered full of game. It is an exclusive right, and has been constantly preserved for above a century. Capital rook-shooting also.—Any nobleman or gentleman of the highest respectability (married or single, without children) desirous of sharing in the above sport, might board and lodge with the family for any period from the 1st of July to the 1st of February, to include wines, ices, fruit, and nearly every luxury. The mansion is recently and elegantly furnished with a (Taverton's) modern full-sized billiard-table, pianoforte, &c. &c., situate near a railway station, two hours' journey from London, from which it is under fifty miles. Letters pre-paid, addressed to A. Z., at Mr. Mudie's Library, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury. N.B. Use of two carriages and three horses, and a pew in the church."

What a combination of meanness and profusion, of real poverty and seeming luxury, does the above advertisement suggest! How harmoniously the spirit of huckster and the fashionable and extravagant idler blends! Imagine the condition of the occupying tenants of 5000 acres, "full of game," and "preserved for above a century," the nominal owner of which advertises to "board and lodge any nobleman or gentleman of the highest respectability"—meaning one who will pay well—"married or single"! !!

#### AN UNANSWERED ARGUMENT.

The following paragraph, from the *Sussex Advertiser*, exposes the utter hollowness of one of the now nearly exploded monopolist false pretences:—

"The emptiness of the threat, for it is no less, that agriculture will deteriorate—in short—that land will go out of cultivation if low prices continue, has been daily and hourly exposed. The most practical and unanswerable reply to such an assertion, however, was lately given by a poor labourer at a county meeting. A certain baronet was declaring his conviction that not only would rents be annihilated, under Free Trade, but that the land could not be cultivated, rent free, to a profit; upon which a labourer called out 'Give I five acres, Sir John, give I five acres.' The worthy protectionist asserted, that if he did the peasant could not cultivate it; but his sturdy petitioner only reiterated 'Try I, Sir John, Try I,'—a request the honourable baronet thought fit to decline, though wholly unable to rebut the argument it contained."

#### SECURE TENURES.

Every agricultural authority has repudiated the nonsense we used to hear some months since of the "mutual confidence" between landlord and tenant being equivalent to a lease. The following passage from the *Mark-lane Express* leading article of last Monday shows how indispensable secure tenure for a considerable period is to success in farming; and how mischievous the Corn-Law system, with its ups and downs and perpetual failures to secure permanently high prices, has proved:—

"A state of doubt and uncertainty as to the impost, alteration, or repeal of custom duties upon any article is always prejudicial to the interests of the parties engaged in that trade, be it what it may. In many branches of business, where the nature of them is such as not to require a large stock to be kept, the inconvenience is less, and the loss may be reduced by getting out of stock; but, when it is essential to have a large stock, the 'getting out' is almost tantamount to breaking up the business. Now, the farmer—especially the arable land farmer—is a manufacturer in the real, although not in the ordinary, acceptance of the term. Unless he is so fortunate as to obtain a farm in good working order—a circumstance which occurs but rarely—it takes him years to 'get into stock,' that is, to bring his land into a proper state; and, should occasion require that he should quit his farm, it will take him some years to 'get out,' that is, to obtain such a return from the soil as the out-let he has made entitles him to. He then, above all men, most stands in need of security of tenure and steadiness of price. The very nature of his occupation, so influenced by weather and seasons, necessarily exposes him to a degree of variation in prices which is unavoidable; but these are vicissitudes over which he has no control, and at which it becomes us not to reprove. These remarks, however, do not apply to the alterations in prices occasioned by legislation; and hence it is of vital importance to him that his interests should not be exposed to the caprices of a minister, or the changes of political party. The stand made by the Government, in the last week, against the proposition for letting in Australian corn upon the same terms as Canadian, will doubtless be taken by some as an earnest of their determination to stand by the present Corn Laws, and they may do so for a short time; but it is not security of two

or three years, it is security for several rotations of cropping, that the farmer requires. Those persons who wilfully mislead, or who, knowing it, screen the truth from the farmers who have not such opportunities of learning the advance Free-Trade principles are making, are not only guilty of a dereliction of principle, but of a moral fraud."

Now, can any one doubt that the Dukes of Richmond and Buckingham, and the 17, Bond-street clique of monopolists, are, upon the showing of one of their own organs, guilty of a moral fraud? Don't they tell the farmers that the present Corn Laws shall be maintained, and don't they well know that such maintenance is absolutely impossible?

#### FARMERS' GRIEVANCES; HEDGEROW TIMBER.

When Lord Malmesbury let out, the other day, in the House of Lords, that the object of preserving timber was to enable the owner of land to save himself in bad years from loss of income by means of a fall of timber, he could scarcely have known how deeply this subject is affecting the minds of the tenant-farmers. The following passages, from a discussion which occurred upon the subject a few days ago at the Farmers' Club House, will serve to show what farmers—most of those present were protectionists—think of the matter. Mr. Knight, who opened the discussion, said:—

"He believed that, with regard to the tenant-farmers, this subject came next in importance to game—it was, in fact, the next greatest nuisance. He regarded game as nuisance number one, and hedgerow timber as nuisance number two. In order to show the disadvantages to the landlord from growing hedgerow timber, let them take, for example, 200 acres of land divided into enclosures of from five to fifteen acres each, and suppose the land to be worth 30s. an acre. Now, there was no tenant who would object to pay a shilling an acre more for the land, on condition that no timber was grown in the hedgerows; and this would answer the purpose of the landlord very well, for, in the course of fifty years, the additional rent put to compound interest would amount to a much larger sum than the timber would realize, and the tenant would, at the same time, be greatly benefited."

He assumed land to be worth only 1s. an acre more without timber, and then the landlord would be a gainer. As to the use of timber, he said:—

"It might be argued by some that it was not desirable entirely to get rid of the timber from a farm, as a certain quantity was required for repairs and other such purposes; but the fact was, that it was much cheaper in the end to buy whatever timber you wanted for repairs, than to cut timber from the hedgerows and work it up. He was himself under a repairing lease, and was allowed what timber he wanted; but he rarely cut any, except in the way of knocking down an old tree which might happen to stand in the way."

This is quite true, and an excellent Free-Trade argument it is, Mr. Knight. He then added:—

"Another advantage in getting rid of timber was, that you also got rid of a very great obstacle to draining presented by the roots, which frequently choked the drain up altogether; and good draining was a permanent advantage to the landlord. He now came to the consideration of the second part of the subject, namely, the interests of the tenants; and, in approaching that, he had no hesitation in saying that there were very few who would not readily meet their landlords upon the question of a small increase of rent for getting rid of so great a nuisance."

And he referred to various private and published statements in corroboration of his views.

Mr. Anderson, a land-agent, also said:—

"That he had discussed the subject with the late Lord Spencer, and the present Duke of Bedford when Marquis of Tavistock. On the Duke of Bedford's estate the rule was to cut down the timber every ten years. On each side of the rows were a hedge and ditch; and what was the consequence? Why, that there was an absolute loss of land on both sides. He remembered Lord Spencer getting up and stating his objection to hedgerow timber. His lordship stated that a pole and a half or two poles of land were always injured. He (Mr. Anderson) regarded the growing hedgerow timber as the greatest curse which could be inflicted upon the tenant farmer. It might be thought that, connected as he was with the interest of the landlord, he was advocating the rights of the tenant too strongly; but he thought that, in speaking up for the tenant, he was doing the greatest service to the cause of the landlord. If the mutual interests of the landlord and tenant were properly looked to, it would be a great advantage to all parties."

Mr. Ellman said, that—

"In some parts of Surrey and Sussex so much timber was grown that draining was impossible. He had had some experience in the tenacious lands, which were supposed best for growing oak; but, by removing the timber and draining the land, the soil was completely changed. Mr. Ellman dwelt strongly on the prejudicial effect of copyhold tenure in increasing the growth of hedgerow timber."

Copyhold tenure is a remnant of feudalism, and, like every offshoot of that upas tree, injures all within its influence. Mr. Dixon said:—

"That a relation of his paid his landlord 30 per cent. more for his farm since the removal of the timber."

Mr. F. Hobbs said:—

"That five out of every six trees growing in hedgerows might with advantage be levelled with the ground. He thought there ought to be some rule laid down as to the number of trees which should be allowed in a given number of yards; he was of opinion that, if this club came to some conclusion on the subject, it would be doing a great deal of good, and the landlord would see that it was to the interest of the country at large that the great portion of the trees should be levelled on land applied to farming purposes."

Mr. Knight concluded by proposing the following resolution:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the growth

of hedgerow timber, especially in small enclosures, is highly detrimental to cultivation, and exceedingly injurious to the occupier; that the benefit obtained therefrom by the landlord is quite inadequate to the damage accruing to the tenant, who would be enabled to compensate for its removal by an increase of rent; that in scarcely any instance is the growth of timber equivalent to 2s. per acre as rent, and that on the average it does not exceed 1s. per acre; and that, upon the whole, the growth of hedgerow timber is highly injurious to the interests of both landlord and tenant, as well as to the country at large."

Which was unanimously agreed to.

#### FIRST STEPS TO KNOWLEDGE.

We have, of late, been glad to see that organ of the ultra-monopolists,—the owners of heavily encumbered estates,—the *Morning Post*, has acquired some of the rudiments of a real agricultural knowledge. On a recent occasion it said:—

"Let our own people be employed in raising an additional quantity at home. No intelligent person disputes that, by the application of more labour to our own land, ten times the additional quantity might be raised; let us then employ our own people (who want employment) in raising it."

Most true, O *Post*! You have laid down one premiss correctly. So again, in another leading article, it is asked:—

"What do the labourers really want? They want:—First, more certain and regular employment. Secondly, the means of better maintenance, either by generally increased wages, or some other source of a supply of food. Thirdly, better houses to live in, and freed from those nuisances which are offensive to decency, and prejudicial to health."

Spoken like a Christian and a Free-Trader. And in a subsequent part of the same article it is said:—

"In some places the labourers are half-starved for half the year, because, though it is palpable and notorious that a great deal of beneficial work might be done upon the land, that work is not done. The land is there, and intelligent people know very well that if labour were applied the increase of produce would more than feed the labourers, but the labour is not employed. The labourers are half-starved, and wholly idle for months together, and the land remains unimproved. A remedy of that state of things would affect immediately the condition of the labourer."

True—most true.

Let us briefly enumerate a few of the more prominent causes of those evils which the *Post* laments so naturally that, but for its antecedents, it might be supposed to be in earnest. The fertile cause of the non-employment and the uncertain employment of labour is rent fixed according to monopoly prices, and the absorption of the farmers' capital to pay the rent instead of the wages of labour. Another set of causes is the insecure tenure on which the farmer holds his land; the burdens by which he is oppressed, such as game, timber, absurd covenants, and so forth; and the state of political thralldom into which he had allowed himself to fall through his foolish expectation of benefiting by the Corn Laws. Now, how much of these things lies at the door of the monopolist patrons of the *Post*? Nay, more: but for those patrons would the evils exist a month?

#### "THE AGRICULTURAL MIND."

It is with vexation we see that the squire, beginning to be ashamed of their own exposed sordidness, are trying to show that the protective system must be maintained out of deference to the fears of the "agriculturists." Now, the truth is, the alarm exists principally in the "landlord mind," and the fear is that rent will fall, for farmers are very generally beginning to say, "Let us have Free Trade at once, and then we will have rents adjusted." This is the present source of squirearchical sensitiveness. The pitiful figure Sir Robert Peel made on the Australian wheat debate has given occasion to the following pungent remarks by the *Times* on this subject. The following goes to show the groundlessness of the alarm:—

"It must never be forgotten that wheat, so far from being a thing naturally abundant, is one of the most difficult and the most costly of all common and useful productions. In the average of years, allowing even a short average, there never will be too much corn on this earth, or in any part of it. This, of course, ought to mitigate the alarms which the sensitive agricultural mind is so prone to conceive, from whatever quarter they be inspired. There is not a country, not a river, not a part in Europe, or any other quarter of the world, which may not be shown utterly unequal to those overwhelming efforts of production which the British farmer has been taught to imagine. With want of implements, want of cattle, want of roads, want of drains, want of warehouses, want of skill, want of money, want of a good social system, want of everything, the finest climate, soil, and people will very soon be thrown in the rear of agricultural competition."

Perhaps the most absurd bugbear ever invented by English politicians is that of foreign agricultural competition. This is the way in which the *Times* deals with Sir Robert's argument on the point:—

"Then comes the Ministerial reason,—the principle of Conservatism,—the one remaining sentiment which makes Sir Robert not a Whig, and retains his three hundred supporters on his side of the House. It ran a watchword from mouth to mouth, and was passed on as the darling link from hand to hand in the torch race of antiquity. Spare this agricultural mind! Why awake those venerable terrors for so slight an advantage? Why throw Richmond into agitation, and Buckingham into despair? Why summon Kent to Penenden-heath, and put the men of Essex on their mettle, merely for a few scrubby colonies at the world's end, who know not registration courts, and hustings, and



members, and pledges, and the violations thereof! It is unwise, says one, to tamper with this interest. If you once begin, says another, you must go on. Consistency will require more. Or even if you attempt to stop, the mischief is done. The precarious agricultural mind is unshaken, and Conservatism totters on its agricultural basis. The agricultural mind bears not gradual change, it cannot bear protracted agony, it cannot contemplate slow decay. Here then is the Premier's vocation. He nurses, and soothes, and coaxes this delicate being, blindfolds it to its fate, humours it for a while, worships himself into its confidence, angrily warns off its disturbers, lulls its suspicions, and throws it finally asleep, and then a moment of panic and necessity does the work of years. For our own part, we should prefer a growth more in analogy with the course of nature in this temperate clime. If the agricultural mind is something so irrational, so abrupt and impetuous, as to be incapable of moving, living, thinking, and feeling, step by step, there is no help for it. But, it must be said, that in this case it has more affinity with the boar constrictor of the forest, which gorges itself once a month and is torpid in the interval, than with the oxen, horses, and sheep of our own climate."

**DESTRUCTION OF GAME.**—The Duke of Sutherland has given permission to destroy the hares on the farms of his tenants in the parish of Treutham, where they are injurious to them.

**ADVANCE OF WAGES.**—The master cotton-spinners of Bolton have agreed to advance the wages of the operative spinners another 5 per cent., which has been gratefully accepted. The heat feeling appears to exist on both sides.—*Bolton Free Press.*

**IMPORTS OF CATTLE.**—Two hundred and thirty-nine head of horned cattle and three calves have arrived at Hull, from the Continent, by the Hamburg and Rotterdam steamers, since our last week's publication. Many of the beasts were excellent in appearance, and some of the beef shown in Hull market not inferior to that of the general run of English oxen.—*Hull Packet*, May 9.

**A "GRAT FACT" FOR THE PROTECTIONISTS.**—Mr. Austin, the eminent Queen's Counsel, informed one of the parliamentary railway committees, the other day, that it had come out in evidence before another committee, that strawberries were sent from Cologne to Manchester, and that water-cresses were imported by the ton! What is the Agricultural Protection Society about to allow the Manchester Free-Traders to luxuriate on foreign strawberries?—*Worcester Chronicle.*

**THE CATTLE TRADE.**—Now that the season has advanced we have to report a great increase in the number sent from the north to the London and Edinburgh markets. The Duchess of Sutherland sailed from Inverness on Monday last, and not the least remarkable of her cargo were two enormous fat bullocks, of the Aberdeenshire breed, the property of Lord Lovat, and intended for the London market. On Monday last 252 were refused for these superior animals. At Banff, vessels were loading last week for London, and several were ready for their cargoes. It is stated that about 600 cattle would be shipped from the port, for Smithfield, during the week.—*Ross-shire Advertiser.*

**DUTCH CATTLE, &c.**—The Dutch steam-ship Batavia, which arrived at the St. Katherine Steam Wharf on Wednesday afternoon from Rotterdam, had on board sixty-two oxen and cows and one calf, three baskets of fruit, twenty-three baskets of fish of different descriptions, four baskets of poultry, and two hundred casks of butter, besides other articles of Dutch produce and manufacture. Two other vessels which reported on the same day had no less than 28,375 cherries on board, besides a great quantity of articles of Dutch produce of every description, for consumption here. The Emerald Isle, which reported at Hull on the same day from Rotterdam, had six cows, ten oxen, and three calves on board, besides a variety of other Dutch produce, &c. On the same day one vessel reported at London, one at Liverpool, and two at Hull, as arriving from the island of Ichaboe, bringing between them upwards of 1200 tons of guano, the produce of that place.

**SCARCITY OF SHEEP.**—During the past few days the provision market in this town has been very scantily supplied with mutton. Two causes are assigned for this: first, the farmers at this season always hold back their stock from the market in consequence of the great improvement they make; and secondly, the wholesale butchers here find the demand so great in London as to send all they can to the metropolis. The scarcity thus produced is almost beyond all precedent. At the Barton market, on Monday, there were nearly as many buyers as sheep, and at the Beverley fair, on Wednesday, the demand was wholly inadequate to the supply. As a natural consequence, the prices have much increased. This scarcity has been felt in many other places; but in Liverpool the supply, considering the time of the year, has, we learn, been extraordinarily and unaccountably heavy, there being on Tuesday no less than 4319 sheep for sale.—*Hull Packet.*

**FOREIGN POTATOES.**—A new article of import has been introduced by the Trent steamer from the West Indies, in new potatoes, which have been successfully cultivated in the Bermudas, for the early supply of the English market, from the best seeds. The climate and soil are well suited for their growth, and about a ton has been brought over as a sample by the above steamer. In boiling they are said to be of even superior quality to those of home produce, being less watery. The same vessel has also brought over a quantity of pineapples, preserved in their own juice in bottles, which are likely to be a valuable addition to the kitchen.

**THE LAND COMMISSION.**—AN IRISH LABOURER.—We have not space for our usual extracts from the evidence, which we give in another place. We shall merely denote those who would have a true picture of the trials and privations of an Irish labourer, to read the evidence of Michael Sullivan. He, poor fellow, makes "no complaint for himself"—and yet he lives from year's end to year's end on "dry potatoes, and has no means of getting a drop of milk." Even he, wretched as he is, is cursed by the evil of want of security; for when asked, where is the pig kept, he answers, "He must be kept in some part of the house, in a corner," and he adds, "I might make room for the pig if I was sure of the house for a second year, but I do not mean to go to the trouble, and many, like me, do not do so, not being sure of the house for a second year." Truly may we add, God help the poor.—*York Examiner.*

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## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 17, 1845.

Remarks have been made that the Bazaar is not so complete an Exposition of National Manufactures as all have wished and many have anticipated. But the Bazaar itself will not be complete until it is concluded; the goods are in the theatre, but were the building five times its present size, it would not admit of the display of the varied contributions at one time. It is one of the undesigned attractions, because it is a physical necessity of the Bazaar that it must have a fresh display of novelties every day, and that the immense quantity of goods in store cannot possibly be brought out until the sale of others has made room for their exhibition. It will be seen, from the ample details which we have elsewhere given, that, even under existing circumstances, the exposition of the products of combined art, skill, and taste is superior to anything that has ever been seen in Great Britain, and, if allowances be made for the limited space, which alone the Council can command, is fully equal to the National Expositions got up at the expense of the public exchequers by the Governments of the Continent. The public press of London, with all but universal voice, has borne testimony to the beauty of the decorations and the excellence of the arrangements; the provincial papers have added their testimony to the opinions of their metropolitan brethren, and with unusual unanimity declared that the Exposition is in the best sense of the word truly National.

Of the success of the Bazaar we have only to say that it has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations. So great was the pressure of the crowds on Tuesday and Wednesday that thousands went away unable to obtain admission; and it was found necessary to raise the charge of admission to half-a-crown, in order to prevent the danger of accidents to life or limb. The higher price has very slightly diminished the number of visitors, for while we write the Hall is closely crowded, and the sales are proceeding with great activity and spirit. To prevent any inaccuracy, it has been resolved not to publish any statement of receipts until the close of the Bazaar.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—M. Ledru Rollin presented to the Chamber of Deputies, on Saturday, a petition signed by 25,000 persons, who prayed that an inquiry be instituted into the condition of the labouring classes of France.

It appears from a report made by the committee on the Paris fortifications that the total sum expended since their commencement in 1841 is 108,000,000*fr.*, about £4,000,000, and that thirty-two millions voted in addition to that sum by the Chamber remain in the hands of the Government.

The bill for arming the fortifications of Paris has been adopted in the Chamber of Deputies, by a majority of 227 to 131—majority, 96. The clause for depositing the artillery in the town of Bourges, not to be removed but in the event of war, was agreed to with the consent of the Government. The affair is thus settled to the satisfaction, apparently, of all parties.

**ALGERIA.**—A letter from Algiers of the 6th inst. states that the insurrection is complete in the mountains of the Ouarsenis, and that several of the Arab chiefs who had received appointments from the Governor-General have been sacrificed. It is also stated that nearly 2000 mounted Arabs appeared on the 28th ult., before Orleansville, and menaced an attack, but withdrew on a sortie being made by the garrison, supported by the cannon of the camp. On the 30th, a serious engagement took place in sight of Orleansville, between the hostile Arabs and a French detachment. The Arabs were defeated, with a loss of 20 killed. The French had only two men killed, and six wounded.

**DREADFUL MINING EXPLOSION IN BELGIUM.**—A frightful accident has just happened at Bousu, near Quivrain. A formidable explosion of fire-damp took place at the bottom of a coal-mine at full work. About 200 men were at work at the time, of whom it is feared the majority have been killed. We know nothing precise as to the number of persons who have perished; some accounts raise the number to 140, but this estimate is not official. Since the moment the deplorable catastrophe happened they have not ceased drawing mutilated corpses from the shafts of the mine. The families of the miners are in a most pitiable state of suspense—every corpse which is drawn to the mouth of the mine occasions a scene of perfect desolation.—*Belgian paper.*

**BERLIN.**—The *Augsburg Gazette* of the 6th inst. states, that an opinion prevails at Berlin that the import duty on linen and cotton thread will be considerably increased, and that in consequence several new cotton-spinning mills will be established in Prussia. An English engineer of considerable celebrity had arrived at Berlin, and had been engaged by a commercial company to build a cotton-mill at Bromberg. A wealthy proprietor in Pomerania has likewise the intention of establishing cotton-mills on his estates.

**VIENNA.**—The Vienna journals of the 2nd inst. announce that a serious accident had occurred on the Vienna and Glanzthal Railroad, in consequence of a rail having

been displaced, by which a train was upset; four persons were killed on the spot, besides a vast number seriously injured.

The *Franconian Mercury* contains a letter from Munich, May 2, which states that a duel having taken place there between a Portuguese and an attaché of the French Embassy, about a lady to whom the former was betrothed, the attaché has been suspended by M. Guizot from his functions, and his passports having been delivered to him, he had taken his departure from Munich.

**THE GERMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.**—The Government of the Grand Duchy of Hesse has declared in favour of the new Catholic communion at Offenbach. The Ministry having first applied to the Bishop of Mentz to authorize the Catholic curé of Offenbach to administer the different sacraments of the new communion, the bishop declined doing so, and thereupon the Government has invested the Protestant pastor with the necessary powers to perform those acts until further provisions are made.—*Augsburg Gazette.*

**SNOW-STORM IN RUSSIA.**—In the south-west province of Russia a violent snow-storm occurred about the middle of March, which continued for six days. It extended over the Governments of Volhynia, Podolia, and the province of Bessarabia, and caused the greatest destruction to life and property. Seventy-six persons are reported to have perished.—*Hamburg Zeitung.*

**LOCUSTS.**—The locusts, which had appeared in swarms on different points of the African coast, showed themselves, for the first time, near Algiers on the 30th ult. At Khadrah, to the west of the Foudouk, they devoured all the grass and leaves of the trees. Several flights alighted early in the morning of that day near the Maison Carrée, and numbers fell in the Place Royale; at two o'clock in the afternoon, however, they had completely vanished. Those insects are yellow, a couple of inches in length, and maintain themselves and direct their course in the air as easily as birds.

**UNITED STATES.**—The steamer Caledonia arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday night, with 60 passengers, and papers to the 30th ult. from New York, and the 1st inst. from Boston. The news is important. As regards the Oregon question, the present arrival goes entirely to confirm the pacific accounts of the probable settlement of that question without any recourse to hostilities; it is even said that Mr. Polk and the Cabinet have resolved to send an ambassador to England to mediate the question, and Mr. Van Buren is named to this office. Between the United States and Mexico matters do not wear so pacific an aspect, and from the official correspondence between that Government and the United States Minister, Mr. Shannon, hostilities are highly probable; Senor Cuevas had closed the correspondence abruptly by declining any further intercourse, and Mr. Shannon had quitted the capital, waiting only for despatches, known to be on the way, before he took his departure for the United States. The city of Mexico had been visited by an earthquake, which had destroyed much property, though, fortunately, few lives were lost. The Bowery Theatre, New York, had been destroyed by fire.

**SOUTH AMERICA.**—Brazilian papers to the 23rd of March state that the civil war in the province of Rio Grande do Sul, which had wasted the resources of Brazil for the last nine years, was at an end. The pacification of Rio Grande was to be celebrated with a solemn *Te Deum* and great rejoicings at Rio on the 23rd of March. On the 13th of March the treaty between

Brazil and Great Britain for the suppression of the African slave trade, which authorized the searching of Brazilian vessels by British cruisers, terminated by effluxion of time, the period of its duration having been fixed at 15 years. There are now no obstacles to the slave trade in Brazil, except such as the Brazilian laws impose. Those laws are sufficiently strong, but the Government has very little power of enforcing them.

## DOMESTIC.

We have much pleasure in stating that Lord Willoughby de Broke, of Compton Verney, Warwickshire, has caused his tenants to be called together, and has intimated to them his intention of making a return of 20 per cent. upon their rents.—*Gloucestershire Chronicle.*

A dispute has taken place between the operative sawyers of Glasgow and their employers on a question of wages, in consequence of which about 200 of the workmen are at present idle.—*Glasgow National.*

The town council of Yarmouth have refused to accede to the request of the coroner's jury, to assist them with the funds of the corporation in conducting the inquiry relative to the deaths caused by the late fatal accident, and enabling them to have the evidence of some distinguished civil engineers from London. The jury have since memorialized the Government on the subject. On Thursday the adjourned inquiry was resumed, but no further evidence was taken; the time of the inquest was occupied by a dispute between the coroner and one of the jurymen, who had reported the coroner's speech for a local paper. The inquest was then adjourned *sine die*, until a reply has been received from the Home Secretary to the memorial.

A most painful and dreadful accident, which, we regret to say, was accompanied by loss of life, occurred in King-street, on Thursday last. It appears that Mr. Walter Morgan, one of the firm who lately purchased the extensive brewery, formerly the property of the Messrs. Tompson, in this city, was engaged, on Thursday morning, trying the strength of some liquor which had been lately brewed, and by some accident was drowned in the gulle-tub. The jury returned a verdict that "The deceased was found drowned in the gulle-tub of the brewery."—*Norwich Mercury.*

Tuesday week last, a woman at Huddersfield murdered her infant, and afterwards committed self-destruction. The name of the unfortunate woman was Betsy Rushworth, wife of John Rushworth, a mason. For some time past she had been in a low desponding state of mind, induced, it is said, by the landlord having distrained for rent.

The Field Gardens Bill, as amended by the committee, to promote the letting of field-gardens to the labouring poor, has been printed. There are now twenty-two clauses in the measure, which is only to extend to England and Wales. The amendment by the committee is to the effect that, if a meeting is not called on a requisition to promote the letting of field-gardens in a parish, the requisitionists may themselves call a meeting, and proceed to put into force the provisions of the law.

On Saturday evening last, a fire broke out upon the

farm premises belonging to Mr. Brown, of Barking, in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Elliott. It raged with considerable fury for some time, consuming a barn, out-buildings, two stacks, part of a clover stack, and a few implements. The loss is covered by insurance in the Suffolk Fire-office.

The family of a gentleman named Stoddart, of Lambeth-road, Southwark, have been greatly distressed by the mysterious disappearance of Mr. W. Stoddart, 30 years of age. It appears that Mr. Stoddart's brother went, on the 7th instant, to the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railroad, and proceeded by railway into Berkshire. When Mr. Wm. Stoddart took leave of his brother he stated to him that he should immediately return home, but he has not since been heard of.

Since the recent excitement on the subject of the Spa-fields Burial-ground, the number of interments has decreased every Sunday, the average number not exceeding three, whilst previously they were twenty, and often approached to forty. The grounds, which were previously kept carefully closed, except on the entrance of visitors, are now open on Sunday afternoon for the admission of visitors. Much interest is attached to the coming trial at the Court of Queen's Bench, which will take place during the present sittings after term.

On Tuesday afternoon, as the Waterman steamer No. 5 was conveying from 300 to 400 passengers from Woolwich to Greenwich, she met with a serious accident by a billy-boy from Goole, Yorkshire, running her bowsprit across the bow of the steamer, knocking all the passengers within her sweep flat on the deck. Unfortunately, a gentleman of the name of Williams, fringe-manufacturer, had his collar-bone and one arm broken, and the other arm much injured; his son, aged 10 years, was killed on the spot; and his daughter, aged 14 years, was much injured, and had one finger broken; two other persons received severe contusions, and two gentlemen were knocked overboard, but were fortunately saved by the crew of the Waterman No. 5.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Thursday, Joseph Connor, aged 20, was tried before Mr. Baron Alderson, for the murder of Mary Brothers, alias Tape, in St. Giles's, on the 31st of March. The prisoner was found guilty, and was sentenced to death in the usual form.

The number of deaths during the week ending May 10, for the metropolis, is the smallest that has appeared for many months, being only 829, showing a decrease of 54 as compared with the previous, and 434 less than the average of five years.

The fifteenth meeting of the British Association will be held at Cambridge, commencing June 19. The time was fixed thus early in order to suit the "Commencement," which brings a large concourse to the University. The great feature of the ensuing meeting will be a congress of the observers at the different magnetical observatories stationed throughout Europe. Sir J. Herschell is president this year.

The weekly meeting of the Repeal Association, held at Dublin, on Monday, was densely thronged. Mr. O'Connell, on entering the hall, was loudly applauded. The hon. and learned gentleman was accompanied by Mr. John O'Connell, Mr. Robert D. Browne, and several other gentlemen. Mr. O'Connell, in the course of his speech, declared his determination to resist the Speaker's warrant, should a call of the House be enforced, as threatened by Mr. Hume's motion. He was not alone in this determination, for the other Repeal members were equally resolved to adopt a similar course. The hon. gentleman, in referring to the scheme of Sir James Graham for endowing three new colleges for secular education in Ireland, declined to express any decided opinion on the measure until the Catholic bishops met and expressed their views upon it, by which he should be wholly guided. Mr. R. D. Browne denounced the measure; Mr. Davis, one of the editors of the *Nation*, defended it in part. The rent for the week was £120, 13s. 1d.

The *Drogheda Argus* contains the following account of a murder committed within a few miles of that town:—"A murder was perpetrated, last Saturday, in the neighbourhood of Drumeconra—the victim was a man named Clarke—the cause was that fruitless source of crime in this country, the taking of land. The deceased man and his brother had a dispute about a field, when a labourer in the employment of his brother killed him with a spade in the presence of his brother. The homicide has escaped from justice. The remains of the deceased were interred last Tuesday."

The *Drogheda Journal* says:—"We have just learned that Mr. O'Connell will hold a levee on the 30th of May, for the purpose of receiving addresses, congratulating him on the result of the late prosecutions, and renewing the pledge of the Irish people to continue, under his guidance, their struggle for the repeal of the legislative union. The corporations of Ireland will attend in their robes; members of the '82 club in their uniform; all others in evening dress. The trades of Dublin will have a public procession on that day."

The Rev. Dr. Burke, parish priest of Clonmel, has subscribed £500 towards the establishment of a parochial school in that town. On presenting this most munificent subscription, at a meeting on Sunday last, this admirable priest said—"It comes from you, my friends, and I hold any property I may be possessed of in trust for the poor of my parish; my family shall never have any legacy from me."—*Dublin Evening Post*.

We have great pleasure in being able to state that Sir Robert Peel has granted to the widow of the late John Buntin £50 from the Royal Bounty Fund, and has further engaged to place her name on the pension list when a vacancy occurs. This relief has been granted on the application of a body of Irish members of Parliament, at the head of whom was E. B. Roche, Esq., the member for Cork.—*Kilkenny Journal*.

The sheriff of Cork, with a military and police force, took possession, under *habere*, of the lands of Curragh, near Killybreen, the estate of Philip Monerville, Esq., on Wednesday last; but not before the evicted tenants had fired all the houses on the property, and left nothing but walls standing.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin entertained the members of the corporation and a circle of friends at dinner on Tuesday week in the Mansion-house. The cloth having been removed, the Lord Mayor proposed the health of the Queen, and stated that that very evening he received a poem of intelligence from a most authentic quarter, which left it beyond all doubt that her Irish subjects would have the happiness of seeing their Sovereign in the country in the course of the summer. Whenever

she came she would be welcome, and the reception she would receive would be one becoming alike the monarch and the people. (Cheers.) The toast was received with every demonstration of loyalty, nine times nine and enthusiastic applause.

Colonel Shelton, of the 44th Regiment, was thrown violently from his horse on Saturday last in the square of the Royal Barracks, Dublin, and expired from the effects of the injuries he received on Tuesday night.

HUDDESFIELD.—Such is the activity of trade in this locality that there is a great scarcity of workmen in most of the domestic trades unconnected with the prevailing manufactures of the district. The building branch, which for a long time has been partially depressed, is now revived, whilst most other branches are equally flourishing.—*Leeds Mercury*.

## THE FUNDS.

	SAV. May 10	MON. May 12	TUES. May 13	WED. May 14	THURS. May 15	FRI. May 16
Bank Stock for Ac.	210	210	210	210	210	210
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	97	97	97	97	97	97
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	100	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. Rd. ann. ex. d.	11	11	11	11	11	11
Long. An. Ex. 1860	99	99	99	99	99	99
Cons. for Acct.	56	56	56	56	56	56
Exc. Bill, p.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ind. Bds. un 1000l.	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	278	278	278	278	278	278
Belgian Bonds	99	99	99	99	99	99
Brazilian Bonds	89	89	89	89	89	89
Buenos Ayres	44	44	44	44	44	44
Collian	100	100	100	100	100	100
Columb. ex. Venet.	15	15	15	15	15	15
Danish	89	89	89	89	89	89
Dutch 4 per Cent.	97	97	97	97	97	97
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63	63	63	63	63	63
Mexican	37	37	37	37	37	37
Portug. conv.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish 5 per Ct.	30	30	30	30	30	30
Do. 3 per Cent.	42	42	42	42	42	42

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, May 13.—The supply of English Wheat during the past week was large, and to this morning's market a liberal addition is on sale; this, with two or three cargoes from Rostock, has caused a great heaviness in the trade to-day; and although a reduction of 1s. per qr. on the prices of this day week is submitted to, a considerable quantity remains unsold. The quantity of English Barley is small, but with a large arrival of Foreign this trade is dull at about the prices of last week. We continue to receive very few English Oats, and have only a moderate supply of Scotch and Irish; but of Foreign the arrivals are fully equal to the demand, which is, however, sufficient to maintain late prices. We have only a small supply of Beans and Peas, which sell readily on as good terms as last week.

S. H. LUCAS and Son.

BRITISH.		PER IMPERIAL QUARTER.	
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 48 to 54		
— Ditto New	42 — 48	44	— 54
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 — 48	44	— 54
— Scotch	42 — 48	44	— 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed		21	— 23
— Ditto	Polands	23	— 25
— Scotch Feed		23 — 24	Potato 25 — 27
— Limerick		21	— 22
— Ditto		23	— 25
— Cork		20	— 21
— Waterford, Yougal, & Cork Black		20	— 21
— Sligo		20	— 21
— Galway		19	— 20
Barley		28	— 33
Beans, Mazagan	New	31	— 33
— Harrow	Old 38 — 40	do.	33 — 35
— Small	do.	42	— 44
Peas, White, New		34	— 38
— Grey	32 to 33	Maple	38 — 34
Flour, Town-made	per sack of 280 lbs.	35	— 43
— Norfolk and Suffolk		33 — 35	34 — 36

## FOREIGN.

PER IMPERIAL QUARTER.		THREE IN HAND.	
Wheat, Dantzic, high mixed	47 to 56		
— Rostock	47 — 54		
— Stettin	44 — 52		
— Hamburg	42 — 48		
— Odessa	42 — 46		
— Ditto	Polish	47 — 56	
— Russian	soft	42 — 46	
— Ditto	hard	40 — 44	
— Spanish	Red	45 — 49	
— Ditto	White	50 — 54	
— Australian		58 — 68	
Barley, Grinding		13 — 27	
— Distilling		29 — 31	
Oats, Archangel		—	
— Stralsund		—	
— Dutch Brew		—	
— Poland		17 — 19	
Beans, Egyptian		32 — 34	43 — 27
Peas, White		35 — 36	
— Ditto Boilers		36 — 38	
Flour, Canada	per barrel of 196 lbs.	25 — 26	
— United States		26 — 29	14 — 20
— Dantzic		26 — 24	14 — 20
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs.		33 — 35	

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from May 5 to May 10, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	11890	940	617	913	127
Scotch	—	2038	4380	—	—
Irish	100	—	867	—	—
Foreign	8841	10722	14811	514	48

FRIDAY, May 16.—The arrivals of English Wheat since Monday are moderate, and of Foreign a cargo or two have arrived. In the former there is no alteration, but there is a little inquiry for Foreign in bond for exportation. The business done is not, however, extensive. There is not much demand for Flour of any sort; prices are not lower, though 12,000 qrs. have arrived from abroad. There are several cargoes of English Oats fresh up to day, and Foreign continue to come in large quantities; the trade, notwithstanding, remains dull. No alteration in Beans and Peas. The duty on Peas declined 1s. yesterday.

S. H. LUCAS and Son.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 10th of May to the 13th of May, both inclusive.		English.		Irish.		Foreign.	
Wheat		7781		—		4540	
Barley		1210		—		12170	
Oats		3350		8350		15290	

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending May 13, 1845.

	Gr.	Price.	Gr.	Price.
Wheat	8000	49s. 7d.	Wheat	—
Barley	1181	30s. 10d.	Beans	—
Oats	21574	21s. 11d.	Peas	—

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
5th April	46	3.32	5.21	4.29	6.35	0.35
12th "	46	3.32	5.20	4.30	6.35	0.35
19th "	45	11.31	11.21	4.32	1.35	1.36
26th "	45	11.31	6.20	11.30	2.35	9.36
3rd May	46	0.31	2.21	4.31	9.36	1.36
10th "	45	10.30	5.21	6.31	4.37	1.36

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 46s. 1d.; Barley, 31s. 7d.; Oats, 21s. 9d.; Rye, 30s. 7d.; Beans, 35s. 9d.; Peas, 36s. 3d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 7s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 7s. 6d.; Peas 6s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in bond, April 3, 1845.

Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas, Flour.

In London, 111149 | 486 | 10071 | — | 2817 | 1135 | 46357

Unit. King. 311025 | 1615 | 1006 | — | 12444 | 4770 | 243551

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MAY 9.  
CROWN-OFFICE, MAY 9.

MEMBERS RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT PARLIAMENT.

County of Peebles.—William Forbes Mackenzie, Esq.  
County of Denbigh.—Sir Watkin Williams Wynn.

BANKRUPT.

T. F. PIPER, Cheapside, wholesale stay manufacturer. [Cox, Pinner's-hall, Broad-street.]

E. BALDWIN and R. GARRETT, Henfield, Sussex, linen-draper. [Hill and Matthews, St. Mary-axe.]

W. HARRISON, Woodhouse Carr, Leeds, pattern dyer. [Sudlow and Co., Chancery-lane; Naylor and Tempest, Leeds.]

G. W. GEE and J. F. GEE, Leeds, drapers. [Sale and Worthington, Manchester; Reed and Shaw, Friday-street.]

J. JONES, Aberystwith, Cardiganshire, ironkeeper. [Brown, Nottingham; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]

G. RUDMAN, Bristol, mason. [White and Co., Bedford-row; Short, Bristol.]

T. COOK, Leicester, glove manufacturer. [Messrs. R. and G. Toller, Birmingham; James, Birmingham.]

J. M'DUGALL, Leicester, draper. [Hoskins, Loughborough; James, Birmingham.]

H. PARES, Loughborough, Leicestershire, plumber. [Brown, Nottingham; Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.]

J. MEARS, Leeds, grocer. [Rushworth, Staple-lane; Sanderson, Leeds.]

J. NEWTON, J. W. NEWTON, and F. J. NEWTON, Rotherham, Yorkshire, spirit merchants. [Wadger, Rotherham, Yorkshire; Blackburn, Leeds.]

DIVIDENDS.

May 30. W. Nash, Budge-row, London, tea dealer—June 4.

A. Robertson and L. H. Folger, High-street, Shoreditch, cabinet makers—May 30. A. Adler, Britpaucombe, Gloucestershire, cloth factor—June 5. J. Baker and E. Swinburne, Birmingham, timber merchants.

CERTIFICATES.

May 31. J. T. Reeve, Rose Inn, Gravesend, licensed victualler—May 30. J. Williams, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, draper—June 3. C. Griffiths, Blaenafon, Cardiganshire, auctioneer.

SCOTCH SKEWSEALERS.

C. McLEAN and CO., Bridgeton of Glasgow, calico printers—R. W. SUTHERLAND, Glasgow, bookbinder—W. TAIT, Dundee, baker—A. WEBSTER, jun., Kilmarnock, grocer—C. M. ROY, Banff, merchant—J. ALLEN, Orchard, Hawick, farmer.

TURSDAY, MAY 13.

BANKRUPT.

J. FURNIVAL, Kettering, Northamptonshire, corn dealer [Cardale and Hille, Bedford-row; Garrard, Kettering.]

T. SEAGER, Hammer-smith, leather cutter. [Hepburn, Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.]

J. W. ELLIS, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, warehouseman. [Jacques and Edwards, Rly-place, Holborn; Batty and Clay, Hunderland.]

J. BRAIN, Winchester-place, Pentonville, copper plate dealer. [Lawrence and Prew, Hackneybury.]

M. STURLEY, Southam, Warwickshire, organ builder. [Welf, King's-road; Fell, Northampton.]

W. H. WELSH, Stratford-upon-Avon, wharfinger. [Hobbes and Slater, Stratford-upon-Avon.]

J. B. BUCKLEY, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, mercer. [Boycott and Lucy, Kidderminster.]

J. Y. BELL, Cardiff, grocer. [Leonard, Bristol.]

H. MALPAS, Bath, victualler. [Raven, Temple; Drew, Bath.]

J. SIMPSON, Talenore, Cumberland, shipowner. [Taylor and Colleson, Great James-street; Grant, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.]

W. DAVIES, Liverpool, milkseller. [Miller and Co., Temple Slater and Heels, Manchester; Hore, Liverpool.]

DIVIDENDS.

June 6. T. G. James, River-street, Myddleton-square, builder—June 6. J. Hopkins and J. Drayton, Aintree, bankers—June 6. S. Cox, Brunswick-street, Stamford-street, horse dealer—June 3. R. Slade, sen., Poole, merchant—June 3. W. Attwater, Devonshire-street, Queen-square, dyer—June 6. J. D. Holland, Church-court, Cement's-lane, merchant—June 6. E. G. Todman, Gray's-inn-lane, licensed victualler—June 6. F. K. Blythe, Colchester, porter merchant—June 6. W. Chandler, Almeria, chemist—June 6. R. M. Herbert, Reading, tea dealer—June 6. R. Blunt, Alton, Hampshire, plumber—June 6. M. Oxenbrow, Stockport, pawnbroker—June 6. J. Peters, Godstone, Surrey, innkeeper—June 6. G. Woodcott, Brownlow-mews, Gray's-inn-lane, builder—June 4. D. W. Agram, Bristol, merchant—June 6. G. D. Thomas, Wren, Shropshire, grocer—June 6. J. Storey, and J. Gibb, Liverpool, ship chandler—June 6. C. A. and J. Potts, Monkwearmouth Shore, Durham, shipbuilders—June 6. W. Hall, Durham, grocer—June 4. R. Spencer, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, scrivener—June 4. A. and F. Atkinson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, colour manufacturers—June 6. J. H. Hardyman, Love-lane, Rastchep, merchant.

CERTIFICATES.

June 5. R. Cann, Woolwich, bootmaker—June 5. C. B. Sweeny, Chester-place, Hyde-park-square, apothecary—June 6. S. Hurd, Rochester, dealer in china—June 6. H. and W. Kinner, Water-lane, City, wine merchant—June 5. T. Clegg, Deptford, coal merchant—June 5. K. Humphreys, Halesworth, Suffolk, grocer—June 4. J. G. Todman, Gray's-inn-lane, licensed victualler—June 4. G. Barron, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, builder—June 6. J. Clap, Great Tower-street, City, wine broker—June 6. J. B. and L. O. B. Vautier, Wood-street, Cheapside, dealer in artificial flowers—June 5. D. Morton, Lower Thimble-street, Rahmoner—June 6. A. Radcliffe, sen., and A. Radcliffe, jun., Hermitage-place, St. John-street Road, patent glaziers' diamond manufacturers—June 6. G. Flinton, Plymouth, bookseller—June 4. G. Dickinson, South Portsmouth-mews, Portman-square, farmer—June 6. A. Green, Brighton, apothecary—June 6. A. V. Fulljames, Bath, auctioneer—June 5. W. Hall, Clapham, Durham, grocer—June 5. A. and F. Atkinson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, colour manufacturers—June 5. C. Watson, 400, Darlington, Durham, tea dealer—June 4. T. Davidson, Stockton-upon-Tees, grocer—June 12. W. H. Lague, Atherstone, Warwickshire, victualler—June 4. J. Harley, Wol-verhampton, Staffordshire, plumber—June 5. J. Wilson, Jerny-street, St. James's, bootmaker—June 5. T. Smith, sen., Alinto-street, Bermondsey, wool manufacturer—June 5. P. J. Papillon, Leeds, wine merchant—June 5. W. Bendish, Liverpool, merchant—June 4. L. Davis, Euborat, Sussex, wine agent—June 5. M. Atkinson, Temple Powerby, Westmoreland, banker—June 5. T. Metcher, Southampton, plumber—June 5. W. Knight, Manchester, oil cloth manufacturer—June 5. J. North, Maple-row, Huddersfield, licensed victualler.

SCOTCH SKEWSEALERS.

J. SUTHERLAND, Edinburgh, bookbinder—J. COKE, North Leith, spirit merchant—T. ALMIDON and CO., Edinburgh, paper stainers.



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25	1 1 0	2 2 2	1 3 8
30	1 2 1	1 4 1	1 6 1
35	1 5 3	1 7 2	1 9 3
40	1 8 9	1 10 4	1 13 6
45	1 12 2	1 14 8	2 1 0
50	1 16 11	2 3 10	2 13 11

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Further information may be obtained of Geo. H. PINCHAM, Actuary, 78, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London, or of any of the Society's agents.

**MR. HAYES, DENTIST,** has the honour of informing his Friends that he has REMOVED from May's buildings, St. Martin's-lane, to 13, ROYAL-SQUARE, where, ONLY, he may be consulted on all cases of Dental Surgery.—Terms, moderate.—13 Soho-square.

**STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHEST** are entirely prevented, and gently and effectually removed, in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the PATENT ST. JAMES'S CHEST EXPANDER, which is light, simple, easily employed outwardly or inwardly, without bands beneath the arms, unobtrusive restraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent post free, by Mr. A. BIRSON, 40, Tavistock-street, Strand, London, near the Bazaar; or full particulars on receiving a postage stamp.

**FREE-TRADE BAZAAR IN MAY.**—All Persons coming to London may save their expenses by going to the CITY FOOT and HORSE DEPOT, 17, St. Martin's-lane-Grand, opposite the General Post-office. The Proprietor having bought the stocks of several manufacturers retired from business, at a tremendous reduction, for cash, is enabled to offer them to the public at extraordinarily low prices; they are well worth the attention of shopkeepers, families, persons going abroad, and others of large consumption, being 20 per cent. under any other warehouse in the Kingdom. All warranted; and should any work give way the same made good free of charge.

Visitors to the Bazaar are respectfully invited to inspect the Elastic Boots at Mrs. Lewis's Stall—contributed by Mr. J. Sparkes Hall.

**ELASTIC BOOTS—THE QUEEN'S BOOTS.**

The Patent Elastic Ankle Boots require neither lacing, buttoning, nor tying; they can be put on and off in a moment, without trouble and loss of time. The elegant appearance of laces breaking, buttons coming off, holes wearing out, and many other imperfections in the ordinary modes of fastening, suggested the improvement which is now submitted to the public. No boots ever exhibited such variety of play and motion to the feet and ankles, or corresponded so exactly to their natural and anatomical form.—J. SPARKES HALL, Elastic Bootmaker to the Queen, and the Queen of the Belgians, 309, Regent-street, opposite the Polytechnic Institution.

Ladies and gentlemen at a distance may be fitted by forwarding a pattern boot.

**TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. REDUCTION ON**

**NELSON'S PATENT GELATINE** for making blancmange, jellies, &c., less than one-third the price of isinglass. Sold in packets only, from 6d. to 10s., by most respectable chemists, oilmen, and grocers in town and country. Each packet bears the patentee's signature.—N.H. A. 6d. packet makes one quart of Jelly.—Extract from Dr. Trevelyan's testimonial, June 6, 1849:—"I had Mr. G. Nelson's Patent Opaque Gelatine to be at least equal in strength and purity, if not superior, to the best isinglass for every culinary purpose. It is entirely free from any impregnation of acid, such as I have found to exist in other kinds of gelatine in the London market." These gelatines are well adapted for hotels, taverns, cabin use and ship stores, and a safe and profitable commodity for exportation.  
Gelatine and Isinglass Warehouse, 14, Bucklersbury, London, and Ensign-street, Warwick.

**A BRONZED SCROLL FENDER,** for 10s. Ornamental Iron Ditto, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6, 5s. 3d.; Chamber Fire Irons, 1s. 8d. per set; Parlour ditto, 3s. 6d.; Superior ditto, from 6s. 6d. Their Stock also consists of an extensive assortment of Drawing room Stoves, London-made Irish Covers, Paper and Japan Tea Trays, superior Table Cutlery, Nickel Silver Ware, and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery, every article of which is marked at such prices that will fully convince purchasers of the great advantages resulting from cash payments.  
RICHARD and JOHN SLACK, 319, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent per post free.—Established 1818.

**FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.**—The

largest Assortment of Stoves and Fenders, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on Sale at RIPPON and BURTON'S extensive Warehouse, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street (just removed from Wells-street). Bright steel fenders, to 4 feet, from 30s. each; ditto ditto, with ornamental ornaments, from 60s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with steel bar, 10s. 6d.; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 5s.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 6s.; 4 feet, 11s.; wrought iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 5s.; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornaments and two sets of bars, from 5 guineas; ditto ditto, with ornamental ornaments, from 2s. 10s.; black dining-room register stoves, 2 feet, 20s.; 3 feet, 30s.; bedroom register stoves, 2 feet, 16s.; 3 feet, 21s. The new economical Thermic stove, with fender and radiating hearthplate, from 24s.; fire irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest pattern, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire irons, with ornamental and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article to be furnished immediately 50 per cent. under any other house, while the extent and variety of the stock are without any equal. The money returned for every article not approved of.—Detailed Catalogues, with Engravings, sent (per post) free. Established (in Wells-street) 1820.

**TO LADIES.**

**ROWLAND'S KALYDOR,**

PATENTED BY

THE SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS AND COURTS OF EUROPE.

An Oriental Botanical Discovery, and perfectly free from all mineral admixture. It exerts the most soothing, cooling, and purifying action on the skin, and by its agency on the pores and minute secretory vessels, most effectually dissipates all RHEUM, TAN, PINPLES, BLOTCHES, SPOTS, FRECKLES, CHILBLAINS, CHAPS, and other cutaneous Violations. The radiant bloom it imparts to the CHEEK, and the softness and delicacy it induces on the HANDS, ARMS, and NECK, render it indispensable to every toilet.

Whenever, after shaving, will be it allay all irritation and tenderness of the skin, and render it soft, smooth, and pleasant. Price 4s. 6d. and 6s. 6d. per bottle, duty included.

**CAUTION.**

Beware of IMITATIONS of the most DELICIOUS CHARACTER, containing mineral ingredients utterly ruinous to the complexion, and by their repellent action endangering health. See that the words "ROWLAND'S KALYDOR" are on the wrapper, and A. ROWLAND and SON, 30, Hatton-garden, engraved (by authority of the Honourable Commissioners of Stamps) on the Government Stamp affixed on each bottle.

Sold by the Proprietors, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

\* All other KALYDORS are FRAUDULENT IMITATIONS!!!

**NATIONAL HALL, 242, High Holborn.**—On SUNDAY Evening next, May 18, and on the following Monday, W. J. Fox, Esq., will LECTURE on the "Reciprocal Duties of Members of Parliament, Electors, and Non-electors." The Lectures will commence at Eight o'clock.—Admission, Hall, 4d. Gallery, 1d.

**LECTURES ON INDIA.**—A COURSE of LECTURES on INDIA will be delivered in the National Hall, High Holborn, on WEDNESDAY Evenings, May 21st and 22nd, by General THOMSON, Esq.  
The Lectures will commence at Half-past Eight.—Admission, Hall, 4d. Gallery, 3d.

**HEAL and SON'S LIST of BEDDING,** containing a full description of weights, sizes, and prices, by which purchasers are enabled to judge the articles that are best suited to a good set of bedding. Sent free, by post, on application to their establishment, the largest in London, exclusively for the manufacture and sale of bedding (in bedsteads or other furniture being kept).—Heal and Son, Feather Dressing and Bedding Manufacturers, 195, opposite the chapel, Tottenham Court Road.

**A SHOWER BATH,** with curtains, 12s. 6d.; ditto, with copper conducting tubes, from 60s.; spongeing bath, 12s. 12s. and 21s.; hip do., 19s. and 20s.; toilet cans, 6s. 6d.; foot-tubs, 6s. 6d. Also every description of Japan Ware thirty per cent. under any other house.—J. and J. SLACK beg to call attention to the quality of their baths, as they are all manufactured on their premises, they can confidently warrant them for durability. The illustrated Catalogue of Baths, and every description of furnishing ironmongery may be had gratis, or sent post free.—Richard and John Slack, 335, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Established 1824.

**THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.**—The high estimate formed by the public during the ten years RIPPON and BURTON'S chemically purified material has been before it (made into every useful and ornamental article usually made in silver, possessing, as it does, the characteristic purity and durability of silver, and called into existence the deleterious compounds of "Albata Plate," "Linen Silver," and other so-called substitutes; they are at best but imitations of the genuine articles manufactured, with the view of obtaining the purchaser, by Rippon and Burton, and sold only by them.

Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen 12s. 0d. 25s. 0d. 30s. 0d.  
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto 10s. 0d. 21s. 0d. 25s. 0d.  
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto 8s. 0d. 11s. 0d. 12s. 0d.  
Gravy ditto 3s. 0d. 6s. 0d. 7s. 0d.

**NICKEL-ELECTRO-PLATED.**—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced and made only by Rippon and Burton, when plated by the process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article, next to sterling silver, that can be employed as such either usefully or ornamentally. In the lengthened and increasing popularity of the material itself, and the high character of the method of plating, the public have a guarantee that the articles sold by Rippon and Burton (and by them only) are, as it regards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied at any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver.

Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.—Rippon and Burton, 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street (near Wells-street). Established 1818.

**OUTFITS to AUSTRALIA, INDIA, and the COLONIES.**—Parties leaving England will find it greatly to their advantage to purchase their Outfits at E. J. MONNERY and CO.'S, 118, Fenchurch-street, City, where a large assortment of Shirts, Clothing, Hosiery, Gauze Merino Under Shirts, &c., adapted for each particular colony, as well as for the voyage, is kept ready for immediate use, and at prices far more reasonable than usually charged for the same articles.

Bedding, Military Accoutrements, Cables and Camp Furniture of every description.—Lists, with Prices affixed, forwarded by post.

**"TIME WORKS WONDERS"**

"He said that 'Time works wonders'—that is true; The fact is seen in everything we view. Where'er we look—above, beneath, around, Some most surprising 'wonders' may be found. Look at those vessels which in triumph ride, In opposition both to wind and tide. Look at those carriages whose wheels seem scarce Needs not the efforts of the noble horse— These, with a thousand others 'wonders' say That 'time' is working 'wonders' every day. Another wonder, brought about by time, Claims special mention in this humble rhyme. MOSES and SON'S huge warehouse is display'd A mighty wonder in the sphere of trade. Was there a 'house' a few years ago Like MOSES'S celebrated Dress Mart? No. But 'Time works wonders' in the works of art. And hence, that noble 'wonder'—MOSES'S MART. The hand of time will still work 'wonders'—yes, 'Wonders' will still be brought about in dress; And all will own, while thus each day discloses, That 'Time works wonders' at the house of MOSES.

The new work, entitled "The Monarch Mart," with full directions for self-measurement, may now be had on application, and forwarded "post free."

**LIST OF PRICES.**

**READY MADE.**

Tweed Tailcoats .. from 9 7 6

Ditto superior quality with silk collar, cuffs and facings .. 10 0 0

Corduroys and Chesterfields in light and gentlemanly materials .. 10 0 0

Cashmere Coats in every style and make, including the Regatta .. 10 0 0

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Holland, Jean, Grand Drill, and Diagonal Blouses .. 10 0 0

Spangled Summer Vests .. 10 0 0

Cachmere and Persian ditto, in endless variety .. 10 0 0

Black and Fancy Satins .. 10 0 0

Cloth Trousers .. 10 0 0

Tweed ditto .. 10 0 0

Spring ditto (woollen) .. 10 0 0

Dress Coats .. 10 0 0

Frock Coats .. 10 0 0

**MADE TO MEASURE.**

Tweed Coats, trimmed with silk .. 11 0 0

Cashmere ditto, in any shape, handsomely trimmed, made in the best style of fashion .. 12 0 0

Boxe Gowns, handsomely trimmed .. 10 0 0

Quitting Vests, 6s. 6d., or three for .. 10 0 0

Cachmere ditto, in choice patterns .. 10 0 0

8 1/2 ditto, plain or fancy .. 10 0 0

Spring Trousers, in great variety .. 10 0 0

Tweed ditto, in choice patterns .. 10 0 0

Single-Milled Albert and Plain Dress Trousers .. 10 0 0

Best Quality Black, or Dress, ditto .. 10 0 0

Dress Coats .. 10 0 0

Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. 10 0 0

Frock Coats .. 10 0 0

Ditto, ditto, best manufactured .. 10 0 0

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**

A new work, entitled "The Leviathan of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free.

Mourning to any extent can be had at five minutes' notice, at the following prices:—

Men's Suits, dress coat, vest, and trousers .. from 1 10 0

Ditto, jacket, vest, and trousers .. from 0 10 0

**IMPORTANT.**—Any article purchased or ordered, if not approved of, changed, or the money returned.

Observe.—E. MOSES and SON, Tailors, Wholesale and Retail, West-enders Outfitters, and General Warehousemen, 118, Monmouth, and 118, Aldgate, City, opposite the Church.

GAVIN.—E. MOSES and SON are obliged to guard the public against impostors, having learned that the unscrupulous followers of long connected with them, or it's the same concern, has been resorted to in connection with any other establishment in or out of London; and those who follow with any other establishment should be prevented from doing so. Give genuine Cheap Clothing should be prevented from doing so. or send to 118, Monmouth, or 118, Aldgate, opposite the Church.

N.B. No business transacted at this Establishment from sunset on Friday till sunset on Saturday, when business is resumed and notice of which.

London: Printed by HENRY PALMER (of Providence place, Upper Kensington-lane, in the County of Surrey) and JAMES CHAMBERLAIN (of Number 390, Strand, in the County of Middlesex), at their Printing Office, Number 10, Finsbury, in the Parish of St. Dunin in the Ward of St. Dunin, and published by ARTHUR WATSON, Proprietor of and at the Office of THE LEAGUE, Number 37, Fleet-street, in the Parish of St. Dunin in the Ward of St. Dunin, on May 17, 1850.





# THE LEAGUE.

No 87.]

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return answers pledge themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR MAN, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn-Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE BAZAAR—ITS MORAL RESULTS.

The gratifying task of summing up, and detailing to our readers, the financial results of the Free-Trade Bazaar, must of course await now the rapidly approaching period of its termination, which will have taken place ere we again address them. But it is not premature to speak of those less direct, but more important, moral results which this magnificent demonstration of the strength of the Free-Trade cause has produced or indicated—of that deep change in public feeling and opinion of which the success is a sign—of the accession of moral strength which it has brought to that great work to whose accomplishment its pecuniary proceeds will be devoted. Though not one shilling of net profit the League exchequer should appear on our balance-sheet, we hesitate not to say, that the immense expenditure of time and toil lavished on this exhibition has already yielded an adequate return. The past fortnight has added incalculably to that confidence of hope, that resolute vigour of action, that quiet assurance of strength, that moral and social prestige, which—far more than the hundred thousand pounds sterling—constitute the "League Fund."

To those who shared or witnessed our struggle

during its earlier years, nothing can be more striking than the evidences afforded by the history of the past fortnight, of that total change which has taken place in public feeling and opinion since the time when the Free-Trade question was first introduced to the attention of this metropolis. This is especially apparent in the recent tone of the newspaper press. Four years ago, or two years ago, our Bazaar not only would not have succeeded—it could not have been held. Even if all the other requisite conditions had been at our command, we could not and would not have asked the women of Great Britain to subject themselves to the ribald insults with which they would have been unscrupulously assailed by journalists who libelled the League leaders as assassins premeditated, and charged designs against social order on men whose all in this world is staked on the maintenance of public tranquillity. How different is the tone of this same press now! Not one scurrilous paragraph; no one unmanly jest; not a word of misstatement that can fairly be held wilful. In all quarters, candour and courtesy; in nearly all, eulogy, more or less earnest and hearty. We confess we were scarcely prepared to expect the total absence of those ebullitions of malignity and insolence which, at a former period, would infallibly have been poured forth against women that dared to manifest their sympathy with plundered and famished industry. In treating this gratifying improvement in the tone of the press as the sign of a vast change in public opinion—which would now be utterly intolerant of the sort of outrage to which we allude—we do not wish to deny to the conductors of the press individually any credit that may be justly due to them. They have probably themselves participated in that change.

Altogether, the revolution in metropolitan opinion and feeling is as signal as it is cheering. The grand difficulty of moving London—a difficulty which, in our early militant days, our best friends were least sanguine of their and our ability to overcome—is fairly subdued. The enormous size of this mighty metropolis; the unceasing excitement of business, or of pleasure, in which its multitudes

are breathlessly whirled along; the metropolitan jealousy of provincial "interference" and "dictation;" the circumstance of London being the last place in Great Britain to feel the operation of that giant monopoly whose proceeds are expended on its shopkeepers and artisans;—all these obstacles are vanquished. London is penetrated, possessed, conquered by Free-Trade opinion. The heart of the empire is now the heart of the movement for the liberation of the empire's industry and commerce. The apathy, indifference, and contemptuous rather than bitter hostility of which the delegates of 1839, 1840, and 1841 must even yet retain a lively recollection, exist now only in recollection. Then, a small room in Palace-yard was too large for the strangers who came up on the forlorn hope of leaguering the metropolis of British commerce in common cause with the northern hives of British manufactures. Now, the largest of our theatres is too small—needs to be guarded by detachments of police, to check the rush of the eager multitudes that crowd to pay the homage of their admiration to the achievements of manufacturing industry, and to aid in the work of its enfranchisement. Statesmen of the highest parliamentary rank have not deemed it beneath them to testify, in common with those multitudes, their interest in this exhibition of the industrial resources of the empire whose government they have been, and may be again, called to administer. The time was, when a nobleman high in the councils of the State called our project a "mad" one—as, in truth, it then seemed, looking at the greatness of the end and the smallness of the visible means. Some of that nobleman's then colleagues in office have now been interested and gratified spectators of a scene which must have convinced them that this same "madness"—by which they are themselves already more than half infected—must, at no distant date, become act-of-Parliament truth and soberness.

The moral results of our Bazaar are equally cheering, whether we look to the past or to the future. It sets the stamp of success on the labours of seven years; and it gives assurance of a strength that will hold out for seven, or any other number of years more that may be needed for the completion of the work so nobly begun, and so far advanced towards its maturity. The exertions whose products are now concentrated within the walls of Covent-garden Theatre evince a moral force, to which success stands in the same sort of relation that the shadow does to the substance. The amazing number and variety—not to speak of the pecuniary value—of the contributions that have filled, and filled again,

the interior of one of our largest metropolitan buildings; the number and variety of contributors—of every class in society, every occupation in life, every religious denomination and political party; the prodigious outlay, not of money only, but of time, thought, and toil;—these are evidences of a depth and extent of public conviction, a strength of public will, which can no more be defeated of their aim than the earth can be turned back in its orbit. The zeal of the Free-Trade public, no one ever doubted. But mere zeal is apt to cool, and evaporate in mere words. Here is something beyond zeal. Here is persistency, patience, a talent for hard-working and long-waiting, such as never, since the world began, was foiled in any just and noble enterprise. "Agitation" is a poor word to apply to the action of the moral and social forces of which our Bazaar is the embodiment. The agitation which is the superficial sign of our movement is, to the movement itself, that which the foam and spray are to the tide.

The indications of strength, and presages of final victory, afforded by the present state of the Free-Trade cause, are the more decisive, because the original impulse of the movement has been long since withdrawn. It began with manufacturing distress; it goes on without the distress—better without than ever it did with it. It began with bad harvests and dear bread; we have had good harvests, and we have cheap bread—still it goes on. Manufacturing capital is making handsome profits; manufacturing labour is earning fair wages; wheat is at 45s.; the commercial mind of the country is distracted by railway speculation; the political mind of the country is excited by important public questions unrelated to our own;—still, on it goes. Prosperity or distress makes no difference; cheap bread or dear bread makes no difference; political excitement or political repose makes no difference. Our cause needs now no fostering aid of circumstances—it lives a life of its own. In the midst of circumstances so well calculated to allay agitation, and which no mere agitation ever did or ever could survive, the Free-Trade movement has just given the most startling sign of its vitality and potency. It is plain that industrial emancipation is now a part of Englishmen's *faith*—a profound conviction, an unconquerable resolve, an inextinguishable moral craving—as independent of any mere change of time and circumstances as religion itself. It never can expire but in the euthanasia of victory.

In speaking the language of triumph, so amply justified by the results of the past fortnight, we scarcely feel that we are triumphing over any class or party of our countrymen. The coarse, harsh tones of exulting antagonism would ill befit the quality of our recent success. We triumph, not over any of our fellow-countrymen, but for them—would that we could say, with them all. Such of them as ignorantly, or worse than ignorantly, oppose us and our work, have no real, permanent interest at variance with us or it. They will by-and-by be rejoicing with us, over the demonstrated futility of their own efforts at obstruction. To one and all of our readers—friends and opponents—we speak the same language of heartfelt congratulation. To those who, by their sleepless activity, unrelaxing perseverance, and open-handed munificence, have won this great success; to those vast multitudes, who have been led, by a curiosity more or less thoughtful and reflective, to visit a scene that must have given them an elevating and inspiring sense of the industrial grandeur of their country; to those of our opponents, who have, for the first time, trodden on League ground, under that shield of neutrality which art and female patronage have spread over this great national exhibition, and who have, we trust, in very many instances, gone thence with more serious thoughts of the claims of that industry whose achievements they have admired, and with altered feelings towards a cause which has gathered around itself so many elements of moral worth and nobleness; to those, even, who have coldly kept aloof from a scene whose true character they are as yet unable to understand, and with whose spirit they are unprepared to sympathise;—to ALL our countrymen and countrywomen we tender our earnest and hearty congratulations on a triumph in whose substantial fruits they will, one day, all participate.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Fourteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 24.

Since the re-assembling of Parliament, after the Whil-

sunside recess, nothing has occurred bearing on the question of Free Trade, and those collateral questions which are noticed in this place. But the absorbing subject of Maynooth is now disposed of, so far as the House of Commons is concerned, the bill having passed its third reading by a majority of 133. The coast is now, therefore, clear; and Monday next being the day fixed for the commencement of the debate on Lord John Russell's resolutions on the Condition of the People, we will, doubtless, have interesting matters to record under this head.

Mr. Stafford O'Brien has received a significant hint that his Malt Drawback Bill will not pass. On moving its second reading on Wednesday, he was told by Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary to the Treasury, and by Sir Robert Peel, that there were serious objections to it on the part of the Government; and the second reading was consequently postponed.

### THE BAZAAR. (From the Bazaar Gazette.)

Were we to describe adequately the beautiful contributions from Colebrookdale, we should have to devote to them more than one number of this journal; but as we purpose to examine the importance of iron in the decorative arts, and its susceptibility as a material for realizing ideal form, at a greater length in another journal more especially devoted to the fine arts, we shall on the present occasion do little more than give a catalogue of the valuable articles sent by the Messrs. Darby to the Bazaar. It is not necessary in this place to enter into any comparison of the relative merits of iron and bronze as materials for casting; but the discovery of figures of cast iron at Pompeii and Herculaneum sufficiently proves that the Greek colonies, and their descendants in Southern Italy, had overcome the difficulties of manipulation, which have led many to describe iron as the most intractable of metals. The statues, figures, and ornaments wrought in iron by the artists of Berlin have for some years enjoyed a European reputation, and we believe that the Messrs. Darby are the only British manufacturers who have as yet been their successful competitors.

The first object to which we should wish to direct notice in this splendid collection, occupying almost the entire of the centre of the lower saloon, is the beautiful table that has been constructed for the exhibition of the articles. It is of wood, with richly-ornamented legs, having successive rows of ranges for the display of articles, rising one above the other like the steps of stairs, the back of each range being formed of plate glass, so as to render the exhibition of the figures more complete and effective. We believe that this table will be on sale at the close of the Bazaar, and it would certainly be a valuable acquisition to any shop where it was desirable to make an effective display of ornamental goods.

Nearly opposite to this is a bronze fountain, seven feet six inches high, and three feet eight inches in diameter at the base. The outline of form combines, in varying proportions, the cylindrical and pyramidal, with figured details. The dominant figures in the design are the crocodile and the water-snake, the plications and flexions of the latter being so judiciously managed as at all times to complete the details of general outline in a manner exceedingly creditable to the taste and skill of the artist.

Near to this is a polished register-stove, set in a beautiful chimney-piece of white marble, with a telegraph back for regulating the draught of the chimney. The hearth-plate is peculiarly remarkable for the elegance of the workmanship, and the radiating ash-pan of polished steel is one of the most effective specimens of ornamentation applied to a domestic article, rarely brought within the range of decorative art, to be seen in the whole Bazaar.

We have next to notice the garden and hall chairs. Though made of iron, they have an appearance of elegance and lightness which must commend them to general use. This is not the place to show that the distinction absurdly made between comfort and ornament is utterly without foundation, but we must say that the exhibition of Mr. Darby's contributions has established a truth on which we have often preached elsewhere, that beauty is as cheap as ugliness, and rather more agreeable.

A stand of flower pots may well deserve mention, for we have had elsewhere occasion to say that there seems to have been some supernatural perversity in the manufacture of these articles, art having been most ugly when provided for that which nature had made most beautiful. It is really an elegant stand in its general design, but we will not vouch for all the details; and we may say the same of the chandelier, though, in its details, there is far less scope for criticism.

And here we must observe, that the æsthetic principle which ought to regulate suspended light has been sadly pushed out of view since the introduction of gas. A light above the head should always have something of a meteoric character; and whatever is pendulous from a roof should never convey the idea that there was either danger or difficulty in securing its fixity. The latter requisite is certainly fulfilled in the chandelier under consideration; it has a graceful ease and lightness, which few of our modern metallic chandeliers have attained.

The vases open too wide a field for discussion to be examined in a publication like the present. Nearly all who have written on the æsthetics of art have found vases the most illustrative subjects of what they have termed the æsthetic archetypes which existed in the mind of the designer, and which it is the perfection of art to suggest forcibly, and yet not thrust ostentatiously on the observance of the spectator. This perfection is attained in the Warwick vase, and in some copies of Grecian vases; but in one instance we feel that elaborate and multiplied details have overlaid the original design.

On many of the fancy castings we should gladly have dilated at great length, for they are suggestive of artistic thought, and lead at once to the consideration of the great question which lies at the foundation of all the higher departments of art, namely—how far an artist ought to be a creator, and aim at the realization of his own idealities, and how far he must be a copyist, and aim at accurate reproduction of the works of nature. We shall take an illustration from the grotesque in art, to show that the true artist creates rather than copies. One of these castings represents a bear drawing the tooth of another bear. In the design the ursine character is completely preserved, and yet the expression of passion and feeling is completely human. We know not by whom the original model was designed, but it is fully equal to anything which Grandville has done pictorially in his celebrated "Scenes from the Public and Private Life of Animals," not even excepting the Banker Turkey cock, the Sailor and Marquis Cat, the Literary Raven, the Penitent Rat, or the Lion and Tiger of Paris.

Now, the grotesque is just as much an idealism as the sublime, and, if the realization of the one belongs to high art, it is impossible to name any principle by which the other can be excluded. In the group of wild horses, and of the lion and bear, there is to the full as much of idealism as in the tooth-drawing bear. It is an idealism to fix animals in the moment most favourable for the display of their muscular development; the artist renders perpetual that which nature had only made instantaneous. In the group of the lion and bear there is an artistic contrast of the very highest order; the whole force of the lord of the forest is in play; every sinew at work, every nerve strung, every muscle in action; but the victim is in every detail helpless and collapsed; there is even an apparent consciousness in his whole frame that the struggle is over, and his fate sealed.

We insert a catalogue of the castings from Colebrookdale Ironworks:—One show table of wood, with ornamental legs, and covered with crimson-coloured cloth, valued at from £20 to £25; bronzed ornamental fountain, 7ft. 6in. high, and 3ft. 8in. diameter at the base, weighing about 9½ cwt., price £70; polished register-stove, with telegraph back for regulating the draught of the chimney, hearth-plate, and radiating ash pan, price £35; large bronzed vase and pedestal for pleasure ground; hat and umbrella stand, white and gold; ditto, ditto, bronzed; flower-pot stand, with iron pots; five fancy tables, with painted tops, "Interior of Ely Cathedral," "Wreath of Flowers, and Reapers in Ayrshire," "Inlaid Pearl Flowers," "Lassie tending Sheep," and "Palace of Francis I.," microscopic table, with top to turn round, and painted to imitate satin wood; table, with inlaid pearl chess top; two garden seats, 4ft. long, with cushion; garden chair, painted oak; six hall and garden chairs, assorted patterns, and painted morocco and gold, blue and gold, and green and gold; three pole fire screens, with portraits, painted on iron of Cobden, Bright, and Villiers, value £6. 6s. each; ornamental iron chandelier, with eight burners and fancy glasses, value £20; two pictures, enamelled and painted on iron, and in gilt iron frames—the subjects from Collins's "Happy as a King" and "Rustic Hospitality," price £20 each; Elizabethan vase, bronzed, to stand on a chiffonniere or in a hall; two white and gold Grecian vases; two easy chairs, with japanned and ornamented frames, and velvet fittings; Warwick vase, white and gold, £6. 6s.; Grecian vase, with fancy paintings, and inlaid pearl ornaments; two white and gold flower bowls, to stand on a table; one black and gold flower bowl, to stand on the floor; two fenders and sets of fire-irons, with twisted shanks; and sundry fancy castings, viz., candelabra, candlesticks, taper stands, inkstands, card stands, wafer dishes, fruit baskets and plates, card plates, watch stands, small jugs, hand bells, pastile burners, pin cushions, small vases, statue of Goethe, boys and wine skins, Joan of Arc, a hermit, statues of Wellington and Napoleon, bust of Franklin, two pairs of dancers, French peasants, musicians, dog and child, the Crusader, prancing horses, setter dog, pointer with hare, greyhound with hare, dancing bear and lamp, bear dentists, casowaries, eagles, the Florence bear, cigar case and lamp, with two French actors, supper plate and frame, together with sundry specimens of iron ore, pig iron, and rolled iron. Also two porcelain vases, from Rose, of Colebrookdale, with glass shades, value £27. 6s.

Five fancy tables of cast iron, and two table tops of decorated slate (contributed by Messrs. Allen and Co., of Augustus-street, Regent's-park), afford signal proof that new varieties of materials, susceptible of a high grade of decorative art, may be added to our means of domestic comfort and enjoyment. It is not necessary to mention the subjects of the paintings with which these tables are decorated; they are all executed with great spirit and taste. Artists, indeed, complain that, in all these examples of painting on furniture, whether the material be iron, slate, or papier maché, the style of painting must of necessity approach the sign-board school; but we do not quite coincide with this sweeping declaration. When we remember how many paintings from the hands of the first masters have appeared on coach-panels, we believe that the multiplication of materials susceptible of art will extend the empire of art. We have seen very gratifying evidences in support of this opinion in the Poteries. Since the time of the great Wedgwood, both sculpture and painting have been laid under contribution to advance the decorations of fictile products; and we have seen some paintings on porcelain, produced at the establishment of Mr. John Ridgway, which were little, if at all, inferior to the boasted enamels of Italy. His success has raised up a host of emulous, but honourable, imitators; and we believe that at this moment there is no part of the empire where the highest efforts of the fine arts are better appreciated, and the æsthetic principles of decoration more ardently investigated, than in the localities where the Poteries are situated. The very room of which we are speaking furnishes striking examples. The collection of vases at the lower end exhibits a range of inventive thought, both in form and pattern, such as we never expected to see developed. Without making any invidious distinction, we must say that the vases sent by Mr. Rose have not been surpassed, indeed have scarcely been equalled, by any similar products of the fictile art we have seen, whether belonging to ancient or modern times. And we say this with our examination of the magnificent display at the Louvre, Sévres, and the Parisian Exposition, still vivid in our recollection.

So many complaints have been made by the Rochdale ladies of the scanty notice bestowed on their stall, that we have sent down a special reporter to their locality, and shall give his account, which we have received by express. The contributions consist of a beautiful gilt cheval

screen, value £21; three splendid chairs, crimson velvet and needlework, in gilt frames, £21 each (sold); rosewood easy chair, covered with needlework, value £21 (sold); elegant papier maché drawing-room chair, with beautiful work, £7. 7s. (sold); rosewood drawing-room chair, £6. 6s. (sold); rosewood ottoman, with exceedingly beautiful raised needlework, £15. 15s. (sold); ottoman, on purple velvet, made up in white and gold, embroidered in a design appropriate to the occasion, consisting of the cotton plant twining round branches of coral, £15. 15s. (sold); ottoman, in white and gold on black velvet, with splendid group of flowers in needlework, £12. 12s.; pair of rosewood ottomans, £14. 14s.; cheval screen, made up in rosewood, with beautiful group of flowers, £15. 15s. (sold); two screens worked in black cloth. These are rather striking pieces of furniture, and are much admired, being in the form of banners; £8. 8s. each (one is sold). A pair of splendid pole-screens, most elegantly designed, the frame-work gilt. The needlework of these is exceedingly good; on one is represented the young chief-tain's first ride; on the other is a parrot, beautifully worked. The pair are valued at £14. 14s. A pair of splendid sofa cushions, designated Paul and Virginia, sold for £10. 10s.; a sofa cushion, elegantly embroidered in silk and beads, £5. 5s. (sold); a sofa cushion, with branch of roses, £5. 5s. (sold); sofa cushion in needlework, £5. 3s.; several beautiful and useful sofa cushions, in crochet and knitting (most of them are sold); two most splendid couvre-pieds in satin patchwork; and a beautiful patchwork quilt, value £10. 10s.

We also observed at this stall a variety of other articles of great beauty, so numerous that it is impossible to remark them separately; but we must particularize some pairs of hand-screens, which are quite unique, and for beauty of design cannot be surpassed. We believe some of them were sold at £5. 5s. the pair. Also several pairs of painted hand-screens deserved attention. A music-stool; baby clothes; ladies' night dresses; purses; work bags; a beautiful embroidered cambric handkerchief, which met an immediate sale at £5. 5s. We must not omit to mention a Greek cap, intended, we suppose, for a gentleman's smoking cap, but which is certainly too elegant for the purpose. We imagine there will be some competition for this article. Many embroidered aprons were soon sold, we understand, as well as worked stands for tea and coffee urns; netted window curtains, and anti-macassars, in great abundance, with d'oyleys, &c. &c. Among other striking objects at this stall was a beautiful pier table, in cast iron, with marble top, sold for £31. 10s.; a smaller one, gilt, which brought £6. 6s.; a model of Mr. Bright's works at Rochdale; and several globes of fine gold fish.

We believe the greater part of these articles are the work of the Rochdale ladies, but the contributions of the Todmorden ladies are exhibited at the same stall. Nor should we forget to mention the beautiful specimens of the different local manufactures, which we believe were made expressly for the occasion, and seemed to be fully appreciated by the visitors to the Bazaar, as they commanded a ready sale. The calicoes and sheetings were sent by Messrs. Munn, of Bacup; and Whitehead, of Holly-mount. The flannels are the contributions of Messrs. George Ashworth, and Archer, and we believe other Rochdale manufacturers. Messrs. Briggs and Bright, too, have contributed many cases of excellent hats, which, however, are not exhibited at the Rochdale stall. Among the manufactures from Todmorden is a splendid Poncho cloth, generally exported to the Greek islands, but which in England is used for table-covers, and is certainly very handsome.

In the model-room we have already noticed a handsome case of highly-finished and beautifully-modelled horse-shoes, manufactured by Mr. Alfred Josias Rogers, veterinary surgeon. There is also Rodway's patent double concave safety shoe, which retains the grit of the road in the shoe, and thus prevents slipping on any surface, and possesses many other advantages over the ordinary shoe now in use, at no additional expense. Each shoe is accompanied by a label, explaining its peculiar uses and advantages, which must prove highly interesting to sportsmen and agriculturists.

On the Kensington stall there is a superbly-finished flute, price £8. 8s. It is made of ebony, and mounted with gold. A. Binyon, 40, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, is the maker.

At the Leeds stall are to be seen two autograph letters of General Washington, and we have been kindly permitted to copy the shorter of the two:—

"Sir,—The applications for liberty to go to the lines are so frequent, that they cause much trouble. You will, therefore, Sir, grant passes to such as you may think proper; at the same time, I would recommend to you, that the officer who will attend upon these occasions be a person of sense, and one who will carefully attend to the conversation of those who meet on the lines.

"I am, Sir, your most H. St.

"G. WASHINGTON.

"Cambridge, 17th Decemr., 1775,  
Major-General Ward."

In the second box lobby is exhibited an interesting relic of Napoleon, with the following description attached:—  
"This remnant of silk formed a part of the mattress-covering of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte; and the black cloth is a portion from that which lined the illustrious hero's tomb. These relics were presented from Mr. and Mrs. Boorman, residents of James-town, St. Helena, after performing, jointly with others, the funeral rites of the Emperor, who now lies entombed in that island.

"Born 15th August, 1769. Died 5th May, 1821."  
The authenticity of the relic is attested by the following affidavit:—

"I, Richard Draper, of Fenchurch-street, engraver, do certify on oath, before the Right Honourable John Garratt, Lord Mayor of the City of London, that the remnant of silk is part of the mattress-covering of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte, and the black cloth is a portion from that which lined the hero's tomb, presented, as stated on the other side, by Mr. and Mrs. Boorman, who performed part of the funeral rites.

"Richard Draper.  
"Sworn at the Mansion-house, this 14th day of July, 1825, before me, John Garratt, Mayor."  
We have hitherto said nothing about the book stall, although it is one of the most important in the Bazaar. It is situated in the chamber of deais, or ground beneath the main room, on the right-hand side of the entrance. The upper part of the counter is occupied by pamphlets and



fancy stationery. On the stall there is a great variety of books, including some of great rarity and antiquity. We may mention the "Free-Trade Bible," a copy of the first edition published after the overthrow of the Bible monopoly in Scotland; a copy of the rare edition of the Bible, known to bibliomaniacs under the name of the edition of 1656; a valuable missal in folio, with the musical notation of the chants and antiphones; a copy of the aical notation of the vases, both Etruscan and Italo-Grecian, preserved in the Vatican, with plates, and descriptions in Latin and Italian; copies of works by Dr. Bowring, Dr. Pye Smith, Dr. Cox, Dr. Cooke Taylor, &c., with the autographs of their respective writers; "The League Guide to London," containing a ground plan of the Bazaar, with references to the different stalls; and Miss Martineau's tale of "Dawn Island," written expressly for this occasion. Amongst other curiosities at this stall are four manuscript sermons by Dr. Watts. To the sermons is prefixed a letter, in his own handwriting, of which the following is a copy:—

"To my honoured and dear Mother, Mrs. Sarah Watts. Dear Mother,—At your command these four Sermons are transcribed; not as written in my own notes, in brief hints in short-hand, but as taken from my mouth, when I preached ym., by one yt. heard em; and therefore more at large, yet not very uncorrect.

"If they shall be useful to your meditations, and faith, and support, and growth in grace, under your continued afflictions, as they have been to many of my friends at London, give all the honour to the God of grace, and continue to love and pray for

"Your obedient and affectionate son, and willing Servant in the Lord,

"London, Novr. 2, 1702." I. WATTS."

There is a copy of Hogarth's works, splendidly bound; "Faden's Illustrations," "Lodge's Portraits," "Audubon's American Ornithology," "Book of Costumes," with MS. memoranda by the Queen, and a sketch in pencil by Prince Albert; "Lewis's Topographical Dictionary," "Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary," and the "Free-Trade Quadrilles," composed and contributed to the Bazaar by Miss Novello, the title-page of which is one of the finest specimens of decorative printing that has yet been produced. There are two splendid volumes of "Sketches of Costume," by Coke Smith, Esq., which are to be disposed of by raffle. These sketches, 126 in number, were submitted to the Queen previous to the masked ball given at Buckingham Palace in May, 1842. On some of them are memoranda made by her Majesty. There is one sketch in pencil made by his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

We extract the following morceau, from Leigh Hunt's autograph, in a copy of his recent work on Imagination and Fancy, contributed to the Bazaar:—

"IMAGINATION (of one's own rights) and FANCY (for those of others).

"AN APOLOGUE.

"A man bred in a great, but not very good, school, issued forth one day to carry out the principle of doing what he liked with his own. He abused every body with his own tongue, picked as many pockets as he could with his own fingers, was very near being the death of a policeman with his own dagger, and was at length brought before a jury of his countrymen in his own proper person; but the jury unanimously acquitted him. 'For how,' said they, 'can a man who professes an opinion so preposterous be held responsible for his own actions?'"

Among the articles contributed to the Bazaar, there is none superior, in elegance and rich fancy, to the fairy glass, exhibited at the Edinburgh stall. It was manufactured in Paris, for the purpose of being presented to the Queen, at a cost of more than £200. The decorations are of the early style of Louis Quatorze, before the heavy florid taste had superseded the light and graceful ornamentation which the French derived from northern Italy. The general effect is, indeed, Florentine, rather than French, and the design appears to have been suggested by the noble specimens of decorative art produced under the patronage of the princely merchants of the house of the Medici. The ornaments are real stones, and are singularly lustrous when lighted up. This magnificent contribution is to be disposed of by raffle, in shares at 2s. 6d. each.

One of the most recent novelties is a spiritedly-executed woodcut, which contains a smart hit at the Corn Law. It is headed "The Shetland Arms." On the escutcheon appear, on a rock in the sea, a half-starved-looking fisherman, his wife, and some children of equally wretched and hungry appearance. The fisherman is in the attitude of presenting a fish towards a figure which appears approaching from the opposite side on the prow of a vessel, boding towards the fisherman a loaf of bread. Between the two appears a demoniacal-looking figure in the attitude of preventing the exchange of the fish for the bread, exhibiting in each hand a scroll—one labelled "Monopoly," the other "Corn Law." Motto, "Starvation of the many for the luxury of the few." This cut illustrates the oppressive operation of the Corn Law on the poor Shetlanders, in preventing them from exchanging their staple commodity, cured fish, with the Spaniards and others for bread, which the islands cannot produce. A striking instance of this oppression is detailed in a small pamphlet, to which this cut is an appropriate accompaniment. Both are to be had at the book stall and at the Shetland stall.

The following articles have been added to the Wolverhampton stall, by Messrs. T. and C. Clark:—Door porters, coffee mills, Italian irons, box irons, crimping machines, umbrella stands, cork squeezers, and tobacco pots.

We invite attention to the Savoy stall, where we find that Mr. Lewis, of 113, Strand, has produced a valuable steel pen. Mrs. Lewis also has contributed numerous fancy articles, but her *chef-d'œuvre* is a splendid group of wax flowers, rivaling Nature herself. This group and vase is about three feet high, the vase being placed on a stand resembling a mossy bank, from which violets, primroses, and other modest and retiring flowers peep forth; and here and there a snail-shell most judiciously placed, give it the reality of life. The vase is a fine specimen of terra cotta, and contains a large group of dahlias, roses, camellias, honey-suckles, and other splendid flowers, while sprigs of liburnum, wistaria, and clusters of passion-flowers droop over the vase in graceful harmony, down to the mossy bank. This beautiful production, which has excited much attention, was bought within an hour after the opening of the Bazaar on the first day, by a lady from Liverpool, for £7, who kindly

allowed it to remain for a time for public inspection. Many other productions at this stall are worthy of particular attention, especially "The Anti-Corn-Law and Free-Trade Cluster of Eschol," which we may perhaps notice in a future number.

On Wednesday morning the senior students of the Government School of Design, in Somerset-house, were admitted to see the Bazaar, at nine o'clock, and were accompanied by two of their masters, who explained to them the merits of the most striking designs in the various articles of manufacture, and commented on their general effect. The gentlemen of the model class were much interested by the potter's wheel, the artisan by whom it is worked having kindly consented to come at this early hour to exhibit it for their gratification. He produced in their presence, with a rapidity which was perfectly astonishing, accurate copies of the most celebrated Egyptian and Etruscan vases, to illustrate the variety of beautiful forms that may be produced by the simple machinery of the potter's wheel, aided by the plastic finger. They spent a long time in the lower saloon, minutely examining the castings from Colebrookdale: they unanimously declared that they had seen nothing equal to them at the Paris Exposition; and they further agreed that the figures on the great show table were equal to any bronze castings that have been produced in modern times. They were much struck with the splendid porcelain vases presented by Messrs. Wood and Brownfield, of the Potteries, to the Bazaar, and also by the beautiful specimens of glass sent up from the works of Birmingham and Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The prize carpet from Glasgow, in the outer hall, was more than admired; it was viewed with wonder as well as approbation. The copy of Rubens's celebrated "Descent from the Cross," which is worked in tapestry, and suspended in the hall of entrance, excited feelings of satisfaction, from the proof it afforded of the great progress which the fine arts have made in the manufacturing districts. The Manchester printed cottons, muslins, and velvets afforded equally cogent evidence of the great advance of the arts of design in Lancashire. The very handsome carriage sent to the Bazaar, by Mr. Andrews, of Southampton, was an object of great attraction; its beauty of form is not less remarkable than its lightness and convenience.

In consequence of the early hour at which this visit was made, very few of the stalls in the great Gothic-hall were uncovered. Fortunately, the keepers of the stall assigned to Newcastle-upon-Tyne (which now occupies the place previously ceded to the contributions from Duxfordshire, all of which have been sold off) were early in their attendance, and afforded an opportunity of examining the contributions sent from that spirited and enterprising locality. Amongst others, are twelve carvings upon the nut of the vegetable ivory, executed in the most beautiful style, by R. S. Scott, of that town; a bust in wax, of Mr. Cobden; and an exquisite model in gold, of a Northumberland cobble, one of the seats being made of the hair of the late Grace Horsley Darling, executed by C. Dinale, of Newcastle. There are also some very fine specimens of the crystals of alum, prussiate of potash, and sulphate of copper, from the Felling Alkali Works.

Several new and important additions have been made to the models in the upper saloon, but none more worthy of attention and admiration than two beautiful models sent by Mr. Henry Ashworth, of the Oaks, near Bolton, to illustrate the economy of Lothian farming. The first exhibits the arrangement of the fields, with the different crops grown on each, and the order of succession in which the crops are varied. The second exhibits the economy of the farmhouse, with its various out-offices, barns, yards, stables, &c.; the roofs of the houses are moveable, so as to display the internal arrangements. We believe that these exquisite models, which are executed with the most minute accuracy, are not for sale, but are designed for preservation in the League-rooms in Manchester. There are also exhibited several very interesting models of houses, that may be sent out in frame to the colonies or to Africa. A singular proof that such articles are wanted by the African chiefs is afforded by the throne of one of the slave-trading kings exhibited on an adjoining stall, which is nothing better than a very ugly stool. In contrast with this barbarism, we may notice a very beautiful specimen of Tshiti cloth, exhibited at the Bristol stall, which rivals the produce of the best looms of Christendom. Connected with this stall, we may also mention two Chinese screens, which have been suspended from the second circle of boxes, and which do great credit to the ingenuity, though not to the taste, of the artisans of the Celestial Empire.

We give a description of a mahogany boat, copper and brass fastened, exhibited in the hall of entrance. The timbers are cut out of oak grown to the shape, the planks vary from two to three inches in breadth, and are from a quarter to three-sixteenths of an inch in thickness. It is adapted either for a two-oared gig, or four-oared skiff, with a coxswain, or might be used as a two-oared skiff with a rower in the centre seat. It is French polished, and the rollocks, footholds, and bottom boards are on a new plan.

At the Bolton stall is a pair of silver knee buckles, which were worn by Dr. Franklin; and a silver stock buckle, worn by General Washington. These buckles were presented by the late Matthew Johnson to the Doncaster Lyceum Museum, and were returned to T. Johnson when the Museum was broken up. They belonged to the late George Hammond, Esq., merchant, of Liverpool.

Among the curiosities presented, we must notice a watch and chain, with an inscription stating that they, together with a gig, which was disposed of by public auction, a quantity of silver plate, and a writing desk, valued altogether at £20, were seized under warrant of distress for non-payment of 13s. 6d., overcharge of income-tax, from Mr. Robert Smallwood, carrier, &c., of Birmingham. This being the first and only actual seizure made in the neighbourhood of Birmingham on account of overcharges by the income-tax collectors, Mr. Smallwood determined to mark his sense of the outrage, by making a presentation of the watch and chain, with an additional sovereign, to the Bazaar.

We are indebted to a contributor for the following particulars of the Savoy stall. He says, "First let me satisfy the curiosity of many of our visitors as to the denizenship of the 'Savoyards' in attendance. The question is asked a thousand times a day, 'Savoy! what, are you sent from Savoy,—are you really Savoyards?' And when informed that the fair attendants are truly English girls, and the articles offered for sale of English manufacture, the inquirers are much astonished; and their surprise is much

increased when told that the Savoy is that mountainous district of the Strand lying on this side the Thames. In reality, it forms a portion of the Duchy of Lancaster, and is part of the appanage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. It is now particularly remarkable for the great exertions made in so small a place in the cause of Free Trade. I mentioned a compilation entitled 'The Anti-Corn-Law and Free-Trade Cluster of Eschol.' It is a beautiful branch of purple grapes, and is accompanied by a well-written address, which refers the reader to Num. xiii. 23, for the meaning of the term 'Cluster of Eschol.' It appears that each grape contains a text of scripture bearing against the horrid systems of Corn Laws and monopoly; and I refer the reader to the address for a condensed *exposé* of the immorality and irreligious tendency of those systems. I also find a desirable acquisition for bachelors fearing to take unto themselves a wife. Here is a beautiful babe in a bassinet, which is to be disposed of by raffle, twenty members at 2s. each. Haste, therefore, ye anti-benedicts, while there is yet time! Another contribution which has caused much laughter, is a likeness of Lord Brougham, 'supposed to be contributed by Lord Campbell.' The likeness of this nondescript (with nine bills instead of tails) is very faithful. There is also a beautiful set of satin d'oyleys, embroidered in silk, fit to grace the table of our gracious Queen, price four guineas, and very cheap at the money. There are also a variety of articles in worsted and Berlin wool. One patriotic friend has contributed a stand containing thirty dozen pairs of infants' shoes, in satin and leather, which have met with a ready sale; and let us hope, for the giver's sake, that they will be trodden in by a worthy set of future Leaguers. Another article which has met with a ready sale is a portrait of the Queen, woven by the Jacquard loom, which possesses almost all the delicacy of touch and finish of the finest pencil."

On Tuesday evening, at the Bayswater stall, there was raffled for a very beautiful hearth-rug, worked, we understand, by two young ladies (the Misses Melhuish, Bedford-street, Holborn), from a design furnished by a friend. Great praise is due to all concerned, more especially to the ladies who executed such a piece of work in a space of time so short (a few weeks only), as to appear, upon close inspection, to be almost impossible. This contribution is indeed no solitary instance of industry and perseverance, quietly exerted, amidst domestic occupations, for the advancement of our great and noble cause. Many hundreds of fair hands have alike worked, unnoticed and unknown, day after day, and night after night, with the knowledge that their labours were for the cause of humanity; this, alone, was sufficient to cheer them on and recompense them, until the hand had satisfactorily accomplished what the heart so freely and generously dictated. We understand that a gentleman holding No. 9 ticket is the fortunate winner—fortunate not only in having an article worth ten or twelve guineas for five shillings, but as possessing that which, with care, will serve to remind even his children's children that the head, hand, and heart may join with as much energy and resolution, and equal zeal be evinced in the cause of philanthropy, amongst the retiring and humble, as amongst the more popular and elevated.

We must not omit to mention a very beautiful muslin, printed in gold by a galvanic process, by the patentees, Messrs. Vane and Co., of Manchester, and presented by Messrs. Watson, of Holborn-hill. This new system of gold printing is intended to supersede the more expensive mode of embroidering fabrics with gold and silver for window-curtains, and other descriptions of furniture. It is peculiarly adapted for long drawing room draperies. The brilliancy of the gold is rather heightened than impaired by washing; and the fabric is as economical as it is elegant.

On the York stall will be found a great number of curious and interesting articles, a few of which we will here enumerate. Among the principal are twelve copies of native lays, containing an historical and descriptive sketch of the city of York, beginning with the conquest of Severus. These books also contain other poetical sketches of considerable merit. They have been presented by the author, Mr. Thomas Holmes, a native of York. By the side of these are a variety of snuff-boxes, pearl stands, paper knives, decanter stands, ladies' thumb cases, carved candlesticks, &c., made out of the remnants of the old oak burned by the last fire at York Minster. There are also a set of glass flower vases, paintings, original drawings, engravings of York Minster, and other interesting places in the city; several beautiful cushions, crucifixes, and portfolios; and fancy needlework, &c., furnished by some of the fairest of old Ebor's wives and daughters. There are a few specimens of the manufactures of the city, consisting of planes, from the manufactory of Mr. Summers Varvill; shoe thread, from Messrs. Fletcher and Noddings; gloves, &c. &c. The planes are of a superior and first-rate character, and for excellence cannot be surpassed.

On Thursday morning it was agreed by several gentlemen, that it would be very desirable to have the splendid fountain from Colebrookdale, exhibited in the lower saloon, purchased for the Free-Trade-hall, in Manchester, to be preserved there as a permanent memorial of the Bazaar. It was agreed that it should be raffled for in six hundred shares of half-a-crown each, and at the very moment the proposition was made, several gentlemen put down their names and their money. Eight shares each were taken by George Wilson, Esq.; Samuel Lucas, Esq.; and Doctor Cooke Taylor; four shares each by Messrs. T. Plint and Robert R. Moore, Esq.; and two shares by Mr. Harbottle. Subscription papers have been sent round to the different stalls, and we have no doubt that before the end of the week, the requisite number of shares will be taken; for it is an object well worthy of laudable ambition, to have the honour of presenting such a splendid piece of workmanship, and one so highly creditable to British art, to the Free-Trade-hall.

We have been requested to insert the following announcement:—"Autograph. Mr. Horace Smith's original manuscript of stanzas on the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar will be sold to the highest bidder. Persons desirous of securing it are requested to give their name and address, in writing, specifying the amount they offer for it, and to put such card or paper into the box at the Sussex stall, which box will not be opened until the close of the sale, when the purchaser will be informed where the MS. may be had, on payment of the price offered for it, and the purchaser's name will be announced in the *League paper*."

## CONTRIBUTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

## BEDS FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

"HONOURABLE SIR.—Six years ago I addressed a letter to you condemnatory of the Corn and Provision Laws. That letter was published in the *Anti-Bread-Tax Circular*. As I have spent six years of my life in Oxfordshire, I have had many painful opportunities of witnessing the awful and heart-rending effects of what is called 'protection to the farmer.' I have done what I could in my own neighbourhood to hasten the downfall of that protection; and it is to me a source of great consolation to know that I have not laboured in vain. I appeared before a committee of the House of Commons about three years ago, and there pleaded the cause of the starving thousands in Oxfordshire. I have made much use of the columns of the *Patriot*, the *Oxford Chronicle*, and the *Aylesbury News*, to call the attention of the public to the wretched and impoverished state of the rural peasantry. Many thanks to the editors of these newspapers; for I have always found them not only willing, but most anxious, to give publicity to my letters, and to encourage me in my humble efforts in the cause of humanity and righteousness. I have had to encounter great opposition, and to endure my full share of odium and persecution; but I have held fast in my ardent and honest desires and endeavours to benefit my poorer brethren, and now I have received a part of my reward. Yes, Sir, a letter published in the *LEAGUE* of the 3rd inst., in which I read that some generous manufacturers have resolved to give a great number of beds to the degraded and half-naked field labourers of Dorsetshire and Oxfordshire, has dried my tears and cheered my heart. A gift of beds, &c., to field labourers will do more to accelerate the everlasting overthrow of monopoly, in the rural districts, than a thousand speeches and lectures could do; and it will tell a tale which will inspire the famishing peasantry with hope, and clothe the monopolists with shame.

"I have received £5 from Luke Howard, Esq., that well-known and benevolent friend of mankind, with which he has instructed me to purchase 20 beds, &c., for the poor in my own neighbourhood. I am of opinion, Sir, that, if we manage this business prudently and with care, the good effect produced by the gift, upon both farmers and labourers, will be such as has never been produced before in England by any single act of charity.

"George Simmons, Esq., 203, Upper Thames-street, London, will act on my behalf, and pay you for 20 beds, sheets, and quilts, at the nominal price of 5s. each, which will be given to the most deserving of those starving men, women, and children in whose cause I have often, and for many years, 'toiled all night,' and over whose untold miseries I have wept in the day time.

"I am, honoured Sir, yours faithfully,

"W. FAUGUSON,  
Pastor of the Congregational Church,  
Bicester, Oxon.

"G. Wilson, Esq., Covent-garden Theatre."

A list of contributions for the purchase of beds for the distressed labourers of Dorsetshire and Oxfordshire, next week.

"Brighton, May 17.

"RESPECTED FRIEND.—J. N. Goulty and myself have this evening seen H. S. Mulling, soda manufacturer, of this place, and he has kindly offered to send up to the Bazaar one hundred dozen of soda-water, Seltzer-water, and lemonade. All he asks for in return is 'the empties,' which perhaps the person who has charge of the refreshments will attend to. You may look for some, if not the whole of it, by the railway on Tuesday morning. Hoping to be with you again soon, I am, respectfully,

"Geo. Wilson, Esq."

"ISAAC GRAY BASS.

"DEAR SIR.—I have the pleasure to send you a small contribution from our poor orphan boys, in the shape of toys, manufactured by them after school hours. If you have a stall for Islington or Finsbury, they would very appropriately be placed there, and some friends of the charity, who are also your friends in that district, will take charge of them.

"G. Wilson, Esq."

"J. SOUL, Sec.

## THE SUGAR MONOPOLY.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures,  
Manchester, April 30, 1845.

SIR.—I take leave to draw your attentive consideration to the annexed copy of a petition which the Directors of this Chamber caused to be presented to the House of Commons, on the 11th inst.

The history of British legislation in reference to sugar is most instructive, and displays with forcible accuracy the effects of protection upon the comforts and employment of our own people; and, although this petition touches only upon the single article of sugar, yet the reasoning employed is equally applicable to every other protected commodity. It is seen that, within the space of the last ten years, upwards of thirty-one millions of money have been wrong from that portion of our people which can permit itself to use sugar, more than it would have had to pay if there had been no protective duty: apply the same course of examination to the other imported articles on which differential duties are imposed, and how appalling would be the result! I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS BAZILEY, Junr., President.

"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled;

"The Petition of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures at Manchester:—

Showeth,

"That your petitioners have seen with extreme disappointment and regret, that your honourable House has lately adopted measures in reference to sugar to be admitted for consumption in this country, which, in their opinion, are opposed to every principle of wise legislation, and involve so much injury and injustice to the people as to render any long continuance of them impossible.

"That your petitioners deprecate in the strongest terms frequent changes in the rates of duties upon important articles of consumption, for they disturb commerce and inflict injury on every side; the increasing intelligence of the age calls, indeed, more earnestly, year

by year, for a revision of that mischievous system of commercial policy which has so long abridged the comforts and employment of the industrious, but it seeks that changes be made on such basis, only, as shall secure permanence through the justice and wisdom on which they ought to be founded.

"That, in the opinion of your petitioners, the regulations lately adopted in reference to the import of sugar are neither just nor wise: they are not just, because they compel, by the mere force of law and without reciprocal advantage, one portion of her Majesty's subjects to pay to another a higher price for an article than it is worth in the other markets of the world, or to abstain from the use of it altogether; they are not wise, because by an attempt to perpetuate and multiply high discriminating duties, they deprive the revenue of that increase which it would assuredly receive from sugar being permitted to come within the reach of the great bulk of the people, and they continue an injurious war of tariffs with foreign powers, whereby the employment of our people is rendered uncertain and precarious; whilst by re-establishing a system of classification not indeed new in principle, for it existed before and had been abandoned in 1825, but aggravated in extent and difficult of enforcement in practice, many evils will be incurred:—quality will be deteriorated, encouragement to fraud will be held out both to the importer and to the officers of customs, and involuntary, if not voluntary, acts of injustice will be perpetrated, through the absence of that simplicity which is desirable in the levying of customs duties.

"That your petitioners hold with the First Lord of her Majesty's Treasury, that the best interests of a nation will be found in 'buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest markets;' and with another member of her Majesty's Government, 'that the principles of Free Trade are the principles of common sense;' they therefore deplore, that no approach to doctrines so wisely and emphatically enunciated are to be found in the propositions submitted to and adopted by your honourable House respecting sugar.

"That your petitioners believe, that to admit all sugars, whatever their origin, to consumption in this country at one and the same rate of duty, is the only wise principle of legislation, and that no other can be adopted without injustice and loss to the people. Society has outgrown the pretences on which discriminating duties were ignorantly defended in former times, and facts must, in a short time, dissipate the pretences on which the continued application of them is sought for from Parliament. A consideration of a document lately laid upon the table of your honourable House (Sess. No. 80) gives strong evidence of the working of protection as regards the colonies themselves, and of the deprivation which it causes to the mass of the population at home. By that return it is shown that the average importation of West Indian Muscovado sugar for

The first two years, 1820 and 1821, was 3,838,110 cwt.

The average of the first 10 years, 1820 to 1829, was 3,834,032 cwt. per year.

Whilst the average of the last ten years, 1835 to 1844, was only 2,858,069 cwt. per year.

"During five and a half of the first ten years, West Indian sugar enjoyed a preferential duty of 10s. per cwt. over the sugars of both the Mauritius and the East Indies; the aggregate of Mauritius and East Indian sugar imported during five of those years, 1820 to 1824, was 252,838 cwt. per year. In 1825 the differential duty between West Indian and Mauritius sugars was abolished, but it was retained against that of the East Indies, to the extent of 10s. per cwt., until July, 1830, and of 8s. per cwt. until a subsequent change in 1836.

The import of Mauritius sugar in 1825 was 93,723 cwt.

In the following year, 1826, 186,782 cwt.

The average of the three succeeding years, 1827 to 1829, was 321,209 cwt. per year.

Whilst the import of the still burdened East India sugar, which in 1825 was 145,995 cwt., gives for the four following years a yearly average of only 155,832 cwt.

"The relative position in point of duty between the sugars of the Mauritius and the East Indies continued from 5th July, 1830, to the 13th of August, 1836.

The import of Mauritius sugar, which in 1825 had been 93,723 cwt., gives an average for the years 1830 to 1835, of 531,414 cwt. per year.

That of East Indian, which in 1825 had been 145,995 cwt., gives for the same years, 1830 to 1835, an average of only 125,535 cwt. per year,—an instructive demonstration of the effect of a differential duty of 8s. per cwt.

"From these statements your honourable House will perceive, that the point of idleness or incapability, which protection engenders, had been already attained in the West Indies in 1820; subsequent examination will show that the Mauritius had reached the same point in 1835; for the average import of that sugar for the nine years, from 1836 to 1844, has been only 580,104 cwt. per year, whilst precisely the same process has been going on in our East Indian possessions. It has been shown that, whilst differential duties pressed upon East Indian sugar,—

The average import for the five last years of the existence of those differential duties was 125,535 cwt. per year.

The average of the four first years after the remission of the discriminating duty, viz., from 1837 to 1840, was 431,820 cwt. per year.

The average of the four last years has been 1,095,765 cwt. per year.

But an inspection of each year's import gives reason to apprehend that, as in the West Indies and Mauritius, so has the point of idleness been attained in India; for the import of 1841 was 1,239,738 cwt., but the same quantity has not been reached in any subsequent year.

"Another view of the details supplied by the return will manifest to your honourable House how invariably and progressively, the pressure upon the people, and loss to the revenue, are connected with monopoly. The following table, divided into periods, during which no change occurred either in the participants in the monopoly or in the rates of duty, and marking separately each year of change, is respectfully submitted to the consideration of your honourable House.

Table showing the Import of Sugar from British Possessions, the Consumption Gazette Price of Muscovado, and Amount of Revenue for each Year from 1820 to 1844, separating those Years in which changes of the

Law occurred, and taking an average in the periods between each change.

Years.	Consumption.	Gazette Average Price.	Revenue.
1820 to 1824	Cwts. 3,835,690	d. 32 11 2-5	£ 4,244,820
1825 to 1829	3,271,385	38 6	4,176,655
1830 to 1834	3,754,269	31 8	4,874,932
1835 to 1839	4,057,200	24 11	4,767,342
1840 to 1844	3,934,601	28 9	4,537,304
Average of 1820 to 1844	3,693,104	40 10	4,184,165
1820 to 1824	Cwts. 4,016,531		
1825 to 1829	3,740,999		
1830 to 1834	4,423,332		
1835 to 1839	4,612,472		
1840 to 1844	4,430,837		
Average of 1820 to 1844	4,250,049		
1820 to 1824	Cwts. 4,216,759		
1825 to 1829	3,966,712		
1830 to 1834	4,216,759		
1835 to 1839	4,216,759		
1840 to 1844	3,280,666		
Average of 1820 to 1844	4,021,154		

"These alternations have taken place during a period when the population has been constantly on the increase whilst an immense accession has been made to the wealth of the country, and a consequent large addition to that class of society whose consumption of sugar is not absolutely controlled by price. The population of the United Kingdom in 1822, the middle year of the period to which the first paragraph of the preceding table refers, was 21,500,000; that of 1842-3 the average of the period referred to in the last paragraph was at least 27,000,000 giving an increase of 54 millions, or 26 per cent.

The average import for the years 1820 to 1824 as shown above was 4,016,851 cwt. per year. Add 26 per cent. .. 1,044,381

Would, without providing for any increased power of consumption in the people, but taking only the standard of consuming power of 1822, give as an equivalent import for 1842-3 .. 5,061,232 cwt.

But the average of those two years was only .. 4,110,681 cwt.

Leaving a comparative deficiency of supply amounting to no less than .. 950,551 cwt.

to meet that large increase of demand which has accompanied the increase in the number of those whose consumption is not entirely regulated by price.

"That your petitioners humbly submit to your honourable House that, under the system hitherto pursued of retaining monopolies to favoured portions of our empire until the diminished supply of the protected commodity forces an admission of other portions into the confederacy, severe suffering and privation are entailed upon the mother country. The following comparison of the difference in price between colonial and foreign sugar will, in some degree, but not to the full extent, illustrate this position. It is drawn from the paper presented to your honourable House already named, and corresponds with the periods adopted in the preceding table:—

Years.	Gazette Average Price of B. P.	Average Price of Brown and Yellow.	Difference.	Average Quantity of Sugar consumed.	Amount of Annual Extra Cost.
1823 to 1824	32 11 2-5	38 6	0 6 6-5	3,835,690	£ 252,838
1825 to 1829	38 6	31 8	0 6 8	3,271,385	271,385
1830 to 1834	31 8	24 11	0 6 9	3,754,269	4,874,932
1835 to 1839	24 11	28 9	0 3 8	4,057,200	4,767,342
1840 to 1844	28 9	40 10	0 12 11	3,934,601	4,537,304
Average of 1820 to 1844	40 10	35 10	0 10 11	4,250,049	5,061,232
1820 to 1824	32 11 2-5	38 6	0 6 6-5	4,016,531	4,110,681
1825 to 1829	38 6	31 8	0 6 8	3,740,999	4,423,332
1830 to 1834	31 8	24 11	0 6 9	4,423,332	4,612,472
1835 to 1839	24 11	28 9	0 3 8	4,612,472	4,430,837
1840 to 1844	28 9	40 10	0 12 11	4,430,837	4,250,049
Average of 1820 to 1844	40 10	35 10	0 10 11	4,250,049	5,061,232

So that, during the last ten years only, the United



Kingdom has paid an excess in price to the colonial interest amounting to £31,197,041 for sugar alone.

The frightful annual sacrifice which this table exhibits indicates only one portion of the effects of monopoly; the extra amount paid by those who can consume is shown, but it is not seen from how many all power of consumption is taken away. Your petitioners have no means of estimating to what extent the profits which monopoly in corn leaves to farmers, or the wages paid to their labourers, could bring either class into the number of consumers; but they can show what effect this baneful system of monopoly has had upon commerce and manufacturing industry. In considering this question as it relates to sugar, your petitioners do not conceive that any other portion of her Majesty's empire than the West Indies need be brought into contrast, for the differential duties imposed upon the introduction of foreign manufactures into the East Indies will not be claimed as a ground for specially taxing the mother country in their favour. The attention of your honourable House is humbly entreated to the following table, showing the amount of exports from the United Kingdom to the British West Indies compared with those to the two sugar-growing countries in their own vicinity, viz., the foreign West Indies and Brazil, and compiled from the earliest and latest official documents, to which your petitioners have access:—

Years corresponding with previous Table.	Total Exports to British West Indies. Declared Value.	Total Exports to Brazil & Foreign West Indies. Declared Value.	Column showing when the British West Indies have taken		Annual extra Cost of Sugar alone paid by Consumers, as shown in preceding Table.
			MORE	LESS	
1837 to 1839	3,495,030	3,412,576	82,454		875,996
1840	2,834,448	3,070,132		235,684	1,217,160
1841 to 1843	2,997,383	2,924,981		272,599	1,229,563
1843	3,786,453	4,017,654		231,201	2,320,516
1847 to 1849	3,612,261	3,296,776	315,485		2,760,170
1840	5,744,970	3,489,373	85,597		4,957,286
1841 to 1843	2,347,714	2,960,369		412,655	3,602,484

"The column of difference, considered more *in extenso*, gives the following result as respects the relative exports during these 16 years.

"The balances in favour of the Foreign West Indies and Brazil were

In 1839—1 year	£231,084	Gross Exports from 1837 to 1842.
1841 to 1835—5 years	£227,559	
per year	1,137,995	
1845—1 year	231,201	
1841 to 1842—2 years	£412,665	
per year	825,310	
	2,426,190	£31,250,862

"The balances in favour of the British West Indies were

In 1837 to 1839—3 years	£82,454
per year	£27,485
1837 to 1839—3 years	£315,485
per year	916,455
1840—1 year	85,597
	1,379,414
	£50,104,085

Forming a gross balance against the British West Indies of

£1,140,776
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or more than 2½ per cent. upon the aggregate amount of exports which they took during the 16 years, the sugars of our better customers being, all the while, charged with a differential duty amounting to 163 per cent. more than the rate charged on West Indian sugar.

"The facts exhibited by this table ought, in the opinion of your petitioners, to receive the calm consideration of your honourable House. It is seen that even under a repulsive system, which has deprived the people of the power of consuming the staple articles produced in Brazil and the foreign West Indies, those countries have taken from us a greater amount of produce and manufactures than have the whole of our West Indian possessions; whilst the extra cost inflicted upon the consumers of the single article of sugar in this country shows, only in a partial degree, the oppression which has been practised under the plea of protection. The extra cost which the system of differential duties compels the consumers of coffee to pay in this country is, your petitioners believe, not less than £300,000 per year; so that, without taking into consideration any portion of the cost of the government of the West Indies, or regarding the comforts of the great bulk of our own people, but looking only to the effect of the protective system upon the labour of the country, it is clear that, for several past years, it would have been more beneficial had your honourable House made an eleemosynary grant out of the Consolidated Fund to the West Indian proprietors, to the extent of about double the amount of the produce and labour which they take from us, rather than have continued so baneful a system.

"That your petitioners are anxious to place this view of the effects of protection before your honourable House, because the measures which have lately received the sanction of your honourable House, though different in form and in the amount of duties leviable, do not differ essentially in principle from the system which they now represent. For the first time in the history of commercial legislation, your honourable House, by the measures brought in your session of last year in reference to sugar, has rendered the labour and comforts of the United Kingdom dependent upon the policy which particular foreign Governments might think it right to pursue, not towards us, but towards their own people. The continuance of slavery was the plea on which this cruel system was attempted to be justified; but the extra cost of the application of the principle, that the forbiddance to trade fell chiefly upon those foreign countries to which Great Britain is most indebted by a demand for manufactures. Your petitioners cannot but remark, that this partial war of tariffs was begun by an act of the Legislature was, and still is, in execution of the United Kingdom, in order that the revenue may be swelled by the import of slave-grown tobacco; whilst, under the sanction of your honourable House, slave-grown coffee supplied about one-third of the consumption and one-half of the revenue derived from that article; and whilst slave-grown cotton furnished so much employment to our cotton manufacturing population, as

enabled it, after supplying our wants at home, to contribute half of the amount of the exported industry of the country.

"That your petitioners have seen with regret, that, in the arrangement of sugar duties lately adopted by your honourable House, the principle of which they complain in the measures of last year has not only been retained, but a system of classification has been added, which, if it could be permanent, would bring with it a new train of evils. But your petitioners believe that the system of classification bears the germs of early abandonment in itself, and will, in the meantime, only serve to deprive our people of a sufficient supply of sugar, and cause much chicanery amongst merchants and trouble to the Custom-house. The continuance of distinctive duties between the Muscovado and clayed sugars of our own colonies, and those of the favoured foreign nations, can only be operative for one season, or so long as the existing stocks of clayed, or equal in quality to clayed, sugars are unconsumed; those countries which hope to be able to participate in the supplying of sugar to Great Britain will discontinue any process which will subject their produce to the higher duty; and the British Legislature will find that its measures have only tended to confine the supply of its own people to a narrow insufficiency, and to cause a deterioration in the quality of the sugar which it permits to be consumed. The whole import will eventually consist of Muscovado, or 'a quality inferior to clayed' sugar, and the relative duties, until a new change, will be 14s. for colonial, 23s. 4d. for favoured foreign sugar, and 63s. for that which it is intended to prohibit.

"That, whilst your petitioners express their gratitude for the reduction which has been conceded in the duty upon colonial sugar, they respectfully but energetically remonstrate against the differential duties imposed upon the other classes. They believe that the best mode of ensuring the profitable cultivation of the West Indies, and our other colonial possessions, will be found in the abandonment of every incentive to extravagant mismanagement; and that a relinquishment of all protection would best serve the lasting interests of both the mother country and the colonies. Your petitioners do not complain that sugar is made to contribute to the exigencies of the State, but they claim a right for the people of this country, that the duty levied from it shall go to the service of the State, and not into the pockets of favoured individuals. But to frame two rates of differential duties, on grounds proposed to be fixed, but which cannot be made to act distinctively, —to admit some slave-grown sugar at 23s. 4d., whilst the charge upon other similar sugar is 63s. per cwt., —adds grievously to the mischiefs which such legislation is calculated to create; —it carries on a war of tariffs unequally, and makes the application pointed and almost isolated. It assumes a power in this country to interfere in, and to legislate for, the internal government of foreign states, and, in case of non-submission, punishment is made to fall, not upon the offender, but upon the unoffending consumer at home, by creating scarcity, enhancing prices, and forbidding labour. These consequences would result from the system of duties last adopted by your honourable House, if that system could be permanent. But the high prices which a short supply will establish in this country will probably attract higher sugars which have heretofore been sent to other markets; —countries which have endeavoured to improve the quality of their sugar may be induced to forego improvement, and deteriorate the quality, in order to meet the wishes of our Legislature; but the vacuum thus created will be occupied by slave-grown sugar, and the only object which such policy will have accomplished will be, to have given a new and different direction to the produce of slave labour.

"Confirmed by study and experience in the opinion that duties levied for protection are injurious to the sections which they are intended to serve, and oppressive to the consumer at home; observing that the measures passed by your honourable House during the present session are based professedly upon a principle which your honourable House suffers to be violated in the very act itself, by admitting some slave-grown sugar at one rate of duty and some at another; finding that the intended prohibition is partial in its operation, and directed against those countries from which the most copious supply might be drawn, and which are already amongst the largest foreign consumers of British produce and manufactures; believing that the object of those measures is to produce scarcity, in order that higher prices may be obtained for colonial sugar than it is intrinsically worth in the open markets of the world; convinced that such legislation is neither wise nor just, for it oppressively enhances the cost of an important article, the larger consumption of which would, more than any other, produce an increased consumption of several other foreign products which themselves contribute to the revenue, whilst, at the same time, it restricts the labour by which alone any of them can be obtained; convinced, also, that the principle which your honourable House endeavours to establish, and itself infringes, cannot be worked out by the measures which it has adopted; and that, if effective at all, those measures will only tend to aggravate the hard fate of the slave, by encouraging owners to attain greater cheapness by increased production, either through or without a relative increase of means; and that in every other respect they will be illusory, and not permanent.

"Your petitioners earnestly and humbly pray, that your honourable House may revise its policy, and by admitting all sugars, whatever their origin, to consumption in the United Kingdom at the same rate of duty, fix a correct and unchangeable principle of legislation, and provide extended comforts and increased employment for our industrious and patient people."

#### FREE-TRADE CLUB.

A general meeting of the members of the above institution was held on Tuesday last, at the Club-house, No. 27, Regent-street; to take into consideration the best means of rendering its advantages more extensively available to the friends of Free Trade, both among residents in the country and inhabitants of the metropolis.

The chair was taken by Major-General Briggs, and among other gentlemen who were present were John Bright, Esq., M.P., T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P., Captain Cogun, Messrs. G. Thompson, Robert R. Moore, W. J. Fox, Hamer Stansfeld, Ralph Ricardo, J. Wilson, Dr. Prendergast, Lawrence Heyworth, R. L. Twerdale, S. Pryme, Henry Hall, John P. Bull, R. Stone, B. Boothby, Wm. Leaf, E. Beveridge, Wm. White, Charles Sedgwick, — Crowley, W. A. Wilkinson, John Lambert, Wm.

Brown (Liverpool), W. Clark, Summers Harford, J. Ivimey, John Barclay, C. Swaisland, A. Mongredien, J. Armstrong, &c., including, as will be seen from the above list, many gentlemen who may be considered as representatives of numerous bodies of provincial Free-Traders. Letters of apology for absence, but cordially acquiescing in the proposed object, were received from Lord Radnor and R. Cobden, Esq., M.P.

An animated discussion took place upon the various plans suggested for the attainment of the desired object. The advantages presented by the institution, especially to country members, in the opportunity afforded, during a temporary residence in London, of intercommunication with their metropolitan friends, combined with the general conveniences of a club, were clearly pointed out.

The spacious house in Regent-street, which the managers have recently taken, presents ample scope for this purpose; containing, as it does, a reading-room, supplied with the daily and weekly journals, and all the leading periodicals of the day, large and handsomely-furnished coffee and dining rooms, and a library of reference upon every branch of the Free-Trade question, including the best works upon social and economic sciences.

The object of the club is, as was stated by Mr. Bright and Mr. G. Thompson, not to form a luxurious establishment for the enjoyment of the aristocratic portion of society, but an institution for the convenience of commercial and manufacturing gentlemen, and the middle classes generally, favourable to commercial freedom, and the union of all classes of the friends of Free Trade.

Mr. R. R. Moore stated, and the statement was corroborated by the hon. member for Durham, that in their journeys throughout the country they had found numerous supporters of their cause exceedingly desirous of supporting such a club in the metropolis.

Hitherto the entrance fee has been ten guineas, and the annual subscription five guineas; but, with a view to extend the benefits of the institution to the utmost possible limits, upon the motion of Mr. James Wilson, seconded by Mr. Bright, M.P., the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that in order to extend the usefulness of this club and its number of members, in future the terms of admission for resident members shall be an entrance fee of five guineas, and an annual subscription of two guineas; and for members resident beyond a distance of 50 miles, an annual subscription, only, of two guineas; but that, in order to secure the trustees against existing liabilities which they have undertaken on the faith of the present amount of subscriptions being paid by the existing members, the same shall continue to be paid for the second year; after which all annual subscriptions shall be two guineas, unless the finance committee shall declare, at the end of the first year, that the additional three guineas from existing members will not be absolutely required to indemnify the trustees from existing liabilities."

Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

#### STOCK FARMING IN THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH.

(From the *Dumfries Standard*.)

Many of our readers have friends in that far country, formerly the land of the banished, towards which the tide of emigration set in, six or seven years ago, with an impetus of hopefulness which swept all obstacles away. The now-come people were dispersed widely, and discovered that the green earth was not all rich in deep soil and running water, and that life has its hardships on the other side of the world as well as at home. The settler from whose letters we collect a few heterogeneous extracts, has tried his hand at various modes of turning a small capital to account, and for the last two years has been engaged on a farm which is counted a good run for bullocks—having the unwonted advantage of a stream which dries up only in the severest droughts, while streams in general run for three months, then dwindle into chains of ponds for six months, till at length nothing remains but thirsty pebbles and cracked clay at the bottom, waiting for winter and heavy rains.

Keeping stock together, or at least in view, is no easy matter where animals are wild, country hilly, and "runs" wide. The writer, however, says, when they are well mounted, it is sometimes as good fun riding after bullocks with the help of dogs, as fox-hunting used to be at home—all but the gentility of the thing.

September, 1844.

"I returned from Sydney in July (between two and three hundred miles west); found things going on smoothly; no disputes among the men, or grumbling. The stockman's time was out, and the cattle were to be mustered and taken off his hands. After two or three weeks of hard riding, we made a pretty good muster, which, in mid winter and in cold rainy weather, is no easy matter, for the beasts get away in twos and threes, in queer gullies and nooks in the hills, and do not trouble themselves to come down to the swamps and summer watering places.

"The said stockman is as clever a little fellow as ever mounted a horse; good-humoured and civil, too; and he had been on the station ever since the cattle came here. But I determined not to keep him, he had such a multitude of cronies always about his hut—had so much riding and trucking to do on his own account; and he took some pains to keep me out of the knowledge of my own affairs, and to be the man to be consulted, and to manage with neighbours, about stray cattle and all other things. He had got a wife too, to us well behaved, civil and quiet, but of a bad kind, connected with all sorts of rascals; so that he could not be kept, though I doubt if the cattle will ever be so well mustered again.

"Against one side of our house is built a large store. But perhaps you do not know that it is the custom of the country for all stockholders to have in their stores every thing their people may want in the way of dress. This arose out of the prison labour, when the master clad his men. When they got free and were hired, they still looked to the same quarter for clothing, as there are no shops in this thinly-settled country. The articles were sold at a very large profit; and, notwithstanding the laws of England against the truck system, a man brought his master before a bench of magistrates, complaining that he did not keep a shop for his freedmen; and the bench decided that the master must do so, there being no shop accessible. You will not wonder, then, that they took a good profit, particularly when wages were so high.

"Tobacco, if good, is better than gold here; the (el-

low as all smoke, and do not grudge 100 per cent. profit on good stuff—it will buy anything. By adding the amount of cash paid to any individual to the amount provided from the store, you will see the rate of wages of each, which last year was not high, and this year is rather lower. We have now a man for cook, because single women's wages are higher than men's. Besides, after bringing them all the way, the girls are married immediately, and we are tired of transporting wives here for the people.

"Here is a specimen of our accounts, Dr. and Cr. :—

Paid in Cash.	
Eliza Collis—11 months' service ..	£5 0 0
John Turnbull—1 year ..	4 0 7½
Robert Gibb—1 year ..	7 10 0
Paid out of Store.	
Eliza Collis—11 months ..	£10 0 0
John Turnbull—1 year, and his wife for washing ..	16 9 6
Long Tom—10 weeks ..	6 6 0
Robert Gibb—1 year ..	14 10 0
Wm. Batson, stockman—1 year and 6 weeks ..	28 10 0

[To this the writer has appended a list of stores, comprising a complete shop; that is, ready-made clothing for men and women, the smallest articles, such as garters and braces, included; and a complete Scotch country Willy o' thing shop, from a grindstone, saw, and axe, down to an ounce of tea or quid of tobacco.]

"What we get for cheese and butter at Goulburn is a mere bagatelle; but milking is incalculably beneficial to the herds, and should be done, if the expense is not too great. The price of bullocks is so low that I have sold none; nor have I heard any account of the success of the salting operations. I hope your next letter will give me some information as to the persons in London or Liverpool to consign salt beef to, as also anything you may have learned as to the value of it. A company in Sydney are, I believe, trying fairly the making of gelatine for soup; but the result of our experiments as to the market value of our produce in other countries is long of being proved; and waiting requires capital, a sort of thing that does not grow here now.

"I have felt the purchase of wheat and flour a heavy item up to this time, but we have twelve acres now coming up that I hope will turn out well. Last year I sowed some on an old paddock, but it was too late, the spring was wet, and it turned out all smut—so that the labour cost three times its market value; yet we have always had enough to eat on the station."

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

May 22.

DEAR SIR,—When I wrote to the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law-League, requesting that I might have a copy of the LEAGUE sent to my address, that by its circulation in this neighbourhood, where landlords' serfs (farmers) need enlightenment, I fully anticipated that I should be the means of doing good. My fullest anticipations have been realized. I regularly get the LEAGUE read and pondered over by a goodly number of the enfranchised, and the sound political education which is thus obtained every week is doing a vast amount of good. Several, who hated all Free-Trade principles, now anxiously long to peruse the LEAGUE, being soundly converted to the principle they so lately hated. I speak of the enfranchised, with whom lies our work. My efforts in this glorious cause have cost me much estrangement, &c., but

"Duty is ours,"

is my motto. I can truly aver that, by the circulation of the LEAGUE among my villages, the people have been aroused to think,—the first and most essential element of action. A great many of my friends went to London since the Bazaar was opened, and for the first time in my life I heartily counselled them to go to a theatre. I also just whispered in their ears, "Remember that every article there is contributed by those who are helping to dig Monopoly's grave." O that I could but chant its requiem. Most gladly would I say, "Earth to earth," &c., over the monster's corpse. But I cannot tell what to do with one LEAGUE. It was one too much in the beginning, but now three or four or five would be greatly needed. I have influence in (because they are my bishoprick) sixteen or seventeen parishes, containing a large number of tenant-farmers, as well as small proprietors, and could now most beneficially circulate three or four or five LEAGUES, and among monopolists willing to read it. What better can you do with your funds than to meet my wishes? Had I means I would soon order them, but I have not. Some farmers, who have lately abandoned "protection" nonsense, are requesting me to get more LEAGUES among their class.

Indeed, one poor farmer, who read my copy, said, "Do, Sir, get more; I will willingly pay 10s. per annum for one." Send me, therefore, one more at least; but, could you go with me among my congregations, you would at once say, "Send the man half-a-dozen." I will forward the 10s. as before mentioned, when next I see my friend who offered it.

Go on, brethren. Ours is the cause of right—the cause of man.

With respect, your fellow-worker,  
A HOME MISSIONARY, IN DEVON.

#### THE AMERICAN PRESS.

FREE TRADE.

(From the Washington Constitution.)

It is truly gratifying to perceive, that the anti-monopolists in England continue to press, with unabated spirit and energy, those doctrines of reason and justice whose principles must finally regulate the commercial intercourse of the world. Under the slow but mighty workings of public opinion, those bloated and unjust systems of monopoly, which have so long crushed the energies of the people, and their oppressive burdens, must finally give way. And the monarchy itself—the royal monopoly—will ultimately yield to the force of the principles, by the principles and truths, as well as the blessings and benefits, of republican institutions. The industrial system, which have enabled the few to control the many—by which the labour and property of the masses

have been made to enrich and pamper those who oppress them—are tottering and gradually disappearing before the efforts of the long-enduring people, who have at last become aroused to a proper appreciation of their wrongs. Societies, associations, and leagues have, therefore, been formed in England and elsewhere, for the purpose of disseminating wholesome political truths, of enlightening the body of the people upon the subject of their just rights, and of arousing them to a proper sense of their wrongs, and of their power to redress them.

Such is the character of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Mr. Thompson, a prominent member of the League, occupies the same ground, and advocates the same principles, in England, as those sustained by the opponents of a protective tariff—or, in other words, the advocates of Free Trade—in the United States. It is impossible that the monopolists can long withstand the truths of this doctrine, either there or here. Selfish ingenuity is being driven to its last shifts, and, finally, it must yield. When the great statesmen of England are beginning to relax, surely we need have no fears of ultimate success here.

The repeal of the present high rate of duties, and the reduction of the tariff to the revenue standard, were great questions put in issue during the last presidential election. Mr. Polk was elected upon them—himself being one of their strongest and most consistent advocates, amongst all our distinguished statesmen. And it is true, as Mr. Thompson says, that a large proportion of those who voted for him, and placed him in the presidential chair, "were avowedly Free-Traders." Under these circumstances, the people of this country confidently expect to see such a modification of the present tariff, at the next session of Congress, as will relieve its oppressive effects and tend to give to the planter, the farmer, and agriculturist a more extended market for his valuable surplus products.

#### INDIAN CORN IN ENGLAND.

(From the Washington Constitution.)

The efforts of Dr. Bartlett, of the New York Albion, to induce the British Government to introduce Indian corn extensively into England, and to encourage the consumption of it by the English people, deserve to be noticed in the warmest terms of approbation. A letter upon the subject, addressed to Lord Ashburton, was published in a recent number of the Albion, in the course of which, the writer (probably Dr. Bartlett) earnestly urges upon the attention of British statesmen, the importance of admitting Indian corn from the United States into Great Britain, free of duty. Wheat now, he says, forms no part of the diet of the labouring classes; so that the free admission of maize would not considerably impair the consumption of English wheat flour. Nor can this corn be cultivated in England by reason of the coldness of the climate. Indian corn, more than any other grain in the world, can be made a luxury for the labouring classes, by being prepared in a great variety of ways; and it is said now to be relished by the great body of the labouring people of America beyond any other article of consumption. The writer urges the impossibility of the English farmer's labourer being able, with his 8s. a week, to feed his family with wheaten bread, even at its reduced rate of duty; and thence enforces the necessity of throwing corn into Great Britain, as a cheaper article of food than any now in use. Its cost to the English consumer, when imported from the United States and ground into meal, need not be over a dollar a bushel, allowing 25 cents. for retail profits; and it could always, he says, be on sale at 1d. sterling per pound. A single pound would furnish breakfast for a family of four persons; in addition to its greater cheapness, he says it is greatly superior, in its nutritive and healthful properties, to any other grain in use.

#### PROTECTION FALLACIES.

It has been a favourite argument with the friends of the protective duties, that England has grown great and prosperous by their aid, and that, if we mean to be great and prosperous, we must follow her example. Yet the people of England are not quite satisfied with the sort of prosperity to which it has given birth. Every arrival from that country, for years past, has brought accounts of the progress of that great effort which is making by her people to shake off the fetters of that system, although they have grown into the very flesh, and cannot now be removed without pain. We are glad to see that even the journals in this country friendly to the protective system, admit that in England it has been regarded as an experiment which has failed. The National Intelligencer says:—

"The time appears to have gone by when protection was the order of the day in England. We do not here use that word in its limited sense, as applied to a protective tariff in behalf of domestic manufactures only, but in its most comprehensive meaning, when it extended to almost every interest in the nation, and to almost every class of the people."

If we want a prohibitory tariff for anything, it is one which will exclude such follies of the old world as the protective system. We import enough of the frivolous novelties of Europe; let us not be guilty of gathering up and introducing among us her cast-off absurdities. If a system of regulations in regard to commerce has been tried there, and found to have the effect of impoverishing and oppressing the larger class of the people, let us avail ourselves of the experience thus gained, and beware of purchasing our wisdom at the same price. Let the tariff go with the Catholic disabilities, and the rotten boroughs, and other abuses which have been abolished in England—all excellent things in the opinion of some, and defended by able and ingenious champions, but which few would be hardy enough to propose transplanting into this country after they have been uprooted there.

The tendency of men's opinions everywhere is towards freedom of trade and liberty of occupation, as the best condition of things for the comfort of individuals and the prosperity of communities. For ourselves, we have only to keep to that state in which we began our career as a nation. What is an exploded barbarism in England, is a preposterous novelty here.—New York Evening Post.

PROTECTION.—One of the chief characteristics of the protective policy, is the taking and fascinating garb in which it is always dressed when presented to the public. If some great manufacturer is desirous of making more money from the capital invested in his business, and asks Congress to impose heavy burdens upon the masses for this object, he invariably disguises his real motives, and insinuates that such a policy will encourage American industry, and protect the farmer, the mechanic, and the labourer. The reason, then, which he urges for the

adoption of the measure is not the real one; for, if that were frankly avowed, he has the sagacity to know that he might ask in vain for the imposition of duties upon foreign fabrics which come in competition with his own. The farmers, mechanics, and labourers are, by far, the most numerous in this country, and to keep them quiet under the exactions which high and protective duties impose upon them, charms them with the pretty idea of "protection to home industry."—Ulrica (N. Y.) Democrat.

FREE COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE.—Whenever the markets of Europe, or any other part of the world, are opened without restriction to the products of our country, we cannot refuse foreign commerce on similar terms. Every observer must perceive that the facilities of trade and its consequent profit are at once enlarged by the peaceable and unrestricted interchange of commodities. The moment that the finances are built up by means of taxation upon industry, that moment a system of plunder is promoted, and the public welfare subsists by unnatural artifice. But when all nations shall in friendly intercourse open their ports to the commerce of each other, the blessings of a proper reward of labour will be the consequence, and the fictitious value which monopolists enforce must vanish before the more natural principles of demand and supply. Sir Robert Peel's budget displays the beginning of a new era in the affairs of the Government; and it is only necessary for him to place the Corn Laws upon the same footing with the repeal of the cotton duty, to ensure a serious modification of the revenue system not only of the United States, but of every enlightened nation.—Philadelphia Keystone.

AMERICAN INDUSTRY.—The south has been an extensive market for the manufactures of the north; but the fleecing process which a partial tariff enables manufacturers to practise on the consumers of their goods, will, in self defence, drive the south into manufacturing. The manufacturers will find in time that their policy will be turned upon them, by the great number of competitors who will take the field with them. We should not wonder to hear the manufacturers themselves asking for a repeal of the tariff, to save them from the disasters of an over-productive and glutted market. South Carolina and Tennessee will soon be in the field with their productions, and the whole south and west will soon tell the north that they want no more of their manufactures—that they cannot afford to devote their whole attention to agriculture, which pays only from 1 to 3 per cent. profits, and pay from 13 to 30 per cent. on the manufactures they consume—that they must manufacture their own goods, and have a home market of their own.—American paper.

#### PUNCH'S SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

(From Punch.)

The great event in the political sporting world has been the match between little Jack Russell and Bob Peel, the former known as the Whig Pet, and the latter as the Carlton Slasher. The subject of the contest was a race to decide the speed of the two men, in getting to Free Trade, which was fixed upon as the winning-post. Considerable interest had been excited by the announcement of the match, for, though the parties had often spurred together in the Parliamentary prize-ring, a race in the same direction between the two men was a bit of sport which none but the very knowing ones had ever dreamt of witnessing.

Before the match, betting was in favour of Jack Russell, who knew something of the ground, and had been over a part of it before, though he never had the courage to try his powers to any extent, so that it was really difficult to say how he would get along over it. Bob Peel, on the contrary, had invariably walked in quite an opposite direction, and the ground was so new to him that many wondered at his boldness in undertaking a match where every step must be quite out of the track he had all his life been accustomed to. What, however, he wanted in the way of habit, was more than compensated by his hardihood—or, as it is technically termed, "pluck;" and as Jack Russell had sometimes shown himself timid in going on when he had once started, his antagonist became rather the favourite. At a given signal the men went away, but the Carlton Slasher made one or two false starts, and it was for some time doubtful whether he was really in earnest, and intended to complete the match, or whether he had been merely trifling. At length, however, he slipped off, and though the Whig Pet was a little beforehand with him, the Carlton Slasher struck away at such an unexpected speed, that his own backers were more surprised than any one. Jack Russell now began to step out, and managed to get side by side with Peel for some little time; but the latter soon distanced the former, who was allowed by his own friends to have been fairly beaten in the Free-Trade foot-race by the Slasher.

REMARKS.—The race was on the whole a very good one, and Jack Russell might have had the best of it if he had gone fairly and honestly to work at once, instead of wavering, as he did in several instances. Bob Peel showed considerable game, and a good deal of tact, for he evaded consummate skill in getting to the right side at the right time, and turning so as to make the very best of his ground that was possible.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. AINSWORTH, M.P.—We experienced considerable gratification on finding Mr. Ainsworth's name in the list of the minority that voted for Mr. Hutt's motion for the admission of Australian grain on the same terms as Canadian, namely—1s. per quarter. We trust this is an indication of a conviction, on the part of Mr. Ainsworth, of the necessity of enlarging, to the greatest possible extent, the field from whence the teeming population of these islands is to derive its supply of the first necessary of life; and that he will henceforth be found a steady and unflinching advocate of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws.—Hull Free Press.

RETIREMENT OF LORD FRANCIS EGERTON.—Lord Francis Egerton has intimated that he does not again intend to offer himself as a candidate for South Lancashire, and that, probably, ere long, he will vacate his seat. This intimation is of first-rate importance to the Free-Traders of this division of the county, who have thus an opportunity afforded them of organizing an effective blow at the most iniquitous system that ever was devised. The Free-Traders must be up and doing. To be confident of success is a great and alarming evil. In the slightest degree, it tend to make men believe that



arduous exertions are unnecessary. Come w. the con-  
 sideration of every Free-Trader should be prepared to work  
 as if success depended upon himself alone. As Free  
 Trade is of no party, all party considerations should be  
 at once given up. There is no question at present occu-  
 ping the attention of the public, equal in magnitude and  
 importance to that of Free Trade. It is the cause of the  
 industrious classes of the universal world. When it is  
 adopted by England all nations will follow her example,  
 and every man will then be enabled to earn his bread by  
 the sweat of his brow. It will make war—that tempo-  
 rary suspension of all the principles of virtue—all but an  
 impossibility; for it will bind all nations together by the  
 ties of mutual interest. It is emphatically a Christian  
 and an intellectual question; for its practical application  
 is the necessary precursor to the moral, religious, and in-  
 tellectual improvement of the masses of the population.—  
*Bilton Free Press.*

**DINNER TO MR. FALVEY.**—Mr. Falvey was enter-  
 tained, on Tuesday evening last, at the White Hart, Myd-  
 delton-street, Clerkenwell, by a number of zealous Free-  
 Traders, who met to testify their respect for his character,  
 and their appreciation of his talents as an advocate of  
 Free Trade. About fifty sat down to dinner; M. J.  
 Lewis, Esq., presiding.

**PLYMOUTH FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.**—On Tuesday  
 evening last, a lecture was delivered to the members and  
 friends of this association, in the hall of the Plymouth  
 Mechanics' Institution, by C. B. Calmady, Esq., the  
 president of the association, on the subject of Free Trade  
 and Equitable Taxation. The attendance was not so nu-  
 merous as on some former occasions, but it was highly  
 respectable, and the discussion again gave evidence of the  
 usefulness of the law which the society has adopted of not  
 allowing the discussion of extraneous topics. The chair  
 was taken by George Leach, Esq. Mr. Calmady's lecture  
 was able and interesting, embracing much valuable infor-  
 mation, historical and statistical, illustrative of the com-  
 plexity and violation of sound economical principles in-  
 volved in our present system of taxation. He proposed,  
 in a second lecture, to develop a simpler and more equi-  
 table system; and concluded amidst loud expressions of  
 approbation.

**THE CORN LAWS.**—CONTINENTAL LANDOWNERS  
 BECOME DISTILLERS.—A correspondent sends us the  
 following:—"Being engaged in the City, I was the other  
 day inquiring of a German and Baltic merchant the price  
 of German spirits (Dantzig, &c.), and in the course of  
 conversation, said to him, 'How is it the landowners on  
 the other side of the water, instead of growing wheat,  
 have taken to distilling spirits, by which they can obtain  
 but a very miserable profit?' He answered, 'If they did  
 not distill spirits they would have no profit at all, or even a  
 subsistence, from their land, as they can obtain no market  
 for their wheat, and have, therefore, turned their old  
 cattle into distilleries, taken up the wheat and planted  
 potatoes and turnips (for distilling) in its place.' I  
 would ask, Mr. Editor, is it not a melancholy thing to  
 contemplate, that whilst thousands are crying for bread in  
 this country, foreigners are obliged to displant wheat, and  
 sow potatoes and turnips, for making the worst and com-  
 monest of spirits? We not only are prevented by the  
 monopolists from receiving their wheat, but are actually  
 the means of reducing the foreign producer of wheat to  
 this miserable alternative of getting his living, injuring  
 both ourselves and our neighbours. The only consolation  
 is, 'it cannot last'; and, by the gigantic efforts of the  
 LEAGUE, we may yet see the day when common sense  
 and justice will ride over ignorance and prejudice."

**RENT.**—The burden of rent is becoming more and  
 more felt, and, having possessed itself of "the agricultural  
 mind," is now being presented to us under various phases.  
 At a meeting of the Staffordshire Agricultural Protection  
 Society, held last week at Stafford, Viscount Ingestre,  
 M.P., in the chair, Mr. Fryer, who formerly represented  
 Wolverhampton, spoke out about high rents. The noble  
 chairman said he did not agree with Mr. Fryer, believing  
 that if rent were entirely abolished that would not materi-  
 ally benefit the tenant. "Try it," exclaimed a farmer,  
 and in an instant the room rung with cries of "hear,  
 hear," and approving shouts. The astounded chairman  
 rejoined, "Perhaps you would like the landlords to be  
 entirely without money; if so, what are we to do?" The  
 sturdy farmer had a ready answer,—"Same as we do,  
 my lord; make shift." The storm of cheers and  
 laughter that ensued put the noble rent-owner out of  
 countenance.

**GIVE THE FARMERS LEASES.**—Unless farmers had  
 leases, it could not be expected, nay, it would not be  
 safe for them, to carry on experiments. He had visited  
 East Lothian, which he had just heard Liebig, at the  
 Glasgow dinner, pronounce the first agricultural district  
 in the world. Well, there the farms were let on nineteen  
 years' leases. On those farms were steam-engines, and  
 every sort of machinery and implement. There the  
 tenant-farmers originated the proposition to give £600  
 a year to Professor Johnson, to act as their agricultural  
 chemist. He hoped it would not be taken amiss if he  
 said that Scotland was fifty years in advance of England  
 in agriculture. Why? Because the Scotch farmers had  
 leases. (Hear, hear.) Two-thirds of the land in Eng-  
 land was under strict entail or settlement. So it was in  
 Scotland, but that was no barrier to improvement there.  
 Hear, hear. The Duke of Richmond and himself, not to  
 mention other proprietors, tenants for life, were engaged  
 in improvements on a range of above 50 miles between the  
 Murray Firth and the river Don, and were enabled to  
 carry out these improvements in Scotland, because they  
 could charge two-thirds of the expense on the next heir.  
 That system encouraged tenants for life to lay out their  
 money freely. (Hear, hear.) Scotland had enjoyed the  
 act called the Montgomery Act, since 1769, and entailed  
 estates were equally well cultivated, arranged by exchange,  
 and leased with those in fee. (Hear, hear.) The English  
 landlords of entailed estates and their farmers were fet-  
 tered, but the Scotch were not. Hence the latter were able  
 to do great things. He had heard, "Really you Scotch  
 do things we English cannot." But why not? Give  
 Englishmen the same advantages as the Scotch, the same  
 powers of leasing, and exchanging, and charging, and  
 then every farmer in England would be able to do as  
 much or more than the East Lothian farmers. (Hear,  
 hear.) When landlords talked of putting their shoulders  
 to the wheel, it was natural for them to reply, "At  
 least do you M.P. landlords put a little legislative  
 grease to the axle, to make it work freely." (Hear,  
 hear, and laughter.) He considered the cause of agri-  
 culture was not best protected by the circulation, or rather

the accumulation, of pamphlets, "one-half of which was  
 not believed; the other never read;" and that the money  
 so laid out would be more beneficially employed in such  
 prizes as were given that day, and useful experiments.  
 Let their representatives in Parliament make good their  
 cause against all comers, by getting sound and simple laws  
 for drainage, leasing, exchanging, building farm-houses,  
 steddings, dykes, walls, planting, roads, enclosing and  
 schools, as Scotland had enjoyed for about 70 years; by  
 which all the venom of entails had been extracted, and im-  
 provements encouraged in that happy country; while here,  
 landlord and farmer were, as it were, bound in the legal  
 fetters of the unmitigated mortmain of entail and settle-  
 ment. Then it would be seen whether the English farmers  
 were a whit behind their brethren of the north.—*Mr.  
 Gordon's Speech at Tring.*—*Polytechnic Review.*

**THE WHEAT CROP.**—It is very fortunate that the  
 winter and spring of the present year were so cold, for  
 since the weather became somewhat milder, that most de-  
 structive insect, the wireworm, has begun to make great  
 ravages amongst the wheat. It has never, within our re-  
 collection, been so mischievous in this county as this year.  
 There are very few wheat-fields in which it has not done  
 more or less damage, and in some the gaps which it has  
 made are too large ever to be filled up. In one of the  
 finest fields in the township of Barton, the wheat plant is  
 nearly destroyed. From a letter of Mr. Charles Hild-  
 yard, in the *Mark-lane Express*, and from a private letter  
 from Lincolnshire, we learn that this insect is doing great  
 damage in those counties. This is not surprising, as their  
 custom of growing wheat after clover, though good in  
 other respects, renders them much more subject to the  
 ravages of insects than the Lancashire farmers are, who  
 always grow it either after a root crop or a bare fallow.—  
*Liverpool Times.*

**LAND IS UP.**—Notwithstanding the enormous sums of  
 money invested in railways, and the immense capital em-  
 barked in trade, and in spite of the everlasting cry of  
 agricultural distress, land still rises in value. A short  
 time ago several small farms were sold by auction at  
 Chapel-en-le-Frith, for sums far exceeding even the most  
 sanguine expectations of the owners, or the romantic  
 calculations of the auctioneer. One or two instances  
 in illustration of these remarks are here given, viz.,  
 a farm of enclosed land, situate about midway be-  
 tween Chapel-en-le-Frith and Buxton, lying on the side  
 of one of the highest heath-crowned hills in the hundred  
 of High Peak, was sold for nearly £10 an acre, including  
 cost of conveyance, &c., which, at the present rental,  
 will pay about 24 per cent. At Hayfield, in the same  
 neighbourhood, a chief rent was sold at about sixty years'  
 purchase, and a plot of land for farming purposes, which,  
 when conveyed, will cost £168 per acre. Now, as this  
 land is let at its full value, and can only be used for farm-  
 ing purposes, the extravagant prices realized can only be  
 accounted for upon the supposition that real property is,  
 in the eyes of many, considered the only safe investment  
 for capital. Suppose, then, for the sake of argument,  
 that that principle is conceded, how does it happen that,  
 while land maintains its full value, the poor man's labour  
 employed thereon is gradually sinking? It is well known  
 that labourers in the agricultural districts are working for  
 7s. or 8s. a week, while the labourers in the manufac-  
 turing towns are receiving various sums of from 2s. to 3s.  
 a day. The obvious reason for this strange anomaly is,  
 that while the rural population is rapidly increasing, the  
 land upon which the people seek to be employed, having  
 no elasticity, remains the same, and hence the low rate of  
 wages paid by farmers for labour. Let there be free im-  
 ports and exports, and then all the surplus population  
 will be drawn from the agricultural to the manufacturing  
 districts, where they will find constant employment at re-  
 munerating wages. The agricultural labourers, being thus  
 reduced in number, will command better wages. The  
 question has been recently put, "Why is it that the pro-  
 duce of the English soil sells for so much higher a price  
 than the same commodities command in other countries?"  
 It is neither more nor less than because the countries of  
 continental Europe are nearly all purely agricultural, not  
 having the great manufacturing communities that Eng-  
 land has to consume and pay for the agricultural produce.  
 It is clearly, then, the interest of both farmers and farm-  
 labourers to assist the Free-Traders in their efforts to  
 place agriculture and manufactures on a more solid and  
 sure foundation.—*A Correspondent of the Macclesfield  
 Chronicle.*

**PROGRESS OF MANUFACTURES IN AMERICA.**—The  
 manufacturing interest of the United States, at the pre-  
 sent time, is extending itself faster than at any period  
 since we have begun to manufacture for ourselves. From  
 Maine to the extreme west and south-west, every spindle  
 and loom is at work,—many of the mills with orders for  
 their works for months ahead. Water is no longer the  
 sole motive power of factories, and in the most favoured  
 localities, at the east, for manufactures, this power has  
 long been exhausted, and the never-failing power of steam  
 has been resorted to. In Newburyport and Boston, fac-  
 tories of this class are now in course of erection, and even  
 Lowell has now more factories building which are to be  
 propelled by steam than by water. The growth of Lowell  
 has been the most rapid and, at the same time, the most  
 sound of any city of New England. In 25 years, it has  
 risen from a spot of ground almost useless, to be the sec-  
 ond city in New England; and at no time has there been  
 more new mills building, or the old ones more active,  
 than at present; four new mills of the largest size are to  
 be erected this summer, and large additions made to the  
 old ones,—in all not less than 2,000 looms. The new  
 "city of looms on the Merrimack," at Haverhill, will  
 soon begin to show signs of life. Already active prepara-  
 tions are making to commence their dam, which, when  
 completed, will furnish a water-power that will not be  
 exhausted in half a century of prosperous manufacturing.  
 In New Hampshire and Maine there is the same tendency  
 to invest capital in manufacturing; cotton mills are the  
 favoured stocks, but other articles are not forgotten or  
 neglected. In Maine, charters have been granted for  
 thirteen cotton and woollen mills, and two iron factories;  
 the old companies have also added largely to their capital  
 stocks, and at no time has Maine been so decidedly in  
 favour of manufacturing as at present. At Buffalo, in  
 this state, there has been a large mill started, with every  
 prospect of success. At St. Louis, and numerous other  
 points in the west, in Mississippi and Georgia, notices  
 of new mills often are seen. At Baltimore and Georgetown  
 several flour mills have been altered to cotton mills; and  
 all through the country there is seen a general wish to  
 make investments in this way.—*New York Express.*

**"DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES."**—It is for this reason,  
 we suppose, that the Agricultural Protection Societies are  
 now so mute. The *Salisbury Herald*, a Conservative  
 paper, gives the following laconic report of a recent  
 meeting of monopolists:—"The annual meeting of the  
 South Wilts Agricultural Protection Society was held on  
 Thursday last, at the Red Lion Hotel." This meeting,  
 we have no doubt, bore a striking resemblance to one that  
 was recently advertised and held in this district, a few  
 months ago. A reporter from our office attended at the  
 appointed hour, and, after waiting some time, was joined  
 by an honest old farmer. A few words were exchanged,  
 and not a few minutes wasted, until the "gentleman of  
 the press" grew tired. He therefore sauntered out—made  
 a circuit of the town—returned to the inn—and found the  
 old farmer reinforced by the secretary. "Oh," said the  
 farmer, "this is the gentleman I told you of, as was here  
 afore!"—*Gateshead Observer.*

**PROGRESS OF THE FREE-TRADE CAUSE.**—The *Sun-  
 derland Times*, a Conservative journal, surprised us  
 lately, in a leading article, with the following observa-  
 tions:—"The honourable member for Gateshead, who,  
 with a highly praiseworthy perseverance, has repeatedly  
 brought before the House of Commons the claims of our  
 colonies, generally, to be placed on an equal footing with  
 Canada, in respect to the importation of corn into this  
 country, has at length, we perceive, given notice that he  
 will move for a committee of the whole House, to take into  
 consideration 'the expediency of assimilating the duty im-  
 posed on wheat and flour, the produce of the colonies of  
 Australia and South Africa, and of British India, to that  
 levied on the similar productions of the Canadian colonies.'  
 This proposition of the hon. member has our cordial  
 approval. We hold it is highly proper to admit the corn of  
 Canada at the duties fixed by the Canada Corn Bill; and,  
 entertaining that opinion, we cannot perceive how the  
 produce of other colonies can be made an exception. Nay,  
 more: there is great force in the argument that the corn  
 of these other colonies should be admitted on easier terms.  
 Imagine the immensely greater distance than Canada of  
 our Australian and African colonies, and the correspond-  
 ing greater expense of transit, and we can hardly avoid  
 the conclusion that if the corn of Canada be admitted at  
 1s. duty per qr., the corn of these more distant branches  
 of our empire should be admitted duty free. \* \* \* We  
 hope that the motion of Mr. Hutt will meet the acqui-  
 escence of Government." We will not inquire how far  
 these views are consistent with the former professions of  
 our contemporaries. We are only too glad to accept them  
 as an evidence of the progress of the Free-Trade cause.—  
*Gateshead Observer.*

**PENNY POSTAGE.**—The finance accounts just pub-  
 lished show a large increase in the revenue of the Post-  
 office. The gross revenue for the year 1844 was  
 £1,705,067, giving an increase of more than £81,000 as  
 compared with 1843; the net revenue was £719,957,  
 giving an increase of nearly £80,000 as compared with  
 1843. The apparent increase in 1844, taking the Post-  
 office returns for 1843 as the standard of comparison, is,  
 in each case, more than double the amount here given;  
 but, as we stated at the time, those returns gave the re-  
 venue both gross and net too low by about £85,000. The  
 actual increase of net revenue in 1844 is greater than  
 for any year since the war, except 1825, when it was  
 £92,900, and 1836, when it was £81,000. From 1840 (the  
 first year of penny postage) to 1844, the increase of net  
 revenue is nearly 50 per cent.

**"PLEASE THE PIGS."**—A thousand years hence anti-  
 quarians will derive the vulgar saying, "Please the pigs,"  
 from the Corn Laws. In Australia and the United States  
 pigs are fattened on corn, because men are not allowed to  
 eat it in England. The bread which a poor wretch wants  
 in this favoured country, a pig is devouring in the grain  
 in Van Dieman's Land. If the Corn Laws, then, are  
 preserved for no other end, it cannot be denied that they  
 serve to please the pigs of Australia and America. In  
 the Free Trade Bazaar, an Australian pig, well fattened  
 on wheat, should be exhibited in juxtaposition with a Dorset-  
 shire labourer, in exemplification of the blessed working  
 of the protective system, which gives the beast what it re-  
 fuses the man. Certainly our lawmakers have a secret  
 sympathy with the pigs.—*Examiner.*

**LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.**—Notwith-  
 standing the reduction altogether of 25 per cent. in the  
 passenger fares, and as much in their goods charges, the  
 last week's traffic is £2800 over the corresponding week  
 of last year. This is pretty forcible evidence of the results  
 of low fares and quick trains, combined with a skilful  
 adaptation of them to the public wants. We have given  
 it in one week, but if carried over the year it will exceed  
 £110,000 per annum.—*Herapath's Railway Magazine.*

**IRISH RAILWAYS.**—We have received a well executed  
 map, published by the *Irish Railway Gazette*, "showing  
 all the lines of railway, completed or in progress, especial-  
 ly laid down by their respective engineers." To those who  
 are interested in any of the numerous railway speculations  
 on foot in the sister country, this map will afford, at a  
 single glance, a definite idea of the extent and peculiar  
 situation of the several lines.

**SAWKYNS' STRIKE.**—Several of the master sawyers at  
 Glasgow and neighbourhood have agreed to the increase  
 wages asked by their workmen, and a number of the men  
 have again resumed their wonted employment.

**ADVANCE OF WAGES.**—At a time when silk manufac-  
 turers are reducing wages, it gives us peculiar satisfaction  
 to have to notice an increase which has just been volun-  
 tarily made to the cotton spinners of Leigh. The man-  
 ufacturers have announced that they will give an addi-  
 tional five per cent. to their spinners.—*Manchester  
 Guardian.*

**MURDER BY TYRANNY.**—The men employed at the dif-  
 ferent iron works have, at length, been paid according to  
 10 per cent. advance in their wages. Trifling as this is,  
 we regret to state that it is more than many are able to  
 manage. The scenes of drunkenness in our streets are  
 truly disgusting, notwithstanding the fines inflicted by the  
 magistrates and by the ironmasters, especially on Satur-  
 day and Sunday nights. A farmer, from the adjoining  
 parish, fell from the stairs of a public-house whilst in a  
 state of inebriation, it is said, last week, and died in a few  
 hours, leaving a wife and several children. The weather  
 continues very cold, yet the improvement perceptible in  
 vegetation is manifest all around us. Downais is already  
 a town of itself, and is likely to increase again. One new  
 blast furnace and a rolling-mill are to be erected there  
 forthwith. Hay and meal, owing to their scarcity, con-  
 tinue to be sold at very high prices.—*Correspondent,  
 Liverpool Mercury.*





## CLOSE OF THE BAZAAR.

The Council of the National Anti-Corn-Law League beg to announce that the Bazaar will close on Tuesday, the 27th instant, up to which time the price of admission will continue to be ONE SHILLING, and the Theatre will remain open UNTIL TEN O'CLOCK EVERY EVENING. The stalls will be replenished with many costly and elaborate specimens of art and workmanship which have not hitherto been exhibited on account of the want of space. THE MODEL ROOM is now complete, and in addition to an almost endless variety of improved AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and machines, exhibiting the latest discoveries in arts and manufactures, there are working models of a POWER LOOM, from Bradford, a BLOND LACE MACHINE, from Nottingham, a machine for weaving cotton velvet, a machine for making patent cards, a stocking-frame from Nottingham, &c. There is also a POTTER'S WHEEL, with operatives at work, from the Potteries, and bobbin lace workers, from Honiton, &c.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXXI.

TO VISCOUNT INGESTRE, M.P., &amp;c.

MY LORD,—The renowned knight of the buck-basket exulted in being not only witty himself, but the cause of wit in other men. Your lordship and the Duke of Richmond, rolled into one, would constitute the *Sir John Falstaff* of Agricultural Protection. He makes maxims, and you cause the farmers to make them. To his Grace we owe the memorable saying, "We do not grow glass, and we do grow timber;" while your lordship's pathetic inquiry of what the landlords are to do without their tenants' money, elicited the pithy answer from a farmer at the late Staffordshire meeting, "Same as we do, my lord,—make shift."

Take this reply to heart, my lord. The farmers are not the only people from whom you are liable to hear it. You belong to a triumphant party. You helped to win the battle of monopoly at the last general election. The country is governed by a Ministry of that party's making. You and they are dragged through the dirt by the creature of your own hands and voices. The Tariff and the Canada Corn Bill had the support of your votes. You are an unit in the majority of a Premier who, according to your own description, "always maintains the strictest silence respecting measures which he has in contemplation; and it was not until the last moment that his supporters were made acquainted with Ministerial propositions." And why should he tell you beforehand? It would only subject you to so much the more debasement. You must vote all the same. A consistent thorough-going Monopolist Ministry is beyond your reach. The time is past for its possibility. The country cannot be so governed. Sir Robert Peel is your necessity. When his measures are ripe, you must eat the leek; but why nibble it before the cudgel is over your heads? No wonder you were so embarrassed at the meeting as to decline to "enter further into your reasons for giving those votes." Doubtless you have often looked wistfully at your brother protectionists in the House of Commons, to see if they had any spare arguments or apologies. Your lordship is alert at catching the windfall of a rotten argument, even in a Peeblesshire orchard. But your compeers have nothing for you. "The hungry sheep looks up, and is not fed." Were your pitiful appeal made to the Cabinet, "Perhaps you would wish the landlords to be entirely without" reasons; "if so, what are we to do?" The farmer's answer would be all you got: "Same as we do, my lord,—make shift."

Why can you not look a little further into the real difficulty of a monopolist policy? A repeal of the Tariff and of the Canada Corn Bill you very justly treat as an impossibility. What makes it an impossibility? No difficulty of obtaining a Ministerial majority, were Sir Robert Peel to propose such repeal to-morrow. Your class would be only too glad to walk at his heels in the division. Nor would their seats be endangered with the constituents who returned them at the last election. The ground of the impossibility is deeper than this. A politician dares not do many things in which he would be sure of the support of a majority. He cannot disregard public opinion, and ascertained public interests. These are the motive power to your monopoly-created Minister. These make him boastful, even before your faces, of what he has already done for Free Trade. These will make him go further in the same direction; and they will make you make shift. There is no help for it. He may keep his own secret, as to particular measures, but you may see their certain character and tendency, only by opening your eyes. And you cannot make another Ministry. Any man with the least pretensions to statesmanship will serve you the same. He must, my lord. You are doomed to eat your words. Joining protection societies will not avail you. The future, on which you draw, will not accept. Sir Robert Peel has not been, as you

say, "deceived in the results of the Canada Bill;" nor you either; nor anybody else. But you deceive yourself if you dream of stopping there. You must go on, and "make shift."

And why should you not, my lord? As protection laws have not prevented the fall of wheat to 45s. the quarter, why should they prevent the recurrence of rents to what they were when wheat was 45s. the quarter before? The farmers begin to tell you that you must "try it." They have right and reason on their side. Your only stated objection is that the reduction would not be large enough to help them. They are not satisfied with that logic. It was urged that they could not go on as they are for three years longer; that they pay rent out of their capital; that the present race of tenants must become extinct. Perhaps some landlords will think it may be replaced by another; to be deluded, fleeced, and ruined, in like manner. This game must be nearly up, whatever becomes of rents.

There is a bill before the House of Commons for facilitating the enclosure of all the waste lands in the country. Fifteen millions of acres of arable land to be added to that already in cultivation, and the produce of which, we are told, cannot be sold at a remunerating price. The landlords who support this measure are subjecting the tenantry to a more formidable competition than that of the foreigners. You bring the competition home to their barn-doors. The produce of every new-tilled acre competes in the market with that of the old acres cultivated by the existing tenantry. You are preparing for the cultivation of new land at the moment when you whine over the prospect of old land going out of cultivation. What transparent hypocrisy! Thus it is that you protect your tenants from rivalry. The wheat of this new soil will pay no duty. It will be subject to no peculiar cost of transport. It will pay rent; and that seems the chief thing about which some landlords care.

Do you read, my lord, of the Scotch clearings now in progress? The unhousing of the peasantry in Glen Calvie, and other localities, to perish on the hill-side, and make room for larger sheepwalks, without any poor upon them? You will be made to hear of them, my lord; for the *Times* has its correspondent there. This is a landlords' war upon an honest and self-supporting peasantry. A war of which rent is to be the prize. The cruelty of these clearings will not pass so quietly now as in former times. They will be regarded in their true light—as a war of extermination against the peasantry. There are, indeed, other countries for them; they may fly, if they can, to the colonies. And what awaits them there? Monopoly is at war with our own

colonies. The petition adopted by the Staffordshire meetings treats the colonists as foreigners. So did the majority of the House of Commons when it rejected Mr. Hutt's motion. Competition with the colonies is identified with competition with the foreigner. You drive them out for the sake of rent; and then, for the sake of rent, you pursue them with restrictions to Australia. Here, they are cleared off that the soil may be rendered more profitable; there, their expatriated industry renders the soil more profitable, and you tax its produce in addition to the heavy natural tax of transit. Yet these people are the labourers whom you so profess to love; and those colonies, however distant, are part and parcel of the empire. Their agriculture is British agriculture. And you wage war on it and them. The protection you support, my lord, is manifestly neither that of agriculture nor of the cultivators.

Ever since the peace there has been a succession of attempts, by the landlord class, artificially to keep up prices to the war standard. The attempts have only so far succeeded as to keep up rents, while prices have been subjected to ruinous fluctuation. The promise of every Corn Law has been falsified. Each has held good for the tenant's bargain with the steward, and has held good for nothing else. You cannot wonder that the system is coming into universal odium. Some farmers still cry for "a little more duty," forgetting that much more duty was equally a deception. Others see that a little less rent would be a much surer relief than a little more duty. You were wiser to try that course than persist in the perversion of legislative power to the supposed interests of a class. I say supposed interests; for it is only the nominal landlord, whose estates are mortgaged, that would really find himself the worse for Free Trade. Landed property must rise in value with the progress of national prosperity. The *bona fide* proprietor of land would be benefited. As for the rent, your friend the farmer tells them what it is their duty to do—"Same as we do, my lord,—make shift."

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

THE CANADA CORN BILL.—A letter from Upper Canada, dated about the end of March says:—"The decline of price in flour makes us very anxious here, and, though we shall send over some thousand barrels, nothing but a change in the market will make it other than a tight match to make both ends meet. The present English price of flour is evidently running the Canadian exporters hard."

## A FOX HUNT IN DORSETSHIRE.

On visiting the Bazaar the other day, and having my attention drawn to the beds for the Dorsetshire labourers which are there, I called to mind some of the scenes I had witnessed in Dorsetshire; some which I had written but not published. The following account of a fox hunt, at which I was present, is, as nearly as can be written, literally what I saw. The introductory dialogue supposed to occur on the previous night, is also a sketch from fact.

"Bill?" "Well, Jack, what be it?" "The hounds be coming to draw Gorse-hill cover to-morrow." "Be they? Sha'n't I be after them?" "And sha'n't I." "Bill?" "Well, Jack, what be it?" "Give up one of them tatoes thee be's a doing on in the ashes." "Na; they ben't for to-night, they be a doing on for breakfast. We ha'n't no bread, and father be to go out at five. He be gone to bed now; and I be doing his tatoes for him. Mother be laid down as well, and all of them. Why ben't thou, Jack?"

"Why ben't I a-bed? I been with old Tom and young Harry a stopping the holes. Them foxes be all out at night, seeing what they can get. We have stopped their holes for them; and won't they find it queer when they go home and cannot get in, and have the puck come on them in the cover. I do so wish, Bill, to-morrow morning was come."

"I wishes, Jack, this precious cold night were over. We be a-starved up in that topmost room, with no things almost on us. There be such a lot on us in our house, we haven't got no money to get bread enough, let alone things to cover. See how us be obliged to stick them tatoes into our insides. It be a terrible cold night. I be afeard to go to bed for the cold."

"What I be most afeard on as to cold, Bill, be's this; that it be frosty, and squire won't hunt. I wouldn't lose it for ever so much. Would thee, Bill?"

"Na, Jack, I shouldn't like to. Wilt thou go to cover first thing? or wilt thou go to work and chance the hounds coming down where thou be's a-doing that job on the road. I shan't go to work myself. I would rather lose half a day than not have the sport. Half a day's pay ben't much to win, and it ben't much to lose. What says thee, Jack?"

"I say this. I wouldn't think on it. Five shilling a week, for half a day be only sippence. And then the chance of a something to pick up. Morris got half-a-crown to open a gate the last time squire hunted over here; and when young Lord What-do-ye-call-him fell off his horse that time, Courtney and Mason and Jones and What's-his-name got two sovereigns for carrying him on a litter, and had such a blow out of drink and victuals on the head on't as thes never seed. Besides, there be the digging out of the fox, if he run to earth, and twenty more chances to get a trifle. But for my part I would go after the hounds for the sport. Split me if I wouldn't."

"So would I, Jack. And so would any one."

Such may never have been the precise words of any two men in Dorset. But these words are indicative of what may be seen or heard in every village of Dorset where hunting is known. And few counties are more remarkable than this for the spirit of the inhabitants, rich and poor, in running after a piece of diversion.

There are more people by half than get profitable employment in the county. So sporting is not much loss of time to them. It is sometimes a loss of shoes in the mud; but the shoes are always found again. Sometimes a loss of skin and clothes in scrambling and tearing through bushes; but skin grows on again, and clothes are tacked together somehow. The greatest advantage it does is, that while the mounted men who dined late last night ride to-day to find their appetites, the men on foot who did not dine at all are running to lose theirs, and for a while forget them.

Let us suppose the morning come. The meet is at some gate—I need not say what gate. From east, from west, from every side, horses and men, scarlet coats and green, jog along at a trot. What jolly, happy-looking fellows they are, every one of them. Who could believe for a moment that, mounted on such nags, with such bright stirrups and shining boots; white leathers and well-fleshed limbs to swell them out; such broad chests and ruddy faces, the faces wearing a hue which may indicate either last night's wine or this morning's early rising and fresh air, just as you think fit to imagine—for there is a mixture of both; who could think that any of these are "farmers in distress"? But farmers they are, many of them.

This gentleman nearest us, on the bay mare, is not a farmer—not strictly speaking. He has land, and he farms it, and he also complains at public meetings of agricultural distress and hard times; so he is doubtless an agriculturist. But he is also a clergyman. And that is the reason why young Sparks, the whipper-in, swears so. Sparks was once a lad in a smock-frock and round hat, and leggings just the same as those lads sitting on the stile; but he was taken notice of and put into the stable, and in time mounted into office, and got up to where he is now. The fineness of his clothes and polish of his boots astonish those who recollect his old leggings and smock-frock. But his great card is to swear at the dogs, and at anything else so close to the parson, as to make them wonder that he is not afeard.

Here comes a farmer. One precisely after Squire Bankes's heart, the squire having declared a landlord's

pride to be, "when he knows that his tenant is the best mounted in the troop of yeomanry, and that he now and then takes a good gallop with the squire's hounds."

Who better mounted than this tenant? Who oftener galloping? He even subscribes to another pack of hounds that hunts in another district. Yet this gentleman is one of Squire Bankes's own tenants, and he is not able to tell what the squire says—continuing the sentence already quoted as the greatest joy of a landlord—namely, "Proud, above all, if the farmers shall tell him, 'there is not on my farm nor in my parish one single able-bodied man out of employ.'"

This well-mounted tenant may, I say, do the squire's heart good as far as horse flesh, horsemanship, and a good spurred, hooted, and scarlet-coated turn out can go. I believe he has never been in arrear with his rent; that must be another matter of satisfaction. But in his parish there are rather more than the half of the able-bodied labourers out of work and out of wages. And the wages of those in work—in work to this farmer—are 5s. a week to able-bodied men—young men, so able-bodied that they are five feet eight inches high, can carry a sack of wheat with any man in Dorset, and eat bread and bacon with any man in England, if they could get it to eat. The wages of those in work who are married and have families are more. They are as high as 6s. and 7s., in two instances as high as 8s., and in one as high as 9s.

Are any of the children of these highest paid men here—here at the gate—at the meeting of the hunt? No; this is not in their locality. Here are young ones enough, and old ones too, but not from Mr. Bankes's.

Here are two officers of the army, and three lords, two of them members of Parliament, but neither belonging to this county. All are well mounted. The master of the hounds, the squire himself, meets them.

Who would not be a farmer, even in hard times? One of the lords has nodded to one of these farmers, and the squire himself has introduced them. Is that nothing?

Here comes old Bob the shoemaker. The Gorse-hill covert has not been drawn once these twenty years but old Bob has been at it, he and all his apprentices for the time being. He had work to do to-day, shoes to make which were wanted; but who would work and the hounds out? Who, indeed, but some thresher or ploughman that must.

And though old Bob is only on foot, he is somebody here. A farmer nods to him, just as a lord nodded to a farmer.

And here is a sporting draper mounted on the butcher's horse. And here is the butcher himself on the young horse that he thinks of buying. Here is the landlord of the inn where the magistrates hold their sittings. He is a high man, and mounted, of course. He is so high a man, permitted as he is to take the field with lords, and with squires richer even than the lords, that he looks upon all those foot people with the most thorough contempt. But on none more so than on that man who is a beer-shop keeper. "The impudence of some persons! that a mere beer-shop keeper should pretend to take an interest in fox-hunting! and, though on foot, to make his appearance within the same paddings with the landlord of the head inn!"

Here is a jolly good fellow on a jolly good horse. And one of these bystanders says that he hasn't come away without his breakfast this morning. Another adds, "No, nor without knowing that everybody else had a good breakfast. He be a trump to his men, he be."

Another parson comes up and joins the one already arrived. Young Styles and Norman have been so fascinated with the manly courage of young Sparks, the whipper-in, who swore in the parson's face, that they swear also. They cannot help feeling themselves to be more than mere eaters of dry bread and cold taters warmed on the gridiron, already. They call one another B.'s and D.'s, close to the clergymen's horses' tails; and do not doubt but such courage may elevate them into the stable some day, if not into a whip's saddle.

Here is little Josh Something, with his little smock-frock all in tatters, and his toes, cold day as it is, bare and red, through the old shoes he has on. He had no time to eat his taters, hearing of the hounds, so he brought them with him, and is eating one in each hand now; he calls one bread and one cheese. He is an original in his way, that little Josh.

But the time is up, and the principal men have come. It is considered the best field of the season. There have been more numerous fields quite as well mounted; but there has been no such brilliant company as this. The officers, the three lords, two of them county members, one or two baronets, and not less than half-a-dozen landed squires. The farmers, butchers, drapers, and innkeepers, who hunt in such company, are up in the stirrup indeed, and they feel it.

"Get out, you young rascal; why don't you at home, and not come here to be rode down; get out with you!" This is from the butcher to little Josh and his cold taters. It is accompanied by a cut of a whip sharp enough to have made Josh cry on ordinary occasions. But he only dives into a bush and says, "There ben't no squire; thee be nought but a butcher!"

There is an old fox in the covert who has known what a hunt is before to-day. He is alleging to an inexperienced companion, that there is no danger; that, though the holes were closed up when they came home from the pleasant preserves or the hen-roosts, or wherever they were

this morning, there is no danger. Now, they hear dogs and men, and the young one cannot believe but there is danger. The old one still denies its existence, if the young one will only take his advice. The young one knows not what to do. But the hounds come nearer, and he is surer than ever that there is danger. The old one admits now that there will be, if the young one does not get up and run. But if he runs at once he will be safe; he, the old one, will keep between him and the hounds, if hounds there be. The young fox starts up and runs accordingly; the hounds see him; they seek no farther for another. They open their mouths; lay down their heads; join in the cry and the pursuit; and as the old fox hears them leaving the wood, and going off at a greater and greater distance, he says, or thinks the saying, which is all the same, "I wish you no harm, young friend; but that was good policy of mine. Better you before the hounds than me."

There is no time here to moralize, and compare, and make suppositions. Yet it may be that this old fox, at some feast in the covert, had called himself the "foxes' friend," ever ready to protect the young ones, and ever regardless of himself.

But we are in haste. The young fox has discovered, as other creatures have to their cost, that the protection of his "friend" was simply to turn him out into the front of the danger; and, now that he is in it, he tries to leave it as far behind as he can.

First of all, he tries to find how the wind blows, that he may run with it. But he has no time to make experiments. Unluckily he is out on the wrong side. He is off at a great dash; but he knows his course to be wrong. So does old Bob the shoemaker. He can tell already that this is a young fox; and he can tell that, before long, he will turn; he will wind by the upper heath, and come down upon the Stour by the common. And old Bob breaks away in a different direction from that taken by the fox and hounds and hunters, assured that he will meet them again. Save a few of the very rawest of the mob—the young foxes of it, who run the wrong way, because it is the way the hunters went—the whole follow Bob, who has had twenty years' experience.

And now for the chasing and racing. The racing first. The swiftest soon take the lead from even the most experienced in short cuts. Mr. Hurst's meadow-gate is opened in almost no time. If Mr. Hurst were there he would give it to some of them, to run through among his sheep and cows, yelling that way, and then over the fence through his young tares and wheat. But he is not there; he is with the hounds, and riding by this time through somebody else's fields. It would have been much worse for his sheep and cows in the meadow, and young tares and young wheat, if all the pack and fifty horsemen had gone over his fences and lands. But then it is an honour to have one's fences broken and one's farm trampled by the hunters, saving always such men as the sporting draper, butcher, innkeeper, and two or three more who have no land of their own to be trampled by others.

Then ensues the running to earth in a drain, the digging out, the new chase, now fields of wheat scoured over, ewe sheep great in lamb driven about in terror, and all the "farmers in distress" hallooing and rejoicing with voices loud and joyous as they, in the company of the lords and squires, break down each other's fences, cut up each other's newly-sprung wheat, and scare and drive in terror each other's breeding ewes and cows and fattening sheep.

#### ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### OLD AUTHORS ON FREE TRADE.

To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

SIR,—In the grand Bazaar, Covent-garden, the other day, a friend took from his pocket a piece of written paper, and said he would add it to his contributions to the Bazaar, or to the columns of the LEAGUE paper, if he could see the Editor. I undertook to send it or give it to you. The first portion is said to be an extract from Franklin.

I am, &c.,

REUBEN.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.—"Suppose a country, X, with three manufactures, as cloth, silk, and iron, supplying three other countries, A, B, C, but is desirous of increasing the vent and raising the price of cloth in favour of her own clothiers. In order to this she forbids the importation of foreign cloth from A; A, in return, forbids silks from X. Then the silk-workers complain of a decay of trade. A and X, to content them, forbid silks from B; B, in return, forbids iron ware from X. Then the iron-workers complain of decay; and X forbids the importation of iron from C. C, in return, forbids cloth from X. What is got by all these prohibitions? Answer:—All four find their common stock of the enjoyments and conveniences of life diminished."

Extract from a book upon political economy, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, supposed to be by Mr. Stafford:—"Surely common reason would that one region should help another when it lacketh; and, therefore, God hath ordained that no country should have all commodities, but that which one lacks, another brings forth; and that that one country lacketh this year, another hath plenty thereof commonly the same year, to the intent men may know that they have need of one another's help, and thereby love and society to grow among all men the more. But here we would do as though we had need of no other country on earth, but to live all of ourselves, and as though we might make the market of all things as we list ourselves. For though God is bountiful to us, and sends us many great commodities, yet we could not live without the commodities of others."

#### REVIEW.

*The North British Review*, No. V. May, 1845.  
Kennedy, Edinburgh.

Amongst various articles of interest, the recent number of the "North British Review" contains one of paramount importance: it is on "*The Improvement of Land as an Investment for Capital*." The accumulated capital of this nation is great beyond all precedent. The public securities give an interest of only three per cent., and so large a portion of our permanent debt is absorbed by investments of trust funds, which must necessarily remain so invested as being alone recognised by our courts of equity, that there is no prospect of Government securities becoming more tempting to capitalists; nor is it desirable that they should, for the worst administrator of a nation's wealth is its government.

The field for the employment of capital which mercantile and manufacturing pursuits offer is, at present, extremely and unnaturally narrowed by our restrictive system, of which the Corn Laws form the base; but its value is fully understood by our capitalists, and whenever British commercial industry shall have emancipated itself from the ignorant legislation of feudal selfishness, its most gigantic efforts will be well seconded by British capitalists. How different is the state of the landed interests of this country! Labourers in husbandry are thought to be so superabundant that to many benevolent persons emigration to the colonies appears to be their sole resource; and, moreover, some of our best labourers are turning their thoughts anxiously in the same direction. The farmers, the agricultural capitalists—though to apply that term to many of them sounds almost like mockery—are, on all hands, admitted to be in a state of distress, and too many of them see nothing before them but absolute ruin. Then, the landlords are by no means in an easy position. With habits of expenditure which rather exceed than fall within the limits of their available incomes, they find, after a thirty years' struggle to keep up their rents by a tax on the community, that their whole scheme has been founded on false principles, and that under the existing system an enormous fall of rent seems inevitable. The outcries and forebodings of land going out of cultivation, of the annihilation of rents, and of the universal ruin of farmers, which as we hear at "protection meetings" will come to pass if prices of agricultural produce be not kept up by legislative protection, all bespeak a sad want of knowledge on the part of those most directly interested in land. Commerce and manufactures may and do offer great prizes to capitalists, but they are surrounded by great risks; whereas we have no hesitation in saying that the greater part of the land of this country affords a field for the investment of capital, both by the landlord and the tenant, which, with ordinary skill and prudence, is not only free from risk, but will be absolutely certain of an ample return. It is the purpose of the able article we have referred to, and from which we propose to make some full extracts, to demonstrate the proposition that the land of this country, now by courtesy called cultivated, is capable of returning ample profit for great outlays of capital by proprietors and occupiers.

One of the chief obstacles to the larger investment of capital upon the land consists in the ignorance of its owners and the majority of their agents. The writer says:—

"Passing by, for the present, the wide field which the colonies present for the application of labour and capital to land, we shall in this article endeavour to convince the moneyed interest how safe and profitable an investment is afforded to them in the improvement of the soil of the United Kingdom."

"This is the more necessary, because impressions of a contrary kind have been made on their minds by the cry of agricultural distress, which has been so frequently and so loudly heard during the last thirty years; and by the ignorance of the majority of landowners, and of those intrusted with the management of landed property, as to the intrinsic value of land. These are the parties on whom moneyed men usually rely, when seeking a landed investment, for the profits of successful commercial industry; considering themselves safe under the guidance of what they call practical men. Those, however, who bear this title are, almost invariably, opposed to innovations on their established practice; and to consult one of these inveterate adherents to routine, on the merits of the new system of draining, or any other improvement in agriculture, is like asking the opinion of a mail-coachman or guard on the advantages of railway travelling."

There is, comparatively, little unenclosed waste land in England, "but there is a vast quantity in a state of half cultivation, requiring a large amount of capital to call forth its productive powers;" and, after some statistical statements showing the actual condition of land in Great Britain, it is estimated that the additional tenants' capital on 34,000,000 acres of cultivated land required is, at least, £5 per acre, or £170,000,000, and that 20,000,000 acres require to be drained by the landlords, which, at £6 per acre, would amount to £120,000,000. It seems, also, that there are 9,000,000 acres of reclaimable waste land, which will require £20 per acre to bring into cultivation, or £180,000,000.

Here, then, on what every one acquainted with



the agriculture of this country must admit to be a very moderate estimate, no less than £470,000,000 may be profitably invested in the improvement of the soil of Great Britain. To this must be added an enormous sum for Ireland.

The writer then goes into the question of the profit of such an investment, and in so doing, glances at that phantom of the agricultural mind, a "remunerating price":—

"The next question, therefore, is, whether capital can be profitably employed in the improvement of the soil of Great Britain; or whether there are peculiar circumstances affecting this country, which prevent agriculture from being a remunerating occupation, except at prices only to be maintained by artificial means, which the spirit of the times, and the demands of the non-agricultural classes, now the preponderating interest, daily render more untenable.

"Let us first consider what is meant by a remunerating price for agricultural produce. This, as fixed by the practical authorities, to whom allusion has been made, appears to accord very nearly with that definition of a competency, which fixes it at a hundred a year more than the possessor of any given income actually enjoys. The remunerating price for wheat appears to lie always something below the highest price which it has ever borne during the preceding twenty years, and always considerably above that which the farmer is actually receiving.

"It was proved, to the satisfaction of the two Houses of Parliament, in 1815, by the host of agriculturists and land agents who were examined under the first Committee on Agricultural Distress, that wheat could not be grown in Great Britain, except at a loss to the farmer, at a lower price than 80s. the quarter. The remunerating price subsequently fell to 70s. and 60s. Now, when the averages range between 40s. and 50s., the most inveterate grumbler, of a class proverbial for grumbling, would be satisfied with 50s. We must conclude from this that the price of agricultural produce is an important element in the cost of its production. Divest that portion of the produce used for seed, and in feeding the cattle employed in cultivation, of its money value, and it will be found an invariable quantity, on the same soil and under the same system of cultivation. The shares of the landlord and the labourer are usually money payments, which, remaining stationary while prices are falling, require a larger amount of produce for their discharge, than was contemplated when their money value was fixed. These, however, ultimately adjust themselves to the reduced prices. While the adjustment is in progress, agricultural distress prevails; when it is complete, the price once considered ruinous becomes remunerative."

Legislative enactments have not secured this "remunerating price" to farmers, as their present position too surely testifies.

The great agricultural problem of the day is—How the clay soils are to be made productive; and upon its solution mainly depends the future condition of British agriculture. This will render apology for the length of the following extracts needless:—

"The result of the alteration in the duties on foreign cattle and provisions under the new tariff has disappointed the hopes of the consumers—or would-be consumers—of meat, and the fears of our breeders and graziers, and has shown, that neither in quantity nor quality are the supplies of live stock from Europe, and of provisions from America, likely to affect our markets, at any rate for a long time to come, to any appreciable extent. It is obvious, therefore, that, if our augmented numbers are to be consumers of animal food, it can only be by means of large supplies of beef and mutton, raised upon our own soil. Greater quantities of these can be produced upon arable land, by the culture of turnips and other forage crops, than upon an equal extent of pasture; and if, by any process, the clay soils of England can be rendered sufficiently dry and friable to admit of the union upon them of stock husbandry with tillage, another agricultural revolution will be effected; not only will the equilibrium be restored between the strong and the light soils, but the preponderance will again belong to the former, from the artificial fertility which increased supplies of manure will induce upon their naturally superior fertility, now freed from its accompanying and countervailing disadvantages. That process has been discovered, and was described before the Committee on Agricultural Distress in 1836. Few of the great improvements in agriculture have originated with practical farmers. When application was made to Lord Leicester for a farm by one who pleaded that he had followed the plough all his life, and must therefore know something about farming—"about ploughing, you mean," was the reply; "the best farmer I ever knew was a retired tallow-chandler." The new system of draining—the capital improvement of modern times—destined to exercise so important an influence on the welfare of this country, was invented by Mr. Smith, a cotton manufacturer, of Deanston, in Perthshire. Having about 200 acres of almost worthless land, he applied himself to the improvement of it, by means of draining and loosening the subsoil, by a process called subsoil ploughing. The two methods previously employed for draining land were designed, the one to free it from surface-water, by means of open drains and furrows, the other to remove, by means of covered drains, superfluous moisture issuing from below. In order to carry off the water from arable land retentive of moisture, it has long been usual to plough it in ridges, varying in breadth according to the wetness of the soil; and the furrows left between these ridges were crossed, in the lowest parts of the field, by others called grips, or water-furrows, which were enlarged and deepened by the spade, every time the land was under a winter crop. Where the land had sufficient declivity, the rain was thus carried off as it fell, without being allowed to stagnate on the soil.

"Under drains, designed to relieve the land from the effects of springs, were narrow trenches, rarely more than 18 inches deep, in which a channel for the water was kept open by means of tiles, stones, bushes, or straw, which were covered with earth. Springs are occasioned by atmospheric water, which, having fallen on land at a higher level, percolates the strata, and bursts out at the point where the resistance is least. These under drains are, therefore, directed irregularly, through the lower portions of the ground, to those parts at which there are indications of springs. The peculiarity of the Deanston

system of draining consists in this, that by parallel drains from thirty inches to three feet deep, arranged at regular and frequent intervals, and discharging themselves, at certain distances, into larger transverse drains of the same kind, it seeks, not only to intercept springs, but to allow the rain water to pass off by percolation through the soil, instead of flowing off the surface. These drains are filled, to within eighteen inches of the surface, with stones, broken small—their smallness constituting one of the peculiarities of the system. Where stones cannot be conveniently procured, or where the land has very little declivity, tiles are employed. The use of straw or bushes is rejected. The object of the old system of draining was to cause the water to enter the drains from above as quickly as possible, and therefore, when tiles or stones were used, some more porous material, such as straw or bushes, was placed over them. The object of the Deanston system is to cause the water to enter the drains from the side, and the tiles or stones are therefore covered with the most clayey portions of the soil, thrown out of the drains. The rapid entrance of water from above being thus prevented, the obstruction of the drain by earth carried into it with the water is avoided; and other advantages are secured which attend the filtration of the rain water through the soil."

The land having been drained, the water which percolates through it is beneficial to its fertility. Then follows the subsoil ploughing:—

"After the interval of a year, the operation of subsoil ploughing is performed. This consists in loosening the subsoil to the depth of sixteen inches, by means of a strong plough, drawn by four or six horses, which follows in the furrow made by the ordinary plough, and, having no mould-board, breaks up the subsoil without bringing it to the surface. The direction of the ploughing is transverse to that of the drains, towards which the water filtering through the soil is thus conducted; and, during its slow passage, the chemical and mechanical changes are effected, which are so beneficial to vegetation; while, by the loosening which the subsoil receives, a wider range is afforded to the roots in which to seek for nourishment. The land is now rendered so porous that it is no longer necessary to plough it into ridges with intervening furrows, but it may be laid as flat as those soils which lie upon a naturally absorbent subsoil. Water-furrows may now be dispensed with. The texture of the soil is moreover improved, in most cases, by blending clay and sand, which were before arranged in separate layers. A stiff clay, difficult to work, is thus converted into a friable loam; and, even in those cases where no intermixture of siliceous matter takes place, the expansion of the water which percolates the soil has a tendency to separate its particles, and render it more friable. After the lapse of a few years, when the chemical and mechanical changes are sufficiently advanced, and the subsoil, previously sterile from want of exposure to the atmosphere, is sufficiently improved, portions of it are brought to the surface by means of deep ploughing with the ordinary implement; and thus a cultivated soil is obtained, of twice or thrice the depth of that previously turned over by the plough."

This system has been extensively adopted in Scotland; and though, as the writer truly says, it has been much talked about in England, still the actual work of draining proceeds but slowly, while much of that which is performed is done very inefficiently. But wherever any of the land has been drained and subsoiled properly—and the instances in England have been little more than experiments—the result has been complete success. Innumerable cases are cited from the Journals of the Royal Agricultural Society, where, by an outlay of from £6 to £7 per acre, land worth, to rent only, from 2s. 6d. to 5s. an acre has been permanently increased to 20s. and 21s. The magnificent improvements of Lord Ducie on Whitfield Example Farm, and the profitable results, are fully stated in this article. The increased productiveness of the land of that farm is thus shown:—

"The farm now consists of 270 acres, of which 120 are annually under wheat—the only description of grain grown upon it—120 under root crops and clover, 20 in permanent pasture, and the rest roads and buildings. The crop of wheat for the last four years has averaged 40 bushels an acre, with the prospect that the yield of the crop now being thrashed will be superior to any yet obtained. Forty bushels an acre, on 120 acres, amount to 4800 bushels. The 168 bushels of wheat and 80 bushels of barley, obtained from the arable portion of the farm by the former tenant, may be considered equal to 208 bushels of wheat. The farm, therefore, now produces full twenty-three times as much corn as it produced under the old system of management; while the half of it, under roots and clover, maintains more live stock than were kept upon it while it was in grass.

"The labourer has benefited by the change, as well as the landlord and the tenant. The number of labourers employed on it, as a dairy farm, was equivalent to three men, two women, and one boy for the whole year. The average number employed now is twelve men, nine women, and five boys. The wages of a man under the former tenancy were 9s. a week, with wheat at 56s. the quarter. The present tenant pays 12s. and 14s. a week, with 50s. as the average price of wheat, being satisfied, from what he has seen in Lincolnshire, that the work of a well-fed labourer is the cheapest.

"Let us now turn our attention to the amount of surplus produce derived from this farm under the two different systems of cultivation, above the wants of the labourers employed in producing it. In making this comparison, we shall consider the number of men employed in each case, as representing so many families of five individuals each, no member of which derives any portion of his subsistence from any other source than agricultural labour; and we shall take the annual consumption of each individual at six bushels of wheat. We have already stated that the grain produced on Whitfield, under the old system, was equal to no more than 208 bushels of wheat. Deducting the seed sown from this at the rate of three bushels the acre, and supposing that the five horses kept on the farm consumed no corn, as they probably did not, there would remain 145 bushels, 90 of

which would be the annual consumption of 15 persons contained in three families. The surplus is 55 bushels; which would be equal, on a farm of the present size of Whitfield, to 63 bushels, or the consumption of little more than two families.

"Deducting from the 120 acres now under wheat, 20 acres as necessary to produce the corn for the horses employed in cultivating the farm, and deducting seed at two bushels the acre—though no more than a bushel and a half is sown to obtain the present splendid crops—we shall have still 3760 bushels, and the surplus produce, after deducting six bushels each for the 60 persons contained in the 12 families supported by labour on the farm, will be 3100 bushels, or sufficient for the consumption of 113 non-agricultural families.

"It may perhaps be objected, that, in comparing the corn raised on a dairy farm with that raised on an arable farm, the estimate above given of the much larger surplus produce of the latter is fallacious. Let us, therefore, endeavour to compare the relative produce of live stock in each case. The produce of the pasture land of old Whitfield was sold in the form of cheese and butter, a few calves, and fat pigs, and the heifers and old ewes not required to keep up the dairy 'pack.'

"The produce of the live stock now maintained upon that portion of the farm devoted to roots and clover, goes to market in the shape of mutton, beef, and wool. In order to compare the amount in each case, we must reduce each description of stock to sheep, according to the rates stated in Mr. Morton's first report, allowing 12 sheep for a cow, 10 for a fatting ox, 8 for a three-year-old heifer, &c. At this rate, deducting the horses in each case at the rate of 8 sheep each, and allowing that the clover now keeps 10 sheep to the acre (which it does), for the six summer months, and that the root crops keep the same number for the winter, we shall find that the former pasture of the farm was equal to the support of 384 sheep, or 416 on a farm of the present size of Whitfield, and that its present green crops are equal to the support of 700 sheep all the year round. The balance, therefore, is again greatly in favour of the present system, as regards the production of animal food as well as grain. If, however, we suppose the amount of live stock in each case to be only equal, we have the important and undeniable fact, that Whitfield, as an arable farm, supplies 120 more families with food than it fed before, nine of which have obtained increased employment on the farm by its conversion from pasture, and 103 are dependent on other occupations."

We pass over some most conclusive passages showing that the landlords must be as much benefited as the rest of the community by receiving their rents through abundant produce rather than from high prices, in order to extract a passage demonstrating the futility of the monopoly-raised fear of Free Trade:—

"The advocates for the maintenance of artificial remunerating prices, by means of restrictions on the free interchange of the produce of the earth between nations—an object which, with all their legislation during the last thirty years, they have not been able to accomplish—frequently put forth statements to show how rent would be entirely annihilated by a reduction of the average price of wheat, 10s. a quarter, below that which, for the time being, is fixed on as the remunerating price. We will, therefore, on the other hand, endeavour to show the efficacy of an increased produce, obtained by the application of an additional dose of capital, in enabling the tenant to meet such a reduction. We will take the case of strong wet land, yielding, on an average, three quarters of wheat, and paying a rent of 20s. an acre, with the average price of 60s. A reduction of the price to 50s. diminishes the returns on the wheat crop 30s., and thus both the rent and 10s. of the tenant's profit are gone. Let the landlord, however, expend £10 an acre in draining and deepening the soil, charging the tenant five per cent. on the outlay, and let the tenant increase the capital employed by him in cultivation, by £5 the acre, and the average produce will be increased, as we have seen it increased at Whitfield, to five quarters an acre. The difference in value between a crop of three quarters and a crop of five quarters, at 50s., amounts to £5, and the tenant gains by this increased produce as follows:—

The old rent and the profit destroyed by the reduction of the averages from 60s. to 50s.	£1 10 0
Additional rent, at five per cent. on the landlord's outlay	0 10 0
Ten per cent. on the tenant's additional capital of £5 the acre	0 10 0
Five per cent. to cover casualties on his increased stock	0 5 0
	£2 15 0
Additional profit	2 5 0
	£5 0 0

"There would be no increased expense of cultivation, except that of harvesting, thrashing, and marketing five quarters instead of three, which is too insignificant to be taken into account; while, on the other hand, the labour previously required to work the soil will be diminished one-fifth by the greater friability induced.

"The great obstacle to improvements, by which such an increased produce might be obtained as would more than counterbalance any diminution of price which would follow a repeal of the Corn Laws—if such repeal would have the effect of reducing the averages below their present level—consists in the want of capital on the part of landlords and tenants to carry these improvements into effect. It is notorious that, as a body, the landed gentry are worse off for ready money than any other class of the community; and it may be safely affirmed, that they are the poorer for the high prices of the war. The rapid increase of their incomes, which they supposed would be indefinitely progressive, tempted them into expensive habits, of which they have been unable to divest themselves, now that the golden tide has ebbed from beneath them. The tenants are no better off than the landlords. They prospered for a time, while the advance of price was progressive, but their rents were soon advanced in proportion, and when the revolution came, the first brunt of it fell on them; and they could obtain no reduction of rent till it became evident that their resources were nearly exhausted. Many of them had borrowed a large portion

of the capital required to stock their land; that stock was depreciated in value full 30 per cent.; and fixed money engagements of this kind requiring, as well as their rents, one-third more produce for their discharge than was necessary when they were contracted, have drained them so effectually that, instead of possessing capital for permanent improvements, which are the proper work of the landlords, though too often thrown upon tenants-at-will, the tenants, taken as a body, do not possess half the capital necessary for the ordinary purposes of cultivation.

"There are many tenants who, in the present state of the money market, would be able to borrow sufficient capital to effect those improvements which pertain both to landlord and tenant, if they had the security of a lease, or an agreement that, on quitting the farm, they should be repaid their outlay, subject to deductions, increasing for every year that had elapsed since the expenditure was incurred."

The law of entails and the plan of English settlements greatly impede the improvement of settled estates; and so sensible have the landowners become of this that the Lords have appointed a committee to investigate the subject.

The writer, who is obviously a practical and skilful farmer, thus testifies to the soundness of the views enforced by Mr. Cobden in his late speech on agricultural distress:—

"While this article was passing through the press, we received the report of the speech made by Mr. Cobden, in moving for a committee to inquire into the causes of agricultural distress. In that speech, which appears to have made a strong impression on the House of Commons and the public, we find the same principle urged, which has been insisted upon in the preceding pages,—that CAPITAL is more wanted by the landed interest than legislative protection. From the tone of the leaders of the two political parties, it is clear that protection will soon be numbered with the things that have been. We would, therefore, exhort the landed interest no longer to pursue this *ignis fatuus*—this purse of money under the end of the rainbow—but to apply themselves in earnest to the sure and safe process of increasing their rent-rolls by the improvement of their estates. If unable or unwilling to do this, let them, at any rate, not deter the moneyed interest from investing individual or collective capital in the purchase and improvement of such landed property as may be in the market. It must be obvious that competition for the possession of land will be beneficial to themselves. It will raise the value of that which they want to sell, or on which they want to raise money. The infusion of a little commercial enterprise, energy, and calculation into agricultural operations will increase their rents, without any exertion on their part, by the effect which will be produced on their tenants from the influence of example, spreading over wide circles from a number of centres. *The day for cattle shows is gone by.* It has done its work. A little good is to be expected from local discussions which have local practices for their subject. To the agriculturists of the most advanced districts belongs the work of carrying agriculture on to higher degrees of perfection by the aid of science; and nowhere is this work taken up with such zeal and success as in Scotland; none of our men of science are adding to their science so much acquaintance with the practice of agriculture as Professor Johnston. Even in the most highly cultivated districts, and on the richest land, an increase of produce may be obtained by such aid, at a comparative reduction of cost, as will more than compensate for the present depreciation of price. But there are wide districts, in which may be included a large portion of the southern, midland, and western counties of England, with the whole of Wales, in which agriculture still stands very few degrees above zero. These require the constant exhibition before their eyes of established, though comparatively modern, improvements, undertaken with a view to profit, and proved to be profitable. Talk in a farmers' club of what is doing in Lincolnshire, Northumberland, or Derwickshire, and you are met with the objection of undefined local peculiarities of soil and climate, which render such practices unsuited to other localities. Let their practical working, in all seasons, be exhibited, and, though much criticized and ridiculed at first, sound sense and impartial judgment will eventually triumph over the *regnum Præmii cæli* of local prejudice, and they will be adopted. The very collision of opinions which such exhibitions produce, exert a powerful influence in expanding the agricultural mind. It may safely be affirmed, that the much-derided operations of Tiptree Hall, if they occasionally manifest too great an eagerness to rush into untrodden paths, have done as much to rouse to thought the strong, though dormant, intellectual powers of Essex, as they have to increase the productive powers of Tiptree Heath. They will have more effect in improving the agriculture of Essex than all the ploughing matches which ever took place in that county."

We recommend this article to the diligent perusal of landowners, who will find topics suggested which, if followed out, must lead them to that they most want, namely—knowledge of their own affairs.

*Free Trade in the Treasures both of the Body and the Mind, the Interest and Duty of Christians.* A Sermon, preached in June, 1842, by Joseph Hutton, LL.D. London: Chapman.

The celebrity of the preacher and the interest of the subject render it a superfluous task to recommend this sermon. We shall merely extract one passage, descriptive of the accordance of the intercourse of nations with the manifest designs of Providence,—its force and beauty require no comment to point them out:—

"Look at the surface of the earth,—how evident is it that to unite the various tribes that dwell upon it is a primary object of the great Creator! See how the ocean—the dissociating ocean an ancient classic calls it, but never in poetry or prose was an epithet more erroneously applied—unites the most distant realms, and the most different climates, and renders the interchange of their productions not merely possible, but easy:—

"This band remotest nations joins."

"Well has the Psalmist, in speaking of the great and

wide sea as full of the riches of God, adverted to the blessings of navigation—'there go the ships.' They are works of human art, it is true, but there cannot be a doubt that they exist by Divine appointment, and that the sea was as much designed to carry man over its surface as to nourish the scaly brood within its depths. Over the vast plain of ocean we wend our easy way to every point of the circling shores, and, as we approach them, we see rivers without number offering their aid to conduct us, by roads not less easy, into the very heart of the distant lands in which our brethren dwell. These liquid paths God makes, and man imitates; and canals extend the blessings, while they testify to the value, of those rivers which hurry seawards, to lend their assistance in completing the work of love which the ocean has begun. Was the sea designed to separate us, then? Ignorance only can imagine it. It joins the remotest races of the human family, as no other expedient that we can think of could have joined them.

But what shall we say of the rocky barriers that separate land from land—of the mountains interposed, that make enemies of nations, which had else, like kindred drops, been mingled into one? Are not they, at least, meant to divide us from each other—to portion us off into distinct regions, holding little or no communion? I doubt it much. The sublimities of nature serve rather to attract than to repel—the curiosity of the traveller is excited, his admiration is kindled, his energies are called forth by them, and many a mountain ridge is climbed with painful steps and slow, for the sake of the feelings which the traveller experiences when he dives into its deep dells, wanders by its lonely tarns, looks upward to its towering cliffs, or down upon the wide-spreading prospect which its heights command,—where a mere lowland district, even though rich and beautiful, would have been left untraversed. Do the Pyrenees, the Alps, the Apennines, serve only for division? To say nothing of their physical uses, amongst which let us not forget that they are the needful sources of those very rivers of whose uniting power we have spoken, have they not an attractive power upon minds? Does not the stranger often turn his longing eyes to them from afar, and for their sake has he not frequently been known to make his first acquaintance with men of strange aspect and of unknown tongue, whom yet he has soon learned to love, because he has found that they have human hearts, and minds formed, like his own, in the image of the Deity? It is by no means an unknown, or even uncommon case, that to see mountains has been the first object, and the last result to find friends and brethren in men.

"Talk not then of barriers—the sublimities of nature are meant to draw us to each other. In accents that echo from one mountain summit to another, the Alps invite us to trace the steps of Carthaginian Hannibal and French Napoleon, and acquaint ourselves with the mighty nations that spread wide at their base, and the simple people that dwell in their verdant valleys, or on their rocky sides. With the voice of many waters, Niagara calls us to hold communion with our Transatlantic brethren; and, in sounds more familiar, Snowdon invites us to converse with the simple-minded descendants of the first dwellers of our land; Ben Lomond would fain persuade us to confer with Scotia's hardy sons and lively daughters; and Mangerton, to learn by our own experience that Irish hearts are warm."

"No, my friends; mountains interposed are no more designed to estrange the human family from each other, than seas or rivers. On the contrary, if the earth were a dead flat, or a smooth ball, we should want many powerful inducements, which we now have, to traverse its beautifully varied surface; and, in gratifying our curiosity respecting its grand physical phenomena, to make ourselves acquainted, at the same time, with the mental and moral characteristics of its inhabitants."

"Again, from the surface of our globe turn your attention to its productions. Does the consideration of these supply us with any reason for believing that the universal Father meant to make each particular district sufficient for itself? Has He cooped up his children like tame cattle, in their separate fields, and spread out before them an unvaried but satisfying repast, and bade them to feed there in happy, but selfish and unsocial, ignorance of their brethren in neighbouring enclosures? Has He not, on the contrary, given them wants without number that they cannot supply, and tastes that they cannot gratify, without ranging far and wide, and imparting of their own that they may receive of others' wealth? Instead of forming them, as an ancient author expresses it, 'prone and obedient to the belly,' with downward looks and minds that cannot range, any more than their eyes, beyond the spot of ground immediately beneath and around them, has He not given them an erect posture, and far-darting vision, and large desires for distant good, and minds that leap all obstacles, and prompt and assist the body to do so too, in the pursuit of those objects on which their hearts are fully set?"

"And are these the beings whom we would limit to the produce of the spot on which, for the time being, they chance to dwell? They will not be so limited. In the state of barbarism they will seize, like un instructed children, upon what they have not, but desire to have. As civilization advances, and the ungovernable cupidity of the child yields to the reason-regulated wishes of the man, commerce will succeed to war, exchange to robbery, and they will learn to barter what they want not, or less highly value, of their own, for those coveted possessions which others can be induced, by the price they offer, to impart. Free Trade is the expedient which reason suggests, and God approves, for gratifying honestly the various and strong natural desires which He has implanted in the breasts of His children, for superseding that spirit of mutual aggression, violence, and plunder, to which, in the savage state, or childhood, of the species, those desires lead; and for introducing to each other, in the character of mutual benefactors, men who, in less enlightened days, were known as envious witnesses of each other's prosperity, or lawless invaders of each other's rights."

¶ We shall give our second notice of "Sybil" next week.

DEVON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual exhibition and show of stock of this society took place in the Castle-yard to-day. In consequence of the great scarcity of keep, the show was not so large as in former years, but most of the animals were of first-rate quality. A great number of improved agricultural implements were shown.—*Western Luminary*, of Tuesday.

## "LES CONTRABANDIERS."

THE SMUGGLERS.

(Translated from the French of Beranger by Thomas Doubleday, Esq., Newcastle.)

CHORUS.

"The devil take the Commissaire!  
As we grow rich may he grow poor,  
A fellow that seems only made  
To watch a road or shut a door!  
To watch a road or shut a door!  
Let that for ever be his care.  
What reek?—the people are our friends—  
The devil take the Commissaire!"

'Tis midnight now,—so let us hie,  
All ready we, whate'er befall;  
Our pistols clean, our powder dry,—  
Be sure we shan't forget the ball!  
Hark!—'Tis the watchers' stealthy tread:  
Their numbers let the recreants bring;  
Our pistol balls are made of lead,  
Our eyeballs are another thing!

Up! Comrades of a noble strain!  
Let dastard laws ne'er shame the bold.  
Our girls shall smile when we shall rain  
Upon their laps the ruddy gold.  
In hall, in castle, and in cot,  
Shall welcome still our steps attend;  
Who cares what Governments may plot,  
The while the people is our friend?

'Mid snowy cliffs, whence torrents leap,  
Our very slumbers have a charm;  
Though keen the wind that seeks the steep,  
What then? our courage still is warm!  
Our palaces yon summits proud,  
We share them with the chamois fleet;  
Our home is in the mountain cloud,  
And Fate is far beneath our feet!

Oh! man was born to traffic free,  
But law still stops the path he made:  
We reek not! In our right hands we  
Still clutch the balance of our trade.  
In Providence we place our hold,  
And worship that diviner will,  
That snows down wealth upon the bold!  
And riches—riches scatters still.

The wise on earth must madmen be;  
The very gifts of Heaven they spoil;  
They nip the fruit upon the tree,  
They paralyze the arm of toil.  
Mad as they are, what! know they not  
Wherever man is placed below,  
The power, who placed him, ne'er forgot  
To bid the fount of plenty flow?

Comrades! against such laws we war.  
Away such fond allegiance goes!  
They who twist nations place the bar,  
Can only be of both the foes.  
But us such wiles shall not deceive,  
Their chains we scorn, their laws we detest;  
We weave the woof we list to weave,  
And drain the wine that likes us best!

You freeborn bird, he laughs at all!  
Where'er he listeth, there he'll go!  
He heeds no paltry frontier wall,  
Nor stops to hear if kings say "no!"  
So let us to our tyrants say,  
"Our kingdom is where'er there's ground;  
Free blood, by blood, shall make its way,  
And clear your frontiers at a bound!"

Come! 'mid the champagnes let us sing:  
Still ready let the musket be;  
And when the mountain echoes ring,  
May they awake thee, Liberty!  
And oh! if e'er our country fail,  
By civil strife or foreign war,  
Let "death or freedom" be the call;  
And comrades, we shall not be far!

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES AND WOOL.—Returns upon this subject were issued on Saturday, by order of the House of Commons (on motions of Mr. Maisterman and Mr. Aldam). It thence appears that the declared value of the British woollen manufactures exported from the United Kingdom in 1844 was £8,204,836, of which £2,444,789 worth was exported to the United States of America. During the same year 65,079,524 lbs. of sheep and lamb's wool, foreign and colonial, were imported into the United Kingdom; of which 1,924,826 lbs. were re-exported from the United Kingdom, chiefly to Belgium. Of British sheep and lamb's wool, 8,947,619 lbs. were exported to foreign countries; and 8,271,906 lbs. of British woollen and worsted yarn, including yarn of wool or worsted mixed with other materials. There were also imported into the United Kingdom 635,357 lbs. (of which 47,848 lbs. were re-exported) of alpaca and llama wool; and 1,290,771 lbs. of mohair, or goat's wool, of which 97,529 lbs. were re-exported.

AUSTRIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION.—The Emperor of Austria, wishing to offer to Prince Metternich a mark of his consideration, ordered that the Grand National Exhibition should be opened on the day on which the Prince accomplished his 72nd year. The Arch-Chancellor was born on the 15th of May, 1773, and has had the direction of the affairs of the Austrian empire for 39 successive years. The *Austrian Lloyd's*, in giving a preliminary account of the articles sent from all parts of the empire to the exhibition, adds a statistical summary of the produce of the general industry of the nation, and which it makes amount in value to 1,000,000,000 florins (the Austrian florin is equal to 2s. 5½d. French money). The linen and hempen goods stand at the head, and are put down at 75,000,000 florins; the next are the woollen cloths, at 71,740,000 florins; then follow articles of leather, 64,500,000 florins; silk and silk cloths, 59,000,000 florins; chemical preparations, 54,804,000 florins; cotton goods, 45,000,000 florins. Bohemia is the province which stands highest in the amount of its produce, which is put down at 110,344,000 florins; and then comes Lombardy, valued at 69,546,000 florins.



## AGRICULTURE.

## THE FARMERS' REFUGE.

When from low prices, failing harvests, or disturbances amongst the peasantry, farmers are subjected to any of the various difficulties to which an artificial system gives rise, it is common with landowners to make temporary reductions of rent. In fact, this has grown into a part of the ordinary plan of management on English estates. Let prices fall below the act-of-Parliament rate at which rents have been set, causing in some instances a loss to tenant-farmers greater than the whole amount of their rents, and we find their landlords coming forth with fresh promises to legislate for high prices, and making temporary reductions of 10, 15, or at most 20 per cent. on their rents. By such means farmers have hitherto been partly deluded and partly pacified into quiescence. So again, when, as in 1830, incendiarism and rural insurrection were rife in the southern counties, similar abatements were made upon the understanding that some one or two shillings a week of increased wages should be given to each agricultural labourer. But farmers always get the worst of such arrangements, for in no case do they receive any reduction of rent at all equivalent to the losses they suffer, and the moment the extreme pressure has passed away, rents fly up again to their old point.

Now, there is nothing which so quickly and so strongly operates upon the sensitive landlord mind as anything like a combined movement amongst the rural labourers; and it is plain from the following paragraph, taken from a local paper, that the farmers of Dorsetshire are not ignorant of the fact. This is the statement of the provincial journalist, and it is most significant:—

"**STRIKE OF FARM LABOURERS.**—Last week the labourers at Nether and Over Compton, Dorset, were informed by their employer that their wages would henceforth be reduced from 7s. to 6s. a week. The reduced wages were offered to the Nether Compton men on Saturday night, but refused, and on Monday morning, as early as six o'clock, the men, who had arranged their plans, started off in a body to the residence of the landed proprietor, taking with them the Over Compton men, who (their wages not having been then curtailed) had gone to work as usual. The men, to the number of thirty or forty, passed through Yeovil, and after some arrangement made with them, returned to their work. It appears that at an audit or two ago the landlord took off ten per cent. from his tenants' rents, but at the last audit he put on five per cent. on that amount. The farmers declared that they were unable to pay an advanced rent on these terms, and to continue the same wages as formerly. The consequence was the reduction of the labourers' wages as above stated. The tenants are willing to pay the men at the usual rate if the increase of five per cent. is taken off. The matter is at present unsettled. The tenants are determined not to give the customary wages unless they obtain a concession from their landlords."—*Sherborne Journal*.

Nor is connexion between high rents and low wages at all remote. Rent can only be paid from that surplus which remains of the year's produce after the expenses of the farmer, including the wages he has paid, have been returned to him. Farmers have had their rents fixed upon the expectation that a certain price for their produce—say, at present, 56s. a quarter for wheat—has been secured to them by the act of Parliament which excludes the importation of foreign grain; they have adapted their whole scheme of cultivation to a high range of prices, and have hoped to obtain a profit by means of small capitals spread over great breadths of land. This mode of farming is that which employs comparatively few labourers, and reduces the wages of the few labourers employed to starvation point. In Dorsetshire, and all the south-west of England, such a mistaken system of farming is in the fullest operation, and there the agricultural population is greater than the land, as at present managed, can employ. The competition of labourer with labourer has reduced Dorsetshire wages to the miserable pittance of 7s. a week. Then let the farmers' calculations fail, let the price of wheat fall from 56s. to 45s. a quarter, as has happened now, and it is quite clear that, if tenants pay their rents, they must sell some of their stock or diminish the number, or lower the wages, of their labourers. Probably in most cases farmers have to some extent done all these things in order to make up their rents, for the landlords have the law of distress, which enables them to sweep off the whole of their tenants' property. Ay, and these rents are rigidly exacted, for the mere per-centages thrown back scarcely afford any present relief to the farmers. The Corn Laws operate in various ways adversely to the interests of rural labourers. In the first place they lead to a system of farming which gives but little employment, and of course renders the ordinary rate of wages low. That is the case when prices are up to the act-of-Parliament rate. Next, by enhancing the cost of food and other necessaries, the Corn Laws render the real value of the wages the rural labourers actually receive less than it would be in a natural state of things. But when the use of agricultural distress comes, when all on which farmers have calculated from a high range of prices has vanished, except their high rents and labour charges, then comes the time of screwing and pinching, then labourers are dismissed, wages

are lowered, and the capital of the farmer permanently diminished to meet the imperative necessity of paying the monopoly-price—rent. Rent, instead of being, as it ought, the last demand on the farmer, becomes the first, and the capital which should have been productively employed in payment of wages is unproductively sunk in discharging the rent. Is it unnatural, then, that farm-labourers should strike when their pittance of 7s. a week is attempted to be screwed down to the starvation rate of 6s., or that "tenants should determine not to give the customary wages unless they obtain a concession from their landlords"? Let this combination or co-operation or reaction amongst farmers and farm-labourers proceed to any great extent, and that "annihilation of rent" of which the landed monopolists are fond of talking is not unlikely to take place.

It is impossible, however, to contemplate the extension of such a state of things without alarm, for the agricultural population, driven to desperation, will inevitably resort to courses of which we have had too much experience during the last fifteen years. The case of the tenant-farmers must indeed be difficult when they can only hope to act upon their landlords through such fearful means as the reductions of such wages of their labourers. The first effect of such a course, too, must inevitably fall upon the farmers; for, although the landowners and the landowners' laws have in fact caused the evil, the sullen peasant will be too apt to deem his master, whom the necessity of paying the rent has compelled to reduce wages, the oppressor of the poor. Are the farmers, then, to submit quietly to have their capital abstracted from them to pay monopoly rents? And while so doing are they ready to stand between the outraged labourers and the landowners as the ostensible oppressors of the peasantry? Nay, more: are they, whilst so situated, willing to remain the political catspaws and the blind dupes of the monopolist landocracy? Will they be amused and deluded by sham motions about county rates and auction duties, or empty vapourings about the repeal of the Canada Corn Bill and the Tariff, until another period of scarcity and high prices arrives, and their fancied "protection" is hastily surrendered by their coward landlord leaders amidst the execrations of the nation?

We know that the tenant-farmers will not be satisfied to be so used and deluded by their political landlords much longer; but it is of great importance to the occupiers of land that their present state of uncertainty and suffering should soon be brought to an end; that the state of transition should be got over quickly; and there is one way, and one only, by which that can be done. Let the tenant-farmers frankly throw themselves into the arms of the League; let them note their own helpless social and political position, betrayed and deceived by those whom in public affairs they have blindly followed and trusted, and designedly kept from taking that station in society to which, when emancipated from feudal trammels, their skill and industry would entitle them. The League, an association of the industrious, is their natural ally, and is the only power which can assist them in forcing commercial principles into the dealings with landed property. Protection is virtually gone. Free Trade is inevitable. Then why should the farmers dream over a departed delusion, and in so doing miss an opportunity, which may not again occur, of striking down that feudalism of which they are the victims? Let the farmers join the League, and one-half the counties of Great Britain may be represented in the next Parliament by men whose sympathies and whose interests are identified with the industrious tenant-farmers, and not with the unscrupulous seekers of high rents. Let them bear in mind the lesson afforded by the committee on the game laws. That committee, the only Parliamentary inquiry ever instituted upon a real tenant-farmers' question, was forced upon an assembly of adverse landlords by the energetic, practical, and conclusive statement of Mr. Bright, a Leaguer. Between the landlords and the tenant-farmers there can be no real community of interests; between the farmers and the League there can be no real antagonism, for both require that the reward of industry should be steady and certain. A farmer who had attended the St. Albans dinner, at which Mr. Bright addressed the farmers upon the game laws, afterwards remarked: "We farmers ought to have such men as Mr. Bright to represent us, for he understands more of what is necessary to the success of a farming man of business than all the squires in the House of Commons." So true is it that the interests of the industrious, whether engaged in manufacturing corn or calico, are identical, and that those interests will never be understood or honestly represented by the unproductive consumers of rent.

## GAME-LAW MISCHIEFS.

Even now, while the Game-Law Committee is receiving the most convincing evidence of the noxious effects of game laws and game-preserving, the system flourishes in full vigour. Here is a specimen of the sort of ruffians kept by game-preservers for the protection of their sport!

"**DICKENS PARTY SESSIONS.**—Monday last.—Pre-

sent, Rev. A. H. Matthews and R. Prettyman, and W. Style, Esq.—A LAWLESS GAMEKEEPER.—James Andrews, of Lower Heyford, a gamekeeper for the Earl of Jersey, was charged by David Tuffrey, of Weston-on-the-Green, with having, on the 5th inst., assaulted him at the latter place. It appeared that the complainant, a lad of fourteen, went into a 'spinney' to cut a stick, and there found a whip belonging to Andrews, who beat the boy when he went to carry it to him, saying he had no business in the spinney. Convicted in fine 2s. 6d., and costs 10s. 6d., and in default of payment, 21 days' imprisonment. *Paid.* This game-preserving servant of the Jersey's Earl was then charged by Thomas Brain, of Weston, with having, on the same day, assaulted him. It appeared that he was at Howe's, the public-house at Weston; that complainant, a lad, went into the yard with a fish, which Andrews said he had taken from a pond of theirs. This the lad denied. Andrews knocked him down, beat him, and almost strangled the boy by pulling his neckcloth. He also searched him, and found some wires on him. These the lad said he had just picked up; they were not adapted to take fish with. For the second offence the ruffianly fellow was fined 8s. 6d., and costs 11s. 6d. In default of payment, one month's imprisonment. *Paid.*—*Aylesbury News.*

This is the sort of justice dealt out to the poor by our game-preserving magistrates. The ruffian who commits atrocities of the most violent kind on persons he suspects of poaching is fined 2s. 6d. and 8s. 6d.—sums which are of course entered in his master's next weekly bill—while, if his unhappy victims are brought up before the same justices for the more venial offence of poaching, fines of 40s., or three months' imprisonment, would be the most merciful sentence they could expect. And in their case, let it be remembered, the imposition of a fine is certain imprisonment, for they have no lordly master to pay their fines. From the same journal we have an instance of the way in which such cases of suspicion are dealt with by the magistrates:—

"On Wednesday last, Charles Fryer was committed for fourteen days, for trespass at Moor-wood, the property of Sir W. R. Clayton, Bart. Fryer was searching the woods for pheasant eggs, a custom very prevalent at this season in this neighbourhood."—*Aylesbury News.*

Here we have immediate imprisonment, and no mistake. At the same time it is satisfactory to find that many of the more sensible owners of land are becoming alive to the wrongs and crimes of game-preserving. We have had occasion to record many cases of landlords who have wholly or partially abandoned game-preserving; and here we find the career of one of those most noxious persons, the renters of game, shortly put an end to by the awakened common sense of the owner of the land:—

"**GAME SLAUGHTERING.**—We understand that the Rev. G. Chetwode and his friends killed 1500 hares, besides birds, on the White Cross Green preserves last season. They were rigidly preserved by keepers. The tenantry consider that they were not half requited for the damage done them by the reverend gentleman's stock on their farms, and they in consequence complained to their landlady, Lady Croke, of whom Mr. Chetwode rented the shooting. In consequence of this, an important alteration, as regards the tenantry, has been made. Mr. Chetwode has now nothing to do with it. The tenants have agreed to pay Lady Croke the same sum for the right of shooting as Mr. Chetwode did, and have now the opportunity of destroying it."—*Aylesbury News.*

Now, it is neither fair nor honest to make the tenants pay game rents over and above full and ordinary rents for their land: still they would in most cases gladly pay a game-law "blackmail" to escape the ruinous losses caused by "renters of shooting." This clerical game-preserver has almost weekly appeared in the local journals as a prosecutor of poachers on his own account, and a rigid enforcer of the uttermost penalties of the game laws against the Duke of Buckingham's poachers.

## RURAL HELPLESSNESS.

The following passage from the letter of an agricultural correspondent of the *Chelmsford Chronicle*—a high protectionist organ—whose object was to disparage Mr. Mechi's most useful rural improvements, bespeaks the hopeless want of self-reliance into which the Corn Laws have beguiled the less intelligent farmers. He says:—

"I inquired of an experimental farmer in this neighbourhood how he approved of subsoiling, knowing he had tried it on various soils. His answer was not a favourable one: he complained that the land so loosened promoted the growth of thistles, and, to use his own words, the twitch worked so deep in it, it was impossible to eradicate it. I can readily believe it, for to destroy couch it must be exposed to the sun."

This is probably true; but why was there any couch or "twitch" left to "work down"? The removal of this thief of the soil is a condition precedent to good farming, and we know, from experience, that upon the strong lands, which most require subsoiling, no exposure to the sun can be relied on for the destruction of couch grass. It must be picked off by hand; and, when once the land is thoroughly cleaned of this weed, a moderate share of constant attention will easily keep it clean. If the slovenly farmer thinks to succeed by subsoiling and so forth, he will probably find that all his intended improvements only increase his growth of weeds. The same thing applies to manure. Let a foul field be highly manured, and the farmer will get a fine crop of "twitch," but probably a very moderate one of corn. In farming, especially on strong land, it is necessary that all the processes should be well performed. Superfluous moisture must be got rid of by draining, weeds must be totally eradicated, the subsoil must be loosened by subsoil ploughing, and manure and good tillage must be abundantly and seasonably supplied; then, but not till then

may the farmer expect an ample return for his care and outlay.

Depend upon it there is no royal road to good farming. It must be the result of a judicious and considerable expenditure continued over several years. How can this be done by yearly tenants, or by farmers harassed by game-preserves. We would strongly advise farmers never to enter upon a farm as yearly tenants; but to those who are in that forlorn condition we would say, don't subsoil or undertake any other expensive improvements, which your tenure won't justify your following out, until the Corn Laws are repealed and you have secured rational leases. The day is not far distant. Partial improvements, like those of the Essex farmer, will probably only "make the twitch work deeper," while the belief that the tenants are improving will make the landlords cling to their high rents.

#### AGRICULTURAL UNANIMITY.

The following passage, from an article in "Fraser's Magazine" for April, on Sir Robert Peel, happily exposes the state of hopeless imbecility to which the monopoly-loving landlords are reduced. When the rogues fall out honest men get their own.

"Nobility will dispute the fact that the agriculturists of Great Britain are at this moment in a high state of duddgeon. They vote with the Government, it is true; but you never hear one of the body *speak* for it; and out of doors their language is intelligible enough: they believe that their chief has betrayed them. It is not for us to determine whether he has or has not; but this much we take upon us to hint, that if they be betrayed, and their interests sacrificed, they have themselves very much to thank for it. They came into his opinions in reference to the tariff of 1812 with marvellous facility. They did so trembling, that we freely admit; but not a man among them had the courage to say, 'We won't march through Coventry with you; we will rather break up the party again than make ourselves a laughing-stock to the world.' Well, they permitted the wooden horse to be carried within their citadel, and broke down a portion of the wall that it might pass; and now they see, with amazement, troops of armed men descend from its sides, whom they are too timid or too daunted among themselves to attack, though they join in the cry of treachery. What was their behaviour at the commencement of the present session? They knew that the finances of the country were in a very flourishing condition, that there would be an immense surplus of revenue to be disposed of. They were not ignorant that Sir Robert, delighted with his income-tax, was resolved to render its repeal difficult, if not impossible, by appropriating the surplus produced by it to the repeal of other taxes. How did they act? They proceeded by deputation to Privy-gardens, and, setting forth in general terms the depressed condition of their interests, they besought him, in his plan of reduction, not to overlook them. Well, Sir Robert heard them, as he hears everybody, with patience, and requested them to point out any particular burden which, pressing heavily upon them, he might be able to remove. 'Shall we repeal the malt-tax?' 'By all means,' replies the representative of a barley-growing portion of the kingdom, 'that's the very thing we want.'

"I beg your pardon," interposes the owner of a large estate on which a blade of barley never grew since the deluge, 'that may answer your purpose exceedingly well, but it won't do good either to me or my neighbours.'

"Suppose, then, we take the beer-tax?" observes the Minister.

"That's your dodge," whisper the members for Kent, and Sussex, and Shropshire; 'get rid of the odious beer-tax, and we shall do well.'

"Very likely," observe the representatives of the northern and midland counties; but, as we don't grow hops in our part of the world, we shall gain nothing by the increased facilities afforded for the brewing of beer."

"And thus it came to pass that a deputation, which entered the Minister's study united as one man to wring from him a boon for the agriculturists, broke down in the Minister's presence, not because he resisted or snubbed them—quite the reverse, but because he appeared as eager as themselves to fall into their views, and to tender them efficient aid, provided they would tell how to apply it. So much easier is it to make speeches about the wrongs of the agriculturists than to suggest a definite cure for the evil."

**INCENDIARISM.**—Our readers will learn with satisfaction, that the constabulary force for this county are in possession of most important information in connexion with a number of the late fires wilfully occasioned in this county, and that several suspected parties are already in custody. The force have been privately engaged in tracing the authors of the diabolical acts, and have at last succeeded in obtaining information which will convince all that, however secretly such acts are effected, as the parties concerned may imagine, sooner or later the perpetrators will be brought to justice.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

**DISCUSSION OF THE CORN LAWS.**—We rejoice that a full discussion of the Corn Laws will soon take place in the House of Commons. Not that we have any hopes of success from the present Parliament, but every thorough sifting of the question helps to bring it nearer and nearer to a prosperous issue, not only by making the goodness and strength of the cause more and more manifest, but also by exposing the folly and weakness and selfishness of its opponents. It scatters the seed for the future harvest. It spreads conviction through the country. It rouses the people to a fuller sense of the mighty and monstrous injustice under which they have been so long suffering. It stimulates friends. It kindles enthusiasm in the trading and manufacturing community. Above all, it dispels the errors, doubts, and delusions by which the farmers and labourers in the rural districts have been imposed upon by the advocates of monopoly, and teaches them to know and feel that they can only hope to thrive by the prosperity of their customers, and that the demand for food must always be regulated by the state of the trade and manufactures of the country. In short, everything is working well, and will be well for us in the end.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

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#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 24, 1845.

As the period for closing the Bazaar approaches, popular excitement seems to increase; the number of visitors on Thursday was larger than on any previous day, and the sales were proportionately great. It is a very gratifying proof of the civilizing effects of Art,—that equally lovely and valuable handmaid of civilization,—that no instance of wanton injury or defacement has occurred, though myriads have passed through the Bazaar. Not less gratifying is the courtesy which is uniformly manifested in the crowd; there never was an assembly in which greater forbearance was exhibited by all and to all, and never so dense a multitude in which women and children were so kindly and tenderly treated. Interesting as is the Exhibition in its material aspect, it is still more beautiful to the reflective mind as a manifestation of refined moral feeling. The pretence that has been set up for excluding the English people from the great depositories of our works of art—their supposed tendency to do mischief—has been set at rest for ever. Lord John Russell, who very attentively examined every part of the Bazaar, very justly observed, that the greatest spectacle was the spectators.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—The Paris papers of Tuesday state that the health of M. Guizot is so much improved that it is expected he will be able to attend to his Parliamentary duties in a few days. M. Guizot will, it is said, take an active part in the discussion of the budget. The *Commerce* publishes letters from Algeria, which give a less favourable account than has hitherto transpired of the state of affairs in that colony. The insurrectionary movements are stated to be far more serious than had been supposed.

At the sitting of the Central Agricultural Congress on Monday, a long discussion took place, on the mode in which the corn averages are struck in France, and it was resolved to recommend to the Government some changes

in the divisions, so as to secure a more equal estimate. It was also resolved to recommend the adoption of precautionary measures, for the purpose of checking frauds in the sale of the different manures for land.—*Galignani*.

**SPAIN.**—Accounts from Madrid of the 12th instant state that an official intimation had been received from Rome, announcing that the concordat had been signed on the 27th of April. It is understood to contain the acknowledgment of Isabella as Queen of Spain, and of the validity of such sales of church property as had so far been effected. A courier had also arrived from Gibraltar, with the ratification and text of the treaty of peace concluded between Spain and Morocco. The Chamber of Deputies had voted the budget of receipts, and the bill authorizing Government to raise a loan for the opening or improvement of the various public roads.

**PORTUGAL.**—The patriarch of Lisbon, Cardinal Saraya, died on the 7th instant, at the advanced age of seventy-nine. His funeral was attended by the Queen and court, who were present at the church of St. Vicente de Fora, in the vaults of which the body was deposited.

M. Meneses, a magistrate of the town of Villa Ponca, in Tras-os-Montes, was assassinated on the 30th ult., having been shot through the head as he was returning home at night, by some person unknown.

**SWITZERLAND.**—According to a letter from Switzerland, in the *Constitutionnel*, the Catholic cantons are preparing to carry into execution the decree for the introduction of the Jesuits. The Catholic conference at Lucerne had addressed a note to the Governments of Soleure and Fribourg, inviting them to make common cause for the re-establishment of the convents.

The case of Dr. Steiger was heard by the superior tribunal at Lucerne on the 17th. Dr. Steiger made an eloquent defence, but the tribunal confirmed the sentence of death that had been pronounced upon him, by a majority of seven to three.

A letter from Coburg, dated May 11, in the *Manheim Journal*, states that an English courier had just arrived with the intelligence that Queen Victoria was to arrive on a visit to her husband's august relatives in the course of the month of June. The letter added that preparations had already been commenced at the Court for her Britannic Majesty's reception.

**VIENNA, May 11.**—The exhibition of the productions of national industry will take place on the 15th. About 1600 individuals have already forwarded their articles. A deputation from Lloyd's, in Trieste, has already arrived.

**SWEDEN.**—ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.—The Diet of Sweden has responded to the appeal of the King in such a manner as to secure the abolition of slavery in the island of St. Bartholomew, in voting 10,000 rixdallars yearly, for five years, to be expended in redeeming the slaves of that island, and compensating the loss of their masters.

**THE WAR IN CIRCASSIA.**—Accounts from Odessa of the 18th ult. state that the Russian Government was daily sending off warlike stores towards Circassia. The different corps of Russian troops on this side and beyond the Caucasus are said to amount to 150,000 effective men.

According to a recent census of the Russian empire, it appears that the population consists of 62,500,000 souls, of whom 2,000,000 are Tartars (Mahomedans), and 182,000 Jews.

Poland is still in a disturbed state; at Warsaw the prisons are daily increasing the number of their victims. The espionage is more rigorous than ever; and the danger of correspondence by letters is greatly augmented.

**CONSTANTINOPLE.**—Accounts from Constantinople of the 30th of April announce that official intelligence had been received that a body of Greek soldiers, headed by an officer of the name of Platoniki, had made an irruption into Thessaly. It appears that the Turkish Government had anticipated such an act of aggression, and had placed an officer with a division of troops in a defile, to watch his movements. A collision took place, and after an obstinate combat the Greeks were driven back. Sixteen men were killed, and a number wounded on both sides. The Porte, in consequence, had addressed a strong note to the Greek Government on this wanton aggression, for the affair took place on the Turkish territory; and unless ample reparation is made, it will be followed by a declaration of war.

**ENGLISH MANUFACTURES IN TURKEY.**—On the 19th ult. the Sultan, accompanied by Riza Pacha and his favourite Minister, set out, amidst the firing of guns, on a little excursion to Izmidt, to inspect the English factories there now completed, for the production of broad cloth. The whole of the machinery being of the most modern and improved invention, such establishments were well worth examination, and it is said that the Sultan not only greatly admired them, but gave golden proofs of his satisfaction by the distribution of a large sum of money among the workmen.—*Morning Chronicle*.

**SLAVE TRADE.**—An important letter, from which the following is an extract, has been received by the Secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. It is written by a gentleman well known to the society, who has been for some time travelling with philanthropic objects. It is well, for the sake of humanity, that the British consul is Sir Thomas Reade, who has always been the strenuous advocate of freedom:—"Tunis, April 17. My dear Sir,—On the 14th instant I had the pleasure of being again introduced to his Highness the Bey of Tunis, when we had some conversation on the abolition of the slave trade in North Africa. On mentioning to his highness what I was compelled to encounter in Morocco, and that the Emperor himself was afraid to entertain the question of the abolition of slavery on account of the fanaticism of his people, his highness observed, 'Ah! those people are very obstinate, and want some one to instruct them.' I then told the Bey that a French writer and deputy, M. Desjobert, had published a book, in which he said that 'Tunis was more advanced in the work of the emancipation of negro slavery than France herself, with all her boasted civilization;' when his highness, smiling, replied, 'I have opened the way, I have abolished the sale of slaves, and I will never leave the work of emancipation whilst a slave remains in my dominions.' It is highly probable that the Bey of Tunis contemplates some measure to be immediately put in force for the liberation of all slaves in this country, the Bey having given a similar intimation the other day to Sir T. Reade, when the consul thanked his highness, in the name of the British Government, for his continued perseverance in the humane and glorious work of negro emancipation. Having informed the Bey of my journey to Tripoli in a few days, I took leave of his highness, who wished me all success in my future efforts."

**"John Scoble, Esq."**—R. J. INDIA.—Intelligence from Bombay to the 5th of April, Calcutta the 7th, and Madras the 14th, has arrived. It is not of importance. Sir C. Napier's expedition against the Pindarees had been crowned with complete success. The Punjab remained in an unsettled state. Cholera was prevalent at Calcutta, but was not of a nature to create more than customary alarm. From China there is no news of interest.

##### DOMESTIC.

The London Association for the Protection of Trade have got up and extensively circulated a petition to Parliament for a repeal of the act of last session, abolishing imprisonment for all debts under £20. The petition also prays for the adoption of some better means than at present exist for the recovery of debts under £20, contracted previous to the passing of the late measure.

The will of the Marquis of Westminster has just been proved. The personal estate in England, and within the province of Canterbury, is sworn under £350,000. He bequeaths to his wife an annuity of £6500, in addition to her property under settlement. His estates at Westminster and the manor of Ebury are bequeathed to his eldest son, the present Marquis; his estates in Chester, Flint, and Denbigh, as well as the presentation to the rectory of Prestwich, Lancaster, to his son, Thomas, Earl of Wilton; his Moor-park estate, and a legacy of £170,000, to his son, Lord Robert Grosvenor. He leaves the pictures, &c., in the gallery and elsewhere, at Grosvenor-house, together with the Nassau diamond, weighing 357 grains, the magnificent brilliant earrings, weighing 223 grains, and the round brilliant, weighing 125 grains, as heirlooms.

On Friday last, the steam boiler at the cotton mills of Messrs. Smallpage and Lord, Burnley, blew up with a terrible explosion, and completely demolished a fire-proof building of three stories, containing the cotton warehouse, the scutching-rooms, and the boiler-house.—*Liverpool Standard*.

The Erebus, Captain Sir John Franklin, and the Terror, Captain Crozier, discovery vessels, left Greenhithe on Monday for their destination. Each ship has been supplied with 200 tin cylinders for the purpose of boring papers, which are to be thrown overboard with the statement of the longitude and other particulars worthy of record, written in six different languages, and the parties finding them are requested to forward the information to the Admiralty.

A public meeting of the friends and supporters of the National Temperance Society took place on Monday evening at Exeter-hall, and was attended by a numerous assemblage; Mr. Samuel Bowley in the chair. On the platform were Mr. Silk Buckingham, Dr. Oakley, Mr. Janson, Rev. J. Burnes, Mr. G. W. Alexander, Mr. Henry Vincent, &c. The secretary read the report which gave a favourable account of the progress of the society's labours.

Mr. Edward Hughes, aged 60, the mayor of Llandudno, put a termination to his existence, by piercing his right under the left ear with a penknife, on Friday night. The deceased carried on a very extensive business as a flannel manufacturer, &c.—*Cumbrian*.

A duel took place late on Tuesday evening, at Brown's



down, near Anglesey, Portsmouth. The principals in the affair being a Mr. Seaton, a gentleman of fortune, formerly in the army, but at present residing at Southsea, and Lieut. Hawkey, belonging to this division of Royal Marines. In this rencontre Mr. Seaton has been dangerously wounded, his adversary's ball striking him a little above the hip joint, and passing through his body. The unfortunate gentleman was conveyed back to Portsmouth, and taken to the nearest hotel, the Quebec, at Point, where he now lies, attended by Drs. Mortimer and Stewart, with, we understand, little hope of recovery. Mr. Seaton was attended to the field by a lieutenant of the navy on half-pay, and Lieut. Hawkey, by an officer of his own corps, both of whom, with Lieut. Hawkey, have, it is said, proceeded to the Continent. Both gentlemen are married, and the occurrence has occasioned much mental distress to the families and friends.—*Herald*.

Mr. James Walker, civil engineer, is commissioned by the Home Office to inquire into the causes connected with the falling of the suspension-bridge at Yarmouth.

The season for the mackerel fishery has commenced, beginning generally in May and ending in July. There are about 65 luggers employed in it. Besides the luggers there are four companies of boatmen, with about 28 ferry-boats, yaws, and gigs, employed to bring the fish on shore. There are also seven cutters that attend the luggers, and take the fish away directly to the London and other markets.—*Norfolk Chronicle*.

The sixth annual general meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade throughout the world, was held on Saturday, at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street. The room appropriated to public meetings was nearly filled by a highly-respectable assemblage, about two-thirds being ladies. The chair was taken by Mr. J. J. Gurney.

On Wednesday night the members and friends of the Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association held a tea party and *soirée* at the Crown and Anchor, Strand; Sharnam Crawford, Esq., M.P., the president of the association, was in the chair. He was supported by a number of the most eminent advocates of the extension of the suffrage. The meeting was numerously attended, and there were amongst the company a number of ladies. Able speeches were delivered by the chairman, the Rev. Mr. Spencer, Dr. Epps, Laurence Heyworth, Esq., the Rev. G. Dawson, Colonel Thompson, Dr. Price, Mr. E. Mill, Mr. H. Vincent, &c.

On Tuesday there was a sale of fourteen baskets of new potatoes from the Bermudas, brought over by the Trent steamer, at Monument-yard. The quality was pronounced very good, and the prices realized were under 2d. per lb. The speculation having proved thus successful, and the root having been obtained in very good condition, there is no doubt but that these islands will in future furnish the first supply of this useful food to our markets.

The friendship between England and France has just been further consolidated by a treaty in reference to the slave trade, of which that honest statesman the Duc de Broglie and her Britannic Majesty's Government have, we hear, definitively settled the conditions. It requires at present only to be reduced to official form, to be initialed, then signed, and submitted for the ratification of the respective sovereigns. While speaking of the relations between the two countries, it gives us much pleasure to add that there is not the slightest foundation for the rumours recently circulated of the retirement of the Comte de St. Aulaire from the Embassy of France at this Court.—*Post*.

A correspondent informs us that the Hon. Sydney Herbert has settled £100 per annum upon the parish priest of Irishstown, and the like sum upon the parish priest of Booterstown, in both of which parishes he is the principal proprietor, and that this voluntary endowment has been vested in the Commissioners of Donations and Charitable Bequests, under the act of last session, to be held in perpetuity for the Catholic pastors of the parishes named. Mr. Sydney Herbert, who is a Cabinet Minister, has set an admirable example to the landed gentry of Ireland, by this practical adoption of the system earnestly recommended by Sir Robert Peel, when introducing the Maynooth Bill.—*Dublin Evening Post*.

James Gallagher, the banish of Colonel Enery, and under-agent to Captain Bennison, was shot last night, near Ballyconnell, about duskish, by two men as yet unknown. He pursued them, but fell with loss of blood.—*Fermanagh Reporter of Saturday*.

In allusion to the scheme propounded by the Government for the establishment of academical institutions in Ireland, the *Kilkenny Journal* says—"If they dare insult our eyes with any of those stews of Government corruption under the name of colleges, we will level them with the ground."

The Repeal Association met as usual on Monday, in the Conciliation Hall, Dublin. Mr. O'Connell announced that he had received a letter, accompanied with a song, set to music, by Mr. O'Callaghan; but the letter was totally inconsistent with the principles of the Association, and highly dangerous in its tendency, and the song which accompanied it was a war-song—a fighting song. Now, so much was he opposed to the adoption of physical force, that he would not consent to accept of the repeal of the Union at the expense of one drop of human blood. The learned gentleman postponed giving his views on the new scheme of academical education until the Catholic bishops had pronounced their decision upon it. He lauded the Maynooth grant; and concluded by giving notice of various motions he purposed bringing forward at the next meeting of the Association. The rent for the week was £132. 10s. The Catholic bishops have met, but have not as yet announced their decision on the education scheme: it is understood, however, that they object to the absence of any provision for religious instruction.

GRANO.—The imports of American guano at Liverpool, in the course of the past week, have been only 675 tons. The sales have exceeded 2000 tons, at from 4s. 15s. to 4s. 10s. A small quantity of Peruvian had been sold at from 27. 12s. 6d. to 28s. The stock of Ichaboe at Liverpool is still about 70,000 tons.

THE CATTLE MARKET.—The effects of the extraordinary drought experienced last summer, and the consequent want of food for cattle, are now beginning to be felt in the vicinity of sheep, and the necessarily high price of mutton in the market. This has advanced fully 20 per cent., and promises to be maintained for some weeks about the country. Two causes are assigned for this: first, the farmers at this season always hold back their stock from

the market in consequence of the great improvement they make; and secondly, the wholesale butchers find the demand so great in larger towns as to send all they can to them. The scarcity thus produced is almost beyond all precedent.—*Cardiff Journal*.

TURN-OUT.—On Monday morning last, the bricklayers' labourers in Rochdale and the neighbourhood turned out for an advance of 3d. per day. They held a meeting at the Rope and Anchor, Cheetham-street, when a deputation was sent to the masters, who, with one exception, agreed to the prices asked; but when they went to their work on Tuesday morning, the masters objected to employing some of the men, and they did not resume their work. On Monday, the bricklayers gave notice that they should leave their work at the end of a fortnight, unless their wages were advanced from 4s. to 4s. 4d.; they held a meeting at the Weavers' Arms, Yorkshire-street.—*Manchester Guardian*.

FRENCH AGRICULTURE.—The *Presse* publishes some extracts from a work presented to the Agricultural Congress now sitting at the Palace of the Luxembourg, by the author, M. Catinéau Laroche, and entitled, "France and England compared with respect to Agricultural, Manufacturing, and Commercial Industry, and the Consequences to be deduced from this Comparison." It appears from this work that England, in comparison with the extent of its surface, possesses four times more cattle than France. And as it is not possible to pursue a judicious system of agriculture without manure, and as the feeding of cattle is the most productive of supplying manure, it follows that, before France can compete with England in agricultural wealth, she must increase her stock of cattle, but in order to do so she must increase her pasture lands or meadows. "France," says M. Laroche, "possesses but 4,200,000 hectares of natural meadows, or only 1-16th of her cultivated soil. From this calculation it may be easily comprehended how insufficient is her supply of green food, and that it becomes absolutely necessary that she should substitute another for the triennial system at present in use." M. Laroche concludes by stating that, "if the alternate system of cultivation pursued in England was introduced into France, the produce of corn would be doubled within 20 years. Fifty-five years since, the produce of Great Britain was estimated by Arthur Young at three milliards. At present it is estimated at 5 milliards 725 millions."

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. May 17	Mon. May 19	Tues. May 20	Wed. May 21	Thurs. May 22	Fri. May 23
Bank Stock for Ac.	210	210	211	211	211	211
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	98	98	98	98	98	98
3 per Ct. Com. Ann.	101	101	101	101	101	101
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	101	101	101	101	101	101
Long. An. Ex. 1860	112	112	112	112	112	112
Cons. for Acct.	99	99	99	99	99	99
Exc. Bills, pm.	50	50	50	50	50	50
Ind. Bills, ex. 1000l.	70	70	70	70	70	70
India Stock	279	279	280	280	280	280
British Bonds	99	99	99	99	99	99
Brazilian Bonds	89	89	89	89	89	89
Buenos Ayres	43	43	43	43	43	43
Colomb. ex. 1000l.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Chumb. ex. 1000l.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Spanish	89	89	89	89	89	89
Dutch 4 per Cent.	98	98	98	98	98	98
Dutch 2 1/2 per Ct.	63	63	63	63	63	63
Mexican	30	30	30	30	30	30
Peruvian	81	81	81	81	81	81
Portug. conv.	67	67	67	67	67	67
Spanish 5 per Ct.	30	30	30	30	30	30
Do. 3 per Cent.	42	42	42	42	42	42

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, May 19.—The show of English Wheat fresh up to this morning's market was pretty good; the finest samples sold readily at an advance of 1s. per qr.; for other qualities more money was not realized. The demand for rounded which we noticed on Friday is increased, and such descriptions are 1s. to 2s. per qr. dearer. There was not much English Barley on sale, but Foreign continues to arrive freely; there is no alteration to notice in the price of this article. Both Irish and Foreign Oats are in good supply, but there are not many English and Scotch; there is a fair country demand, and prices are well supported. The supplies of English Beans and Peas are short, and the prices are well maintained; several cargoes of Foreign Beans have arrived, but their bad condition prevents their having much effect on the trade.

S. H. LUCAS and Son.

	Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 45 to 54
— Ditto —	New — 42 — 48	— 44 — 54
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old —	42 — 48	— 44 — 50
— Scotch —	42 — 46	— 44 — 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed —	21 — 23	
— Ditto —	ditto —	Polands — 23 — 26
— Scotch Feed —	23 — 24	Potato 25 — 27
— Linerick —		21 — 22
— Ditto —		Fine 23 — 25
— Cork —		20 — 21
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black —		20 — 21
— Sligo —		20 — 21
— Galway —		19 — 20
Barley —		28 — 33
Beans, Mazagan —		New 31 — 33
— Harrow —	Old 38 — 40	do. 33 — 35
— Small —	do. —	32 — 34
Peas, White, New —		34 — 38
— Grey —	32 to 35	Maple 32 — 34
Flour, Town-made —	per sack of 280 lbs.	35 — 43
— Norfolk and Suffolk —		33 — 35

## FOREIGN.

Per Imperial Quarter.

	Wheat, Dantzic, high mixed	48 to 56
— Rostock —		47 — 54
— Stettin —		44 — 52
— Hamburg —		42 — 48
— Odessa —		42 — 48
— Ditto —	Polish —	47 — 50
— Russian —	soft —	42 — 46
— Ditto —	hard —	40 — 44
— Spanish —	Red —	43 — 49
— Ditto —	White —	40 — 44
— Australian —		56 — 58
Barley, Grinding —		33 — 37
— Distilling —		29 — 31
Oats, Archangel —		—
— Astrakhan —		—
— Dutch Brew —		—
— Poland —		17 — 19
Beans, Egyptian —		33 — 34
— White —		33 — 34
— Ditto Mollers —		35 — 36
Flour, Canada —	per barrel of 196 lbs.	35 — 38
— United States —		34 — 37
— Dantzic —		34 — 37
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs. —		33 — 35

The same as free less the duty.

Account of CORN, &amp;c., arrived in the Port of London, from May 12 to May 17, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	10587	681	2190	818	143
Scotch	—	620	2120	—	—
Irish	—	—	12551	—	—
Foreign	4746	14426	19777	3230	260

Flour, 6379 sacks, — bars.

FRIDAY, May 23.—Since Monday the arrivals of all kinds of grain have been short. For fine samples of English Wheat 1s. per quarter advance is realized over the prices of that day; inferior qualities sell readily at late rates. The Belgium demand for Wheat in bond, which was brisk in the early part of the week, appears to be satisfied for the present, and the trade is, consequently, not so brisk. Barley continues dull. There are very few fine Oats on sale, and such descriptions fetch rather more money: other sorts are firm at Monday's prices. Beans and Peas are both scarce, and maintain late rates. There was no alteration in the duties yesterday.

S. H. LUCAS and Son.

Account of Corn, &amp;c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 17th of May to the 20th of May, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	3260	110	—	2180	—
Barley	—	1093	4290	3870	—
Oats	—	—	—	4080	—

Flour, 2920 sacks.

LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending May 20, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
Qrs.	7344	478	11d.	55	39s. 10d.
Barley	971	28s. 11d.	—	1315	33s. 9d.
Oats	14314	32s. 0d.	—	170	36s. 3d.

IMPERIAL AVERAGES Weeks ending

		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Rye.		Beans.		Peas.		
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	
12th	April	..	46	3.	32	5.	20	9.	30	6.	35	5.	36	0
19th	"	..	45	11.	31	11.	31	4.	32	1.	35	1.	36	1
26th	"	..	45	11.	31	6.	20	11.	30	2.	35	9.	30	1
3rd	May	..	46	0.	31	2.	21	4.	26	9.	36	1.	36	10
10th	"	..	45	10.	30	5.	21	6.	31	4.	37	1.	36	0
17th	"	..	45	9.	30	0.	21	9.	29	7.	37	3.	37	0

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 11d.; Barley, 31s. 3d.; Oats, 21s. 3d.; Beans, 30s. 7d.; Peas, 30s. 6d.

Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 7s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Beans, 10s. 6d.; Peas, 6s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, April 5, 1845.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	111149	486	12771	—	2817	1125
Unit. King.	311025	1615	4556	—	12444	4770
						243551

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MAY 16.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENT.

F. L. COLK, Fenchurch-street, City, wine merchant.  
A. FRANCIS, Halkin, Flintshire, ironfounder.  
J. RICHARDS, Deptford-bridge, plumber. [Burn, Great Carter-lane, Doctors'-commons.  
F. L. COLK, Fenchurch-street, wine merchant. [Goddard, Wood-street, Cheapside.  
J. LAMPREY, Warwick, money scrivener. [Morris and Wallington, Warwick; Harrison and Son, Birmingham.  
J. LIVINGSTON and T. BRITTAIN, Manchester, plumbers. [Kelsall, Chester; Goulden, Manchester; Milne, Parry, Milne, and Morris, Temple.  
W. SUMMER and N. RAY, Manchester, ropemakers. [Makinson, Manchester; Gregory, Faulkner, Gregory, and Boudillon, Bedford-row.  
E. LAWTON and T. KAY, Rochdale, Lancashire, ironfounders. [Mayhew and Son, Carey-street, Lincoln's Inn; Hales, Middleton, Lancashire.  
W. RUSSELL, J. KNOWLES, and H. SIMLIER, Salford, Lancashire, perchers. [Vincent and Sherwood, Temple; Todd, Manchester.

## DIVIDENDS.

June 10. E. J. Pegler, Reading, Berkshire, woollendrapery—June 5. S. Foskett, Mumford-court, Milk-street, Cheapside, warehouseman—June 10. H. Thorpe, Kensington, linen draper—June 10. W. How, Wickham, Hampshire, grocer—June 12. J. H. Baughan, Suffolk-street, Pall-mall East, army agent—June 12. A. Thompson, Leadenhall-street, merchant—June 12. J. F. Pigge, Doncaster-court, Mincing-lane, merchant—June 12. P. Clarke, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant—June 10. W. B. Drury, Chester, ironmonger—June 10. C. Clements, Liverpool, common brewer—June 7. A. Vickers, Manchester, ironmonger.  
CERTIFICATES  
June 7. J. Yates, Fore-street, City, wholesale haberdasher—June 6. J. Bradshaw, High-street, Camden town, coal merchant—June 6. S. Tavenor, Sovereign-mews, Paddington, bricklayer—June 6. W. Hone, Reading, coach proprietor—June 10. J. Macwilliam, Gloucester, hostler—June 13. S. P. Bidder, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, Lancashire, slate dealer—June 13. H. Robinson, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, draper—June 13. R. Steadman and W. Adie, Birmingham, button makers—June 6. T. Cox, Birmingham, lamp manufacturer—June 6. J. Cooper, Aldgate High-street, coffee housekeeper—June 6. T. and C. Green, Borough-road, Southwark, corn dealers—June 6. T. Perrie, Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, grocer—June 6. W. Spencer, Wallingford, Berkshire, brewer.

TUESDAY, MAY 20.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENT.

J. WICKS, Peter-street, Bristol, dealer.  
W. ASTON, the elder, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, victualler.  
G. CLEMENT and H. SAMMONS, Nelson terrace, Stoke Newington, tea dealers. [Green, Great Carter-lane, Doctors'-commons.  
V. GUIGUES, Leicester-street, Leicester-square, hotel keeper. [Dawson, Berjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.  
H. TERRY, Battersea, Surrey, licensed victualler. [Fisher and De Jersey, Aldersgate-street.  
G. T. PERKS, Ironmonger-lane, Cheapside, plumber. [Pain and Hatherly, Basinghall-street.  
W. STOKES, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, merchant. [Jacques and Edwards, Ely-place, London; Kidd, Holm 1th, Yorkshire; Blackburn, Leeds.  
W. WATSON, Wakefield, Yorkshire, licensed victualler. [Clarke, Chancery-lane; Watson, Wakefield.  
W. DAVIS, Compton, Staffordshire, butcher. [Mottram and Knowle, Birmingham.  
J. PARKER, Cheltenham, cabinet maker. [Packwood, Cheltenham.  
June 20. J. Smith, Southampton, corn merchant—June 20. T. Kilford, Bridge-street, Southampton, cabinet maker—June 12. G. Pile and W. J. B. Staunton, Bishopsgate-street, Without, wine merchant—June 12. R. Charles and G. Charles, Liverpool, ship chandlers—June 11. R. Almond, Orrell, Lancashire, coal dealer—June 12. W. Carpenter, Chippendale, Wiltshire, sun-keeper—June 12. W. Fell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, hosiery draper—June 12. E. W. Peters, Coventry, wine merchant.  
CERTIFICATES  
June 12. G. Wagner, Bloomsbury-square, draper—June 12. J. Breckels, North-street, Finsbury-market, draper—June 10. T. Dingley, Strutton-ground, Westminster, draper—June 10. W. G. Glover, Holborn, linen draper—June 10. J. Christie and J. Rodgers, Notting-hill, Middlesex—June 10. J. Paulson, High-street, Portland-town, stone-mason—June 11. J. Gibbs, Jermyn-street, scrivener—June 12. J. A. Alke, Leeds, carver—June 10. E. B. Robinson, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, grocer—June 10. J. Pitt hard, Litchfield, Warwickshire, builder.  
MARCH BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENT  
B. SMITH, Glenelg, Argyllshire, gunpowder manufacturer—W. BUCHANAN and CO., Paisley, tea merchants.







# THE LEAGUE.

No. 88.]

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1845.

[3d.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,  
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return answers pledge themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR MAN, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn-Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER!

The coming registration will in all probability determine the character of the next Parliament, and decide the fate of our question for several years. We should have called attention earlier to this all-important subject, but the universal interest excited by the Bazaar, and the attendance of a large proportion of our friends from all parts of the country in London, during the last month, rendered all allusion to the subject useless. The triumphant issue of that metropolitan demonstration will give new life to our friends everywhere, and stimulate the men of the League to redoubled exertions in the labours of registration. The Bazaar was the work of our countrywomen, and nobly have they done their part. But the battle of the League must still be fought in the registration courts; and there the ladies can take no share in the conflict. Up, then, men of the League, to your duty, and prove yourselves, everywhere, worthy of those fair colleagues who have, by their toils and their smiles, not only replenished your exchequer, but won for your cause its present triumphant moral position. Let every parish in England and Wales have, if possible, its "Free-Trade Registration Committee." Or at least, let every man be found who will devote his energies to

the business of registration. As, during the ensuing four months, the attention of the Leaguers must be exclusively devoted to this vital part of our agitation, we shall continue to give them the fullest instructions, beginning to-day with the counties:—

The first step which requires to be taken is that of the claims for counties. The time for making these claims is from the 20th of June to the 20th of July, inclusive; any claim made after the latter date will be too late.

The county franchise is divided into four important classes of qualification:—

"1st. Freehold, which includes the ancient 40s. freehold of inheritance for ever; and property held under a lease for lives, which should be described as freehold in the notice of claim.

"2nd. Leasehold for a term of not less than 60 years, originally of £10 annual value; or if for a term of not less than 20 years, of £50 annual value.

3rd. Copyhold of £10 annual value.

4th. Occupiers of land, or building and land under one landlord, subject to a *bona fide* rent of £50 a year.

In the first class, the owner of a 40s. freehold for ever must have been in possession from the 31st of January of the present year; and the same in the case of the owner of leasehold for lives of 40s. a year, provided he be himself in the occupation of the property. If the owner of the lease for lives do not occupy, the property must be of the annual value of £10.

In the second class, the owner must have been in possession from the 31st of July, 1844.

And in the third class, the occupation must also be from the 31st of July, 1844.

It will be obvious that the first thing to be done by our friends is to ascertain how many Free-Traders there are in each parish possessing qualifications, and who are not now on the register; and this should be set about forthwith, that the notices of claim may be made in proper time.

There are various means of obtaining this information, as, for instance—

In all those districts where the purchasing of qualifications, as recommended by the League, was taken up systematically, lists of the names will have been kept by those who made the conveyances.

The poor-rate books may be examined carefully to ascertain the names of owners of property, and also £50 occupiers therein, who are not registered.

Overseers, and collectors of rates and income-tax; builders; building and land agents, who are friendly, may also give much information.

In the neighbourhood of large towns, such as Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c., there are merchants, manufacturers, and others, who occupy large houses and premises in the suburbs at a rental of £50; these, if not within the parliamentary borough, will be qualified, and, if not on the county register, should claim. Last year, on a careful examination of the rate-book of a township just over the boundary of the borough of Manchester, from forty to fifty occupiers of this description were found who were not then on the register for South Lancashire.

The next thing to be done is to take care that the claims are made out in proper form, and served in due time.

It is most convenient to use printed forms of notice; and these should be filled up with the greatest care, the following particulars being closely attended to:—

The name of the claimant to be written at full length.

The place of the claimant's abode (not the place where his business only is carried on).

The nature of the qualification must be correctly described in the third column. Any misdescription here will be fatal if the vote should be objected to. Leasehold or copyhold must not be described as freehold; or freehold as leasehold.

The situation of the qualification must also be accurately given as required in the fourth column. In cases of successive occupation, as, for instance, where the voter has removed from one farm to another since the 31st of last July, each set of premises must be set forth in the claim.

A correct copy of each claim must be kept, and the claim and the copy must each be signed by the claimant himself.

Should any of our friends desire to be furnished with further information on any particular point, they will please to address their inquiries to Mr. Paulton, League-office, 67, Fleet-street, or to Mr. Hickin, Secretary to the League, Manchester.

## LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S RESOLUTIONS AND SPEECH.

Lord John's Russell's speech of last Monday night, introductory to his resolutions on the improvement of the condition of the labouring classes, was of an excellence which we feel much pleasure in frankly and cordially acknowledging. It was a

speech indicative of generous sympathies and enlightened opinions. It was an able review of the causes which have depressed and degraded the industrious millions of the community, a spirited protest against the injustice and folly of the laws "usually called protective," and an earnest demonstration of the necessity of commercial and industrial reform to the social and moral elevation of the labouring classes. This speech has the high merit of being the first attempt made by the head of a parliamentary party to bring before the Legislature the whole condition of the labouring classes, together with a definite proposal of ameliorative measures based, so far as they go, on sound economical principles. It is the first systematic effort made by a man of the highest parliamentary standing, to work out the objects of philanthropy by the light of the truths of political economy. We cannot but award high praise to the statesman who, in the face of a reluctant and hostile House of Commons, formally adopts, as the great end of his policy, the permanent improvement of the condition of the labouring classes; and, as the first and foremost of his means, the emancipation of their labour.

As a Free-Trade speech, this of Lord John Russell's is of great value. It contains the whole of our case. Nothing could be better than his lordship's broad and emphatic assertion of the principles of industrial and commercial liberty, and of the inseparable practical connexion of these principles with every interest nearest to the heart of the philanthropist and the Christian. He vindicates, in the strongest language, the right of labour to choose its own market. He condemns the protective system as "altogether vicious and unsound." He denounces the Corn Law—in terms which show that Mr. Cobden's arguments, of this and last session, have not been lost upon him—as especially injurious to the agriculture which it pretends to protect, as cruelly deluding the farmer with perpetual promises which it perpetually breaks. He gives up his eight-shilling fixed duty, as a thing not to be thought of for a moment, "after all the discussion which has occurred." And, what is more, he gives up every one

of the grounds on which a fixed duty can, with any decent show of reason, be defended. A fixed duty for revenue he will not hear of; for "corn is one of the worst articles you can tax." A fixed duty for protection is out of the question, of course, for "protection is the bane of agriculture." "Peculiar burdens" are put out of court by a very summary process: we can look into the peculiar burdens, says his lordship, when we have done away with the other peculiarities of the landlords' case. And, best of all, the Whig leader would do at once what he has to do: "He sees the folly and madness of waiting for another crisis of national distress. Now is the time, he urges, to enfranchise trade and industry—now, with political tranquillity and leisure, with bread at Free-Trade prices, with revived commerce and prosperous manufactures—now, with population growing at an almost fearful rate of increase—now, before another bad harvest brings 'the cry of hunger up to these walls.'"

After this, is it not pitiful to find Lord John Russell still busy at "security-grinding" (which he last year promised to leave off)—still clinging, with desperate fidelity, to the phantom of a dead and buried fixed duty—still haggling over a few miserable shillings of "unnecessary taxation"—still haunted by imaginary terrors of "sudden alteration;" when, as all the world knows, the real mischief is not in sudden alteration, but in the everlasting liability to alteration incident to a false and artificial system—when, as he himself so well showed, by reference to former passages of our commercial history, the danger is a nullity. Never was a more lame and impotent conclusion to a great argument. Four, five, or six shillings of "bane to agriculture"! Four, five, or six shillings of "unnecessary taxation"! Four, five, or six shillings of deduction from the "efficiency of labour"! Four, five, or six shillings of the worst sort of revenue! Four, five, or six shillings of obstruction to trade, and delusion to the farmer! Never was there a more fatal contradiction between premises and conclusion—never a more doleful self-stultification—than this. This minikin fixed duty—which, after all, is not to be fixed, for "there may hereafter come a time," &c.; this four, five, or six shillings, with a *perhaps*; this shadow of a shade of a terminable contingency; this thing without a reason—stripped bare of every shred and tatter of a reason ("sudden alteration" excepted) by which a fixed duty was ever attempted to be justified before;—really is one of the most egregious absurdities that a good and able man ever condescended to patronise. We are sorry for it.



Lord John Russell does himself infinite injustice by this small trifling with a great question. He has a sort of inchoate title to the honour of being the first Free-Trade Minister of Great Britain, which we would gladly see him perfect. The statesman who gained London and lost office in the first battle against monopoly, has claims to the honour of giving the monster its *quietus*, which it is really melancholy to see him hold thus lightly. However, if it be so, it must be so. "After all the discussion which has taken place," Free Trade and Free-Traders need not go begging to any man. If Lord John Russell really has made up his mind (we do not believe he has) to this most inglorious martyrdom; if he chooses to throw himself away in the pursuit of a shadow; if he declines to accept the post which, at present, is ready waiting for him, but which will not be kept waiting for him in particular, one hour after an occupant can be found willing and able to fill it; if he prefers the nominal headship of a beaten and broken party, to the grandest work that a statesman was ever called to do; if he really means to let history sum up the record of his and his party's career with a verdict of *felo de se*;—we can only say again, we are heartily sorry for it. We have done our best to prevent it. But, if Lord John Russell positively will hold the door open to Sir Robert Peel, it will be no fault of ours if Sir Robert Peel walks in.

We do not recollect an instance in which the debilitating effect of one little piece of hesitation and inconsistency was more conspicuous and decisive, than in the debate of Monday and Wednesday nights. This one flaw was fatal. By narrowing the difference between himself and Sir Robert Peel to a mere variation as to the import of the words "cautious and deliberate," Lord John Russell spoiled all. He actually allowed the wily Premier to interpret the censure implied by his resolutions into a sort of compliment. Opposition of principle, strictly speaking, there was not. Both took the same facts, both used the same logic, both drew the same conclusions "in the abstract." Both adopted the same principles, and deprecated a sudden application of them. Protection is "vicious and unsound," says the Whig leader. No doubt of it, answers the Premier; "protective duties are in themselves evil"; these second and third resolutions of yours are admirable; "to the principle which they involve I cannot but give my ready assent." Population grows at a fearful rate, says his lordship; we must do something to feed and employ the people. It does, indeed, replies the Home Secretary; why, would you believe it, we have another million and a half added to the people

since we took office; it is "a fact with reference to which all our commercial and financial legislation must be directed." Positively, something must be done, urges the Opposition leader, to relieve industry, by widening its field of employment, and enlarging its supply of food. Most certainly, responds the Minister; we have been doing nothing else these three years past. But we must not go on too fast, suggests the noble lord; we must be "cautious and deliberate," and beware of "the evil that is produced by a sudden alteration." Oh! trust us for that, retorts the Home Secretary; we will do nothing "hastily and rashly." Of course, adds the Premier; we are well aware it is a matter that "calls for the utmost consideration." But I think, rejoins his lordship, that "caution and deliberation" mean a four, five, or six shilling duty, contingent and terminable. Well, so you think, is the implied response of the Minister; but, after all, that is a matter of opinion; we think "caution and deliberation" mean waiting a little, and coming out by-and-by as total and immediate repealers.

We do not, for a moment, offer this representation as the whole of the truth. We are not insensible to the real and wide differences that exist between Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel, with reference to their conduct on the Free-Trade question; to any other question, the neutrality of our column forbids our alluding here. We cannot overlook the vast superiority of the Opposition leader to the Minister, in point of earnestness and sincerity; nor can we disregard the prodigious difference which there is between the attempt to do nearly everything, and the obstinate refusal to do anything. But we must say, that if Lord John Russell cannot make his opposition to the monopolist Cabinet more distinctly visible to the naked eye than it was in the late debate—if he cannot make it, broadly and palpably, an opposition of principle, a war of *la France* of Free-Trade against Protection—he cuts the ground from under his feet, as a public man.

For the rest, the debate of this week was, from first to last, a triumph, or series of triumphs, to the Free-Trade cause. Every principle for which we have ever contended was fully admitted—every fallacy that we have ever demolished was resolutely ignored ("caution and deliberation" excepted)—by the leaders of both the great parliamentary parties. Tory vied with Whig in making out our case; we need not add, that our own parliamentary

leader took excellent care that the moral of the whole should be properly expounded. The imperative necessity of chapening the food and unchaining the industry of a growing people on a limited soil; the inseparable connexion of dear bread with low wages, deficient employment, pauperism, crime, and mortality; the effect of cheap bread in raising wages, lowering poor-rates, making life easy, and diffusing the blessings of education, virtue, and religion; the desperate impossibility of permanently improving the condition of the labouring classes, except by, or concurrently with, the enfranchisement of labour;—these great and simple truths, which we have been battling for these seven years, are now the openly declared convictions of every man in public life who has intellect enough to open his lips without making himself the laughing-stock of the House of Commons.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Fifteenth Week, ending Saturday, May 31.

On Monday night Lord JOHN RUSSELL brought forward his announced motion on the GENERAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE. His views are embodied in nine resolutions, which, though we have given them on a previous occasion, it may be as well to place before our readers, as they stand on the notice paper of the House of Commons. They are in this form:—

"Lord JOHN RUSSELL.—Resolutions respecting the labouring classes in England and Wales:—

"1. That the present state of political tranquillity, and the recent revival of trade, afford to this House a favourable opportunity to consider of such measures as may tend permanently to improve the condition of the labouring classes.

"2. That those laws which impose duties usually called protective tend to impair the efficiency of labour, to restrict the free interchange of commodities, and to impose on the people unnecessary taxation.

"3. That the present Corn Law tends to check improvements in agriculture, produces uncertainty in all farming speculations, and holds out to the owners and occupiers of land prospects of special advantage which it fails to secure.

"4. That this House will take the said laws into consideration, with a view to such cautious and deliberate arrangements as may be most beneficial to all classes of her Majesty's subjects.

"5. That the freedom of industry would be promoted by a careful revision of the law of parochial settlement which now prevails in England and Wales.

"6. That a systematic plan of colonization would partially relieve those districts of the country where the deficiency of employment has been most injurious to the labourers in husbandry.

"7. That the improvements made of late years in the education of the people, as well as its more general diffusion, have been seen with satisfaction by this House.

"8. That this House will be ready to give its support to measures, founded on liberal and comprehensive principles, which may be conducive to the further extension of religious and moral instruction.

"9. That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, to lay the foregoing resolutions before her Majesty."

To these resolutions, the following amendments have been exhibited:—

"Mr. SHARMAN CRAWFORD.—To move an amendment on Lord John Russell's first resolution, that after the word 'opportunity,' in the second line of said resolution, the following words be inserted:—'To give immediate attention to the claims so repeatedly urged in the petitions of the people for an extension of the parliamentary suffrage, as well as'—(here follow the remaining words of the original resolution).

"Also to move that resolutions Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 8, be omitted."

And another by

"General JOHNSTONE.—To move amendments upon the 5th and 6th resolutions proposed by Lord John Russell:—

"5. That all salutary measures of improvement in the condition of the people, by a system of education or otherwise, should be accompanied by an immediate and entire revision of the Poor Law Amendment Act, it being proved beyond all controversy, that the object to be obtained by the promoters of those measures, namely, improving the condition of the labouring poor, by causing higher wages, and establishing independence of character, have signally failed.

"6. That it is repugnant to the feelings of Englishmen to be the object of compulsory emigration, which places the honest labourer in the same class with the reckless criminal, and implies the absence of one of the most congenial sentiments of the human mind, namely, the love of country, engendering at the same time an opposite feeling, and disregard of its laws and institutions."

Lord JOHN RUSSELL's speech occupied about two hours and a half in delivery. It was calm and grave in tone, marked by apparent earnestness of opinion and thought; and though, during its progress, it did not elicit any enthusiastic feeling, or spontaneous bursts of approbation, it was listened to with great attention, and on sitting down the noble lord was greeted with cheers from both sides of the House. Novelty of view there could scarcely be any, for the leading topics, arguments, and facts which compose Lord John Russell's speech, have been urged on the House of Commons again and again by Mr. Villiers, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. Milner Gibson, and the other able advocates of Free Trade in the House. But the speech was characterized by something of more importance than mere novelty of

view; it is strikingly indicative of PROGRESS. Doctrines which three or four years ago were sneered at as falsehoods and fallacies, are now laid down by statesmen on both sides of the House of Commons as indubitable truths and facts. The advocates of Free Trade are no longer vulgar clamourers, seeking only their own selfish advantage. The cause has become identified with the largest and the highest interests of the empire; and if, in success, there be a godlike revenge for by-past contumely and reproach, Messrs. COBDEN and BRIGHT are receiving satisfaction—a satisfaction which will be ampler ere long—for the endurance, the toil, and the self-denial which led throughout the country, to sow those seeds which are now so fast ripening in the Legislature. Even the only objectionable portion of Lord John Russell's speech—that part where he clung to his fixed duty—is itself strikingly indicative of progressive movement. It proclaims the fact that the eight shillings which the landlords spurned in 1841 is now utterly beyond their reach; and that, ere long, both sliding scale and fixed duty will vanish into the "thin air" of the past.

Lord John Russell, in his speech, went back anterior to the Revolution; traced the origin and progress of the national debt; pointed out the effect which Pitt's Bank Restriction Act of 1797 had on the condition of the labouring classes; sketched the history of our modern protective system, especially as applied to corn; and showed the benefits which had resulted from partial relaxations of our restrictive policy. He then looked at the condition of the labouring classes; showed that wages did not rise and fall with the price of corn, but that employment was most plentiful, wages highest, and the state of the working classes, in the agricultural as well as the manufacturing districts, best, when corn was abundant, and prices low:—

"We do not find," said the noble lord, "that where corn is high wages are high, or where corn is low wages are low. Among other evidence on this subject, I may mention a pamphlet written by a gentleman of the name of Kent, who advances a number of theories which I consider mistaken; but he gives a table, founded mainly on his own experience, which shows the amount of wages from the commencement of the war in 1792 to the present time. He proves that when the price of corn was high the increase of wages was very small; and, on the other hand, that when the price of corn fell, wages were higher in proportion than at any other time. I have in my hand his statement on the subject, and he supposes that a labourer ought to have the value of six pecks of wheat per week. This is very much the same as the calculation of Malthus, who tells us that in the middle of the last century, from, I believe, 1733 to about 1770, wages enabled the labourer to command nearly a peck every working day, or about six pecks per week. Mr. Kent informs us that, in 1792, when wheat was 42s. 3d. per quarter, the wages paid were 8s. 6d. per week. In 1795, when wheat had risen to 82s. 9d. per quarter, wages were still only 8s. 6d. per week. Thus when the labourer was able to

command six pecks in 1792, in 1795 he wanted 12 additional wages to enable him to procure as much corn. In 1801 the price of wheat rose to 118s. 3d. per quarter, but did the price of labour rise in proportion? Certainly not. It rose only from 8s. 6d. to 10s. (Cheers.) In 1803 the price of wheat was 53s. 6d., and the wages 9s. 6d. a week. So again in later years. In 1831 the price of wheat was 42s. 2d., and wages 8s. In 1835 wheat was 39s. 4d., and wages still 8s. In 1840 wheat was 66s. 4d., and wages 10s. In 1841 wages were only 10s., while the price of six pecks of wheat was 12s. I believe that this statement will be borne out in most agricultural districts; and although wages have generally risen with the high price of wheat, and fallen with a low price, they have neither risen or fallen at all in proportion to the value of food. But let us consider what would be the probable effect of the introduction of foreign corn. My belief is, that the introduction of foreign corn to any considerable extent would lead to such an increase in our manufactures, that, although at first the price of corn would be low, there would soon be established a steady, fair, average price, quite sufficient to remunerate the farmer. It what I have stated be the effect of the Corn Law—if it injures all classes of the community—if it deprives the consumer of his bread—if it disappoints the farmer of his price—if it leads to careless and slovenly cultivation of the soil—and, finally, if it obliges the labourer to pay for his food a sum which he does not recover in the increase of his wages, I ask, what system can be worse, and what system will you adopt instead of it? (Cheers.) Various propositions at various times have been brought before the House. I have said that, in introducing my resolutions, my object has rather been to show the Government that they ought not to leave the Corn Law in its present state, than to offer any suggestion of my own. If I had any proposition to make, it would not be that I supported in 1841; but at the same time it would be a proposition for a fixed duty. (Cheers.) My opinion is, that, after all the discussion which has occurred, we could not now fairly and reasonably propose the 8s. fixed duty of 1841."

Sir J. GRAHAM: How much then?

Lord JOHN RUSSELL: The right hon. baronet asks how much? My answer is, that it is no great matter; 8s. would certainly be more than I should now propose; nobody has gone lower with a fixed duty, I think, than 4s.; and 4s., 5s., or 6s. would be the duty I should recommend. (Cheers.) Other propositions have been—first, to have an entire remission of all duties at once; an immediate abolition of all Corn Laws; another was that there should be a vanishing scale of duties—say a duty of 10s. or 8s. per quarter, which should go down in a year until it became a duty of 1s. or 6d. In the inquiry into the case of the hand-loom weavers, Mr. Jones and Mr. Senior were the principal parties, and they gave their reason against the present Corn Law; they afforded evidence as to the feelings and interests of the manufacturing classes, and particularly as to the effect of the Corn Law upon the hand-loom weaver. They said that the best way to alter it would be by a vanishing scale, and another way would be by a smaller fixed duty; and they mentioned 4s. as a duty that might

be proposed. Upon comparing those two propositions, my own opinion is, that a small fixed duty would be the preferable proposal of the two, because a vanishing sea has the disadvantage of change in the amount every year. However, if I were asked whether I think that it is desirable to have any duty on corn at all, I should say, as an abstract question, that it certainly is not. (Cheers.) Corn is one of the worst articles you can tax; but in making changes in your commercial policy, I know the evil that is produced by a sudden alteration. It is said, if this is an evil, why not at once abolish it? The same argument might be used with respect to a person who for many years of his life, perhaps until he has reached sixty or seventy years, has been in the habit of using a stimulating diet, and indulging in intoxicating drinks. Nobody would say that was a wholesome mode of living; every one, on the contrary, would say that if he had begun by abstaining from intemperance he would have been a stronger man; but the skilful physician would not advise his being taken entirely and at once from his long-accustomed habits. (Hear.) That there may hereafter come a time, as there has done with regard to wool, when the population, and commerce, and manufactures may require a total abolition of all duty, I should not deny; but I should say the scale you could adopt with a view to the interests of the country, and that which would at once give the greatest relief, and inflict the slightest amount of evil, would be such as I have mentioned. (Hear.)

After going through his various propositions, and showing that, without improving the physical condition of the people, we could do but little to elevate their moral or intellectual state, Lord John Russell concluded in the following manner:—

"Whether I may be right in the propositions which I bring forward or not, one thing I do ask of you is, to consider this matter in a time of calm, and with that view I call upon the House to adopt this first resolution, which I now, Sir, place in your hands:—That the present state of political tranquillity, and the recent revival of trade, afford to this House a favourable opportunity to consider of such measures as may tend permanently to improve the condition of the labouring classes." (Cheers.) Adopt that resolution, and add to it any further resolutions you may think fit, according to your own principles and your own views of what the interests of the country require. But, whether you do so now or not, my thorough belief is, that our laws will not remain long in the state in which they now are—that the condition of the people of this country does require legislation, not for a purpose which I should think a most inconsiderate attempt of this House—to provide directly for the well-being of all, but for the purpose of relieving, as far as you can, the people from all the restraints and all the evils which your own legislation has imposed. (Hear, hear.) It is for this purpose, then, that I now put this first resolution, Sir, into your hands." (The noble lord resumed his seat amidst loud applause from both sides of the House.)

After Mr. Sharman Crawford had proposed his amendment,

Sir James Graham rose, and made what, in technical or official language, would be called a "reply" to Lord John's speech. Yet the House Secretary was very tedious in enforcing the noble lord's views. A large portion of his speech was occupied in proving that Sir Robert Peel's partial relaxations of the restrictive system had been of great benefit to the working classes—that the lower prices of bread, beef, sugar, and so forth, brought about by good harvests and new tariffs, were of signal service to the community at large! In one portion of his speech Sir James Graham enforced, with redoubled effect, one of the well-known Free-Trade arguments which Lord John Russell had used—namely, that drawn from the fact of the rapid increase of the population. Said the House Secretary:—

"The noble lord had truly stated that the increase of the population of the country had been absolutely miraculous. The noble lord said that the rate in the increase of the population was 200,000 a year, but he (Sir James Graham) believed that it was proved by the last population returns that the population was increasing at the rate of 381,000 a year. (Hear.) He believed that, since her Majesty's present Government accepted office, not less than 1,500,000 had been added to the population of this country. He begged the House to reflect on this. The population of the two Canadas did not exceed one million, the population of Holland was 2,800,000, and the population of Switzerland was about 2,100,000. There had then actually been such an increase during the four years in which we have been charged with the conduct of affairs. He merely alluded to this to show the effects that would arise from this cause, and he wished to show that it must add to the difficulties in the government of this country. This was a fact in reference to which all commercial and financial legislation must be directed, and a fact which they would fail in their duty if they did not admit as bearing on the future policy of this country. (Hear, hear.) He repeated, that the increase in the population, during the last four years, had been an increase of more than one half above the population of Canada, and of more than one-half of the whole population of Holland or Switzerland. It was impossible not to admit that the wants of such an increasing population must also increase, and that care should be taken to adopt such steps as would adequately increase the demand for labour, and in such a way as not to lead to the lowering the rate of wages."

The right honourable baronet then proceeded to contrast the condition of the manufacturing districts and the labouring classes in 1811-42, years of scarcity and dearth, with the past and present years of "cheapness and plenty." The facts are so important, and so clearly establish the case of the Free-Traders, that we give them unabridged:—

"I will recede to the recollection of the House the condition of the manufacturing districts when her Majesty's present Ministers came into office. I will not dwell upon the year 1811. I will not go especially to the year 1842, when, as my right hon. friend at the head of the Government has more than once told you, nearly the whole of the population of the town of Paisley was out of employ-

ment, and when it was our painful duty to be under the necessity of administering to the wants of the population: That is but a single instance of the distress which prevailed in the years 1811 and 1812. The town of Stockport was in a condition hardly less painful than that of Paisley. I will just advert for one moment to the report which I hold in my hand, showing the state of affairs in 1841, and then contrast it with the state of the manufacturing districts at the moment when I am addressing you. In the report of the factory commissioners, in 1841, I find the following statement:—'I regret to say that the depression which I stated in my last report to be prevalent among the mill occupiers and their workpeople has in no degree abated, but, on the contrary, has, I fear, increased. Wherever I have been I have heard the same sad tale, with very few exceptions, that trade is in a state of extreme depression, and without any distinct prospect of improvement. Within the last four months several bankruptcies have taken place among the mill occupiers in my district. In four of these cases the aggregate number of persons suddenly thrown out of employment amounted to 1720, and a sum of £850 paid weekly in wages was withdrawn.' I will not go through the whole of the statement, but will now turn to another passage, showing the state of affairs in the district generally. The following letter was from Mr. Horner, dated May 1, 1844:—'The cotton trade is in a state of great activity; new mills are building, others long unoccupied have been taken by new tenants, and in some places it is difficult to find workers. There is also a much more prosperous state in the woollen mills. It is otherwise in the flax-spinning mills; there we have great complaints of bad trade; some are working less than twelve hours a day, and some are entirely stopped. There is great activity in the factories, especially in the cotton-mills. In many places large additions have been made both of buildings and machinery to existing mills, and several entirely new mills have been built and are now in progress. I not only do not hear of any persons being out of employment, but that in some places hands are scarce. One mill occupier, who employs a large number of hand loom weavers, has stated that he is paying them fully 30 per cent. more than he did twelve months ago, and that this advance is general for most descriptions of work.' In January last Mr. Horner was in Oldham, and visiting a large factory, the owner said to another large millowner who came with Mr. Horner (the subject of a school), 'I wish you could send me some hands, for I have 12 looms standing idle for want of them.' Mr. Saunders, in a letter to Mr. Horner, dated Halifax, the 12th instant, although unable to give any information as to 1840, sends some statistical tables relating to the Yorkshire part of his district, from which it appears that, while in 1838 there were 81,510 persons of all ages employed in the factories there under his inspection, of whom 11,179 were children, in the same factories there are now employed 114,838 persons of all ages, of whom 15,483 are children—showing an increase of above 33 per cent. in the case of the children, and about 37 per cent. in the case of persons of all ages. Mr. Clements states in his letter:—'First, as regards cotton-mills, a friend of mine has inspected the books of a good average mill in Burnley, from which the following result appears:—

"During the five weeks ended May 3, 1845, the mill hands worked 30 days, and received

"During the five weeks ended April 30, 1842, the same number of hands worked 19 days and received

"Difference caused by working short time £138 1 7"

In addition to this the House ought to take along with this improvement the decrease in the price of the necessary articles of life. The measure of flour, which in Birmingham cost 5s. 2d. last year, costs now but 4s., exhibiting a decrease of 20½ per cent. I can assure the House I have instituted very copious inquiries upon the subject of mill-labour and the labourers' condition, and I find that the wages received by them and their families have increased on an average from 40 to nearly 45 per cent.; and, with the exception of one or two towns, I am informed there is a pretty general average increase. The returns received from Newcastle were varying but encouraging. The wages of artisans and labourers have altered very little; any change there has been in the last five years has been in the way of increase, and workmen generally are now well employed. The shipping trade is good. Customers complain that their concerns are not profitable; over-production is the obvious cause. The following was an extract from Sheffield:—'The years 1840, 1, 2, and 3 were eminently years of bad trade. From 1500 to 2000 workmen, with their families, were upon the poor-rates. Trade revived in 1844, and in most of the trades the prices given for work have advanced; but the time during which the men are allowed to work by the unions has been greatly diminished; most of the trades working only seven hours a day, many not more than six.' The following letter had been received from Liverpool, dated April 24, 1845:—'In the years from 1840 to 1844, we could get hundreds of workmen at any wages we had the conscience to offer; now we have scarcely an application. To give you a better idea of the state of the mechanical population, I send a statement of wages paid by us during the six years for the nearest weeks to April 20:—

Week ending April 18, 1840	£303
17, 1841	195
16, 1842	260
22, 1843	242
20, 1844	399
19, 1845	697

I have had a statement put into my hands by an official gentleman, stating, on an average, the amount of wages paid in one factory, in a corresponding week of each of the six last years. In 1840, it was £303; in 1841, £195; in 1842, £260; in 1843, £250; and, in 1844, £399; being the amount of wages paid to the same number of hands. In all these cases, too, hon. members should look to the considerable advantages these working people were deriving from reduced prices of articles of necessary consumption. In the agricultural districts, too, wages had been rather improving, and in the greater number of the agricultural counties the wages had increased so as to afford the labourer a great command over many of the essential articles of living. The noble lord has well observed, that the sun had more to do in these matters than legislation. I admit, certainly, that a population like ours cannot be afflicted by a greater curse than a fail-

ing harvest, and I am as ready to acknowledge that, without the blessing of Providence upon our seasons and harvests, all legislation must prove comparatively inoperative; yet, when I read to you from the list of articles their prices in the year before this Government came into office and in the present year, I am disposed to believe you will permit me to trace much of the present low prices to the effect of legislation. It is a statement of prices in London, in the first week of April, in the years 1840 to 1845 inclusive, exemplifying the comparative expense of living in those years of the artisan and labouring population:—

	1840.	1845.
Wheat, per qr.	s. d. 68 7	s. d. 46 5
Barley, per qr.	.. .. 40 0	32 6
Oats, per qr.	.. .. 25 9	21 4
Flour, per quartern.	.. .. 0 11	0 8½
Oatmeal, per quart.	.. .. 0 6	0 5
Beef, per lb.	.. .. 0 6½	0 5½
Mutton, per lb.	.. .. 0 6½	0 6
Pork, per lb.	.. .. 0 7	0 6
Bacon, per lb.	.. .. 0 7	0 6
Lard, per lb.	.. .. 0 7	0 7
Sugar, per lb.	.. .. 0 7	0 5
Coffee, per lb.	.. .. 2 0	1 4
Ten, per lb.	.. .. 5 0	4 0
Treacle, per lb.	.. .. 0 5	0 3½
Currants, per lb.	.. .. 0 10	0 6
Raisins, per lb.	.. .. 0 6	0 6
Candles, per lb.	.. .. 0 7	0 6
Coals, per cwt.	.. .. 1 8	1 4

There has been a very material decrease also in respect to the prices of clothing for all classes, with which I shall not trouble the House in detail, only to say that I find no increase in any one article.

Two-thirds of Sir James Graham's speech might have been spoken, with a very slight modification, by a second of Lord John Russell's motion. This fact is still more strikingly exemplified by the way in which the Government met it. Sir James Graham moved, as an amendment, "the previous question." It is by this loophole that the House escapes from any proposition to which honourable members dare not say "No," and are unwilling to say "Ay." The "previous question" neither expresses assent nor dissent. It simply declares that it is not convenient to put the motion to the vote at the present time. The whole House might be convinced of the truth contained in Lord John Russell's first resolution, yet, by the "previous question," a majority may be enabled to say "No," when the SPEAKER asks "That that question be now put." And this is the way in which the Government evade a "great fact."

Mr. Labouchere enforced the views of Lord John Russell; and, amongst two or three other speakers, there was a speech from Sir John Tyrell, whose "baldernash" was less amusing than usual, though proclaiming his want of confidence in the Government. The only other speech of the evening was one by Mr. Villiers, who spoke with much point and effect to the following purport:—

Mr. C. VILLIERS had listened with great anxiety to hear some answer from the right hon. gentleman (Sir J. Graham) and hon. members opposite to the resolutions of his noble friend, or some reason why he (Mr. Villiers) should not, as he proposed to do, outtrade himself upon the attention of the House, on some future occasion, as he had often done before; but he had heard nothing, either in the answer made to the resolutions, or in any intimation on the part of the noble lord, that would relieve him of the duty of again calling attention to what he believed to be the great cause of the distresses of all classes of the people. No one could dispute the great question his noble friend had raised as to the subject of protective duties—the question of the system of protection. (Hear, hear.) That was the question the noble lord had raised, however, when he said he wished to bring before the House the state and condition of the labouring classes, and then the remedy by which he proposed to improve that condition; and having alluded to many things which he said had tended to deteriorate the condition of the labouring classes, but over which Parliament had no control, he proceeded to point out the system pursued by the Legislature, which, he said, had contributed in a great degree to produce this result, and declare his opinion that on the Legislature, therefore, he depended for measures of improvement. (Hear.) He (Mr. C. Villiers) agreed with all that had been said as to the system of protection being the main cause of the evil; but he had looked to have that system defended, or, at least, that it would be attempted to be proved that the remedy proposed was impracticable. The right hon. baronet (Sir James Graham) had laboured to prove the great advantage to the community and the labouring classes, which he contended resulted from the diminution of the restrictive system. His arguments that restrictions were for the benefit of the labouring classes, were indeed arguments, as the hon. baronet opposite (Sir J. Tyrell) said, for the consumption of the House. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) The right hon. baronet the House Secretary had borne testimony in the House of Commons that night what were the effects of low prices, and had shown that low prices were a proof of abundance; and it he (Mr. C. Villiers) desired now to produce a witness at the bar, as was once proposed, to prove the same fact, he could not possibly have more satisfactory evidence than that which the right hon. baronet had that night given. (Hear, hear, hear.) They (he advocates of the repeal of the Corn Laws) wished to show what was the effect of low prices, which hon. gentlemen opposite told them was the terrible consequence of Free Trade upon the community generally; and the right honourable baronet had come forward and told them to-night (hear, hear)—the right honourable baronet told them that he was happy to announce that the labouring classes generally were well off; and he had contrasted the present period, when prices were low, with the years 1810 and 1811, when the price of food was high; and, having described the amount of distress and misery that existed in those years, had shown the effect of low prices in diminishing them, and in adding to the comforts and happiness of the poor. (Hear, hear.) The right honourable baronet had shown them that crime had diminished since food had become cheap, and crime, he had stated truly, was necessarily



connected with poverty; and he had shown them, also, that wages had increased, not only in the manufacturing, but also in the agricultural districts (loud Opposition cheers); and he had shown them that in every village and in every parish the rate for the relief of the poor had diminished; that there were fewer people receiving parish relief, fewer out of employment, and much less destitution in the country than when the price of food was high. The right honourable baronet actually proved the case of the advocates of Free Trade (cheers), and he gave them the prices of the various articles of consumption, namely, of wheat, flour, meat, and sugar, and had shown the reduction in the price of each, and how that reduction affected beneficially the condition of the labourer. And this was the argument by which the question, whether the total abolition of all protective duties was not the means of improving instead of deteriorating the condition of the people, was met. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord (Lord J. Russell) had proved that the people were not advancing relatively with the wealth and prosperity of the country, and had told them that this was owing to their legislation, and it was in their power, by altering the system upon which they had legislated, to improve their condition. Now, this statement of the noble lord was useful, for it came at a time when many, from fear or benevolence, were always talking in that House of the poor, and suggesting some crotchet or remedy for the distresses of one branch of industry or another; but the noble lord said, "Away with all this pretence and affected sympathy for the poor, unless you relieve yourselves from the charge that for the purpose of promoting your own interests you are the cause of their deterioration." (Hear, hear.) The noble lord told them fairly that they upheld the present system because they believed it to be most conducive to their own interests. He said, "You, the Legislature, are the cause of the misery and distress of the poor, by passing laws to keep up the price of food." (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. C. Villiers) did not defend the noble lord's conclusion, in one respect, but he thanked him for having advanced, and given the weight of his authority to, the very measure which he (Mr. Villiers) would recommend for the benefit of the labouring classes, and of the people generally. (Hear.) The noble lord had shown that when they compelled the people to pay high prices for food, they were deprived of the comforts of life, and were rendered altogether incapable of providing education for their children. The noble lord had shown that by raising the price of food they injured and deteriorated the condition of the working classes, while on the other side no man upheld the price of food, he believed, except for the purposes of protection. (Hear, hear.) They raised the price of food by these protective duties, that was their purpose (hear, hear); and the right honourable baronet the House Secretary had told them what was the consequence of success in that object. He had shown them, that if they had high prices they would return to the state of 1810 and 1811, and if they did not succeed by their legislation in raising prices, and that was their grievance—that they did not get so much for their wheat by 10s. a quarter as the right honourable baronet had promised the present law would give, then they were disappointed, and complained of the Government. Those who advocated high prices, and those who witnessed the results of low prices, were mixed together—let them solve the question, they would, the country would look on and judge between them. The advocates of high prices were now about to withdraw their confidence from the Ministry, and why? Because they got 46s. a quarter for their wheat instead of 56s. (Hear, hear.) Did anybody doubt that that was the reason? (Hear.) And what was the natural and only conclusion?—that they could withdraw their confidence from a Ministry because they had not produced misery enough, crime enough, disease enough, and death enough. (Loud cheers.) He had expected to hear from the honourable baronet opposite, who had stood up as the advocate of high prices, that low prices had thrown the land out of cultivation and the labourers out of employment; but what did he say? Why, he told the House that the labourers were never better off; that he paid seventy labourers every week; that they had good wages, and were never in a better condition; and that this was at the period when wheat was at the low price that induced the hon. member for Essex to withdraw his confidence from the Government. (Renewed cheering.) Why were not protective duties to be abolished, and abolished immediately? Could anybody find any rational ground for upholding the protective system at all? If he collected anything from the noble lord's speech, it was that those duties should be abolished entirely and immediately. The whole of the noble lord's argument (though he did not say it in words) was to that conclusion. For what had he told them? He had shown that the result of the reduction of duties on wool and silk had been utterly groundless, and that none of these evils that had been expected from those measures had resulted, but, on the contrary, that all parties had been benefited. And was there anything in the wool duty that did not apply to corn? The noble lord was ready to abolish protection on manufactures. Why was he not equally ready to abolish protection on agriculture? That protection had led to the depression of agriculture was certain, for there was no interest more frequently complaining. They were complaining now; and he believed the farmers were ill used and deceived, but not by the Government or the House. That was an affair they must settle with their landlords. Agriculture had been depressed with 50 per cent. protection, as compared with 20 per cent. to other interests. With regard to a fixed duty, no one, he believed, would now say that a 1s. fixed duty would be more satisfactory than what he proposed—total abolition. (Hear, hear.) He was obliged to his noble friend for bringing forward this question; it required some courage to do so, for the House was not prepared or not disposed to entertain any such motion; but he thanked him for having brought the question forward, as he had prepared the way for his motion, when he should propose entire abolition to agriculture, and the removal of all that obstacle to the rest of the country which resulted from the present system. (Hear.)

As Thursday was Queen's birthday, the debate and the House were both adjourned to Wednesday.

#### THE DEBATE ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

Monday night was indicative of progress; but Wednesday night exhibited it in a more marked and striking manner.

But, before we notice the adjourned debate, we may briefly state a matter which preceded it.

Mr. Stafford O'Brien's bill for giving a drawback of the duty on malt used for fattening cattle stood for second reading. The member for Northamptonshire having urged his bill, as a great boon to the farmers, Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary to the Treasury, produced various communications from eminent scientific authorities, to show that the utility of malt for food had been greatly overrated, and that there was no means of securing the revenue by preventing such duty-free malt from being applied, not to fattening cattle, but to purposes of distillation. A short debate followed. Lord Howick advised the agriculturists to concur in admitting Egyptian beans and Indian corn duty free, which would effect all the objects desired, without injury to the revenue or to anybody. At last, seeing the feeling of the House decidedly against him,—even Mr. Bickham Escott denounced the bill as one of those petty schemes which "the farmers saw through and despised,"—Mr. Stafford O'Brien withdrew his bill, and so ended what, in the language of the member for Winchester, was another of those "delusive measures" intended to humbug the agricultural tenantry, for the vain purpose of making them believe that certain "friends" of theirs in the Legislature are still able to do a little special business for them.

The adjourned debate was then resumed, and brought out this same Mr. Bickham Escott in a somewhat remarkable way. It is of importance that our Free-Trade readers should be reminded of what and who Mr. Bickham Escott is. He is one of the Duke of Buckingham's members, and was brought in for Winchester on the interest of the high agricultural protective party. But though thus closely allied with the landed interest, and even dependent on it, he has always evinced a disposition to think and act for himself. It is clear that the Anti-Corn-Law debates have done much to enlighten his understanding, for he used to pay great attention to them. From time to time he has rebuked the protective zealots for the fatality of their conduct, the absurdity of their arguments, and the selfishness of their actions. But on Wednesday night he came out in a way which entitles him to be enrolled as an honorary member of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Turning to the agricultural members amongst whom he was sitting, he told them that they themselves had been mighty instruments in knocking out the keystone of the arch of protection. The whole country, he said, had been disgusted by the utter selfishness of their appeals to their own pockets, from Sir Edward Knatchbull and his marriage settlements, down to the Duke of Richmond with his salmon. Van, too, were their efforts, during the present session, to prop up the tottering fabric of protection, "by *grace* twigs for timber, and *bad* for cement!" If protection was not the means of raising the largest supply at the cheapest rate for the good of the community, then it could not be defended at all. But the most remarkable part of the speech of Mr. Escott was, where he showed that protection was a most serious injury to the farmer. The scarcity of keep for cattle was the present cause of agricultural distress. But, if the farmers were permitted to have all kinds of needs imported duty free, they might be enabled to supply themselves with abundant fodder, and thus accomplish one of the objects of good farming, that of easily maintaining a large quantity of live stock, whose carcasses would repay them in the market, and their manure on the farm. Yet, for instance, if the seed could be imported duty free, could be sown with little trouble, and scarcely any expense, and would supply abundant green crops at the very time when keep for cattle becomes scarce and dear. Warning with his subject, Mr. Bickham Escott told Ministers that they had not yet gone far enough in the direction of Free Trade; finality on such a subject as the welfare of the community was not merely ridiculous and absurd, but injurious and cruel; and all class legislation must give way before that increasing light, which was giving senators wisdom, filling the land, and penetrating even the cottage of the humble labourer! All this was spoken, not merely from the *Ministerial* but the *Acquiescent* benches—from the place where Stafford O'Brien, Miles, Banks, and others "of that ilk" are in the habit of congregating!

With the exception of a long and able speech from Lord Howick, in favour of immediate and unlimited Free Trade, the debate was not otherwise remarkable, until

Sir Robert Peel rose. And his speech was the crowning event of the debate. Sir John Tyrell had said, on Monday night, that the Prime Minister had forfeited the confidence of the agricultural party. Turning, therefore, to the agricultural benches, Sir Robert Peel, not in tones of timidity, but with a gesture of almost haughty defiance, told the landed interest that he did not know whether or not the Essex baronet was warranted in speaking as the organ of a great and powerful party, but, whether he did or not, he would not "exaggerate *their* confidence by any expression of regret or repugnance for the course he had pursued!" Those who recollect the debates in the dark and dreary years of 1841 and 1842, will remember that, before Parliament separated in the latter year, Mr. Cobden, in one of his remarkable speeches, exclaimed in tones which thrilled through the House, that the country was "drifting on to confusion without rudder or compass!" Sir Robert

Peel has now caught up the distant echo of that prophetic warning. On Wednesday night he told the landlords that in 1842 the State was in danger of convulsion, and their estates in risk of confiscation. "God grant," he almost shouted, "that similar times may not return again!" Boasting that, since he accepted office, instead of increasing he had diminished protection, he contended that the Corn Law and the Tariff of 1842, and the other measures which have since been adopted, relaxing the prohibitive system, were mainly instrumental in saving this country from a fearful crisis. But he went farther than this. The fourth and fifth of Lord John Russell's resolutions affirmed that Protective Duties were EVILS. To that proposition, said Sir Robert Peel, "I GIVE MY MOST CORDIAL ACQUIESCENCE." He agreed with Lord John Russell that the removal of Protection was a mere question of present expediency and of time. The Prime Minister concluded by declaring his firm conviction that the Free-Trade principles which he had partially endeavoured to carry out were perfectly sound, and to which they were determined to adhere; and, said he, "the most wise, the most prudent, and the most just course to be pursued, was not rashly or hastily to move forward, but to apply good principles with caution and deliberation, and thus most securely recommend them to all classes of this great country."

Thus, in 1845, Protection has its death-knell rung in Parliament by the Political Chiefs of the two parties into which the House of Commons seems to be divided; and the last *heal* is the most sonorous of all. Yet, in 1841, Protection was the Tree of Life in the midst of the lost lords' paradise. Protection was the vivifying sap which gave immortality to the British constitution. Protection was the huge elephant which bore the world on its back; it being forgotten that the gigantic beast stood on the humble tortoise, and the tortoise upon—nothing! Who, after the debate of Wednesday night, would ever despair of the ultimate triumph of great truths and principles, even though, for a time, they have the most fearful odds to fight against?

On the termination of the debate there were two divisions; but the numbers, on such an occasion, are the most minor part of the whole affair. It is the *debate* not the *division*, which is of prime importance. Nevertheless, we may mention that for Mr. Shannon Crawford's amendment there were 33, and 253 against it—majority 220; and on the "previous question" (i. e., that Lord John Russell's motion should *not* be put), there were 12 to 104—majority 78. A number of members, who had been out in the lobbies, the Library, and elsewhere, complained that they had been shut out from both divisions. But, as we have said, it is the *debate* not the *division*, which is of importance.

#### CLOSE OF THE BAZAAR.

The Bazaar, which for nearly three weeks continued to be the most attractive spectacle ever displayed in London, has finally closed; the decorations are taken down, and the goods removed. As all the accounts are not yet closed, we cannot state the results with perfect accuracy; but we have ascertained that rather more than £20,000 have been obtained for admissions and sales, independent of about £5000 in money contributed from various lighthouses, and of the unsold goods, which are reserved to stock the Bazaar that will be held at a later period of the year, in the Free-Trade Hall in Manchester. We copy from the *Times* a notice of the splendid festivities of the closing scene, which, regarded simply as a spectacle, was one of the most gorgeous ever exhibited in London, but which, as a manifestation of moral power, is without a parallel in the world's history. There were aggregated there ladies who, for 17 days, had devoted their time, their toil, and, we fear, their health, with unwearied assiduity, to advance the great cause of humanity and justice; ladies who had manifested an intelligence, tact, and spirit of self-sacrifice which cannot be too highly estimated or too gratefully remembered. They were not conscious of the capabilities they possessed until they found them developed in action by the force of circumstances. Everybody was willing to contribute everybody; and there was no need for administrative functions when all minds were animated by the same feelings, guided by the same principles, and directed to the same object. Collected together from all parts of the British islands, those who had never seen or heard of each other in their lives found themselves encircled by friends though separated by strangers, community of feeling becoming the basis for community of affection. Never was there such a perfect illustration of the Sallustian rule, "*Idem velle atque idem nolle, eademque facere verba*." (To like the same things, and to dislike the same things, that indeed is firm friendship!) for the best feelings of the heart were at once called into action by the mere force of association in the same glorious cause.

No one could gaze, as we have done for hours together, on the continuous stream in which the crowd flowed through the Hall, without being deeply impressed by the order, the forbearance, and the conciliatory demeanour of every individual in the vast multitude; women went about fearless of insult and children without danger of injury. It was a

striking evidence of the improved culture and higher tone of moral feeling which the discussions and instructions of the League have infused into the public mind. It was a manifestation of the intellectual and ethical character which a great political movement assumes when kept free from the exacerbations of party. All who visited the Hall, whatever their former opinions may have been, left it with a conviction that the objects of the League are neither selfish nor partial, but tend equally to raise the physical comfort and the spiritual character of the British nation. It has been officially announced that the artistic character of the Exhibition will be discussed in the ART-UNION, by the gentleman who wrote the account of the Paris Exposition for that journal; and that two eminent artists have been engaged to prepare drawings, illustrating the most important articles of manufacture that have been displayed. We shall not interfere with this part of the subject farther than to say that, if the Bazaar answered no other purpose than showing the great advance which British artists and artisans have made in design within the last few years, it would have been worth ten times the cost and trouble of its preparation. But it subserved higher purposes even in relation to art; it showed manufacturers how much they may learn from each other in relation both to beauty of form and taste of pattern. The worker in iron has found that he can study with profit the productions of the manufacturer of lace; the printer has received valuable hints from the weaver; and the artist for the loom has profited by the artist for the hammer. The Exhibition gave overwhelming evidence of the immense value of the industry which we seek to set free from the fetters of monopoly. To emancipate such powers of production as those which here give proof of their existence and their importance would be to open a new field of greatness for the English nation, and to place Britain onward in that career of destiny to which our land has been specially called by Providence, as the great civilizer of the world, and the true benefactor of the human race. The voice of truth has declared that "Glory to God in the highest" can only be promoted by "Peace on earth, good will towards men;" but the common interests developed by Free Trade are the bonds of peace, and the common justice established by equal commerce is the firmest cement of good will.

(From the *Bazaar Gazette*.)

This is the last number of the *Bazaar Gazette*, and we cannot devote it to a better purpose than pointing out to our readers the variety, the extent, and the importance of the industry which we seek to emancipate from the fetters of monopoly.

From the time we pass the splendid tapestry and carpets in the entrance hall, until we arrive at the less attractive, but not less useful, display of agricultural implements and other utensils on the landing-places of the staircase of departure, the visitors have constantly before their eyes evidence of the double blessing which commerce confers, by providing employment for producers and comfort for consumers. It is scarcely possible to avoid reflecting on the consequences that would follow, if the looms which weave these cloths, carpets, and dresses were stopped; if the furnaces that produced those magnificent castings of iron were blown out; if the hammers that wrought this splendid iron ceased to sound; or if the spindles that spun this yarn ceased to turn. How many families would at once be reduced to the deplorable condition of the risk-taker's home! We speak of no imaginary scenes; we have ourselves witnessed "the siege of Bolton," when monopoly blocked all the passages of food, and all the sources of employment, as effectively as a hostile army; we have seen the desolation of Stockport, when the strong men, willing to work, found that unjust laws prevented the making use of the primal property of nature, his thews and sinews, by withholding food to be given in exchange for the produce of his toil. The behest of that Almighty Being who, "in the midst of justice remembers mercy," is addressed to man after the fall, was, "In the sweat of thy brow thou shalt eat bread." Around us are proofs that the British artisan sows not the sweat of his brow; for our statute-book continues disgraced by laws which withhold the promised remuneration, and withhold the reward of bread. We feverishly ask those who have voted the Bazaar, ought the hands that have produced the wondrous fabrics you behold to be withered for want of remuneration? Ought the heads that have conceived and executed such rare specimens of beautiful conception and artistic execution to be turned from creating those forms of loveliness, which add no less to the general intelligence than they do to the material wealth of the country, to enter into a miserable scramble for a precarious existence? Every form of beauty displayed in the hall is a contribution to the general education of the country. It is as much said by the Roman poet,

"Ingenus didicisse libenter artes,  
Ensolit mores nec sinit esse ferus;"

which, for the benefit of the ladies, we translate:—  
My noble art is intelligently refined,  
And every coarse sense blotted from the mind.

There has not been one of the thousands who passed through the Bazaar that did not leave it wiser and better for the display he or she had just witnessed. In the machinery, they had seen the material strength of the country; in the exquisite designs wrought on the various articles, they saw its moral beauty developed; and in the casual observations made by the spectators around them, they must have been peculiarly unfortunate if they did not hear much which tended to increase their sense of the high average to which public intelligence has been raised. We were much gratified by finding that a large number of children had been brought by their parents to the Bazaar; not merely because this was a spectacle of unparalleled brilliancy, the like of which they may never see again in their lives, but because with their reminiscences of its brilliancy and its beauty will be permanently associated the great and good cause for which such unequalled exertions have been made. Monopoly has made itself felt and understood in the nursery; the memorable grange-and-lard debate has taught all the children who cry for butter on their bread that they are doomed to eat dry crusts, for the purpose of maintaining the kennel at Goodwood, and starving off the mortgages that impend over Stowe. The child who is stunted in his toffee and cut short in his allowance of sugar-plums can easily understand that this is done to maintain the sugar monopoly and swell the coffers of the lords of Mining-lane. If the Bazaar served no other purpose than to stimulate the curiosity of its juvenile visitors, and lead them to inquire the purpose and object of such a great National Exhibition, it would more than repay the time, toil, and money bestowed upon its preparations and management.

The subscription which has been commenced for the purchase of the beautiful fountain in the Colebrookdale collection, displayed in the lower saloon, has made considerable progress; and there is now little doubt that this splendid production of British art will become the permanent decoration of the Free-Trade Hall in Manchester. As this hall is now a very productive source of revenue to the League, it is the interest of Free-Traders to render it as attractive as possible. There are ample means for ensuring a supply of water, so as to exhibit the fountain in full play whenever it may be desired; and we deem it our duty to impress on all Free-Traders, but especially on those of Lancashire, the desirableness of securing for the League an article not only valuable in itself, but likely to become the fruitful source of permanent income.

The following is the description of Newhouse Farm, North Berwick, in the occupation of Mr. James Miller, which, as we mentioned in a former number of the *Gazette*, has been presented to the Bazaar by Mr. Henry Ashworth:—This farm, consisting of 39½ statute acres, is situated in one of the finest districts of East Lothian. It has a fine climate, with western aspect, and possesses very important features and conveniences, such as should belong to every farm, viz., fine central situation of the farm steading, houses, &c.; three well-distributed branches of public roads, leading out from farm offices, making easy access to all the fields; a fine large drain of water running the whole length of the farm, from east to west, with a considerable fall and supply of water, so that most of the fields may have

have a watering-place for cattle. Every foot of the farm is arable, and upon a close subsoil; it is capable of carrying wheat, grass, oats, and barley, and only part of the land turns up soil. The rotation of crops is summer fallow, or turnips; dunged wheat; grass one or two years, and depastured both years; oats and wheat, on respective portions of the land; beans or turnips; dunged wheat. The farm has been all drained with tiles, in parallel drains, eighteen feet apart, previous to which turnips could not be grown, but now they are good. Thorough draining is the foundation of all improvement; without this essential, nothing on wet land can be well done. Mr. Miller, in a letter, states as follows:—"We are all in this district of country thriving on low prices of corn; if prices are low, rents are low in proportion; ill-regulated rents are at the root of all the mischief." Leases and corn-rents are essential to good husbandry.

In the model room is an improved chaff machine, by James Richardson, the justly celebrated agricultural implement manufacturer, of Manchester. This really useful and valuable machine, mounted on a neat cast-iron frame, is so simple and effective in its construction that it may be put into the most inexperienced hands without the liability of getting out of repair; the improved construction of the wheels increasing the power of the machine, and very much decreasing the labour—objects so essential in machines of this kind. The toothed rollers are worthy of notice; they have the advantage over all others in drawing forward the feed without intermission, for which Mr. Richardson deserves the greatest encomiastic from agriculturists. This masterpiece of a machine is registered, and is applicable either for hand, horse, water, or steam power. There is also a mill for kibbling beans, oats, &c., invented by the same gentleman. The merits of this mill consist principally in the construction of the rollers, which are cut diagonally, and made of the best wrought iron, case-hardened; they will stand re-cutting any number of times, and be equal to new, an advantage which cannot be had in mills made with cast-iron rollers. The feed is regulated by a small fluted roller, which conveys the grain between the other rollers, and prevents choking, and will kibble a bushel in ten minutes.

The model of a stith, or system of machinery for loading vessels with coal, sent to the model room from Stockton-on-Tees, is one of the most interesting articles in the whole Bazaar. The coals are brought by railway to the stith, and then lowered down, without being removed from the carriage until they come over the hold of the vessel, when the lower part of the carriage opens, and they are at once shot into the hold. By this ingenious contrivance a vessel is as easily laden as it has been hitherto to the mouth of the pit.

The agricultural contributions are found in the upper lobby, and on the staircase which lead the departing visitor to the door of exit, in Prince's place. They consist of "chaff cutters," which should be called "straw cutters," or "chaff makers," of "beam crushers," and "out crushers;" of churns—the hand churn and the upright churn—moved by wheel and lever power, a great improvement on what used to be. The "crushers" and "cutters," and several other valuable machines, are contributed by Mr. Richardson, of Manchester. Here there is coopers' ware for farmers—bushel measures, and such like; and near at hand there are contributions of different

kinds of grain for the bushel measures. The Welling Free-Trade Club, near St. Albans, has sent two sacks of the best pile Ware malt; the Wheathamstead Free-Trade Association contributes a sack of fine white Bristol wheat, and also a sack of other white wheat. Charles Lattimore, Esq., of Wheathampstead-place, Hertfordshire, contributes two sacks of red wheat, of first-rate quality. On inquiring what was the particular recommendation of these contributions, or if they had any, we were informed that the wheat, so superior in quality, was grown on land which is by most farmers considered unfit for wheat, and that such land was made to produce it by cultivators who advocated Free Trade and feared no competition with the foreign corn grower.

The manuscript copy of Dr. Watts's sermons, transcribed with his own hands from stenographic notes, for the use of his mother has been sold at the book stall for 6s.

On Friday, the doors being opened at twelve o'clock, there had passed in and paid, at a quarter past one, 985; at two o'clock, 1634; at five minutes past three, 2651; at ten minutes past four, 3872; at five o'clock, 4452; at five minutes to six o'clock (rain pouring), 5051; at seven o'clock (rain still pouring), 5872; at five minutes past eight o'clock (the rain still coming down in torrents), 6783; at nine o'clock (the rain abated, but still dripping), 7222; at ten o'clock, when the doors were closed, 7337; add to which 300 persons admitted by free orders, and the total is 7657.

During the first hour on Saturday, 1030 persons passed into the body of the hall; fresh crowds continued to pour in throughout the day.

On Monday and Tuesday respectively, the numbers were greater than on any previous day, having each averaged 10,000 visitors.

Several lotteries came off on yesterday (Friday) morning, in the presence of W. J. Fox, Esq., of London; S. Lees, Esq., of Manchester, and others.

The Books of Costumes were won by (No. 31) Mrs. Clark, 33, Wood-street, Cheapside, London.

The Autograph Books by (No. 13) Miss Seale, London, and (No. 111) Mr. Edwards, Manchester.

The five Paintings by (No. 2) Mr. James, (116) Mr. Scott, (190) Miss Phillips, (31) Mr. Jackson, and (195) the Chairman of the League.

The Gold Watch was won by (No. 60) Mr. R. Soyle.

The Leeds Steam engine by (No. 135) Mr. F. P. Bankart, Clement's-lane, London.

The Fairy Glass was won by Mr. Watkins, Regent-street, London.

(From the *Morning Chronicle* of Monday.)

The brilliant and novel spectacle which now fills the interior of Covent-garden Theatre is deserving of some other kind of notice than that which, as journalists, we give, in our columns of news, to every public exhibition, in proportion to the amount of public interest that it may excite. The Free-Trade Bazaar—a somewhat unfortunate designation, perhaps, as it fails of conveying the idea of the absolute uniqueness characteristic of this exhibition—is not a mere spectacle, though, merely as a spectacle, it is not surpassed in beauty, attractiveness, and interest by any that our metropolis affords. It is a great social and political fact. It marks the breadth, depth, and force of public conviction on a question of profound social and political importance. It is by far the most decisive sign that the history of the Free-Trade movement has yet shown, not only of the resources, zeal, and sound judgment of the extraordinary association under whose auspices it is presented to the world, but of the extent and thoroughness with which Free-Trade principles have leavened the public mind.

We consider this Bazaar, taken in connection with the singular political movement of which it forms so conspicuous a feature, as a sign of the times well worthy of the attention of our statesmen of every party. As an indication of the progress of opinion, as a pledge of earnestness and determination in the assertion of opinion, it is more impressive than any kind or quantity of what we ordinarily call "agitation." No amount of public meetings, parliamentary petitions, or popular noise and excitement, could give so significant a demonstration of genuine power. The immensity of contributions, even yet continuing to arrive in quantities that far exceed the ability of the most skilful management to find room for them in the over-crowded stalls; the number and variety of the contributors, from the wealthy manufacturing and commercial capitalist, who gives by wholesale, as he makes and trades by wholesale, to the acts of household economy representing the toil of spare hours, painfully saved out of laborious days and short nights; the completeness with which all branches of our national industry—agricultural, manufacturing, domestic, and literary—are represented in this extraordinary museum; the evidences that everywhere meet the eye of the lucky interest which the women of Great Britain feel in a question which even the well-known contributions of their sex to the literature of political economy have scarcely yet withdrawn, in common estimation, from the category of the abstract sciences; the enormous expenditure of time, money, labour, and thought which must have been devoted to this undertaking, for many months past, in every part of Great Britain; indicate a quiet earnestness and force of purpose, of a kind such as has never before been displayed on any public question. The destination of the large pecuniary proceeds of this enterprise—to the carrying on of that business of agitation in which its promoters have attained so conspicuous a proficiency—is a consideration scarcely worth adverting to as an element of its political importance. Mere agitation, conducted with whatever talent, or sustained by whatever amount of money power, is not, in this country, by any means so formidable an agent of social and political change as many persons imagine. Here is the true "agitation" that which gives reality and potency to those external efforts to which the name is commonly restricted. In the settled purpose and conviction of the multitudes of whose zeal, money, and working power the Covent-garden Bazaar is the embodiment. The spirit which has animated all this mass of sustained and concentrated exertion is a spirit which no opposition can subdue, no failure dishearten, and no delay tire out. The writers and speakers of the League have laid much stress on the significance of this spectacle as an expression of our national industry, and a practical appeal to society against the monopoly and injustice of laws that narrow the market of that industry, and abridge its earnings. It amply deserves to be thus characterized, and cannot fail



of having, to a large extent, the intended effect on public opinion. If, during the first few days of the exhibition, there seem something for a hypercriticism to object to on this head, in the pre-eminence of those better wares which represent only the industry of the *hyndair*, the criticism has long since become inapplicable. From day to day the Bazaar has increasingly assumed its higher and more interesting character, as a display of the resources and capabilities of British industry. The useful and intellectual are daily in larger proportion to the merely ornamental. Some of the most interesting and beautiful processes of our national manufactures, with which, except in the districts to which they are indigenous, the public are little acquainted, are shown in actual operation. The *chefs d'œuvre* of manufacturing skill and ingenuity are exhibited in saloons decorated with devices suggestive of the folly and injustice of artificial legislative restrictions on the capital and labour whose combination has produced them. The most substantial implements and products of the rougher descriptions of industry; sacks of wheat of a quality, and grown at a cost, to mock protection; ploughs with Free-Trade mottoes, and all sorts of nameless novelties in the machinery of farm labour, bear silent but impressive attestation to the doctrine that "protection is the bane of agriculture." Of course, the higher meaning of all this is, in a great measure, lost on a large proportion of the multitudes that crowd to this spectacle as they would to any other that was sufficiently advertised. On most minds the impression produced is merely one of transient curiosity and wonder. Yet it is impossible that this extraordinary scene should not, to a considerable extent, and more or less rapidly, accomplish its designed effect on public opinion. Every thoughtful Englishman who visits the Bazaar must leave it with a somewhat heightened and enlarged idea of the industrial greatness of his country, of the wonderful wealth of resources, fertility of invention, and energy of perseverance that distinguish the people of this island. He will learn something that he did not know before, of the dignity and national importance of those branches of manufacturing industry which are most injuriously affected by the influence of fiscal restriction; and he will be less than ever disposed to credit assertions of the need of protection to agriculture itself. Without venturing to prophesy that this Bazaar will make even as many as a hundred useful and immediate converts to Free Trade, we are perfectly sure that it will put many thousands on the way to conversion. People may come out, as they go in, with the notion that the sliding scale is somehow the cause of the wealth and greatness of England; but they will be in a most excellent frame of mind for hearing argument to the contrary.

(From the "Art-Union" for June.)

Although it was the leading intention of the late exhibition at Covent-garden Theatre, which opened on the 12th and closed on the 27th of May, to obtain a large sum of money to advance the object of "the Anti-Corn-Law League, there can be no doubt that it has answered a purpose far more important and universal; for it has gone a long way to make the public acquainted with the capabilities of British commercial art, and to show that place of art which has immediate reference to trade. No circumstance has ever occurred in this country so directly tending to augment "the Mercantile Value of the Fine Arts." The occasion not only brought to London a large mass of wealthy and influential individuals, influential as in a great degree guiding the tastes of hundreds of thousands of persons, but it brought them into intimate connexion with those whose opinions ought to have weight with the producers of manufactured articles; while, therefore, on the one hand, there is largely increased information as to what is doing, and what may be done—in the Manufacturing Districts, on the other there is an advanced appreciation of excellence and added desire to adopt the safest and surest means of attaining it. We deplore, indeed, that the Government of this country, declining, or at least delaying, to do that which has been so nobly, so effectively, and so profitably done in France; but we are willing to accept so great a boon from any hands; and we are bound to consider that, be the motive what it may, this "Bazaar" will have given a great impetus to British Manufacture as deriving value from British Art.

It was utterly impossible for any visitor to move about the living mass which thronged the theatre without computing every now and then some proof that, after all, they do not "manage matters so much better in France." France, at its national "Exposition," fostered by the King, patronized by the nobility, and aided by the people, "pour le plaisir," furnished no "stalls," so unimpeachably excellent as some of those to which we refer. We must, for the present, be content to leave this assertion unsupported by proof; but the proof we shall have to supply next month.

It is our intention to publish with our next number an ample Report of the "Industrial Art" contained in this Exhibition; we design to issue it in the manner of those parts of the Art Union which we last year devoted to the Exposition in Paris, and which gave very general satisfaction; having proved indeed practically useful to several English manufacturers, by suggesting valuable hints for the improvement of their productions.

We shall largely illustrate this article, introducing into it wood engravings of all the principal objects which derive value from the influence they receive from fine Art; and, at the same time, we shall endeavour to render the report interesting, by engraving several of the "stalls" at which the more important of the manufactured productions were arranged and exhibited.

We shall thus, we trust and believe, be pursuing that plan which, of all others, is the best calculated to advance the interests of the Fine Arts, by showing how continually and how effectively they may be made to advance the Useful Arts, augmenting the value of manufactured articles sometimes a hundred fold.

We know that the manufacturers, generally, are now perfectly aware of the immensely beneficial they may derive from the artist. It shall be our duty to make this manifest more and more; to reiterate the important truth again and again, labouring unceasingly to obtain for Great Britain the advantages which have followed the alliance between the Fine Arts and the Useful Arts in every other country of Europe.

We have only to add that the descriptive matter will be written by the gentlemen to whom we are indebted for the articles published from time to time in our journal.

under the title of "The Mercantile Value of the Fine Arts," and the Report of the Exposition in Paris, which occupied two extra numbers of the Art Union last year. The Engravings will be drawn on the wood by Mr. J. A. Hammersley and Mr. William Stewart, Assistant Masters of the Government School of Design; engraved principally by Mr. J. Bastin.

#### FREE-TRADE PROMENADE.

(From the Times of Thursday.)

The glories of the Anti-Corn-Law League Bazaar have departed. Last night witnessed a final muster of its patrons, before the dispersion of its manifold attractions at the call of the more customary, if not more "legitimate," occupants of Covent-garden Theatre—the scene-painter, the musician, and the ballet-master. In a word, the Free-Traders held a sort of *soirée*, or "final promenade," as it was called on the tickets, in the arena which has during the last few weeks been the scene of their great display. The proceedings of the League Bazaar, which began with business, ended in festivity; and many hundreds—perhaps thousands—of persons assembled yesterday evening in the theatre, as a sort of final triumph of mutual congratulation on the success of this last gigantic scheme of the enemies of the Corn Laws. It should be said that this meeting differed from all the previous ones of the same promoters, in being—albeit such numbers were there—private. The public generally were not admitted on payment of money, but only the friends and the friends' friends of the Leaguers were allowed on this occasion to participate in their final glorification. Nominally, we believe, the *fête*, or promenade, was given in honour of the fair dances and dances who, since the opening of the Bazaar, have, for the sake of the good cause, stood the gaze of the miscellaneous public in the performance of their duties as saleswomen at the different stalls. With this object perhaps it was that the entertainments were of a somewhat more gay and trivial character than might suit the taste or harmonize with the prejudices of the prim-sectarians who form a large proportion of the constituency of the Anti-Corn-Law League. To the same fair influence we may attribute the engagement of the ubiquitous Jullien and his band, and the performance of profane music and all sorts of polkas and other shocking things of that kind. Nay, to the attractions of the fair objects of the *fête*, or perhaps of the *fête* itself, even the most prim and rigid of them all seemed to succumb. There were to be seen among the gay throng the sadly of all sects, even the most ungodly. Side by side with the Independent minister might be seen the Unitarian, and in a far corner was to be detected a Wesleyan looking on with astonishment at the profane vanities above and around him; but worse than all seemed to be those who in the tariff of sanctity stand at the highest rate of import duty when the gaieties of life are concerned—shocking to relate, there were to be seen a dozen or so of dashing young Quakers, in "cut-away" coats with diminished collars, white waistcoats, and unexceptionable kid gloves; and these were really the exponents of the assembly, meeting their reward in the smiles and sly gaiety of their proverbially pretty partners. Of such materials was this Free-Trade *fête* composed; even the age of iron felt abashed from the obligations of their sanctity by the superior virtue of the Anti-Corn-Law agitation—the broad shield of the League covered them all. And to say truth, in spite of some few incongruities, and some singular varieties of the social animal presented by the different groups, the affair went off extremely well. The body of the hall had been cleared of the different stalls, their place being supplied by Jullien's band, and also by a very pretty fountain, which diffused a pleasing coolness through the looser or stiffer end of the throng. A very few of the most remarkable objects which have been exhibited during the existence of the Bazaar were retained, but the greater part of the boxes were filled with company. The Chinese lanterns, however, still shed their light upon the Gothic hall. In addition to these sights, and to the sounds produced by Mr. Jullien and his party, there were the more substantial attractions of tea, coffee, ices, lemonade, and other more satisfying sundries, all provided at the expense of the promoters of the festivity. The chief occupation of the guests was in walking about, listening to the music, or gazing at the chiefs of the League, who were scattered among the gay crowd—the Dr. Boxings, the Thompsons, the Moores—not to omit Mr. Fox, Dr. Price, and some other well known gentlemen. All this occupied from about 7 until nearly 11, when some one more light-hearted than the rest proposed dancing. The proposition was received with very general acquiescence, and the fair portion of the guests were in a decided flutter. But, alas! there is a sliding scale, it seems, in society, though the Leaguers do not recognise it in corn. Some of the guests who had been induced to enter a theatre to them synonymous with the scene of sin and its penalties—because it bore the name of a Bazaar, had taken care to secure their own eternal welfare by leaving before the music began. Others, less rigid, had stopped to hear the music, and to see and wonder at Mr. Jullien's energetic fantasies, but felt their hearts sink within them at the bare idea of a dance. So there was some debate as to the proposed gaiety. Dr. Price was the spokesman of these anti-saltatory scruples, mounting the platform so lately occupied by the fiercely graceful Jullien and his band, and suggesting that there were many present who ought to be dancing, and would be obliged to leave. A sensible cry of "Let them leave, then," was unheeded, until Mr. Fox, like a true peace-maker, declared himself a friend to "free trade" in "hops," which joke immediately brought harmony in its train. Miss Scholla Novello, Mr. Novello, and some other vocalists, then volunteered songs, to the great delight of the party, and these were kept up till nearly midnight; after which, pursuant to a suggestion of Mr. Fox, those who were for a dance renewed their clamour, the conventional having left the theatre, and for aught we know they may be dancing to this hour. Altogether the promenade went off very well, and proved an appropriate *finale* to this great experiment of the Anti-Corn-Law League—an experiment which it is said, has attracted to the theatre nearly 10,000 persons daily since the opening of the Bazaar.

#### BAZAAR STEWARDS' DINNER.

On Thursday last the Stewards of the Bazaar, and other friends of Free Trade, dined together in the large and

elegant room of the Pier Hotel, Cheyne walk, Chelsea, to celebrate the recent successful exposition of British industry in Covent-garden Theatre. G. Thompson, Esq., presided. Mr. T. Falvey occupied the vice-chair. The dinner and wines were of the first description; and the whole arrangements were highly creditable to the proprietor of the establishment, Mr. G. Field, steward of the Free-Trade Club.

The CHAIRMAN (after the usual loyal toasts) proposed the health of the ladies and gentlemen who had assisted in the recent demonstration; and, in the course of an eloquent address, pointed out the important influence which the Bazaar would exercise upon the great cause in which they were all engaged.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Council of the League," and called upon Mr. Falvey to respond to the toast.

The VICE CHAIRMAN proposed the health of the Chairman, and took an able review of the career of that gentleman as the successive advocate of popular education, negro emancipation, Free Trade, and the rights of British India; and stated the determination of the Free-Traders of Southampton to avail themselves of his services in the Senate upon any future occasion.

The CHAIRMAN, in returning thanks, attributed his success to having resolved in early life never to advance any cause that was not based upon the eternal principles of truth and justice. Mr. Thompson then proposed the health of the Vice Chairman.

Mr. FALVEY returned thanks, and proposed the health of Mr. Jenkins.

Mr. JENKINS, in returning thanks, entered into an interesting description of the cheering prospects of the Free-Trade cause in Wales.

The VICE CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the Free-Trade Club."

Mr. EVANS (Secretary of the Free-Trade Club) returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN, at the request of several gentlemen present, entered into a statement of the advantages presented by the club to metropolitan and provincial Free-Traders.

"Mr. Cox and the Free-Traders of Sussex," "Mr. Lyons and the Free Traders of York," "The Commercial Value of the Fine Arts," and several other appropriate toasts having been drunk, the meeting separated.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL MIND.

(From the Paris *Charmant*.)

There is at this moment an Agricultural Congress sitting in the Luxembourg. M. Decazes is the president, because M. Decazes is an owner of ironworks.

It has been said that agriculture is a calm and tranquil profession, the friend of repose, not wishing to be talked of. There are many academicians who invent this, when speaking of people devoted to tillage—the *pragmatic agriculturists*.

It is high time to reduce this pastoral paradox to its true value.

I know nothing less calm, less tranquil, less the friend of repose, than a farmer. If the Government wish to charge me with the execution of a statue of Agriculture for the Luxembourg-gardens, I would request her with a head-dress of serpents, like Typhon of Egypt.

No poet has ever thought of saying "the peaceful farmer," the peaceful peasant, the peaceful husbandman, and yet what a difference between these and farmers!

Did you ever hear a locksmith complaining? See what phlegmity the peasant eats his morsel of cheese, and drinks his wine at noon! The blacksmith, on the other hand, ever set your foot into it—once without hearing his merry song amidst the crash of his hammer?

Those are what I call peaceful people.

The farmer, on the contrary, is a Vesuvius, an Etna, a Chimborazo, ever in eruption. He has always something or something to abuse: now it is the rain, now the seed, and now the sun. What one sells him to-day, he pays for dear for, and what he sells is always too cheap. I end by believing that beans and barley infect men with hydrophobia.

If a man becomes connected in any way with the earth, he grows instantly fierce and monomaniacal. The husband who lives up to the elbows in blood, has a puffy face and a smile full of goodness; the labourer is sensible, rose, taciturn, a man who never laughs.

If the farmer is capacious, discontented, and jealous, what shall we say of Agriculture herself? The history of the science, which Virgil celebrated in soft strains in the "Georgics," is nothing but a long string of faults and mistakes—we will not say crimes, if we did our peasant agriculturists would tilt at us with pitchforks.

Agriculture as represented by Agricultural Congresses, has always tried to hamper all advances in the world.

When tobacco appeared, an agricultural congress decided the plant was poison! Coffee was poison, potatoes were poison.

The congress now sitting has not had the face to do for us a new theory of poison.

As a general rule, then, Agriculture is always crumbling.

If the King of the French were to go and sow the corn of St. Denis every spring after the Chinese fashion, Agriculture would still find out that honour enough to attend to it.

This year Agriculture demands the erection of a Ministry for herself. She could not think of being regarded with half a Ministry. In its two last sittings the Government has decided on submitting the following propositions to the Government:

1. No third melodramatic theatre, for that would hurt Agriculture.

2. No treaty against Belgian pirated editions, for that would hamper Agriculture.

3. No completion of the Place de la Concorde, for that would retard the progress of Agriculture.

It is only against the fortifications, which have encroached such a large space from Agriculture, that M. Decazes and Durbly have nothing to protest. As matters stand, they seem to these gentlemen a sufficient recompense, they have demanded that crosses or bouquets and gold medals be awarded to prize even and larded calves.

We, in our turn, demand that a cross crown of gold be decreed to the two chiefs of the Agricultural Congress.

PROMISE NOT TOO MUCH.—Let me not promise too much, nor raise too high expectations of my undertakings. I had rather men should complain of my smallness than of my short performances.—*Blackie Hall.*



## THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURER.

(From a Correspondent of the Times.)

The following case conveys some insight into the mode in which agricultural labourers are "managed."—At the Belper petty sessions this week, Mr. J. Hickman, farmer, of Belper, appeared to his summons, to show cause why he refused to pay Mark Burgess, a labourer, 5s. 8d., claimed of him as wages due. Burgess said he was 27 years of age, and appeared to be an able-bodied labourer. For the last fortnight he had been working for defendant at 5s. per week wages, Sundays included, and had left a few days before. Defendant said he had engaged him at the above wages till hay time, and his having left before was the reason of his refusing to pay him. Burgess declared that he had not engaged himself for any particular time.

Mr. Hickman was ordered to pay the 5s. 8d. claimed, with magistrates' clerk's fees, 9s. 6d., which were paid.

It appeared that Burgess had been "a'lotted" at the beginning of last winter to Mr. Hickman, by the parish vestry, at three shillings per week wages, and that he had worked for him till a few weeks back. Three shillings per week was the price put on all single men at the said "a'lotment."

Mr. Matthews, one of the magistrates, thought such wages temptations to crime; it was not enough for a man to live on, and he was offered that or the poor house.

Mr. Style, the other magistrate present, expressed his disapprobation at such low wages being paid. He said, none people would do almost anything rather than go into a workhouse. He did not know why they should, but so it was.

Burgess—"I'd rather work at low wages than go into the house."

Hickman said he knew the wages were not enough, but it was the same as the rest paid.

Mr. Matthews—"There is no wonder at workhouses and evils being full; you drive people to crime—you hold out a temptation to it."

The Belper Association for the Protection of Property regularly keeps bloodhounds for the purpose of detecting sheep-stealers.

## THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES—FOOD AND RAIMENT.

(From the Economist of May 21)

In the speech which Lord John Russell addressed to Parliament at the close of last session, when he first indicated his intention to draw the attention of the House to the condition of the labouring classes, and which resulted in the resolutions which the noble lord will propose on Monday night, he said:—

"If we look to the labouring classes—if we look to the condition of the soil or labour in the factories—if we look to the quantity of necessities which their wages will buy in the middle of the last century, and that which they can buy now—I think we must be convinced that they have not participated, in an equal degree, in the advantages which civilization and improved knowledge have conferred upon us."

The deterioration of the physical condition of the labouring classes has been long a subject of observation and regret on the part of all reflecting and humane men.

There has been, however, for more than half a century, a very extraordinary feature in the progress of the deterioration, and which Lord John Russell appears to have alluded to when he especially referred "to the quantity of necessaries which their wages will now buy." It has, during the whole of that period, been observed, and never more strikingly than of late years, that, notwithstanding the constantly increasing difficulty which the labourer has experienced in procuring a sufficient quantity of food, the general character of his clothing has been steadily improving. As the necessities of life have become scarcer and dearer, and more difficult to obtain, all articles of dress have become more abundant, cheaper, and of easier acquisition than at any former time; until at length this country presents a labouring population the worst fed, but the best clothed, of any in the world. And this, too, at a time when there are many countries in the world which are in every respect the exact reverse—who have grossly neglected dress, and clothing in great deficiency.

Accompanying this relative change during the last century, while provisions and food have been becoming continually dearer, and while clothing has been growing steadily cheaper, it is not the least remarkable fact, that the employed in producing the dear class of commodities have been constantly poor, complaining, and distressed, while one manufacturer, who have been every day making their articles cheaper and reducing their prices, have grown wealthier beyond any precedent in this or any other country. While the farmer has made so little progress in his art, that even the increasing prices of his produce have not made him rich, the manufacturer has improved so rapidly that, first and great as the reduction of the price of his goods has been, the reduction of their cost, and the increase of their consumption, have been even greater.

In alluding to this subject some eighteen months since, we took occasion to illustrate it by a reference to the value of the value of the leading articles of agricultural produce, and the value of the leading articles of manufactured products, as exhibited by the difference between the official and the real or declared value of the goods entered at our Custom-house for exportation. As it may not exactly understand the difference between the two rates of value, it may be well to explain it. In 1694, the value at the time of every article was ascertained as nearly as possible, and an account of every article exported was taken at that period, calculated at that rate. In the century which followed, it was found that prices had so much risen, that the entries made by that rule, would not represent the actual value of our exports. To remedy this, merchants were compelled to declare the actual value of their goods at the time of shipment; and the two rates of value have been continued to the present time.

We have already understood that the official value, being a value calculated at the same rate, is a correct criterion of quantity, while the real value shows the changes of price in relation to quantity; and consequently the difference between the two rates of value at any time will show whether an article has risen or fallen in price, and by how much. For example: in 1842 the whole of our exports amounted to £115,488,012, according to the official rate of value; but the same by the "real or declared value" amounted only to £47,012,651; showing

that the goods that in 1694 were worth the former sum are now reduced to the latter sum, being a fall in price 58 per cent. While this affords us a criterion of the change of value of all our products, it also affords us an opportunity of comparing the relative changes of the value of particular articles.

For the purpose, then, of comparing the progress of the price of articles the produce of agriculture, and of the products of our manufacturing skill, we have constructed the following table from the official accounts of our exports in 1840, 1841, and 1842, showing:—

*The Official and Declared or Real Value of the Chief Articles of Agricultural Produce, and of Manufactures and Minerals, exported in the years 1840, 1841, and 1842—Showing the Change which has taken place in each, since the Official Value was fixed.*

Articles of Produce.	Official Value.	Real declared Value.
Wheat and Flour	150,000	200,000
Barley	100,000	150,000
Oats	50,000	75,000
Rye	20,000	30,000
Peas	10,000	15,000
Beans	10,000	15,000
Linseed	10,000	15,000
Turneps	10,000	15,000
Other	10,000	15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>
Percentage of real value on official value		133 per cent.
Articles of Manufacture and Minerals.	Official Value.	Real declared Value.
Cotton manufactures	100,000	150,000
Woolen manufactures	100,000	150,000
Iron manufactures	100,000	150,000
Other	100,000	150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>
Percentage of real value on official value		150 per cent.

We have thus taken out of the list of exports the leading articles of agricultural produce for three years, 1840, 1841, 1842, the value of which we find would have been, in 1694 (150 years ago), £1,577,993, but which have now increased to a value of £3,778,321, being an advance in price of 143 per cent.

We have also taken out some of the leading articles of manufactures for the same time, the value of which we find would have been, in 1694, £267,636,717, but which are now reduced to a value of £207,173,382, being a reduction in price of 60 per cent.; thus showing that, while manufactured goods and minerals have fallen considerably more than a half, agricultural produce has much more than doubled its value.

The following are the accurate results:—A quantity of agricultural produce which, in 1694, was worth £100, would, at the present price, be worth £243; while a quantity of manufactured goods which, in 1694, was worth £100, would now only be worth £60; so that a quantity of agricultural produce which, in 1694, would have exchanged for £100 value of manufactures, would, at the present relative value, command the same quantity that would, at that period, have sold for £160. Or a quantity of manufactures which, in 1694, could have exchanged for £100 value of agricultural produce, would, at the present relative value, command only the quantity which would then have been worth £160. 9s. 2d. These are the general results of the investigation. It may be curious and interesting to examine a few of the articles separately.

Butter and cheese have risen in price during that period 193 per cent.

Corn, flour, &c., have risen 161 per cent.

Cows have risen in price 209 per cent.

Horses have risen in price 267 per cent.

Wool has risen in price 169 per cent.

While cotton manufactures have fallen in price during that period 78 per cent.

Coals have fallen in price 60 per cent.

Iron and steel have fallen in price 45 per cent.

Linen manufactures have fallen in price 36 per cent.

And what is very curious, while wool has risen 169 per cent., woollen manufactures have fallen 10 per cent. in price.

It must be remarked that these calculations are in no way disturbed by any changes in the value of money during the interval, for whatever change in this respect has taken place refers as much to one class of articles as to the other. The comparison is equally true, whatever changes have taken place in the value of our currency.

Now, we have every reason to believe that, had the same progress in improvement been made in agricultural pursuits that we have seen in those of manufactures, a similar beneficial result would have been experienced, both as regards the producer and the consumer. There is no reason why skill, industry, ingenuity, and capital should not, at one and the same time, have given to man greater abundance of the fruits of the earth at a lower price, and with a larger profit to the producer, as the same combination of causes has done in the case of manufactures. And surely the attention of the Legislature could

not be occupied with a more important inquiry than that which would determine the true cause why these highly-protected interests in all that respects improvement and progress, form so strange a contrast to those pursuits which do not rely upon protection.

But the facts to which we have now referred are well calculated to induce a more interesting and important comparison. During the period that manufactured goods have been so rapidly reduced in price, and while agricultural produce has been nearly as rapidly rising in price, the rent of land has been rising even more rapidly. We had occasion, a short time since, to examine the title deeds of an estate in the neighbourhood of Leeds. In 1719, the annual rental was £310. 8s. 4d.; it is now £2050. The land is altogether used for ordinary agricultural purposes, and the present value of the estate is estimated at £150,000. The actual rental of the property has increased during that period about 600 per cent.; but the relative rental, that is, its power of purchase of manufactured goods, has increased much more. The original rent of £310. 8s. 4d. would now purchase, at the present prices, as much manufactured goods as would then have been worth £850, and the present rental of £2050 is, therefore, worth as great a quantity of manufactures as could have been purchased in the beginning of last century for the sum of £5100. So that, in fact, the relative increase of rent during that time, reckoned in its power of purchase of the products of manufacture, is as £310. 8s. 4d. then, to £5100 now. This is certainly an extreme case, but it serves to illustrate how much the progress of manufactures has added to the otherwise rapid increase of the income of the landowner; how much commerce and industry have done to render cheaper everything the landowner has to buy; how much legislative restriction, indolence, and ignorance, have rendered dearer everything he has to sell.

These are important facts for the consideration of Lord John Russell in the coming debate.

**THE POTTERIES: STATE OF TRADE.**—We hear, from all quarters, that the staple trade of this district—the manufacture of china and earthenware—is in a very prosperous and healthy state, the operatives in the numerous branches being in full employ at remunerative wages. With the revival of trade, the spirit of building has also revived; in all parts of the neighbourhood houses spring up, and, what is better still, there seems a demand for them the moment they are finished.—*Staffordshire Mercury.*

**IMPROVEMENT IN THE SUGAR TRADE.**—Since the alteration of the duty on sugar, our market has got a decided turn to the better; and its present prospects are such, as we expect, in a few weeks, to be able to report that the demand will be greater than the refiners can supply. On Wednesday last, the large sugar refinery occupied by Messrs. Cornall and Parker, in Roxburgh-street, with the range of dwelling houses to the west of the sugar house, were exposed by public roup, within the Twelfth hour, here, and, after a spirited competition between the present tenants and Mr. Archibald Kerr, writer, Glasgow, the great lot for the purchase of the whole was knocked down to Messrs. Robson and Co., tea merchants and general grocers Glasgow. We understand the new proprietors are shortly to take possession of the premises, for the purpose of manufacturing their own sugar for their various establishments in Scotland.—*Glasgow Advertiser.*

**THE GAMP LAWS.**—John Grantham, of Garscott, is imprisoned "during her Majesty's pleasure" in Bockingham borough goal, for not having paid a surcharge of £8 1s. 8d., made on him as double duty for having killed game without a certificate. He has already been in the goal three months. Some months since he was charged before the magistrate by one of the Duke of Buckingham's gamekeepers with having entered a hare in the hounds of Leamington, in the above borough. He was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of £5. 10s. After a fortnight's imprisonment the amount was paid, and the man liberated. A surcharge in double duty was then made on him for having killed game without a certificate, and a distress warrant issued for the amount, £8 1s. 8d. This money his goods would not realize, and he was in consequence committed till it was paid.

**SENSE AND NONSENSE.**—At a meeting of landowners and tenant-farmers recently held at Stafford, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament for protection to agriculture, the following conversation took place between a farmer and Lord Ingestre:—"He (Lord Ingestre) agreed with the sentiment of the resolution, that if rents were entirely abolished, he did not think they would materially benefit the tenant. A Farmer: Try it, my lord.—Viscount Ingestre: Perhaps you would wish the land-lords to be entirely without money; if so, what are we to do?—A Farmer: Same as we do, my lord, make shift." (Lord Ingestre). Of course, there was loud laughter. "Ha! ha! Who ever heard of a nobleman making shift? The man will be the death of us. Ha! ha! We cannot help laughing at such an absurd notion, even on paper. How would Mr. Hodges, or Jackson, or whatever the farmer's name is, have a nobleman make shift? Perhaps he would wish him to alter his family livery, put his servants into some common dress, and go without hair powder. To economise, like a person of limited means, in way lights, and even to study when and where he might burn composition instead. Actually to regard expense in giving a dinner party or a soirée. Positively to consider the price of furniture. Absolutely to stint his lady in jewellery. Possibly this humphrey would expect him to reduce his stud, or put down one or more of his carriages. Now, for plebeian society has no limits—we should not wonder if he were to think, as something not altogether out of the question, that a nobleman might give up his box at the Opera! What then would become of the splendour of our country—exhibited in Rotten row? What of music and the ballet—how could we execute a *festin* or a *pas de deux* in case of a reduction of their country salaries? Alas, states, indeed! As if our nobility were like distressed needlewomen. Let us contrast this rustic's senseless speech with the self-evident wisdom of Lord Ingestre's speech: "If rents were entirely abolished I do not think they would materially benefit the tenant." Of course not. What advantage would it be to the tenant to put the few trifling thousands which he pays his landlord into his own pocket?—*Punch.*



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### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, May 28, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

*Wheeler, Daniel, Bristol	£10 0 0
Middlemore, James, Twickenham	2 2 0
*Alenman, W. and J., Helston, Cornwall	2 0 0
*Farris, Joseph, Totnes	2 0 0
*Robertson, Larkie, and Co., Old Swan-wharf, Upper Thames-street	1 1 0
*Barker, J. T., St. Saviour's dock, Southwark	1 1 0
*Hendrie, Robt. Jas., Sybourn-corner, Leyton, Essex	1 1 0
Thos. and Samuel, British Needle-mills, Redditch	1 1 0
Phelps, Mrs., 12, Myddelton-square, per R. Bailey	1 1 0
*Adams, Butler, 11, Union-court, Old Broad-street A. Z.	1 0 0
*Pode, John, 19, Surrey-square, Old Kent-road	1 0 0
*Ellis, P., Batley, Dewsbury	1 0 0
*Birdseye, Michael, 17, Houndsditch	1 0 0
Prior, William, 48, Southgate-street, Gloucester	1 0 0
Winter, Joseph, Cowley, near Usbridge	1 0 0
Alexander, George, Lower Tooting	1 0 0
*Knight, J. K., Foley Pottery, Staffordshire	1 0 0
Clarke, Joseph, son, Southampton	0 10 6
Exe, Mr., 39, Goswell-street	0 5 0
Alexander, John, Rutland-place, Brompton	0 5 0
A Labourer at Oakenhaw, Lancashire	0 2 6
Howe, James, Newington, Edinburgh	1 0 0
Smith, John and Sons, Hopeview-mills, near Upper-mill, Saddleworth	1 0 0
Child, Tobias, Hathersage, near Bakewell	1 0 0
Morton, James, do., do.	1 0 0
A Friend	0 10 0
Buxton, George, Hathersage, near Bakewell	0 5 0

\* The names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions

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Wick, James, Son, and Co., Bradford, Yorkshire	10 0 0
Balance of Subscriptions from Coventry, per Mr. Whittow	7 10 0
Subscriptions at Gainsborough, collected by Joseph Partridge	2 1 6
Taws, Robert, Day spinner, Dundee	1 1 0
Pence, Richard, White Conduit-lane	1 0 0
The Workmen in Messrs. Thomas Shanks, and Co.'s machine shop, Johnston, N.B.	0 15 0
Perry, George, Union-street, Chatham	0 15 0
Leeson, John	5 5 0
Heggie, James, of Balbe	5 0 0
Lambale, David	5 0 0
Russell, Alexander, and Son	5 0 0
Swan, P. D.	3 3 0
Russell, W., and Co.	2 0 0
Jameson, James	1 0 0
Nairn, Michael	1 0 0
Malcolm, A. G.	1 0 0
Swan, William	1 0 0
Sharp, James	1 0 0
Stenhouse, David	0 10 0
Henderson, James	0 10 0
Leeson, John	0 10 0
Melhuish, George	0 10 0
Hatch, Joseph	0 10 0
Anderson, John	0 5 0
McHaven, George	0 2 6
Glass, Henry	0 2 6
Forbeson, John	0 2 6
Hickman, William	0 2 6
Cook, John	0 1 6
Crichton, William	0 1 6
Forster, H. S.	1 0 0
Bond, William	0 10 0
H. W.	0 10 0
Forster, Mr.	0 5 0
Chapman, W.	0 2 6
McGowan, Mr.	0 2 6
A Friend	0 2 6
C. D.	0 3 0
A Friend	0 1 0
Salford, J.	1 1 0
Owen, R.	1 0 0
Spencer, C.	1 0 0
Kelly, J.	1 0 0
A Friend	1 0 0
Nightingale, J.	1 0 0
Carroll, Mr.	0 10 0
McKee, Mr.	0 10 0
McKee, Mr.	0 10 0
A Friend, by do.	0 10 0
Henderson, Mr.	0 5 0
Hunter, Alexander	0 5 0
White, W.	0 5 0
West, J.	0 5 0
Chapman, Ebenezer	0 5 0
Chapman, R.	0 5 0
Sutherland, E. L.	0 5 0
Graham, D.	0 5 0
Martin, W. L.	0 5 0
Shaper, J.	0 5 0
Gunn, William	0 5 0
Flather, G.	0 5 0
J. R. M.	0 5 6
T. R.	0 5 6
Carter, Samuel	1 0 0
Setton, Richard	1 0 0
Vernon, James	1 0 0
Furnival and Co.	1 0 0
Seddon, Joshua	0 10 0
Huckley, John	0 5 0
Townkinson, William	0 5 0
Lees, Ralph	0 5 0
Hutton, W.	0 5 0
A Friend	0 5 0

Ratcliffe, Messrs., Lower House-mill	£10 0 0
Lees, Eli, Soho, Greenacres-moor	5 0 0
Lees and Mills, Waterhead-mill	5 0 0
Moss and Howard, do.	3 0 0
Braumont, William, Austerlands, near Waterhead-mill	3 0 0
Wild, William, Pastures, near do.	2 0 0
Wrigley, Jas., Southhead, near do.	2 0 0
Whitehead, Joseph, Pastures and Greenacres-moor	1 0 0
Haigh, John, Waterhead-mill	1 0 0
Lees, Joseph, do.	1 0 0
Beaumont, John, do.	1 0 0
Drumfield, John, do.	0 10 0
Robinson, William, do.	0 10 0
Galland, Robert, do.	0 10 0
Lees, Edmund, do.	0 10 0
Houghton, Jos., Austerlands, near do.	0 10 0
Lees, John, do.	0 5 0
Warburton, Jeremiah, do.	0 2 6
Halstead, George, do.	0 2 6
Thatcher, Robert, sen., do.	0 2 6
Redford, Thomas, Royton, near Oldham	0 5 0

ERRATUM.  
 In LEAGUE No. 87, the "CONTRIBUTIONS to the BAZAAR" from Stockton-on-Tees, ought to have appeared as follows:—  
 Small sums collected by Ladies' Committee £9 1 0  
 Expenses of printing, posting, packing cases, carriage, &c. 2 1 0

Emmett, Robert, Yarm .. 7 0 0  
 A Friend to Repeat through R. Emmett, Esq. 1 0 0  
 From Mr. Thos. Heavyside, Stockton-on-Tees 9 0 0

### BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

The following is a list of Contributions received during the Bazaar for the purchase of Beds for the distressed Labourers of Oxfordshire and Dorsetshire:—

Burton, M., Manchester	£5 0 0
Clegg, J., do.	5 0 0
Robinson, S. P., do.	2 0 0
Woodward, T., and others, Thomas-st., do.	1 10 0
Mayson, W. A., do.	1 0 0
Groober, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Sichel, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Garnett, J., do.	1 0 0
Fielding, J., do.	1 0 0
Stuntall, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Simpson, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Radcliffe, Mr., do.	1 0 0
Hallett, J. O., do.	1 0 0
Hughes, Mr., do.	0 15 0
Three Friends, do.	0 15 0
Ross, M., do.	0 10 0
Buckley, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Sutcliffe, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Ainsworth, Mr., do.	0 10 0
J. C., do.	0 10 0
McCall, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Bradley, J., do.	0 5 0
Simpson, J., do.	0 5 0
Shonwell, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Booth, M. P., do.	0 5 0
Adam, D., do.	0 5 0
Bell, J., do.	0 5 0
Price, E. S., miller, do.	0 5 0
Collins, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Percival, D., do.	0 5 0
Salisbury, H., do.	0 5 0
Lees, Messrs., Dukinfield, Ashton-under-Lyne	10 0 0
Reynier, Miss, do.	3 0 0
A Friend, do.	0 10 0
Street, Samuel, do.	0 5 0
Ainsworth, Mr., Wigan	2 10 0
Green, Mr., do.	2 0 0
Johnson, Mr., do.	1 10 0
Collinson, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Broomhead, Mr., do.	0 5 0
A. B., do.	0 5 0
Stuart, Mr., Liverpool	5 0 0
Dovefield, H., do.	0 10 0
Prendergast, Rev. Dr., do.	0 10 0
Merryweather, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Thompson, Mr., Crown Inn, Blandford	3 15 0
Thompson and Lock, do., do.	2 10 0
Luck, John, Staleybridge	2 0 0
Wakeman, G., Thame, Oxon	2 0 0
Warne, Mr., do.	0 10 0
Hird, John, do.	0 5 0
Raxworthy, James, do.	0 5 0
Webb, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Evans, Mr., do.	0 5 0
A., Oxford	0 5 0
Hawkes, C., Bury	1 10 0
Brown, Mr., Thetford, Norfolk	1 0 0
Wood, W., Bristol	1 0 0
Dixon, Mrs. Knella, Carlisle	1 0 0
Walter, Mr., Bean-wood	1 0 0
Punney, W., Somerton-house, Somerton	1 5 0
A., do.	1 5 0
West, E., Warrington	1 15 0
A Friend, do.	0 5 0
Novello, V., Mrs., do.	0 5 0
Flower, Mr., Butler's Comb, near Warminster	1 0 0
Crosby, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Holmes, Mr., Hebden-bridge	1 5 0
Painter, Mr., do.	0 5 0
Ford, Mrs., and Lawson, Miss, Moncombe-lodge, Lancaster	2 0 0
Douleday, M., Hamburgh	1 0 0
Rendall, James, Mexico	0 10 0
Pollard, William, Newcastle	0 10 0
Adams, John, do.	0 10 0
Liddell, D., do.	0 5 0
Hagg, Miss, do.	0 5 0
Hopwood, Rev. H., Worthing, Sussex	0 10 0
Hamer, Mr., Greenhithe	0 10 0
Merriman, Rev. N. J., near Glastonbury, Somerset	0 10 0
Beverage, E., Dunfermline	0 10 0
Cheesman, G., Peckham-rye	0 10 0
Free-Traders in the employ of Mr. Frake	0 10 0
Grey, C., Bedfordshire	0 5 0
Gray, W. T., do.	0 5 0
Brady, Miss, Sheffield	0 5 0
Pence, Miss, do.	0 5 0
Darling, J., Frestwich	0 5 0

Brown, H., Bradford	£0 5 0
Stewart, Mr., Kidderminster	0 5 0
Dugdale, John, Ivy-bank, near Burnley	0 5 0
Clarke, W. J., Beaufort-place West, Bath	0 5 0
Joyner, Mr., Essex, farmer	0 5 0
Emmett, Thomas, Oldham	1 0 0
Maude, William, do.	0 10 0
Taylor, Alexander, Greenacres-moor	0 5 0
Schofield, John	0 5 0
Ascroft, John	0 5 0
Gartside, Thomas, Union-mill	0 5 0
Rowe, John, Thomas-street	0 5 0
A Friend	0 5 0
A Friend	0 5 0
For one of Lord Ashley's poor tenants	0 5 0
Do., do.	0 5 0

Shaw, H., Blackheath	0 5 0
Flanders, Mr. and Mrs., Upper Woburn-place, Tavistock-square	3 0 0
Bennett, W., 47, Cannon-street	3 0 0
Watkins, Mr., Regent-street	1 0 0
Mordan, A., do.	1 0 0
Wright, J., 11, Aldermanbury	1 0 0
Davenport, Mrs., 28, Lower Brook-street	1 0 0
Guy, S., do.	0 10 0
Muddie, Mr., Hoxton	1 0 0
Hawkins, Mr., 16, King Edward-street, Westminster-road	0 10 0
Hoole, Miss, London	0 10 0
Patterson, J., do.	0 10 0
Watson, T. C., 56, Holborn-hill	0 5 0
Farmer, Mrs., 6, Walcot-place, Hackney	0 5 0
Female Attendants in the Refreshment-room, Covent-garden	0 5 0
Shaw, J., Water-lane	0 5 0
Phipps, H., Ball's-pond, Islington	0 5 0
Richmondite, A. M., Regent-street	0 5 0
Matcasmule, Mr., Bethnal-green	0 5 0
Pallett, R., Terrace, Tower	0 5 0
Murray, Mrs., Sloane-street, Piccadilly	0 5 0
Howard, Mrs., 2, Eccleston-square	0 5 0
Tiffin, Mr., London	0 5 0
Bateman H., do.	0 5 0
Rowney, G. E., 51, Rathbone-place	0 5 0
Day, W. (a labourer), and family	1 0 0

"2 Taylor's-court, Bow-lane, May 20, 1845.

"DEAR SIR,—You will please receive £1, the description of myself and family, for the purpose of warding four beds, &c., to our wretched brethren agricultural labourers. Many thanks to those philanthropic gentlemen that have afforded us the opportunity of doing good at so small a charge.

"Your very humble servant,  
 "Mr. Saul." "WILLIAM DAY, Labourer.

### To the EDITOR of the LEAGUE.

SIR,—To prevent all mistakes, I wish it to be distinctly understood that all the beds which will be given to the needy and deserving field-labourers in my neighbourhood will be forwarded to me by G. Simmons, Esq., 23, Upper Thames-street, London, and by no other person. I have just learned that there are persons in the neighbourhood who think that any person sending 5s. to the "League Fund" may have a bed, &c., sent to him. This is a mistake. The end which those benevolent gentlemen who have sent the beds have in view, and the end which those who have engaged to distribute them have in view, is to supply the most needy and deserving field-labourers in the neighbourhood of Bicester, Oxon, in Dorsetshire and other counties, with something better than either straw or chaff, on which to rest their hungry bodies at night. This is a great and good work, and it must be begun, carried on, and finished with prudence and great care. The following are the sums which have been sent to the editor of the *Patriot*, and to my friend Mr. Simmons, to enable me to purchase beds, &c., for the poor in my own neighbourhood.

Lake Howard, Esq.	£5 0 0
J. James, Esq.	1 0 0
C. S.	1 0 0
E. W.	1 0 0
Anonymous, Aylesbury	0 10 0
Mr. Edward Cook	0 10 0
Mrs. C. Shepherd	0 10 0
C. Shepherd, Esq.	0 5 0
D. Edwards, Esq.	0 5 0
John Broadfoot, Esq.	0 5 0

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
 W. FRASER.

THE CORN LAWS.—Tuesday, the 10th of June, 1845, day that is at present fixed by Mr. Villiers as the day which he will bring before the House of Commons an annual "motion on the Corn Laws," as it is briefly described in the official books. That motion was previously fixed for Tuesday the 3rd, but the hon. member, on the day, altered it to the day now stated. The same day, it is the occasion upon which Sir Valentine Black and others in the House has "motion respecting members." The latter motion, however, takes precedence of that of Mr. Villiers.

THE CORN LAWS.—The most specific suggestion in Lord John Russell's multifarious address on Monday night was on the Corn Laws. The only addition he made to the public stock of information on this subject, that he has descended from his 8s. fixed duty of 1844, 4s., or perhaps 5s., or perhaps 6s. It is difficult to comprehend why his original proposition should be so much corrected for so doubtful a result. As his lordship is rather winning adherents than choosing a course, he may prefer to content himself with the least possible show of change. Let him, however, save himself the trouble of an exact decision of a point which evidently costs so much labour. Peel will underbid him. "The day will come," he inevitable day, "when Peel will make a clean breast of the Corn Laws, offering up what the Irish Catholics call "an unqualified and uncontaminated gift" to the Free Traders. He will not do things by halves. Cannot Lord J. Russell see this in time? Henceforth it is his duty to be behindhand in the market. While he is haggling for the odd shillings, and thinking to allure the purchaser by the doubtful tone of his denials, a more desperate and determined salesman interposes, and throws him out of the market.—Times.

## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXXII.

TO THE LADIES WHO ATTENDED THE STALLS  
IN THE FREE-TRADE BAZAAR.

Good, true, and brave, in their gentleness and delicacy, are the women of England. Historians have chronicled their virtues, poets sung their loveliness, and every form of suffering has borne witness to their charity. In the annals of literature and art they have won an honourable place; and the hourly enjoyments of the household are their unrecorded but blessed creation. Whatever fascination may be conceded to the beauty of other climes and races, it is something better than the mere partiality of patriotism which says of them, "Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

The duty and beneficence of woman, like that of man, must adapt itself to times and circumstances. The work of the day is to be done, and the wants of mankind indicate the service to be rendered to mankind. We are continually invited to new regions of useful endeavour. The assistance already rendered by the women of England to the Anti-Corn-Law League, in various ways and on various occasions, demonstrates their perception of the cruel injustice and demoralizing tendency of monopoly. They feel that where privation is to be mitigated, or despair and guilt prevented, there it is woman's mission to interpose. Hence, her presence at the meetings of the League, her contributions to its funds, her canvassing for the material of its Bazaars, and her personal services, formerly at Manchester, and now in this metropolis, to complete the success of these experiments, and enhance their importance, not only in the augmentation of funds, but in relation to those higher objects of public economy, knowledge, morals, and progress, which identify themselves with the end for which the League is constituted.

Your seventeen days at Covent-garden Theatre will long be remembered. But it is not enough gratefully to acknowledge their importance, to recognise the service rendered by all of you during portions of that time, and the energy of those who returned each morning to the arduous task. There is a wider and deeper feeling which also requires expression. You have opened and led the way in a new path of female beneficence. You have combined in a public agitation for the redress of wrongs, without any compromise of gentleness or grace. You have mingled in business and bustle, refining them by your interposition. In sales and bargains you have been "sisters of charity." In

the shape of shopkeeping women, you have shown the spirit of angels of mercy. You have stooped to conquer; and, in doing the work of an inferior station in society, have risen, and raised your sex, to a moral height above all station. No other agency could have achieved what you have done for human welfare. In this same cause some "poor old hand and ocean without rest;" but "they also serve who only stand and wait," and they enhance the sanctity of more extensive service. You impart a purer and nobler character to the efforts of others, be they orators, writers, or statesmen. Your active sympathy is a halo of sacredness around their toils. The thousands who thronged the theatre felt, perhaps, unconsciously, a new sentiment of respect in your presence. They had a vague sense that your humble occupations, and the principles which placed you there, were a development of power and beauty; and the heart bowed before you. This will not pass away with the closing of the Bazaar. A new and better element henceforth blends in reformatory struggles. The influence of woman has a new, a purer, and a loftier enthronement. You have made the stalls of a Bazaar not less holy than the stalls of cathedrals.

It is for this you deserve the blessings of humanity. You have come to its aid daringly; but with that boldness which purest feelings and purposes inspire; and which, therefore, cannot err, even in demerit. The ribaldry which oppression has often lured for its ruffian work stood rebuked before you. Amongst yourselves, and those who gathered round you, were many who, politically, religiously, or socially, are parted by stern barriers. For the time, at least, those barriers were annihilated. Every heart beat kindly, for all breathed the same moral atmosphere. It was the gleam of a renovated age, such as poets tell of in the past, and Utopians in futurity. O, you have done a good work; but one that, while its memory will brighten your future lives, develops a power that extends over them great and solemn responsibilities.

Little of statesmanship or philosophy can there be in the man who should regard the Free-Trade Bazaar as an idle show or merely a money-getting contrivance. It has a profounder significance. Ladies zealously serving at stalls, amid Gothic adornments of scenic art,—those stalls richly furnished by spontaneous contributions in every department of industrial ingenuity,—tell of the commercial spirit having succeeded to the heritage of feudal splendour; of its having allied itself with munificence, taste, and intellect; and how the

"Store of ladies, whose bright eyes  
Rained influence and adjudged the prize,"

at knightly tournaments, while the millions pined in unpitied vassalage, are now the herald geni of Providence, pointing to a coming period of impartial justice, and therefore of universal good and prosperity. The funeral eulogists of the age of chivalry saw plainly that a commercial age must follow; but they deprecated its coarseness, sordidness, and rapacity. Vain apprehensions! There might have been something in them, had not commerce been forced into a hard struggle for its rights. Cast into the furnace, it found there the fires of purification. Its turn has come to win and wear "the spoils of vanquished Time." Such changes are never retrogressive. In each, the real good of the past is retained and enhanced. Each change is a struggle between departing and coming principles; a struggle to qualify the new power in the ascendant, for promoting the progress of mankind, and confirming the next step in the march of civilization. People talked of "magic" in the transformations which the theatre itself underwent: it was the magic that promises a new and nobler form to society, by the invocation—

"Spirits of beauty, spirits of power,  
Up to your duty, now is the hour."

Many a one of you, maid or matron, has doubtless gone, simply and cheerfully, to her unwonted task, day after day; smiling in fatigue, carefully setting forth her wares, sharing the excitement of the scene, counting proceeds which were her addition to the common treasury, and with only an indistinct feeling that there was something in all this, besides the eventual good to labouring millions, much beyond the fancy fairs of superficial charity. It is the looker-on who sees what is doing; and to him the scene is full of suggestiveness. But that indistinct feeling will grow into clear thought, as it has with others of you; and those passing days will indicate their relation with years, generations, centuries of the past and future. In that contemplation you will perceive the importance of your own work. You will see, also, that its fitting acknowledgment is not in light phrases of meaningless praise, not in the commonplace flatteries of gallantry, but in serious and earnest words, and "thoughts that wander through eternity."

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the League.

Glasgow, May 26.

SIR,—Permit me, through the medium of the LEAGUE, to give your readers a sample of the destructive working of Sir R. Peel's partial Free-Trade principles. The case is so glaring that it needs only to be mentioned that its absurdity may be seen.

For instance, it is pretty generally known that we have a most useful establishment in Scotland, whose jurisdiction extends to England, called the Board of Fishery, the duty of whose officers it is to see that all casks or barrels, in which herrings are cured, are of the proper size, and that they are not made of fir. In fact, the law is, that herrings cured in fir barrels are liable to be seized. This is a very great hardship to our trade,—one that which nothing can better illustrate the necessity there is for abolishing all laws which press with severity on the trade or commerce of the country, but especially those which favour foreigners at the expense of British subjects.

It is well known that several cargoes of herrings, made up in fir barrels, have this year been imported into Ireland from Norway; while no fish curer in England or Scotland can cure herrings in barrels of this description without having his property liable to confiscation.

We have quite enough to do to compete with the Norwegians, without our Government giving them a premium of this kind. I hope Mr. Cobden, or some other influential M.P., will take up this matter, and help to rid us of the mischievous law referred to, as well as of the establishment whose duty it is to put it in force. I am sure Mr. Hunt, who has on former occasions been of such signal service to the copper trade, will lend a hand.

You may hear from me soon again on this subject. Meantime, I am, respectfully, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A NORLAND COOPER BOY.

## PROSPECTS OF THE FARMERS.

(From the Brighton Herald.)

Though long convinced of the impolicy and injustice of Corn Laws, it has never been our wish to deride or condemn in severe terms the farmer. We do not regard the Corn Laws as a farmer's question, but one between the governing portion of the landed aristocracy and the consumers—the public.

If all things were equal, it would not matter a jot to the farmer whether prices were high or low; but as rates, tithes, and taxes, and, above all, to him, *rents* are high, he thinks the Legislature bound to do that which it has no power to do—produce him high prices for his produce.

The Legislature, believing in its "omnipotence" (the word is not ours), passed Corn Laws with the view to produce high prices, and every one of those laws has in practice proved a total failure. No law can procure high prices for farmers with a contracted and contracting currency; as the present prices prove, and will prove far more clearly in less than two years.

If, therefore, the farmers are, as they state and we believe, in a state of great distress—if that distress this year has been very much increased, and we fear will be further, we are less disposed than ever to deride them, or say one word more towards them than the truth, as it appears to us, requires.

We have recently been across a good deal of this county, not by railroad or coach, but in the rural districts and among the farmers and country people; and we learn from their own lips—

1st. That the tithes are felt most oppressively, because, in computing them, the average price of corn being taken for the last seven years, the farmers are now paying as much as when corn fetched considerably more than its present price.

2nd. That the poor-rates are again on the increase.

3rd. That the rural police is expensive and useless.

4th. That they suffer more than ever from the increase of game, and are deprived of the privilege of taking any, which they used to enjoy.

5th. That the timber in the hedgerows injures the crops, now of greater consideration than formerly, because, by the Tithe Commutation Act, the tithe is assessed over the hedges and waste to the centre of the common turnpike-road.

6th. That the drought of last year put them, during the winter and the present spring, to great expenses for fodder, and during a long period for water; that to cover the expense of keeping stock they sold much of it off, and the land in consequence will be thrown back for a year or two to come.

7th. That sheep and lambs, but more especially sheep, have died off in great and unusual numbers. This, according to some, has been owing to casual disease; but others attribute it to the state of the grass, and previous condition of the sheep. They had been ill kept, frequently on hay and dry food, till the rains came; and when these came and the grass grew, it was sour and rank for the want of sun. Mutton in consequence is excessively dear, and veal comparatively cheap, on account of the number of calves hurried to market.

8th. This year a new disease has appeared among the cattle. One large farmer, a short distance from Brighton, has lost all his cows except five; another has just lost four, and expects to lose more, out of a much smaller number which he kept compared with the above large farmer.

9th. The wheats are looking bad over immense tracts of the country, and from this state they can scarcely recover. In the first place, they suffer from the unusual frosts—any one may see from the rail or common road scores of fields in which the seed "missed"—that is, it never germinated. But a more serious evil is the wire-worm, which is sure to make its appearance in cold springs like the present. In warm springs, the worm gets down far below the roots of the wheat; in cold weather, it comes to the surface and attacks the plant; and when the wire-worm gets among the wheat it is impossible to destroy it, and it will sometimes entirely destroy the crop. The usual way of endeavouring to get rid of this scourge is to roll the land with heavy rollers made for the purpose; but rolling this year has been found to be utterly useless.

10th. With the loss of cattle and sheep (and consequently manure) and the ravages of the wire-worm, the farmer asks what, with bad and short crops and low prices, is to become of him?

He knows there will be no remission of rent; no remission of taxes, rates, tithes; and wages cannot be reduced lower than they are. The prospects before him are, therefore, certainly most gloomy.

If the crop should be short, as it must be, and prices were to be raised a very little, it would pour the foreign wheat. The farmer would then be driven back upon low prices, and must sell his corn for whatever it will fetch, be the quantity as small as it may. "What," said a large farmer to us the other day, "is to become of us, then, God only knows."

Knowing that there are thousands and tens of thousands of farmers in this position, most of them with families dependent upon them, we should not envy that man his feelings who could think their condition one for mirth or derision.

But from what source are they to look for relief? Who can assist them?

It is too absurd to talk about legislative enactments—Corn Laws—they have them now, and what relief do they give to the farmer?

"Yes," they may say, "but Parliament can prevent foreign corn from coming in, by raising the duty in case our crops fail." Foolish men! Do you suppose for an instant that Parliament, besieged as it is by the Free-Tradeers, can make another law to raise the price of food? Besides, if the home crops fail, are the millions to be half starved that you may get a high price for the little and bad corn you may grow? If good corn and at a moderate price is to be obtained from abroad, do you suppose that the people will not demand it, and that, if refused, a state of things may arise to which we have no wish to allude? A Government exists as well for the corn consumer as for the corn-grower; and if the home grower cannot supply the consuming millions at a moderate price, others must and will. Indeed, it is in vain to look to the Legislature for relief. It cannot, however disposed, give it you.

Your rent is a matter between you and your landlords, and if you pay, or agree to pay, more than you can afford more than the land is worth—it is the result of a private agreement, with which no one can interfere.

Gentlemen, we desire to avoid saying any thing offensive; but we cannot but remind you that most the majority of you have been drinking Church and State all your lives, and never more vehemently than at the last election. Your stunning rejoinders, because you got in Peel and the Tories, yet ring in our ears. And, therefore, if the tithes are found oppressive, it is no fault of the Liberals, nor on this point can you be relieved unless you also are now disposed to rebel against poor old Mother Church, who has work enough on her hands without a war against tithes.

The extreme poverty of the humbler classes has made a rural police necessary. No relief can, therefore, be expected from either of these burdens, the poor-rates and county-rates; and thus, whilst it would seem that there is no source from which or by which you can be relieved, we must again remind you that you *Are* Corn Laws, and Mr. Russell Gray says that 20s. a quarter is ample protection; but no protection can secure you against bad and short crops. Nor can consumers be compelled to give high prices if corn on moderate terms can be obtained from abroad.

We lament that the farmers of "morrie England" should be in such a state as they are; but they will soon see, with the majority of the public, that all is the consequence of misrule and oligarchic government, from which we say, "Good Lord deliver us."



## REVIEW.

*Sybil; or, the Two Nations.* By B. Disraeli, Esq., M.P. London: Colburn. (Second notice.)

In our first notice of "Sybil" we principally dwelt on Mr. Disraeli's powers as a moral anatomist in developing the character of statesmen. We shall in our present number confine ourselves to extracting illustrations of Mr. Disraeli's graphic powers as a describer of peculiar localities and peculiar populations. Our reason for reserving all criticism until we can give our final notice is the same as that which induces a judge to withhold his charge until the whole case is before the jury. We give the evidence before we make our comment: and the first witness we adduce is the town of Wodgate, which those who are acquainted with Mr. Horne's report will be at no loss to identify:—

"Wodgate, or Wogate, as it was called on the map, was a district that in old days had been consecrated to Woden, and which appeared destined through successive ages to retain its heathen character. At the beginning of the revolutionary war, Wodgate was a sort of squatted district of the great mining region to which it was contiguous, a place where adventurers in the industry which was rapidly developing, settled themselves; for though the great veins of coal and ironstone cropped up, as they phrase it, before they reached this bare and barren land, and it was thus deficient in those mineral and metallic treasures which had enriched its neighbourhood, Wodgate had advantages of its own, and of a kind which touch the fancy of the lawless. It was land without an owner; no one claimed any manorial right over it; they could build cottages without paying rent. It was a district recognised by no parish; so there were no tithes, and no meddling supervision. It abounded in fuel, which cost nothing, for though the veins were not worth working as a source of mining profit, the soil of Wodgate was similar in its superficial character to that of the country around. So a population gathered, and rapidly increased, in the ugliest spot in England, to which neither Nature nor art had contributed a single charm; where a tree could not be seen, a flower was unknown, where there was neither holly nor steeples, nor a single sight or sound that could soften the heart or humanize the mind.

"Whatever may have been the cause, whether, as not unlikely, the original squatters brought with them some traditional skill, or whether their isolated and unchequered existence concentrated their energies on their craft, the fact is certain, that the inhabitants of Wodgate early acquired a celebrity as skilful workmen. Their reputation so much increased, and in time spread so far, that for more than a quarter of a century, both in their skill and the economy of their labour, they have been unmatched throughout the country. As manufacturers of ironmongery, they carry the palm from the whole district; as founders of brasses and workers of steel, they fear none; while as makers and looksmiths, their fame has spread even to the European markets, whither their most skilful workmen have frequently been invited.

"Invited in vain! No wages can tempt the Wodgate man from his native home, that squatters' seat which soon assumed the form of a large village, and then in turn soon expanded into a town, and at the present moment numbers its population by extending thousands, lodged in the most miserable tenements in the most hideous hugh in the ugliest country in the world.

"But it has its endearing spot. Notwithstanding the spread of its civil prosperity, it has lost none of the characteristics of its original society; on the contrary, it has jealously preserved them. There are no landlords, no lords, no masters, no butlers in Wodgate. No church there has yet raised its steeple; and as if the pale spirit of Woden still haunted his ancient temple, even the conventional scarcely dares show a humble front in some obscure corner. There is no municipality, no magistrate, no local acts, no vestries, no schools of any kind. The streets are never cleaned; every man lights his own house; nor does any one know anything except his business.

"More than this, at Wodgate a factory or large establishment of any kind is unknown. Here Labour reigns supreme. Its division indeed is favoured by their numbers, but the interference or influence of more capital is instantly resisted. The business of Wodgate is carried on by master workmen in their own houses, each of whom possesses an unlimited number of what they call apprentices, by whom their affairs are principally conducted, and whom they treat as the Mandrills treated the Egyptians.

"These master workmen indeed form a powerful aristocracy, nor is it possible to conceive one apparently more oppressive. They are ruthless tyrants; they habitually inflict upon their subjects punishments more grievous than the slave population of our colonies were ever visited with; not content with beating them with sticks or flooring them with knotted ropes, they are in the habit of felling them with hammers, or cutting their heads open with a file or lock. The most usual punishment, however, or rather stimulus to increase exertion, is to pull an apprentice's ears till they run with blood. These youths too are worked for sixteen and even twenty hours a day; they are often sold by one master to another; they are fed on excrement, and they sleep in latrines or cellars; yet when it is that they are hardened by brutality, and really wear a look of their degradation and unusual sufferings, or when they are supported by the belief that their day is to be a day of oppression will surely arrive, the day of Wodgate is by no means so unpopular as the aristocracy of most other places.

"In the first place it is a real aristocracy; it is privileged, but it does something for its privileges. It is distinguished from the main body not merely by name. It is the most knowing class at Wodgate; it possesses indeed its own complete knowledge; and it imparts in its manner a certain quantity of it to those whom it guides. Thus it is an aristocracy that leads, and therefore a fact. Moreover the social system of Wodgate is not an unvarying course of infinite toil. Their plan is to work hard, but not always. They seldom exceed four days of labour in the week. On Sunday the masters begin to drink; for the apprentices there is dog-fighting without any stint. On Monday and Tuesday the whole population of Wodgate is drunk; of all stations, ages, and sexes; even

babes, who should be at the breast; for they are drugged with Godfrey's cordial. Here is relaxation, excitement; if less vice otherwise than might be at first anticipated, we must remember that excesses are checked by poverty of blood and constant exhaustion. Scanty food and hard labour are in their way, if not exactly moralists, a tolerably good police.

"There are no others at Wodgate to preach or to control. It is not that the people are immoral, for immorality implies some forethought; or ignorant, for ignorance is relative; but they are animals; unconscious; their minds a blank; and their worst actions only the impulse of a gross or savage instinct. There are many in this town who are ignorant of their very names; very few who can spell them. It is rare that you meet with a young person who knows his own age; rarer to find the boy who has seen a hawk, or the girl who has seen a flower. Ask them the name of their sovereign, and they will give you an unmeaning stare; ask them the name of their religion, and they will laugh; who rules them on earth, or who can save them in heaven are alike mysteries to them."

Let us turn from this dismal scene to a lovely landscape:—

"A bloom was spread over the morning sky. A soft golden light bathed with its fresh beam the bosom of the valley, except where a delicate haze, rather than a mist, still partially lingered over the river, which yet occasionally gleamed and sparkled in the sunshine. A sort of shadowy lustre suffused the landscape, which, though distinct, was mitigated in all its features—the distant woods, the clumps of tall trees that rose about the old grey bridge, the cottage chimneys that sent their smoke into the blue till air, and their clustering orchards and gardens of flowers and herbs.

"Ah! what is there so fresh and joyous as a summer morn! That spring time of the day, when the brain is bright, and the heart is brave; the season of daring and of hope; the renovating hour!"

The happy factory we know to be no fiction: it is realized at Hyde, Turton, Quarrybank, and many other places which we have personally examined. Let us view it in Mr. Disraeli's picture:—

"A few days after his morning walk with Sybil, it was agreed that Egremont should visit Mr. Trafford's factory, which he had expressed a great desire to inspect. Gerard always left his cottage at break of dawn, and as Sybil had not yet paid her accustomed visit to her friend and patron, who was the employer of her father, it was arranged that Egremont should accompany her at a later and more convenient hour in the morning, and then that they should all return together.

"The factory was about a mile distant from their cottage, which belonged indeed to Mr. Trafford, and had been built by him. He was the younger son of a family that had for centuries been planted in the land, but who, not satisfied with the factitious consideration with which society compensates the junior members of a territorial house for their entailed poverty, had availed himself of some opportunities that offered themselves, and had devoted his energies to those new sources of wealth that were unknown to his ancestors. His operations at first had been extremely limited, like his fortune, but with a small capital, though his profits were not considerable, he at least gained experience. With gentle blood in his veins, and old English feelings, he imbibed, at an early period of his career, a correct conception of the relations which should subsist between the employer and the employed. He felt that between them there should be other ties than the payment and the receipt of wages.

"A distant and childless relative, who made him a visit, pleased with his energy and enterprise, and touched by the development of his social views, lent him a considerable sum, at a moment too when a great opening was offered to manufacturing capital and skill. Trafford, schooled in rigid fortunes, and formed by struggle, if not by adversity, was ripe for the occasion, and equal to it. He became very opulent, and he lost no time in carrying into life and being the plans which he had brooded over in the years when his good thoughts were limited to dreams. On the banks of his native Mow he had built a factory which was now one of the marvels of the district; one might almost say, of the country: a single room, spreading over nearly two acres, and holding two thousand work-people. The roof of ground arches, lighted up by ventilating domes at the height of eighteen feet, was supported by hollow cast-iron columns, through which the drainage of the roof was effected. The height of the ordinary rooms in which the workpeople in manufactures are engaged is not more than from nine to eleven feet; and these are built in stories, the heat and effluvia of the lower rooms communicated to those above, and the difficulty of ventilation insurmountable. At Mr. Trafford's, by an ingenious process not unlike that which is practised in the House of Commons, the ventilation was also carried on from below, so that the whole building was kept at a steady temperature, and little susceptible to atmospheric influence. The physical advantages of thus carrying on the whole work in one chamber are great; in the improved health of the people, the security against dangerous accidents for women and youth, and the reduced fatigue resulting from not having to ascend and descend and carry materials to the higher rooms. But the moral advantages resulting from superior inspection and general observation are not less important; the child works under the eye of the parent, the parent under that of the superior workman; the inspector or employer at a distance can behold all.

"When the workpeople of Mr. Trafford left his factory they were not forgotten. Deeply had he pondered on the influence of the employer on the health and content of his workpeople. He knew well that the domestic virtues are dependent on the existence of a home, and one of his first efforts had been to build a village where every family might be well lodged. Though he was the principal proprietor, and proud of that character, he nevertheless encouraged his workmen to purchase the fee: there were some who had saved sufficient money to effect this; proud of their house and their little garden, and of the horticultural society, where its produce permitted them to be annual competitors. In every street there was a well; behind the factory were the public baths; the schools were under the direction of the perpetual curate of the church, which Mr. Trafford, though a Roman Catholic, had raised and endowed. In the midst of this village, surrounded by beautiful gardens which gave an impulse to the horticulture of the community, was the

house of Trafford himself, who comprehended his position too well to withdraw himself with vulgar exclusiveness from his real dependents, but recognised the historical principle reviving in a new form and adapted to the softer manners and more ingenious circumstances of the times.

"And what was the influence of such an employer and such a system of employment on the morals and manners of the employed? Great; infinitely beneficial. The connection of a labourer with his place of work, whether agricultural or manufacturing, is itself a vast advantage. Proximity to the employer brings cleanliness and order, because it brings observation and encouragement. In the settlement of Trafford crime was positively unknown; and offences were very slight. There was not a single person in the village of a reprobate character. The women were well clothed; the women had a blooming cheek; drunkness was unknown; while the moral condition of the softer sex was proportionately elevated."

A Chartist meeting by torch-light is drawn to the life:—

"It was night: clear and serene, though the moon had not risen; and a vast concourse of persons were assembling on Mowbray-moor. The chief gathering collected in the vicinity of some huge rocks, one of which, pre-eminent above its fellows, and having a broad flat head, on which some twenty persons might easily stand at the same time, was called the Druid's Altar. The ground about was strewn with stony fragments, covered to-night with human beings, who found a convenient resting-place amid these ruins of some ancient temple or relic of some ancient world. The shadowy concourse increased, the dim circle of the nocturnal assemblage each moment spread and widened: there was the hum and stir of many thousands. Suddenly in the distance the sound of martial music; and instantly, quick as the lightning and far more wild, each person present brandished a flaming torch, and a chorus of cheers, that renewed and resounding floated far away over the broad bosom of the dark wilderness.

"The music and the banners denoted the arrival of the leaders of the people. They mounted the craggy ascent that led to the summit of the Druid's Altar, and there, surrounded by his companions, amid the enthusiastic shouts of the multitude, Walter Gerard came forth to address a torch-light meeting.

"His tall form seemed colossal in the uncertain and flickering light, his rich and powerful voice reached almost to the utmost limit of his vast audience, now still with expectation, and silent with excitement. Their fixed and eager glance, the mouth compressed with fierce resolution or distended with novel sympathy, as they listened to the exposition of their wrongs, and the vindication of the sacred rights of labour—the shouts and waving of the torches as some bright or bold phrase touched them to the quick—the cause, the hour, the scene—all combined to render the assemblage in a high degree exciting."

We shall conclude for this week by extracting a description of the mystic and mischievous mummery of a trades union:—

"Conducted by masked guides, it seemed to Mick that he was traversing interminable rooms, or rather galleries, for once stretching out the arm, while one of his supporters had momentarily quitted him to open some gate or door, Mick touched a wall. At length one of the masks spoke, and said, 'In five minutes you will be in the presence of the SEVEN—prepare!'

"At this moment rose the sound of distant voices singing in concert, and gradually increasing in volume as Mick and the masks advanced. One of these attendants now notifying to their charge that he must kneel down, Mick found he rested on a cushion, while at the same time, his arms still pinioned, he seemed to be left alone. The voices became louder and louder; Mick could distinguish the words and burden of the hymn; he was sensible that many persons were entering the apartment; he could distinguish the measured tread of some solemn procession. Round the chamber, more than once, they moved with slow and awful step. Suddenly that movement ceased; there was a pause of a few minutes; at length a voice spoke. 'I denounce John Briars.'

"Why?' said another. 'He offers to take nothing but piece-work; the man who does piece-work is guilty of less defensible conduct than a drunkard. The worst passions of our nature are enlisted in support of piece-work. Avarice, meanness, cunning, hypocrisy, all excite and feed upon the miserable rotatory who works by the task and not by the hour. A man who earns by piece-work forty shillings per week, the usual wages for day-work being twenty, robs his fellow of a week's employment; therefore I denounce John Briars.'

"Let it go forth,' said the other voice; 'John Briars is denounced. If he receive another week's wages by the piece, he shall not have the option of working the week after for time. No. 87, are to John Briars.'

"I denounce Claughton and Hicks,' said another voice.

"Why?' 'They have removed Gregory Ray from being a superintendent, because he belonged to this lodge. Brethren, is it your pleasure that there shall be a turn out for ten days at Claughton and Hicks?'

"It is our pleasure,' cried several voices. 'No. 34, give orders to-morrow that the works at Claughton and Hicks's stop till further orders.'

"Brethren,' said another voice, 'I propose the expulsion from this Union, of any member who shall be known to boast of his superior ability, as to either the quantity or quality of work he can do, either in public or private company. Is it your pleasure?'

"It is our pleasure."

"Brethren,' said a voice that seemed a presiding one, 'before we proceed to the receipt of the revenue from the different districts of this lodge, there is, I am informed, a stranger present, who prays to be admitted into our fraternity. Are all robed in the mystic robe? Are all masked in the secret mask?'

"All!" "Then let us pray!" And thereupon, after a moment which intimated that all present were kneeling, the presiding voice offered up an extemporaneous prayer of great power and even eloquence. This was succeeded by the Hymn of Labour, and at its conclusion the song of the neophytes were unlearned, and they by the way were bandaged.

## AGRICULTURE.

WHY SHOULD OUR FARM-LABOURERS  
EMIGRATE?

In his late speech on the condition of the English labourers, Lord John Russell said "that in East Canada the wages of a farm-labourer are 2s. 6d. a day, and in West Canada 3s. a day," and he enlarged upon the "improved position of the labourer" who, by emigrating to Canada, secured that rate of wages. True it is that there are very few districts of this country in which farm-labourers obtain 2s. 6d. or 3s. a day, and that fourteen, sixteen, or eighteen pence a day forms much more commonly their actual rate of wages; but it is no less true that the wrong-headed prejudices of our landowners, individually and collectively, alone prevent the ordinary rate of agricultural wages, for the best labourers, from rising in England to the Canadian rate. And let it be remembered that none but the best labourers can hope to succeed as emigrants. The two great causes of the prevalence of bad farming, which is the sole cause of the present low rate of rural wages, are the Corn Laws and the semi-feudal principles upon which English landowners manage their estates.

The Corn Laws lead farmers to expect prices for their produce higher than they actually obtain; and, having engaged to give rents calculated according to expected instead of real prices, in three years out of five they are compelled to apply a portion of their capital in payment of rent. This is a direct and permanent reduction of the fund which ought to be devoted to the payment of wages. Of course the ill effect upon the labourers is instantaneous. Moreover, it is a growing evil; for the farmers employing fewer labourers in consequence of an undue portion of their capital having been absorbed by the rent, the condition of their farms will be deteriorated, so that the following year a still further draught upon their capital, and a fresh diminution of employment for labourers, will take place.

So far as the farmers are concerned this is partially corrected by increased frugality, and perhaps by the high prices which those of them who are men of capital get in seasons of scarcity. But to the farm-labourers the evil has no mitigating circumstances. The farmer may adopt improved machinery, or buy guano or other portable manures, which, without any increase of labour, may enable him in part to meet the rent by larger produce. Starvation prices wrung from the suffering artisan may stay for a brief season the downward progress of the occupier under his monopoly rent. But how

fares the labourer? His wages have been reduced, when prices are low because the farmer's substance has gone to "make up the rent"; and when prices have risen, when an artificial scarcity has been produced by the Corn Laws, employment is not more plentiful, while the purchasing power of the labourer's weekly pittance is fearfully lessened. Another way in which the Corn Laws reduce wages is by inducing slovenly and inferior cultivation. Farmers are told by their rent-loving political leaders that they cannot compete with the foreigner, and they abandon all effort in despair. They are satisfied to grow twenty-four bushels of wheat to the acre upon land which would grow twice that quantity if properly cultivated, because thirty years ago a most extraordinary combination of circumstances produced prices which rendered such a half crop "remunerating"; and until lately they have believed the monopolist landowners who promised to bring about a return of such "remunerating" prices by means of acts of Parliament. But while farmers have been lingering on false hopes, and have been gradually transferring to their landlords the capital they or their fathers acquired during the war, the agricultural population has been increasing with great rapidity. More labour is in the market, though farming has been stationary as regards the employment of labourers. These facts are now universally admitted, though some politicians still shrink from attributing them to the right cause—the Corn Laws. No one, however, really acquainted with the state of agriculture will deny these propositions.

Then, the bastard-feudalism to which landlords still cling with a tenacity, as noxious as it is childish, greatly lessens the employment of rural labour. From this source spring yearly tenancies, obsolete and restrictive covenants, game preserves, political servitude, and all those evils which deter hundreds of men of education and capital from embarking in farming as a business, and which prevent existing farmers from obtaining that aid from capitalists which men in all other industrious occupations readily obtain.

Now, the concurrent testimony of all practical agriculturists goes to show, that if anything approaching to a general adoption of those improvements, which are so much talked about, should take place, there would not be a sufficient number of labourers in the country. Take, for instance, a pamphlet by Lord Torrington, descriptive of an improved set of farm-buildings he has lately erected in Kent, and there we meet with this passage:—"A thorough draining of the whole of Kent would employ, for

a long period, the whole population; and that, in addition to clearing away of all superfluous timber and hedges, would not only afford endless employment, but reduce to a mere nothing the poor-rates of this district, which now press most heavily on the tenantry, and add to their distresses." And this is applicable to great part of the country.

So, again, let the reader go into any neighbourhood where an enterprising farmer is to be met with,—take, for instance, Mr. Lattimore, in Herts, Mr. Huttley, in Essex, and men of that stamp,—and ask the first intelligent labourer he meets with what would be the state of things in the district if all the farmers, ay, or half the farmers, employed as large a proportion of labour on their farms as their more enterprising neighbours; and we know that he will receive some such response as this—"Lord bless you, Sir, there would not be men enough to do the work!" We have constantly received some such answer from labourers; and it is perfectly true. There are not rural labourers enough in this country to cultivate one half of the land in the best manner.

And there is another reason why the wages of rural labour would rise with such an increased employment as Free Trade and its sequents would give, which is, that the labourers would themselves improve. None but those who have had actual experience would believe the difference which exists between different labourers. As a matter of profit it would be cheaper to employ some farm-servants at 3s. than others at 1s. a day. And as nothing has such an injurious effect upon the labourer—nothing renders him so inferior as a workman—as irregular employment, so there is no way in which the inferior labourers can be improved but by constant work. There are few of them who cannot perform all the ordinary work of a farm well enough if they will; with the stimulus of constant and good wages the will to work effectively is seldom wanting.

Independently of the great demand for workmen which Free Trade would create in the manufacturing districts, agriculture itself, when relieved from "the bane of protection," would demand the labour of all, and more than all, the rural population. We see no reason why 2s. 6d. or 3s. a day should not be the current rate of wages for the best farm-labourers throughout the country; and we know that labour so remunerated would be really cheaper to the employer than the low priced labour of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire is at present. Let us as practical farmers offer a hint to Lord John Russell: that we farmers don't want any half measures. We don't require our best labourers to be drafted off to the colonies, and let the real value of Free Trade to be intercepted by a peddling protection of 4s. or 5s. on a quarter of wheat, with proportionate fixed duties on other grain. So long as any "protection" remains there can be no final settlement for the farmer; and there will be no general improvement in agriculture, for all the effects we have referred to as arising from a Corn Law will happen as certainly under a fixed duty as under a sliding scale. Let him discard his untenable figment of a fixed duty, and try to learn something of the real state of agriculture, not from landlords or land-agents, but from some of our best practical farmers, and he will find that all protection is indeed the bane of agriculture; and that our farm-labourers may be enabled to earn Canadian wages without enduring the rigour of a Canadian climate, or being expatriated from the homes of their youth, an absolutely Free Trade in grain is indispensable.

## IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.

We have been favoured with the following communication, addressed to Mr. Cobden by a practical and highly intelligent agriculturist in Sussex:—

"TO RICHARD COBDEN, ESQ., M.P.

"Cathed house, May 19.

"SIR.—The result of an experiment in the reduction of seed detailed in my letter to you of February 10 having proved acceptable, I am induced to bring under your notice the mode of tillage I have adopted, in the hope that, where the soil will permit, others may be stimulated to give a fair trial to a similar rotation of crops.

"The four-course system is general in this part of Sussex. The land is manured for wheat, which is followed by oats, beans and a fallow, occasionally taking a crop of peas or turnips. But few turnips, however, and scarcely any barley or beans, are grown in this neighbourhood.

"A waggon-load of lime (about 130 bushels) per acre is here applied indiscriminately to all descriptions of land. Doubtless, lime may from time to time be put on stiff soils with good effect; but I very much question the propriety of its frequent use in such quantities, and think it injurious to light land, which it renders still more friable, and therefore less adapted to the growth of wheat.

"The land in my occupation is all light, being part of the formation denominated by geologists 'Hastings sand.' On manuring the different fields when taking pasture, six years ago, I determined to discontinue the use of lime, and to try other manures that would have a tendency to consolidate, as well as enrich, the soil. Rape cake appeared suitable, and I used it successfully for corn crops until guano was introduced, to which I have since given the preference. Rape dust was also tried for turnips, but, as it did not promote their growth sufficiently, cracked bones were substituted, and having lately become acquainted with the process of dissolving them in sulphuric acid, I hope to make trial of that method another year.

Mick found himself in a lofty and spacious room, lighted with many tapers. Its walls were hung with black cloth. At a table, covered with the same material, were seated seven persons in surplices, and masked, the president on a lofty seat, above which, on a pedestal, was a skeleton complete. On each side of the skeleton was a skeleton robed and masked, holding a drawn sword; and on each side of Mick was a man in the same garb, holding a battle-axe. On the table was the sacred volume open; and at a distance, ranged in order on each side of the room, was a row of persons in white robes and white masks, and holding torches.

Michael Radley, said the president, "do you voluntarily swear in the presence of Almighty God, and before these witnesses, that you will execute with zeal and alacrity, as far as in you lies, every task and injunction that the majority of your brethren, testified by the man, in the name of this grand committee, shall impose upon you, in furtherance of our common welfare, of which they are the sole judges; such as the chastisement of nobles, the assuaging of oppressive and tyrannical masters, or the demolition of all mills, works, and shops that shall be deemed by us incorrigible? Do you swear this in the presence of Almighty God and before these witnesses?"

"I do swear it," replied a tremulous voice.

"Then rise and kiss that book."

Mick slowly rose from his kneeling position, advanced with a trembling step, and, bending, embraced with reverence the open volume.

"Immediately every one unmasked; Devil-dust came forward and, taking Mick by the hand, led him to the president, who received him, pronouncing some mystic themes. He was covered with a robe, and presented with a torch, and then ranged in order with his companions. Thus terminated the initiation of Dandy Mick into a trades union."

GRAVESEND.—We have received the following resolutions, accompanied by the subscriptions which appear advertised in our list of this day:—"We, the undersigned inhabitants of the borough of Gravesend, being convinced that the present Corn Laws are oppressive to the poor, destructive to commerce, and injurious to every portion of the community, with the exception of an interested and monopolist class, are of opinion that they ought as soon as possible to be repealed. We observe with much satisfaction the great and untiring efforts made by the Anti-Corn-Law League to accomplish such repeal, and believing its operations can only be sustained by a vast expenditure of money, as well as personal exertion, we subscribe the sums affixed to our names for the purpose of assisting in so desirable an object."

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The school for the instruction of naval officers and others, in the economy and use of steam, and the management of steam-engines, at this institution, is, we are glad to find, in a flourishing condition. It is indeed a sign of the times that so many of our distinguished naval men should devote their leisure moments to the study of steam navigation, and that the Admiralty should insist upon such a step prior to granting an appointment to a steamer. We find also that the spread of railway locomotion has aroused among all classes a desire to understand the powers of the steam engine, and therefore are not only the private courses of instruction given by Professor Ryan numerously attended, but also his public lectures on the steam engine are crowded by ladies and gentlemen, who anxiously listen to his popular explanations of its wondrous powers. It is not generally known that Doctor Ryan's course includes practical instruction on the Croydon Railway, and also on the river.

GATESHEAD FREE-TRADE SOCIETY.—On Monday evening last, the Free-Trade Society of Gateshead held a public meeting at the Grey Horse Inn, at which it was stated, "the result of the Free-Trade canvass would be announced, and the prospect of the next registration." Mr. James Hewitt presided. Mr. George Crawshaw, chairman of the society, stated the result of the canvass to ascertain the sentiments of the electors. The total number of electors canvassed was 333, which was all they had been able to find at home. Of these, 100 had signed a pledge, affirming their conviction that the Corn Laws, and all other protective duties, ought to be entirely and immediately abolished; and declaring that they would work together to effect that object. Twelve said the pledge was not strong enough; and therefore, he took it. There were 112 electors of the borough who might be depended upon to do their utmost to procure the return of a good Free-Trader. The rest they divided as follows:—"The prevailing feeling among them, he might say, was one of hesitation; but they found 45 decidedly against them; 8 who supported a fixed duty upon principle; 85 who doubted; 50 who did not appear to care about the matter; and 33 who were Tories, and, in fact, monopolists. He hoped they should be able to gain over a good many of the doubtful. Besides this, they should be able to place 80 new votes on the register; and to strike off 50 bad ones.—The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. W. Cook, Mr. Blighburn, a stranger, and again by Mr. Crawshaw, in explanation; and then separated.—*Tyne Mercury.*"

COMMON HOUSEHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION, BETHNAL GREEN.—The members and friends of this association assembled on Monday, May 19, at the Norfolk Arms, William street, to celebrate, by a supper, their success during the past year in obtaining the electoral qualification, and to concert measures for the current year to further extend the possession of the franchise. About ninety persons were present. Mr. James Savage, a working man, presided, and addressed the meeting. Mr. Benjamin Mealy made a report, by which it appeared that the association, which was founded in 1841, had enabled a considerable number of householders to register their votes, and had practically established the right of occupiers of houses, the taxes of which were paid by the landlords, to possess the Parliamentary qualification. It was especially successful that every claimant should see that his landlord paid the poor-rate due on his dwelling on or before the 25th of July in each year. The report having been passed unanimously, Mr. Dean moved, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, all persons residing in houses for which the rates are compounded, and which will confer the elective franchise, should, without delay, claim to have their names placed upon the poor-rate book, in order that they may become registered electors." Seconded by Mr. Gasson, and adopted unanimously. Several other resolutions in connection with the objects of the association were unanimously agreed to.



"Having observed that farmyard manure, however much decomposed when ploughed in, prevented that compactness of soil which it was so desirable to obtain, and very much facilitated the working of the wireworm, I resolved to employ artificial manure only for wheat crops. I am now enabled to commit the seed to the ground without delay or interruption, and the worm has since done me very little injury. It soon also became evident that a fallow was not only disadvantageous in the loss of a crop, but that the repeated ploughings requisite to keep down weeds brought the soil into such a state of pulverization that it was unfitted for bearing wheat. My attention was then directed to the best mode of consolidating the ground, and that has been accomplished to a very satisfactory extent by the following treatment.

"A field sown with wheat in the autumn of 1839; clover and ryegrass added in the spring of the ensuing year, the wheat reaped in 1840; the seeds sown in 1841, and afterwards fed off until the beginning of October, when the sward was turned over by the plough, in wide breadths, and immediately pressed close with a heavy roller, and the surface harrowed, and sown with wheat. This second sowing of wheat was reaped in 1842, followed with peas in 1843, which were twice hoed and kept clean. The ground was once ploughed in the autumn of that year, and sown with wheat, and this third sowing was reaped in 1844. Seeds were added in the following spring, which, considering the season, are looking well, and after being mown will be fed off as before, and a fourth sowing of wheat will take place in October next, to be reaped in 1846. Turnips will probably follow, and a fifth sowing of wheat succeed them; thus growing wheat alternately with a green crop for ten years. With the exception of two fields, the whole of my arable land is now under a course of this description; so that, out of 90 acres in tillage, 42 are at this moment bearing wheat. This mode of cropping can only be carried out by using considerable quantities of artificial manure; but I have no doubt of its success, and feel confident, from experience, that the returns will be proportionably large.

"Farmers who occupy stiff land deny the practicability of growing wheat in alternate years; but my reply is that most, if not all, stiff soils can be so much improved by thorough or parallel draining that 'a season' for wheat sowing may be obtained in nine out of ten autumns, while the produce will be greatly augmented and the harvests will be earlier. Surely it is worth a trial when, by such an alteration in the course of husbandry, nearly double the quantity of food may be grown, and our rapidly increasing population fed better and cheaper, at the same time that the occupier of the soil will be fairly remunerated for his skill and capital. Liberal supplies of manure, and draining where requisite, are indispensable to success; but neither one nor the other is likely to be extensively practised whilst the yearly tenancy of farms continues. It is useless, it is quite absurd, to talk of the good understanding between landlord and tenant, of the honour of the former and the faith of the latter; for no man who has common sense will use land which he only occupies from year to year, as he would use it if he had a long lease. A lease of 21 years, and not less, will justify a capitalist in sinking money in improvements, and it would be only infatuation to imagine that they will be made without that security. Give the English farmer the encouragement that the Scotch farmer has, and we shall see the same rapid strides in draining, reclaiming, and fertilizing.

"The neighbouring farm to mine, most of which is also light land, was let at Michaelmas last; and the new tenant has since told me that he was charged with five ploughings, and sundry harrowings, on a portion of the fallows, being an expense of about 70s. per acre for preparatory work on his wheat tilth, of a worthless soil, I may add, injurious kind. How can the farmer possibly prosper while labour is so recklessly applied; and does not such a circumstance show the viciousness of a system in which so palpable a fraud can be openly practised?

"Permit me to say, with great deference, that I entirely coincide with you in opinion as to the freedom from restriction that should be the groundwork of leases. The only covenant in my lease implying restraint is worded as follows:—'From breaking up or converting into tillage any of the meadow or pasture land; but to use the same and all the other lands in a proper and husbandlike manner; and to keep the same clean and in good heart and condition, so that the same may not be injured or deteriorated by the management or mode of culture thereof.' I objected to any other stipulation whatever, and doubtless owe these terms to the liberality of a discerning landlord, and of those who acted for him.

"Now, how does this work? There is a ready and good market for hay within a moderate distance, and I find my account in highly manuring the meadows, and so apply almost all my farmyard-manure, keeping quite as much stock as the land will carry. In the last five years I have purchased artificial manure to the amount of £325, and sold hay and straw for £310; but £125 worth of the manure was used for turnips, which were consumed in fattening cattle, from which a profit was derived of £280, an equal sum for profit being taken for grazing; and this shows that all the artificial manure used upon the farm was paid for by the sale of surplus hay and straw, and the profit arising from that portion of the manure employed in raising turnips for fattening stock. The land has improved in condition every year, the produce has considerably augmented, and the present crops look well. The number of acres in wheat last year averaged eight sacks and two bushels, or 41 quarters per acre, the clever all bold, and so good that there was only one bushel of fall to a load of five quarters. Under these circumstances I am surely entitled to recommend this plan of cropping; and I entreat owners and occupiers to make choice of one field at least for the experiment next autumn. Some of my neighbours have already acted partially upon this system, and I hear rumours that others are about to try it. The probability of successfully growing wheat every other year, on the same land, will, doubtless, urge many to make the attempt; and, if an example should be set by a few intelligent persons, the result will assuredly be all that we can wish.

"The use of artificial manures is becoming more general, and, as experience proves their value, will be still wider diffused. Draining, reduction of seed, manures, leases, and the application of chemistry to agriculture are now so much the subjects of earnest attention that they must inevitably produce a great and permanent increase in the quantity of home-grown corn—sufficient, perhaps,

to feed our own population; and I believe that object can be accomplished at Free-Trade prices.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your very obedient servant,  
"W. WILLIAMS."

#### THE GAME LAWS.

The following letters, which have appeared in the *Times*, show how little the tenant-farmers understand the nature of the warfare which on their behalf is being carried on against the game laws. How little must they have studied the character of their oppressors, the game-preserving landowners, if they suppose that any mere statement of the evils of the game laws can prepare the way for their amendment in our landlord Houses of Parliament! No, there must be evidence—abundant, full, demonstrative evidence—such as the whole class of squires, from those whose wits have been sharpened on the turf, to the "punch-in-the-head" game-preservers, cannot gainsay. This is being done quietly and laboriously before Mr. Bright's committee. That committee is a select one, and therefore we of course know nothing of what takes place there, except what we have heard from witnesses who have been examined; but from the statements we have heard from several of those witnesses, as to the demeanour and course of examination adopted by the game-law supporters, we have reason to believe that the evidence will be not merely conclusive against the game laws, but will be a striking exposure of semi-feudal landlordism. The following are the letters we refer to:—

"MR. BRIGHT AND THE GAME LAWS.

"To the Editor of the *Times*.

"Sir,—Can you inform me what has become of Mr. Bright's committee appointed to inquire into the operation of the game laws? From the statements made by Mr. Bright, on asking for that committee, and the readiness with which its appointment was concurred in by Government, I had hoped long before this to have seen some practical result come of it. However, I have been woefully disappointed as yet.

"But though the committee are doing nothing, I am sorry to say such is not the case with the vermin called hares and rabbits on the farm I am unfortunate enough to hold, and on many others in the same neighbourhood. There they are, night and day, eating and destroying (yes, they destroy double what they eat) my crops to a dreadful extent. 'All's fish that comes to net' with them—vetches, rye, the young wheats, all are nibbled off or trodden down as soon as they appear above ground. And the worst of it is that, do what damage they may to my crops, my only property, I dare not touch one of them; if I knocked one on the head, I should get a notice to quit on my plate at the next audit, to help in digesting my dinner. While the tenant-farmer is being ruined in this way, the demoralization of the labouring classes goes on; poaching, allways with keepers, and other grave offences are on the increase; and while they in prison suffer for their breaches of the laws, we are being further taxed to support their families in the work-house. Yes, Sir, it is all very well for gentlemen to preserve game for their amusement, but it is hardly honest to do this at the expense of the hardworking tenant-farmer, and at the cost of the morality of the lower classes; indeed we may truly say, with the fable of the frogs, 'What's fun to you is death to us.' And if Mr. Bright fails to help us out of our misery with the excellent start he has got, I can only say he is not the man I take him for.

"Trusting to learning soon what is likely to be done in this matter for relieving the tenant-farmers,

"I am, Sir, your humble servant,

"A TENANT-FARMER.

"Pershore, Worcestershire, May 22."

Let us remind the tenant-farmers that they must not be satisfied with looking to Mr. Bright or any one else to "help them out of their misery," but must put their own shoulders to the wheel. The bonds in which they are held by landlordism are not silken ones, and require not only the efforts of their true friends, but their own also, to strike them off. Let them remember at the next election, that a few tenant-farmers in the House of Commons would wonderfully strengthen the hands of those who are now endeavouring to ameliorate the laws by which tenant-farmers are oppressed.

The following is Mr. Bright's reply to the above letter:—

"To the Editor of the *Times*.

"Sir,—In your paper of Friday last, a 'Tenant-Farmer,' writing from Pershore, in Worcestershire, asks what has become of the committee appointed to inquire into the operation of the game laws? and expresses his great disappointment that he has hitherto heard of no practical result from its labours. I suspect the 'Tenant-Farmer' is but little acquainted with the progress of inquiries before select committees, especially on questions which affect the interests or amusements of the rich, or he would not have been surprised that no proceedings of the Game Laws Committee have yet been laid before Parliament and the country.

"For his information I may state, that the committee sit generally three days in each week, and that evidence has already been received from the counties of Middlesex, Hertford, Buckingham, Sussex, Wilt, Hants, and Dorset, and witnesses are in readiness from all the counties where game-preserving has been practised to a serious extent. The county of Worcester offers a good field for inquiry, and, for anything I know to the contrary, your correspondent himself, or one of his neighbours, will give evidence as to the game grievance in the parish of Pershore. I am not at liberty to enter into particulars of what passes in a select committee, or I could give satisfactory reasons why the progress of the inquiry has been less rapid than was expected. I hope, notwithstanding all obstacles, something may be done to expose the true character of the laws which game proprietors have made for the preservation of their amusements. If your correspondent, the 'Tenant-Farmer,' will bear in mind that, for a generation past, the crops of his brother farmers have been more or less destroyed—that tens of thousands

of the peasantry have been sent to gaol—that many hundreds of them have been transported from their native land—and that scores of human lives have been sacrificed—that game might abound—that men who have not the ability or the manliness to make themselves of some use in the world might not expire of actually doing nothing—and that whilst all this has been going on no landed proprietor, no farmers' friend, no protector of agriculture has raised his voice against it,—I say, if your correspondent will bear all this in mind, he will perhaps have a little patience with me, and make some allowance if I have not yet succeeded in relieving his class from the 'misery' in which he describes them to be. I have done something to expose the heartlessness and tyranny of the game laws, and, when the exposure is as complete as I can make it, it must depend in part upon the spirit and independence of the 'tenant-farmers,' but more, I fear, upon the sense of right which prevails among the mass of the English people, whether an effectual remedy shall be applied. "I am, respectfully,

"64, Jermyn-street, May 25."

"JOHN BRIGHT.

#### A ROYAL GAME CASE.

WHO CAN TOUCH PITCH WITHOUT DEFILEMENT?

It was with feelings of no ordinary sorrow that we read the report of a game-law conviction, which recently occurred at Windsor, at the instance of Prince Albert's gamekeepers. It is a very bad case. All concerned in it, from the entrapping keeper to the convicting magistrates, exhibit the demoralizing effects of the game laws. Prince Albert has acquired the affectionate respect of the people of this country, no less by his private virtues than by his careful abstinence, in what may be termed his public character, from all that could offend public opinion. But there is one rock ahead upon which, if his Royal Highness does not think for himself, there is some danger that his fair fame may be damaged, if not wrecked. The Prince has the misfortune to be fond of game-preserving and battue-shooting, and of course his dependents spare none of the accustomed means of obtaining and maintaining and defending "a large head of game." Battue-shooting is a sadly puerile amusement, while it is the foster parent of much crime and oppression. For the indulgence of it by Prince Albert there are, however, some excuses. He comes from Germany, where great numbers of wild animals are maintained in extensive forests, or slightly-cultivated districts, which are in the occupation of the proprietors. Skilful farming is unknown, little capital is employed in culture, and the value of agricultural produce is low for want of markets, and so forth. There, probably, game does little mischief, and what it does falls on the property of the owner of the game, the soil, and its produce. There are no tenants who have paid rent for the land in order to grow grain for their own profit, which is afterwards devoured by their landlord's game. Neither is the state of the rural population in that country such as to render game-preserving seriously detrimental to them. Then, Prince Albert's immediate personal associates in this country are many of them game-preservers. His Royal Highness visits the Duke of Buckingham, where he is treated with a wholesale butchery of pheasants and hares, and is shown, at the same time, a contented, well-dressed, and well-fed peasantry, which was a fraud and a sham; while he hears nothing of the poachers' wing of the county prison at Aylesbury, —a sad, too sad, reality—which his Grace of Buckingham's preserves help to keep so constantly occupied. The Prince—if he thought about it—might easily have supposed, from what he saw and from what he did not see or hear of, that game-preserving at Stowe is consistent with the well-being of the labourers and the farmers. Then, his own preserves are kept on land occupied by himself or by the Queen, and though we may regret to see land so misapplied by the highest personages of the realm, none can deny that if the Prince prefers hares, pheasants, and rabbits as farming stock, to sheep and cattle, he has a clear right to pursue such unthrifty farming.

But, though his Royal Highness's preserves may not be the means of plundering and oppressing any tenants, yet, if not a head of his game ever wanders from the land in his own occupation, his preserves inflict cruel moral and physical evils upon the population of the district. Let any one who doubts that assertion read and ponder over the following case. The scene of this "conviction" was the private office in Windsor of Mr. Secker, the clerk to the county magistrates. This is the substance of the report as it appeared in the daily papers:—

"THE GAME LAWS.—On Thursday last, an old man, named James Dean, between 60 and 70 years of age, a shoemaker, of East Hampstead, was charged before P. H. Crutchley, Esq., and Captain Bulkeley (county magistrates for Berks), on the information of George White, one of Prince Albert's gamekeepers for the Swinley district, with having unlawfully offered for sale four pheasants and six pheasants' eggs.

"Mr. C. S. Voules, solicitor, appeared for the Crown, and Mr. J. J. Williams, barrister-at-law, for the defendant.

"The case excited considerable interest, in consequence of the method which has been adopted to charge the defendant.

"Charles Milley, gamekeeper to Sir John White, of Warfield, examined by Mr. Voules. On the night of Monday, the 19th instant, the defendant came to my house at Winkfield, in consequence of a letter I had written to him that morning. When I returned that evening I found James Dean at my house, and saw me. I let a person, named John Dean, who was safely in at the back door to hear what was said, and Dean told me he had only three pheasants' eggs by him just then, but that he had three hares and a cock pheasant, and a hen pheasant."





**NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.**  
**THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING** of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be held on WEDNESDAY next, the 11th of JUNE.

GEORGE WILSON, Esq., in the Chair.  
 The Meeting will be addressed by RICHARD COBBEN, Esq., M.P.; JOHN BRIGGS, Esq., M.P.; and W. J. FOX, Esq.

#### TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, May 31, 1845.

We have devoted so much space to the Bazaar that we have little to spare for any other subject. Still we are so deeply impressed with the importance of Mr. Ward's motion, on Tuesday next, for a committee of inquiry into the last pretence of monopoly—the peculiar burdens borne by the land, that we must call attention to its present position. It is absolutely necessary that the Free-Trade members should be punctual in their attendance, so as to prevent the repetition of the trick of counting out the House. We know that the monopolists are very anxious to prevent the exposure of their last miserable subterfuge, and that they will try to avert it by every means in their power. What they are most eager to suppress we are most anxious to have made known; and we trust that our parliamentary friends will submit to any personal inconvenience rather than allow this most important motion to fall to the ground.

#### EPITOME OF NEWS.

##### FOREIGN.

**FRANCE.**—The Paris papers of Tuesday are occupied with the letter from Queen Poincaré to the King of the French, in which she details the treatment she has received from time to time from the French authorities, and calls for his Majesty's interposition in her behalf. A special envoy reached Paris on Monday, for the purpose of announcing to the King of the French the abdication of Don Carlos in favour of his son. This communication is said to have been accompanied by a demand to be freed from his present bondage, "there being no longer any reason for continuing him in captivity." It is added that the Prince of Asturias had demanded passports to enable him to proceed to Spain "as a faithful subject of her Majesty Queen Isabella II." The *Journal* and the *Revue*, in referring to the refusal of the Emperor Napoleon to ratify the treaty concluded by his envoy with France, states that the chief ground of his determination originated in the refusal of that person of a large extent of the territory of his empire, which had never belonged to the Regency of Algiers. Despatches had been received by the Minister of War from Marshal Bugeaud, dated the 9th and 10th instant, in the former of which he announced his arrival in the Oued-Sahel, and in the latter he gave the result of two affairs on the 15th between the remainder of a convoy and a body of 500 Kabyles, who had attacked it. The enemy were beaten off with a loss of several men killed and 20 made prisoners, and 300 head of cattle. Another affair of even less importance took place on the ensuing day. On the evening of the 14th the Marshal received the submission of several minor tribes.

We learn, in addition to what has been published respecting the expedition of the Aurès (Algiers), that in the affair of the 3rd the French had 25 men wounded, and General Bugeaud was struck by a musket ball in the leg, but received no injury, as the ball did not penetrate the bone. The loss of the enemy is said to have been great. The Ouled-Daouds had 30 killed, of whom four were chiefs. — *Paris paper of Tuesday.*

At a late agricultural meeting the following striking circumstances were related by the mayor of a commune in the department of Cantal:—He applied to the commune, having some years ago resolved to let out its lands on farming leases, and that the payments should be either made in money or produce, according to the will of the lessee, the good effects of this resolution were such that persons presented themselves in increasing numbers every year for land; whereas, previously to this act, the poor classes, not having land to cultivate, resorted to the number of 40 and 50 a family to the large cities north and south of France. In the second year from the period when the communal lands were let out, the mayor had only to grant half the number of passports; on the third, but 25; and the fourth, 10. This example will, without doubt, be followed by other communes.

**SPAIN.**—A telegraphic despatch from Bayonne, dated the 26th, has announced from Madrid that the session of the Spanish Cortes was closed by the Queen in person on the 23rd, and that the new constitution was promulgated on the same day.

**BAVARIA.** May 21.—The royal sanction respecting the new Corn Law has not yet appeared in the *Moniteur*. It is stated in well-informed circles that the execution of the measure will be delayed for some time. The conclusions of the various railways have to English companies have received the royal sanction. The Society of St. Sebastian of Brussels has just received a present of a splendid vase from the Queen of England, in commemoration of her visit to that society whilst passing through the above city. — *St. 26.* In consequence of the further rise in the price of corn, a Bazaar was held on Monday, the 26th, the greatest on any Bazaar, viz., three centimes in a loaf of one kilogramme (two pounds), and four centimes in a loaf of

one kilogramme and a half. The *Gazette of Mons* says, the price of corn continues to rise in an alarming manner. At the market at Mons, on the 21st, there was a rise of two francs four centimes per hectolitre on wheat, and one franc three centimes on rye. The *Beau de Luxembourg* says, at the last market at Arlon there was a rise in the price of corn greater than we have before known. In the market of the 15th the double hectolitre of wheat was sold at 31 and 32 francs; in the last market it was sold at 38 and 39 francs, and there is no doubt that the rise will continue. We repeat, without any disguise, everything relative to the rise in the price of corn, in order to assist the resolution which the Government is to take relative to the promulgation of the Corn Law. According to the information which we have received, it may be considered as decided that the promulgation shall be adjourned.

**SWITZERLAND.**—Eight of the political prisoners confined in the tower of the Hohenrat, have effected their escape by breaking the bars of the window, and letting themselves down by means of a rope.

The *Basle Gazette* has stated that Dr. Steiger had received his pardon; but a letter from Lucerne of the 23rd affirms that such is not the fact. The Executive Council have, however, been called upon to report in what manner he can be prevented from disturbing the tranquillity of the country, should his life be spared.

**AUSTRIA.**—A Vienna journal of the 15th inst. says:—"The exhibition of the progress of the useful arts in Austria was opened this day. Our Society of Industry has invited the exhibitors to a grand supper in the Hall of the Redoubt. The Court has already visited the exhibition. The report of the operations of our Savings Bank during 1844 is extremely satisfactory, particularly as it shows an increasing system of economy among the lower orders of society."

**STUTTGART.** May 19.—The booksellers of this city, and of Frankfurt and Augsburg, have agreed to hold a book fair alternately in the three places, if the Austrian book trade should not object to the last. If so, the fair will be held in the other two only.

**DARMSTADT.**—The Second Chamber has unanimously agreed to petition the Government to employ all their efforts to obtain, at the approaching Commercial Congress, a system of protective duties for the linen and cotton industries.

**MUNICH.** May 18.—In consequence of the rainy weather all sorts of corn have become dearer, and, judging by the eagerness with which purchases are made by parties from Württemberg and Switzerland, it would appear that apprehensions of a deficient harvest are not confined to this country. A cattle disease has just broken out in a neighbouring village.

According to a letter from Naples of the 8th, in the *Augsburgh Gazette*, the Neapolitan Government has signed a treaty of commerce with France and England, and the ratifications are to be exchanged within three months.

**BERLIN.** May 16.—A lieutenant has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for fighting a duel at Königsberg with a civilian, who was mortally wounded. The seconds of the former were sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

**FRANKFURT.** May 16.—An archiepiscopal circular, issued a few days ago to the deacons of the archdioceses, enjoined on all the clergy of the diocese that Professor Dr. Schreiber, by joining the so-called German Catholics, is excommunicated. — *German paper.*

**TREATMENT OF THE JEWS IN POLAND.**—WARSAW, May 15.—An ordinance of the Council of Administration directs that, after the 1st of July this year, no Jew of either sex should be permitted to have a public house in the villages, nor to manufacture, distil, or sell, any home-made liquors, either under their own names, or the names of others, as partners, factors, or assistants; nor, after that day, shall any Jew reside in a public-house, distillery, or brew-house. — *Hamburg paper.*

**CHEAP POSTAGE IN INDIA.**—It is a positive fact that the natives of the north-west carry the spirit of economy to such a degree of intensity that ten letters are often sent under one cover, which does not weigh more than the tenth of an ounce. This cover, which often contains all the letters despatched from a town during the day, is, according to the last privilege, conveyed a hundred miles for half an anna, or less than the tenth of a penny, each. What is the penny postage to this? — *Allen's Indian Mail*, May 24.

##### DOMESTIC.

On Tuesday morning, shortly before one o'clock, a fire, involving a serious destruction of valuable property, broke out upon the well-known and extensive range of premises termed Raggett's Hotel, Dover-street, Piccadilly. The discovery appears to have been made by police-constable 41 C, who observed smoke issuing through the windows on the southern corner of the first floor. Several persons quickly made their appearance at the front and back windows in their night-dresses. Such a strong hold had the fire obtained, that in less than ten minutes the flames were shooting forth from the windows with great fury, and extending nearly half-way across the road. Notwithstanding twelve engines, including those from the neighbouring parishes, the London Establishment and those of the West of England and County companies, were upon the spot, copiously supplied with water, and energetically worked, the flames continued to burn with ungovernable fury, until, by the time the roof fell in, they obtained so great an altitude that the horizon was illuminated to its most distant verge. Meanwhile the fire-escapes of the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire rendered essential service in saving life. It was not until the fire had been burning upwards of three hours that it was clearly ascertained that any one had perished. Several half-breath escapes were experienced by the parties on the premises. Two ladies were saved by rushing from the blazing building in their night dresses, and making their escape from the balcony over the door of the hotel on the shoulders of the populace; two others were rescued by the fire-escape, while one or two others escaped by the roof. Lord Huntingdon and his lady had just returned from the theatre, when, surprised by an unusual noise, he went to the nursery, where he found a terrible fire raging. He succeeded in rescuing his child, but before he could return to the room again the nurse, Mrs. Jones, had been burned to death. Mrs. Raggett, in attempting to descend by the fire-escape, lost her balance, fell into the street, and soon died from the effects of the fall. The body of Mrs. Round, the wife of John Round, Esq., M.P. for Maidon, and others have been found, as also those of Mr. William Raggett, and a

female unknown. The fire originated, it is supposed, in the apartment of Miss King, a lady who was sleeping at the hotel. At the time of the outbreak of the fire, besides the parties connected with the hotel, the following persons were present:—The Earl of Huntingdon, and his sons, their son, Lord Hastings, with his nurse, Mrs. Jones (her ladyship and suite not having long before arrived in London); Colonel Bouverie, of the Guards; Lord Lowth; Mrs. Round, wife of the member for Maidon, Essex (who, with her daughter, had in ended to be present at the Queen's drawing-room on Tuesday); Mr. King, a merchant of Bristol, his wife and daughter, and their servants. The following is the official report of the damage:—Nearly one-half of the front of building and greater part of the back and contents destroyed; exposed cause of fire, curtain becoming ignited from a candle; five lives lost; insurance: unknown. No. 42, Lord Gardner, slight damage to furniture; insured in the Sun Office. No. 44, Mr. E. Moxon, publisher, slight damage to building. Fire extinguished by eight brigade engines, with those of the County and West of England Offices, and two belonging to the parishes.

The speculators in railway shares have been somewhat startled by a clause in the income-tax papers just issued, which enumerates the profits made by "buying and selling shares in railways," among the items of income. Some, who have made their thousands during the railway mania, will find this a most inconvenient clause, if it is put in force; but there will be the difficulty, for there is sure to be a great deal of evasion on the subject.—*Sun.*

From a return made lately, it is stated that in London and the metropolis alone, there are 1793 omnibus conductors, 1662 drivers of cabs, and 4516 drivers of hackney carriages and omnibuses.

Mr. Seton, the gentleman who was wounded in the duel near Portsmouth, is not yet considered out of danger. For the last few days he has remained nearly the same; indeed it is said the appearance of the wound has not been quite so satisfactory; still the surgeons have great hopes of his ultimate recovery.

The number of deaths in the metropolis during the week ending May 24 is the smallest, we believe, on record since the establishment of the Registrar-General's office, being only 810—less than that of the previous week by 25, and than the average of five springs by 78, and showing a diminution, in less than two months, of about 500. The number about the beginning of March exceeded 1300.

It is calculated that the fees to counsel during the present session, in connexion with railway bills, will exceed £100,000.

On Saturday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, while a number of men were engaged at Cripplegate workhouse in removing bricks, preparatory to taking down part of the building, the weight of bricks piled up in the upper floor caused it to give way, carrying with it the three floors below. Two men were found buried in the ruins. One of them, named David Cauty, was taken out dead, and another, named George Bedford, was severely injured that his recovery is doubtful.

A number of noblemen and gentlemen, admirers of the late Thomas Hood, have set on foot a subscription for the purpose of making a provision for his widow and children. Sir Robert Peel has contributed the sum of £50.

On Saturday last, 18 additional clerks were taken into the Money-order service of the General Post-office,

making a total of 88 extra officers for this department within the last quarter. Twelve messengers have also been appointed. The increase in money-orders is now about thirty-fold; and the expense of this section of the service upwards of £12,000 per annum.

Between ten on Saturday night and daylight on Sunday morning, no less than three attempts at suicide were made by females, by precipitation from London bridge into the river, and which, in two instances, terminated in death, their bodies not having yet been recovered. The other was rescued by the watchman of Fishmongers'-hall, who, at the peril of his own life, jumped into the river, and succeeded in bringing her ashore. She was taken to the station-house at Giltick-hill in a state of insensibility, and on her recovery gave the name of Isabella Ratcliffe.

The reduction in the price of coal at Newcastle, consequent on the abolition of the vend regulation, has been less than many persons anticipated would have taken place. The best Wall's-end coal has fallen about 2s. 3d. a ton, and the second-rate coals have been reduced 9s. and 1s. 3d. a ton, but several collieries still maintain their old price.

The polling at the vestry meeting of St. George-in-the-East closed at four o'clock on Saturday last, when the votes stood thus:—For the rate, 30; against it, 161.

Tuesday, being the Queen's birthday, was celebrated with the usual rejoicings, and a grand drawing-room at Buckingham-palace.

The execution of Joseph Connor is fixed to take place on Monday morning next.

On Saturday last, Henry Woods, driver of one of the Fulleran carrier's carts, was charged by the Duke of Wellington, at Marlborough street Police-office, with furious driving, having run against the duke while the latter was walking out of Park-lane into Piccadilly. The driver was convicted of an assault on his grace, and fined £4, or one month's imprisonment.

An American negro, named George Augustus, of the Ontario, in the port of London, was charged at the Thames Police Court, on Friday, with having in his possession 42 lbs. of foreign-manufactured tobacco. He was fined £100 by Mr. Ballantine, and told to make the best use he could for the Commissioners of Customs.

The Protestant Dissenters' Conference have issued an address to the Irish people, in which, while expressing their strong sympathy with them, as suffering under many grievances, especially from an alien Church establishment, they denounce the Maynooth grant as hostile to the voluntary principle.

At a recent meeting of the Free Church Assembly, Dr. McFarlan, in referring to the efforts and success of the Free Church, said that instead of 470 congregations, corresponding to the number of outgoing ministers at the time of the disruption, there were now in connection with the Free Church upwards of 700 congregations, and 600 ministers; and the total number of adherents, old and young, might be fairly estimated at about a third part of the whole population of Scotland. About 100 churches had been built, and the whole expense of their erection had in many instances been defrayed by the congregation. On Wednesday a deputation from the assembly

jewellers of Birmingham waited upon Prince Albert, at three o'clock, with a number of specimens of their skill in this species of manufacture, which is said to employ above 21,000 persons in Birmingham alone. Their object was to request the patronage of his Royal Highness, and that he would accept some articles of British jewellery, and, by wearing them, improve the prospects of the trade, which are at present much depressed. His Royal Highness entered into a general conversation with the deputation, and expressed his admiration of the elegance and beauty of the articles.

The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation-hall on Monday. The chief point of interest was the Government scheme of academical education, which Mr. O'Connell and Mr. H. Grattan denounced in unmeasured terms. Mr. S. O'Brien, Mr. M. J. Barry, and Mr. Davis, of "The Young Ireland" party, defended the Government scheme, but in other respects they condemned it. Mr. O'Connell replied, and took occasion to deny that there was any such party as "Young Ireland"—a name assumed by a few individuals. He was for Old Ireland, and he was sure Old Ireland would stand by him. The rent for the week was announced to be £310.

The Irish Catholic Bishops have come to the following resolution on the new education scheme:—"Resolved—That having maturely considered the bill now pending before Parliament for the extension of academical education in Ireland, and giving credit to her Majesty's Government for their kind and generous intentions, manifested in the endowment of the College of Maynooth, we find ourselves compelled, by a sense of duty, to declare that, anxious as we are to extend the advantages of education, we cannot give our approbation to the proposed system, as we deem it dangerous to the faith and morals of the Catholic people." On this resolution they have based a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant, in which they claim that the power to appoint certain professors, viz., of history, logic, metaphysics, morals, philosophy, geology, and anatomy, should be vested in a board to consist in part of the Roman Catholic Bishops of the province in which the college may be erected, such board to have also the power of removing any professor proved to be guilty of attempting to undermine the faith, or damage the morals of any student.

A dreadful accident occurred near Tintrim, in the county of Mayo, on Wednesday, at the house of a man named Hallinan, who had been engaged in illicit distillation. A keg of the spirits was on the floor of the house, in which there were three girls, when a man named Garvey, who was drunk, came in, and calling for a light to prove the spirits, set fire to the whole, and caused a terrible conflagration. One of the girls was burned to death; the two others were dragged out, but were much injured.

**CAPITAL FOR FARMING.**—The late Mr. Coke, when tenants came to him for farms, said, "How much money have you got in your pocket? I have farms of every size, from £1000 to £10,000; how much money have you got? Here is the list."—"I have £100."—"There are ten farms, take your choice." He had a farm for any man, with any amount of capital; and he used to say to them, "If you have got £1000 you must only have 100 acres. You have not enough to stock more. You must have £10 an acre, or you cannot manage your farms." And that, gentlemen, is at the bottom of the poverty which is so abundant in many parts of this country; it is ambition that prompts a man to attempt more than he can carry out, and with £1000 in his pocket to take a farm with which he ought to have £2000.—*Dr. Buckland.*

**WAGES AND FOOD.**—To the Editor of the Bolton Free Press.—Sir, I am a boiler maker, and within the last twelve months my wages have been raised from 20s. to 24s. a week, and the 20s. would now go as far as the 24s. would have done three or four years since. This state of things has seemed curious to me, to see that my wages should have risen so much while the price of food has fallen so much; because in those bad and dear times I used to go to meetings against the Anti-Corn-Law League, and the speakers used to tell me and others to beware of the League, as they wanted to have cheap food that they might have us in their power and drop our wages. Well, cheap food has come; my masters are Free-Traders, and my wages have risen from 20s. to 24s. a week. Some weeks I could not get work even at those low wages, and then we had to pinch for it and eat porridge. When we could get flour we had to pay 2s. 6d. a dozen for it; now we can get as good for 1s. 6d. This surprises me altogether. I thought I would see what wages I should have been receiving now, if cheap food reduced wages. I made a rule of three sum of it, and I find I should have been receiving 12s. a week at this time; instead of that I get twenty-eight shillings! Your constant reader, NOISY HAMMER.—Little Bolton, May 20, 1845.

**THE "AGRICULTURAL MIND."**—AXMINSTER.—A farmer in this neighbourhood has lately discharged one of his labourers on the sole ground of his wife being a witch. The discovery was made on this wise:—The son of a poor neighbour of the farmer alluded to having been seized a few weeks since with a paralytic attack, recourse was had by the boy's parents to the "white witch" of the neighbourhood, who forthwith imputed the affliction to the operation of the "evil eye" of some female neighbour. This neighbour was, therefore, believed by the sick parents to be the wife of the labourer whose discharge we have mentioned. The poor fellow, we hear, is on the sole account thrown out of work and unable to obtain any employment whatever. The very ignorant farmer who discharged him is deaf to all remonstrance, and congratulates himself on having got rid of a workman whose better half he believes to possess such dangerous supernatural powers. So much for the march of intellect.—*Western Luminary.*

**THE CONDITION OF THE PROTECTED.**—We hear from every side bitter complaints of the condition of the farmers. With present rents, present prices, present systems of cultivation, and the maintenance of the landlords' present "head of game," it is plainly impossible that the protected tenants can live. To a vast extent, they are paying rent out of their capital, and there can be no doubt that another good harvest will be the ruin of thousands. A review of these things has converted many of the most intelligent to the principles of Free Trade. But there are masses to be found as blind as oxen. They

are dying of protection, but, instead of discarding the bane, they shut their eyes to all the past, and say that they are suffering from the Canadian Corn Bill and the new Tariff. Ridiculously wrong as they are in this, it might afford them some hope to imagine they knew the cause of the mischief, if they could indulge any idea of its removal. But when they apply to their members, the men whom their insensate voices returned to defend protection, they have no better consolation than the assurance that the concessions which have been made to Free Trade are irrevocable. They are told that the idea of retracing their steps is altogether absurd, and that it is almost hopeless to maintain the ruinous protection which yet remains.—*Sheffield Independent.*

THE FUNDS.

	Sat. May 21	Mon May 22	Tues May 23	Wed May 24	Thurs May 25	Fri May 26
Bank Stock for Ac.	211	210	210	210	210	210
3 per Cent. Ann.	94	94	94	94	94	94
4 per Cent. Ann.	99	99	99	99	99	99
5 per Cent. Ann.	104	104	104	104	104	104
Long An. Ex. 1000	112	112	112	112	112	112
Cons. for Acct.	99	99	99	99	99	99
Exc. Bills, 1000	50	50	50	50	50	50
1000 on 1000	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	250	250	250	250	250	250
Belgian Bonds	99	100	100	100	100	100
Brazilian Bonds	99	99	99	99	99	99
Spanish Bonds	43	43	43	43	43	43
Cons. for Acct.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cons. Ex. Vene.	15	15	15	15	15	15
Dutch	89	89	89	89	89	89
French 4 per Cent.	94	94	94	94	94	94
Dutch 2 1/2 per Cent.	64	64	64	64	64	64
Prussian	37	37	37	37	37	37
Portug. 5 per Cent.	81	81	81	81	81	81
Spanish 5 per Cent.	30	30	30	30	30	30
Do. 3 per Cent.	42	42	42	42	42	42

MARKETS.

CORN MARKET.

**MARK-LANE, Monday, May 26.**—Since this day week a considerable quantity of rain has fallen: within the last day or two the wind has changed to the south-west, and the weather is consequently more genial. There is not much wheat in the market to-day, and the show of land carriage samples is small; the finest samples are 2s., and other sorts 1s. to 2s., dearer than this day week. Barley, of which the arrivals are scanty, maintains its price without a free sale. The country demand for Oats is larger than usual at this time of the year, and notwithstanding we have very fair supplies, prices remain quite firm, and in some instances more money is obtained. Beans and Peas arrive in trifling quantities, and sell readily at higher prices. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk (Old Red 42 to 51) White 41 to 54	—
Do. Lincolnshire & Yorkshire (Old 42 to 48) White 41 to 54	—
Do. Scotch 42 to 46	—
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire (Red 21 to 23) White 20 to 22	—
Do. Scotch 23 to 24	—
Do. Limerick 21 to 22	—
Do. Cork 20 to 21	—
Do. Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black 20 to 21	—
Do. Bilko 20 to 21	—
Barley 28 to 33	—
Beans, Mazagan 31 to 33	—
Do. Harrow Old 38 to 40	—
Do. Small 33 to 35	—
Peas, White, New 34 to 36	—
Do. Grey 32 to 33	—
Flour, Town-made 35 to 38	—
Do. Norfolk and Suffolk 35 to 38	—

	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Dantzig, high mixed 48 to 56	—
Do. Rostock 47 to 54	—
Do. Stettin 44 to 53	—
Do. Hamburg 42 to 48	—
Do. Odessa 42 to 46	—
Do. Ditto Polish 47 to 50	—
Do. Russian soft 42 to 46	—
Do. Ditto hard 40 to 44	—
Do. Spanish Red 45 to 49	—
Do. Ditto White 50 to 54	—
Australian 56 to 58	—
Barley, Gillingham 28 to 31	—
Do. Distilling 29 to 31	—
Oats, Archangel 17 to 19	—
Do. Stralsund 17 to 19	—
Do. Dutch Brew 17 to 19	—
Do. Potatoes 17 to 19	—
Beans, Egyptian 33 to 34	—
Do. Peas, White 33 to 36	—
Do. Ditto Boilers 30 to 33	—
Flour, Canada 26 to 28	—
Do. United States 26 to 28	—
Do. Antwerp 26 to 28	—
Do. Australian, per sack of 90 lbs 31 to 33	—

	English	Irish	Foreign
Wheat 4771	214	892	583
Barley 1310	—	3331	—
Oats 1310	—	5 60	—
Flour 1310	—	13539	3518
Peas 680	—	—	—

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Peas
19th April 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—
26th " 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—
3rd May 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—
10th " 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—
17th " 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—
24th " 43 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31 11 31	—	—	—	—

Aggregate average of the 8th week.—Wheat, 45s. 10d.; Barley, 34s. 10d.; Oats, 21s. 6d.; Rye, 30s. 8d.; Beans, 35s. 1d.; Peas, 35s. 8d.	
Duty.—Wheat, 30s. 0d.; Barley, 8s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 6s. 6d.; Peas, 6s. 6d.	
Stock of Corn in Bond, May 3, 1845.	
Wheat. Barley. Oats. Rye. Beans. Peas. Flour.	
In London, 106767 2893 1031 2542 1405 48168	
Unit. King. 106927 6691 10731 1680 5088 48886	

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

**FRIDAY, MAY 23.**  
**DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.**  
**R. EVANS, Broseley, Shropshire, tallow chandler.**  
**BANKRUPT.**  
**R. KIMBLE, Great Marybone-street, bootmaker. [Strick, Doughty-street, Bedford-row.]**  
**A. McDONALD, Leadenhall-street, City; merchant. [Ked-dell and Co., Lime-street.]**  
**J. WHITE, Warminster, Wiltshire, carrier. [Galsworthy and Nichols, Cook's-court, Carey-street.]**  
**J. FRAYLOR, Liverpool, hotel keeper. [English, Old Jewry.]**  
**F. SMITH, Whitechapel-road, licensed victualler. [Wire and Child, St. Smith's-lane.]**  
**J. CANN, Woolwich, Kent, bricklayer. [Bowers and Co., Chancery-lane; Colquhoun, W. 10th.]**  
**T. WOOD, Little Queen-street, Holborn, wine merchant. [Col-lins and Rigley, Crescent-place, Bridge-street, Blackfriars.]**  
**T. HARRIS, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, carrier. [Gregory, and Co., Bedford-row; Jones, Newtown; Rogerson and Ratcliffe, Liverpool.]**  
**D. B. SMITH, Liverpool, merchant. [Parkes and Co., Bedford-row; Grenfell, Liverpool.]**  
**W. LOWE, Bristol, ivory turner. [Makinson and Sanders, Temple; Habbett, Bristol.]**  
**R. HOLLOWAY, Evesham, Worcestershire, innkeeper. [Eades, Evesham.]**  
**H. PHILIP, Droitwich, Worcestershire, upholsterer. [Parkes and Co., Bedford-row; Mottram and Knowles, Birmingham.]**  
**J. BARKER, Gayles, Yorkshire, maltster. [Spiller, Gray's-inn-square; Hutchinson, Barnard's-castle; Courtenay, Leeds.]**  
**J. THACKERY, Leeds, Yorkshire, dyer. [Milton and Senior, Southampton-buildings; Dunning and Co., Leeds.]**  
**DIVIDENDS.**  
June 13. J. Paulton, High-street, Portland-town, marble mason—June 13. E. Dingley, Sutton-ground, Westminster, draper—June 17. M. C. Painter, Peter-street, Westminster, grocer—June 17. J. Green, Pall-mall, wine merchant—June 17. W. Spencer, Wallingford, Berkshire, common-lawyer—June 17. W. Arnold, Northampton, draper—June 17. W. H. Miles, Mackintosh, City, wine merchant—June 17. R. Swansborough and H. H. Oake, Broad-street, City, warehousemen—June 17. S. Harvey, East-Mole, Essex, cattle dealer—June 17. J. Moutrie, Bristol, music seller—June 17. W. K. Roberts, Abingdon, Berkshire, grocer—June 17. M. H. L. G. Conaghi, Cockspur-street, printer—June 17. R. Marshall, Deptford, stone-mason—June 17. D. Smith, Bucklersbury, City, merchant—June 17. G. Ball, Bath, carpenter—June 17. J. Johnson, Liverpool, merchant—June 17. F. and W. Wilson, Liverpool, merchants—June 17. C. B. Buchanan and W. Cunningham, Liverpool, merchants—June 17. W. Munton, Greatford, Lincolnshire, miller—June 23. N. N. and R. Solly, Huddersfield, Staffordshire, ironmasters—June 17. G. R. Gilton, Bradford, shipwright, printer—June 17. L. Whyte, Birmingham, hardware merchants.  
**CERTIFICATES.**  
June 17. W. Hart, Lisson-grove, New-road, boarding house-keeper—June 17. R. Stockley, Rotherhithe, cabinet maker—June 17. J. Welch, King-croft, Holloway, licensed victualler—June 17. J. Gibbs, Ramsey, Huntingdonshire, grocer—June 17. J. Hockingworth, Paddington-street, Marylebone, butcher—June 17. A. Donato, St. Albans, bootmaker—June 17. F. Weston, Southampton, plumber—June 17. M. Ferrand, Almondbury, Yorkshire, fancy cloth manufacturer—June 17. W. H. Miles, Mackintosh, City, wine merchant—June 17. J. Martin, Bexley-heath, Kent, victualler—June 17. H. Green, Liverpool, warehouseman—June 17. L. Lane, Hereford, cooper—June 17. J. Pim, Clapham common, Surrey, thread-maker—June 17. E. K. Gorbett, Bedford-place, Commercial-road, bookseller—June 17. R. Swansborough and H. Oake, Broad-street, City, warehousemen—June 17. G. Hayward, Luton, Bedfordshire, bricklayer—June 17. J. Banks, Birmingham, steamman—June 17. H. C. York, Cheltenham-park, Westminster-road, lodging house-keeper—June 17. R. Rochester, Huddersfield, Durham, butcher—June 17. A. Knott, Tiredale, Sussex, miller—June 17. J. Roberts, Liverpool, grocer—June 17. W. R. Eves, Warrat, Somersetshire, coach builder—June 17. J. Kewley, Liverpool, tailor—June 17. S. Marshall, Kingston-upon-Hull, butcher—June 17. W. Hurchett, Whitechapel-road, chemist—June 17. W. Conyer, J. Glegg, J. Bapty, St. Helen's, A. Ellis, J. Denton, J. Bracey, J. Minnes, T. Riddale, S. Oshroff, W. Mayman, J. Castle, B. Boney, J. Oshroff, J. Senior, Batty Carr, Yorkshire, woollen millers—June 17. C. Burridge, Newgate-market, City, carriage butcher.  
**NOTICE OF ADJUDICATIONS.**  
**J. ROBB, Aberdeen, china merchant—R. TAYLOR and W. BUCHANAN, Glasgow, wholesale tea dealers.**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 27.**  
**BANKRUPT.**  
**R. LEWIS, Ashford, Kent, carman. [Anthony, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street.]**  
**W. POO, Esq., Horton Lock, Buckinghamshire, hopkeeper. [Hutson Upper Clifton-street, Birmingham.]**  
**J. J. BROWN, Esq., St. Edmund's, Suffolk, grocer. [Taylor, Featherstone-buildings, Holborn.]**  
**J. TAYLOR, Bromley, Middlesex, maltster. [Morton, Thomas, and Holman, Mitling-lane.]**  
**T. HEKNS, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, draper. [Parker, St. Paul's Churchyard.]**  
**G. O. BURNES, Devizes, Wilt, upholsterer. [Dean and Co., St. Stephen's-lane.]**  
**L. HAYNES, Rediff, Lancaster, provision dealer. [Johnson, Son, and Vetterhall, Temple; Higson and Robinson, Manchester.]**  
**W. DAVIS, Compton, Stafford, butcher. [Parkes, Smith, and Co., Bedford-row; Mottram and Knowles, Bennett's-build, Birmingham.]**  
**DIVIDENDS.**  
June 17. J. Kirkpatrick, Newport, Southampton, banker—June 20. W. Austin, Bell-street, Epsom-road, builder—June 20. C. S. Howard, Cochester, grocer—June 17. L. H. Ford, Rochford, Essex, victualler—June 20. S. T. Watson and W. Hyers, Skinner-street, City, woollen warehousemen—June 20. J. Farrow, Nine Elms, Surrey, corn dealer—June 20. T. F. Lucas, Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, coach proprietor—June 20. W. and J. Losh, Manchester, calico printers—June 20. T. Hotland, Manchester, woollen cloth manufacturer—June 20. R. Buckley, Crewe, Cheshire, hosiery dealer—June 20. W. K. Jarman, Haster, confectioner—June 20. M. Hill, Kyles, carrier—June 19. A. Tappert, Clayton Heights, Yorkshire, wheelwright—June 19. J. Wile, Stafford, ironmonger.  
**CERTIFICATES.**  
June 17. J. Lambert, Portsmouth-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, licensed victualler—June 18. J. Stone, Woodstock-mews, New Bond-street, veterinary surgeon—June 20. G. W. Buckle, Norwich, linen draper—June 18. H. F. Bellenger, Great Pul-tney-street, Golden-square, licensed victualler—June 9. O. J. Carter, Hornsey-cottage, H. Toney-road, carpenter—June 18. J. Wilmshurst, Bristol, cooper.  
**NOTICE OF ADJUDICATIONS.**  
**R. WEBSTER, Hullburg, merchant—J. CRAWFORD, Post-Grove, cattle dealer—T. THOMSON, Glasgow, clothier.**  
**J. GULLY, Quarf, Scotland, merchant—M. M. BULL, Alder, cattle dealer—D. KAY, Leith, corn dealer.**



The City of London, and  
and as the City of London,  
of St. Dunstons in the West.





# THE LEAGUE.

No. 89.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. James Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

The Council of the League finding that more than half of the persons whose names are on the Middlesex Register have claimed since the last contested election in 1837, they have directed circulars to be sent to them requesting an answer as to whether they will support Free-Trade candidates in the event of an election. As it is not considered that those who return pledges themselves to support ANY PARTICULAR candidate, but only that they are willing to support the principle of Free Trade, it is hoped that ALL who have received letters, and are favourable to the principles the Anti-Corn-Law League advocate, will consider it a duty to return their letters answered, as it is important that the Council should be able to know their supporters from their opponents.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER!

We entreat every Free-Trader to read, and read again, the subjoined instructions with regard to the approaching registration, and to give himself and his neighbours no rest until he and they shall have committed themselves to the grave, social, and moral issues to which those instructions relate. They have been prepared with the utmost care; their accuracy may be entirely relied upon; and the matter of which they treat is of the most vital and urgent moment. Let no one be disgusted or repelled by the dry, lawyer-like look. That dry-looking volume of small type is the most important article, and all comparison, in this number of our paper, is made with nothing better for the Free-Trade cause than that one and all of our readers should read it with the most interesting one.

It is to be utterly impossible to exaggerate the importance of the work which Free-Traders will be called upon to do, from and after the 20th day of this month. We cannot more fitly express our sense of the importance of this work, than by begging our friends to look at the day with as earnest and active an interest as they can. It was to be the date of the annual meeting for the instant assembling of a Free-Trade Parliament. It will be that, vir-

tually, though not formally. The approaching general registration will, essentially and really, be a general election. It will, in all probability, decide the character of the next Parliament. The next Parliament will, to a certainty, decide, for many years to come, the fate of the Free-Trade question, and of the vast national and human interests which that question represents. On what is done or left undone, now, it depends whether Great Britain shall, or shall not, escape the recurrence, in a fearfully aggravated form, of the miseries and horrors of the years 1841 and 1842.

Registration is now really almost all that we have to do. Public opinion is sufficiently made up. To call public meetings for discussion were now only to invite opponents who will not come, to reiterate arguments by which all the world has been long ago convinced, and to explode fallacies and absurdities at which the world is almost tired of laughing. Parliamentary agitation is, no doubt, still useful, and will be still vigorously maintained. Yet its uses are not exactly for the purpose of parliamentary conviction: the landlord mind will not be convinced—the Ministerial and ex-Ministerial mind is convinced already. All our doctrines are now formally endorsed by the leaders of both the great parliamentary parties, Whig and Tory. If the conversion of statesmen to Free-Trade principles were all that is needed to settle the question, the League might have safely dissolved itself last week, after the debate on Lord John Russell's resolutions. But opinion, parliamentary or popular, goes for little, except so far as it takes that shape in which statesmen are constitutionally bound, and politically necessitated, to recognise it. It is not more true that both Whig and Tory hold Free-Trade doctrines, than it is true that neither Whig nor Tory can or will carry Free-Trade doctrines into effect, without a certainty of support from the constituencies. Unregistered opinion is, at this time and in this country, among the feeblest of political agents. Opinion, to be effectual, must become active. Opinion, to make itself heard, must take a voice—the voice provided for it by the constitution. Opinion must study now, not Adam Smith, but

electoral and registration law. Opinion must get itself on the registry, in good voting condition. Opinion must be ready to come to the poll, the instant it is called, or it will never find its way to the statute-book.

As registration business is a thing, of all others, which demands business energy, and business promptitude and vigilance, we beseech our friends and constituents, the Free-Trade public, to lose no time. Begin at once your preparations for the 20th of this month. We would emphatically repeat the advice we gave last week:—*Let every parish in England and Wales have forthwith its "Free-Trade Registration Committee."* Wherever there are half-a-dozen, or two or three, good Free-Traders, with their hearts in the cause, let them meet together and organize themselves to work this matter thoroughly. Look over the lists most carefully, to see who is not there that ought to be there—and who is there that ought not to be there. Be ready with your claims and your objections, duly signed and duly served; and, for every kind and degree of information, advice, and assistance that may be necessary, communicate immediately with the Chairman or Secretary of the League, either in London or Manchester, and rely on the promptest and fullest attention being given to your application. Wherever there is one Free-Trader, in the remotest district of Great Britain, able and willing to work in this cause, let him not for a moment fancy himself isolated and alone. He is of the League, and he may count on the League's aid. Let him ask, and the League will answer—let him call, and the League will come. The experience, the organization, the resources, the prestige of the League are a national property, held in trust for the nation's use, and may be freely commanded by any and every man who invokes their help in the work of enfranchising the nation's industry.

The first step which requires to be taken is that of the claims for counties. The time for making these claims is from the 20th of June to the 20th of July, inclusive; any claim made after the latter date will be too late.

The county franchise is divided into four important classes of qualification:—

"1st. Freehold, which includes the ancient 40s. freehold of inheritance for ever; and property held under a lease for lives, which should be described as freehold in the notice of claim.

"2nd. Leasehold for a term of not less than 60 years, originally of £10 annual value; or if for a term of not less than 20 years, of £50 annual value.

3rd. Copyhold of £10 annual value.

4th. Occupiers of land, or building and land under one landlord, subject to a *bond fide* rent of £50 a year.

In the first class, the owner of a 40s. freehold for ever must have been in possession from the 31st of January of the present year; and the same in the case of the owner of leasehold for lives of 40s. a year, provided he be himself in the occupation of the property. If the owner of the lease for lives do not occupy, the property must be of the annual value of £10.

In the second class, the owner must have been in possession from the 31st of July, 1844.

And in the third class, the occupation must also be from the 31st of July, 1844.

It will be obvious that the first thing to be done by our friends is to ascertain how many Free-Traders there are in each parish possessing qualifications, and who are not now on the register; and this should be set about forthwith, that the notices of claim may be made in proper time.

There are various means of obtaining this information, as, for instance—

In all those districts where the purchasing of qualifications, as recommended by the League, was taken up systematically, lists of the names will have been kept by those who made the conveyances.

The poor-rate books may be examined carefully to ascertain the names of owners of property, and also £50 occupiers therein, who are not registered.

Overseers, and collectors of rates and income-tax; builders; building and land agents, who are friendly, may also give much information.

In the neighbourhood of large towns, such as Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c., there are merchants, manufacturers, and others, who occupy large houses and premises in the suburbs at a rental of £50; these, if not within the parliamentary borough, will be qualified, and, if not on the county register, should claim. Last year, on a careful examination of the rate-book of a township just over the boundary of the borough of Manchester, from forty to fifty occupiers of this description were found who were not then on the register for South Lancashire.

The next thing to be done is to take care that the claims are made out in proper form, and served in due time.

It is most convenient to use printed forms of notice; and these should be filled up with the greatest care, the following particulars being closely attended to:—

The name of the claimant to be written at full length.

The place of the claimant's abode (not the place where his business only is carried on).

The nature of the qualification must be correctly described in the third column. Any misdescription here will be fatal if the vote should be objected to. Leasehold or copyhold must not be described as freehold; or freehold as leasehold.

The situation of the qualification must also be accurately given as required in the fourth column. In cases of successive occupation, as, for instance, where the voter has removed from one farm to another since the 31st of last July, each set of premises must be set forth in the claim.

A correct copy of each claim must be kept, and the claim and the copy must each be signed by the claimant himself.

Should any of our friends desire to be furnished with further information on any particular point, they will please to address their inquiries to Mr. Paulton, League-office, 67, Fleet-street, or to Mr. Hickin, Secretary to the League, Manchester.

## PROTECTION THE BANE OF THE COLONIES.—MONOPOLIST OPPRESSION OF THE NEGROES.

We are constantly hearing complaints from the colonial monopolists of the losses and ruin they have sustained by the abolition of slavery, of the idleness of the emancipated negroes, of the falling off in the production of sugar and coffee, and of the impossibility of competing with slave labour, because of the high wages demanded by the free negroes. These statements are eagerly caught hold of by slaveowners to show that, by the confession of the proprietors themselves, the experiment of the abolition of slavery in the British colonies has proved a failure. We regret to find that statements like these, in which the enemies of emancipation rejoice, are not confined to the planters, but that the Bishop of Barbadoes\* has lent the high authority of his name to the calumny, by declaring in a sermon which he has thought proper to preach twice, and which has been published in the newspapers, that, in consequence of some reports respect-

\* Speech of the Rev. W. Kalbb, at Surrey Chapel, May 1, 1845.

ing the labouring population, "freedom was a curse rather than a blessing to them."

We rejoice to be able to state, from a very full knowledge of what is passing in our West India colonies, that, though the success of emancipation has been retarded by that bane of the colonies and of the abolition of slavery-protection, there never were more encouraging evidences that free labour will finally triumph over slavery than exist at present; and we are prepared to prove that there is not the slightest foundation for the complaints of the colonial planters, or for the daring assertion of the Bishop of Barbadoes.

We showed, in our article of the 8th of February last, that the falling off in the production of sugar during the period of apprenticeship was the consequence of the unjust and infamous treatment of the negroes by the planters. The flogging of females was continued, and "during the short period of two years, in Jamaica alone, 60,000 apprentices received in the aggregate 250,000 lashes, and 50,000 other punishments by the tread-wheel, the chain-gang, and other means of legalized torture." After the period of emancipation, when the planters could no longer compel the negroes to work by the whip, they endeavoured to compel them to work at such wages as they chose to dictate; and, in cases of refusal, unroofed and even demolished their cottages; trod their provision grounds underfoot with oxen; increased their rent double, treble, and even fourfold; distrained their goods, and imprisoned their persons. This spirit of persecution, with the view to compel labour on their own terms, is not extinct, but it has assumed another form. Open oppression became dangerous—it was necessary to disguise it under the forms of law; and so the colonial Legislatures (composed of planters)—under the pretext of there being a short supply of labourers, and the public welfare (the welfare of the said planters) requiring an increase—have passed laws to encourage the immigration of foreign labourers, not by every planter importing at his own expense any such labourers he may need, but to remedy the evil of high wages by taxing the bread and other necessities of the negroes, for the purpose of providing a fund for bringing rival labour into competition with theirs. We do not recollect any instance of such barefaced legislative tyranny since the time of Edward III., when a statute passed for regulating or keeping down wages, whereby it was enacted that—"Every servant or labourer shall be bound to serve him that doth require him at certain accustomed rates of wages (fixed by act of Parliament), or else he committed to gaol until he find surety to serve." Again, in the time of Richard II., the landlord legislators passed another act to lower wages, candidly assigning as the reason, that "on account of the high price of labour, the tenant-farmers cannot pay their rents!" and it was therefore ordained that a pair of stocks should be provided for every town, and that such servants and labourers as would not serve and labour without "outrageous and excessive hire" should be set in the stocks.

There is a striking resemblance in monopolist legislation all the world over: it is the offspring of selfishness, and its degree of oppression is proportioned to the ignorance or weakness of its victims. Our own landlord legislators are not satisfied with merely taxing the corn and provisions of a whole people for their own supposed exclusive benefit, but they take care in making laws to shift the burden of taxation from their own to other shoulders, and then set up the cry of "exclusive burdens" to divert attention from the robbery, as thieves are loudest in their cry of "stop thief" when retreating from their plundered victim. Thus the duty on personal property, accumulated by a life of toil and care, is taxed with probate and legacy duties; but property in landed estates is transferred from generation to generation without the payment of one farthing of either of these taxes! A tax is levied upon fire insurance on merchandise, and every other kind of property, except farming stock! Horses used for trading purposes pay a duty; but when used in husbandry they pay none! Dogs used to protect property are taxed; but shepherd's dogs are exempt from taxation! Lime and dung only pay turnpike tolls when used for trading purposes; when used for land they pass toll free!

Lord Sandon has reason to be proud of his colonial friends, for they appear equally to possess that nice sense of legislative justice which the noble lord has so long supported in Parliament, and which has been his chief recommendation to his wooden-bible supporters.

The Rev. W. Kuibb, from Jamaica, in a speech at a recent meeting of the Baptist Missionary Society, which will be found in another column, gives some details of Jamaica legislation, which show that the sugar monopolists have taken care to secure the like protection of their precious selves from taxation with the corn monopolists of the mother country. Jamaica is almost entirely dependent upon foreign supplies for food. The duty on flour has been raised from 4s. to 6s. per barrel. Corn meal is an article of great consumption by the

labouring population. In the time of slavery, when purchased by the planters to feed the negroes, the duty was threepence per barrel. Now that the free negro has to purchase it for himself, the duty has been raised to three shillings! When the slave-owners fed their negroes with rice, the duty was one shilling per cwt.; now that the negroes have become buyers of rice, the duty is four shillings per cwt. Salt fish, for slaves, paid a duty of 6d. per cwt.; for free negroes it now pays 2s. per cwt. Turtle, which the negroes do not eat, is duty free. Pork, imported to feed slaves, paid only a trifling tax; now that it is imported to feed the free negroes, it pays 20s. 6d. Soap, to wash the hands of slaves, paid 9d. per box; to wash freemen, it must pay 2s. per box.

Since emancipation, the negroes have purchased little freeholds, and a great demand has arisen for timber to build their houses. Before freedom, the tax on white and pitch pine was 4s.; but since, it has been raised to 8s. for white, and 12s. for pitch pine, and the tax on shingles has in like manner been raised from 1s. to 4s. and 8s. But whilst the duties on all necessary articles consumed by the negroes have thus been raised since they became freemen, the duty on staves for sugar hogsheads, which they do not use, has been kindly reduced from 12s., the duty during slavery, to 2s.; and the tax on wooden hoops, which was 4s., has been reduced to 1s. 1. The sum expended to import other labourers at the expense of the negroes, up to 1844, amounted to £128,271, besides £95,000 voted for the same object during the present year.

Now, will it be believed, in the face of this outcry about the scarcity of labourers, and the high price of labour, that the average rate of wages in Jamaica is only 1s. per day out of crop, and 1s. 6d. per day during crop? Yet this is the fact; and, so far from there being a scarcity of labourers, in most cases the earnings of the labourers have not been more than 4s. per week, because during the last two or three days of the week they have had no labour. In these circumstances, to import additional labourers at the expense of the negroes, and with the threatened purpose of reducing their wages, is sheer folly and wickedness, and can have no other effect than to produce animosity and heartburnings; whilst on a population just emerging from licentiousness, the introduction of Coolies in the proportion of 100 men to 8 females cannot fail to be the source of fresh crime and immorality to an alarming extent.

It is amusing to hear those who put their trust in acts of Parliament, instead of trusting to their own exertions for prosperity, attributing their want of success to every cause but that which appears most obvious. Our corn monopolists we find ascribing their present distress to the Canada Corn Bill, or the new sliding scale—to Peel's tariff, or the admission of foreign cattle. In like manner the sugar monopolists complain of the abolition of slavery and of their inability to compete with slave labour, because of the high price they are obliged to pay for free labour. But if they had labour for nothing it is evident that their condition would not be improved. They give little enough for labour; but it is quite as much as it is worth. A labourer that cultivates the ground with his hands and nails can earn no wages, because he would probably not be able to produce more than would supply his own wants. A labourer who scratches the ground with a hoe (which is the Jamaica system of cultivation) must necessarily earn a small amount of wages when placed in competition with those who, with better tools, raise four or five times the quantity of produce. The rude state of cultivation in Jamaica sufficiently accounts for all their difficulties. A recent writer\* observes—"Almost the only implements of husbandry in common use are the hoe, the bill, the cutlass, and the axe. Manure is conveyed to the field on the heads of labourers in baskets or trays filled by the hoe; exhibiting in these respects no improvement on the rude usages of our Saxon forefathers! Little is done in the way of drainage, alternate crops, artificial grasses, or manuring. Soils are usually wrought until exhausted; after which they lie fallow for several years. 'The farmer may form some idea of the waste of labour in the West Indies,' says an intelligent American traveller (Dr. Hovey), 'by supposing his lands to be all cultivated with Indian corn, and no agricultural implements allowed him, except a mule, a pack-saddle, a wooden tray, and a stab-hoe.' The old methods of cultivation are the rule—the improvements the exception. The hoe, the cutlass, and the tray, and others of equal antiquity, still usurp the place of the plough and spade, the muck-fork, the wheelbarrow, and the tumbril; whilst the practical knowledge of the last century is still regarded by many as superior to the experience and science of the present day."

To bolster up a wretched system like this by protection is nothing less than offering a premium on ignorance and idleness, alike injurious to the planters and the negroes. To spend large sums in the importation of rival labourers, and to

tax the negroes for the purpose of paying the expenses, are flagrant cruelty and injustice, whilst it will fail to accomplish the relief which the planters seek. It is calculated that, in planting cane, a pair of horses and a plough will do the work of thirty free men. WHAT IS WANTED, THEN, IS NOT AN IMPORTATION OF HILL COOLIES, BUT AN IMPORTATION OF HORSES AND PLOUGHS, AND MACHINERY, to make labour more productive. We have lying before us the most abundant evidence that sugar can be—*ay, that it is—made by free labour* as cheap in Jamaica as in any other country, and that it can be made cheaper. Happily there are even in Jamaica a few intelligent and enterprising planters, and these, like our most intelligent agriculturists, repudiate protection and desire to see it abolished. Among this number is Mr. George Price, of Worthy-park, St. John's, who has addressed an interesting letter to the *Jamaica Times*, dated April 12, 1845, in which he expressly states "that, if the cries for protection and immigration could be overcome by a general cry for the one thing needful, capital, to be expended in improved cultivation, the crops would be doubled in five years; that they would exceed the largest crops ever made in the island, without the addition of one single labourer; and that they would afford a large net profit to the proprietor."

This is important testimony, coming from a planter who makes five hundred hogsheads of sugar per annum, and ought to make a deep impression on the Anti-Slavery Society, who have hitherto given their countenance and support to the monopolists, and who tell us that, if the protection on free-labour sugar be removed, "the planter will withdraw from the production of sugar; the labourer will lose his employment and his wages; the merchant and shop-keeper will find their resources suddenly cut off; and, lastly, the abolitionist will discover, to his dismay, that a fresh impetus of vast force is given to slavery and the slave trade."

It is vain to expect capital to flow into our colonies till the monopoly is abolished. We must, however, recur to this important subject hereafter; but we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of communicating a piece of intelligence which we are persuaded will gladden the heart of every friend to emancipation. We are told that no stimulus but the whip will induce the negro to work like a white man. The experiment has been for the first time fairly tried on the railway now making in Jamaica, and, we are happy to say, with the most complete success. The stimulus of a just reward for labour and kind and honourable treatment has proved equally efficacious in Jamaica as in England. The negroes on the line are employed on piece-work, and, notwithstanding the exhausting heat of the climate, they have performed daily an equal amount of labour with labourers engaged in the same kind of work in England; indeed, the engineer declares "he prefers the negroes to Irish and Scotch labourers." Their earnings on piece-work amount to 2s. per day. Here is an important and gratifying fact, proving the superiority of free over slave labour; and we trust our anti-slavery friends supporting the sugar monopoly will ponder it before they presume again to raise the cry that free labour needs protection.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Sixteenth Week, ending Saturday, June 7.

The week has been a heavy one in both Houses of Parliament. The Maynooth College Bill has led to that rare event in the House of Lords—an adjourned debate; while in the House of Commons, the subject of acedemical institutions for Ireland, as well as other topics, have produced animated discussions. In addition to this, the railway and other committees absorb the time of members during the day, and naturally indisposes them to late sittings at night; and no subject that is not of immediate interest or of pressing importance is likely to be attended to.

Yet in the face of these disadvantages Mr. WARD was enabled to bring on his motion for a Committee of Inquiry into the PECULIAR BURDENS alleged to be borne by the landed interest. This fact is creditable to the zeal and determination of the Free-Traders in the House of Commons. In their minds no change of circumstances affects the great question. It is the same great truth and great fact, whether the season be good or bad, the times prosperous or adverse. This is the true way to effect their object, for discussion keeps the subject fresh until its truth has pervaded every nook and cranny of the public mind, and it is then carried into full effect, as a simple matter of course. In this point of view, the Free-Traders are the true and most constant CONSERVATIVES in the House of Commons, for they are the main agents in working out a policy which will place this country on a higher and prouder position than it has ever yet attained—that position which secures capital, manufactures, labour, and enables all interests and all men to "flourish and be free." Mr. WARD very ably treated the proprietors of that



great change which has come over Parliament as well as public opinion, in relation to PROTECTION; and good-humouredly bantered the landed interest about the very "peculiar" condition in which they find themselves. He said:—

"He did not observe on the opposite benches the antagonists whom he was in the habit of seeing there upon all agricultural questions. There certainly was one of them in the gallery (Sir John Tyrrell) of whose presence they had had a most unequivocal indication. (Much laughter.) [The worthy Essex baronet was sound asleep, and emitting most sonorous intonations of the fact.] He was sorry to be obliged to allude to that hon. gentleman in his absence (renewed laughter); and also that he was compelled to bring forward his motion notwithstanding the paucity of his usual opponents. ('Hear, hear,' and a laugh.) The notion of there being peculiar burdens on land was now the last of the agricultural fallacies. The right hon. baronet the Secretary of State for the Home Department, in his speech the other night, had proved that wages had risen as the price of bread had fallen; he had shown that cheap bread did not produce low wages; and he had also told his agricultural friends pretty distinctly that employment did not depend on the home market. The hon. baronet had, in fact, swept away all the minor fallacies like so many cobwebs, and had left this great master fallacy of the peculiar burdens upon land, as a solitary remnant of the wreck, to tell of the disappearance of its former comrades. ('Hear, hear,' and a laugh.)"

Proceeding for some time in this style, Mr. Ward addressed himself afterwards to his main argument in the following way:—

"When the right hon. baronet (Sir R. Peel) introduced the foundation of the present legislation in February, 1842, he said,—1. 'You are entitled to put such a duty on foreign corn as is equivalent to the special burdens which you impose upon agriculture. 2. But an additional protection to agriculture can be vindicated only on the ground that it is for the interest of the country in general.' But the interests of the country gentlemen had been of late completely given up by the right hon. baronet the Home Secretary. (Hear, hear.) If hon. gentlemen were capable of following the argument of the right hon. baronet, they must perceive that it went to the extent which he alleged. They appeared, however, not to be willing to believe either the right hon. baronet or him (Mr. Ward), but he would tell them that their case was equally damaged by themselves in refusing inquiry, and in the extravagance of their own pretensions—pretensions which were most absurd and untenable. (Hear, hear.) He would just recall some of the arguments. Lord Abingdon said that 'the land bears all the burden of taxation,' and when he was interrupted in his remark by some expression of surprise, he qualified the statement by adding, 'at least, in the ratio of four to one.' Then came the hon. member for Somersetshire, who asserted that 'the land pays half of the income-tax; and he was followed by the hon. member for Norfolk, who contended that the land paid the whole of the poor-rates. The Duke of Richmond said that the land paid all the charge of the church and of the administration of justice, from the constable to the workhouse chaplain. 'On what principle was the landed interest required to pay for the apprehension of every prisoner, for his maintenance in prison, and for his prosecution?' The landed interest did not do this, the county-rates did it, and the county-rates were part of the poor-rates, one-half of which was paid, not by the land, but by other real property. Then came the Duke of Newcastle—the premier that is to be, 'the coming man,' who thought that, 'as far as my recollection serves me, not one good measure has passed since the entrance into office of the present administration. The *amor patriæ* extinct—the *amor sui* its substitute. Land utterly neglected..... The cultivator of the soil is in utter despondency and alarm. He has long been the most ill-used and most neglected of our fellow-subjects. He knows not how to act. He feels, from sad experience, that he, who is the mainstay of the country, is buffeted about in bewildering uncertainty, knowing that he is not protected or encouraged, but milked like his own cows, or shorn like his own sheep, to pay, mayhap, some Popish endowment or other misapplication of his contributions.' That was a touching picture, wanting nothing but truth to give it sublimity. ('Hear, hear,' and laughter.) But was it the fact that the land paid all the burden of taxation? On referring to the gradual increase of the Customs, he found that the account in the following years stood thus:—1596, Elizabeth, £50,000; 1613, James, £118,000; 1689, William III., £781,000; 1763, George III., £4,000,000; 1816, £11,000,000; 1842, £22,850,000; giving a rise from £50,000 to £23,000,000 in two hundred and fifty years—a pretty effective contribution to revenue. But they were told that land paid more than half of the income-tax. By the papers moved for by the honourable member for Wolverhampton he was able to ascertain the following analysis of the income-tax:—

REAL PROPERTY—ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND—ANNUAL VALUE.		
Land—England and Wales ..	£10,167,088	5 7½
Scotland ..	5,586,527	13 3
	£15,753,615	18 10½
Tithes ..	1,960,330	0 0
Manors ..	152,216	0 0
Total land ..	£17,866,161	18 10½
OTHER PROPERTY.		
England and Scotland—Houses, factories, wharves, business premises, &c.	£58,475,738	0 0
Quarries ..	210,483	0 0
Mines ..	2,081,397	0 0
Iron works ..	559,436	0 0
Fisheries ..	58,914	0 0
Canals ..	1,307,923	0 0
Railways ..	2,593,912	0 0
Other property ..	1,776,296	0 0
Total annual value ..	£67,098,118	0 0

Mr. Culloch stated in his last work on 'Taxation' that schedules A having produced £2,160,412. 10s. 9d., at 7d. per £1, must have been assessed on £73,728,480; instead of which, the real property return proves the annual

value of property included under schedule A to be £95,284,497; of which land paid as nearly half as possible.

Schedule A—Net duty received April 5, 1843 ..	£2,150,412	10 9
Land one-half ..	1,025,206	5 4½
Add Schedule B—Tenants' profits ..	298,763	0 0
Total paid by land ..	£1,323,969	5 4½
Net duty received under Schedule D April 5, 1843—Trades and professions ..	£1,466,985	9 8
Under Schedules A and B—Land ..	1,323,969	5 4½
	£143,016	3 3½

So that land, instead of paying all the income-tax, or half, actually pays less by £143,016 than the amount received from trades and professions. Then came the argument of his honourable friend the member for Norfolk, respecting the poor-rates being paid by the land. In the last report of the poor-law commissioners he found it stated that 'there is no doubt that the yearly produce of the rateable property of England has undergone a very great increase since 1813; and that its annual progress is now rapid. The total annual value of real property assessed to the property-tax in 1815 in England and Wales, was £51,848,423, whereas the amount in 1843 was £85,802,735. It is further to be observed, that the increase in the annual value of rateable property arises, not only from the improved cultivation of the land, and its consequently increased productiveness, but also, to a great extent, from the large number of new houses and other buildings (such as manufactories and warehouses), as well as railways, canals, wharves, &c., which are constructed from year to year. Accordingly, land, as such, pays a smaller proportion of the local rates in each successive year; and a larger proportion falls on the other sorts of rateable property. This fact appears from the table inserted in our Ninth Annual Report, par. 27, which shows, that whereas the proportion of the poor's rate falling upon land was 69 per cent., and that falling on other property was 31 per cent., in 1826; the proportion falling on land was only 52 per cent., and on other property 48 per cent., in 1841.' By a reference to the present year, he was told it would appear that the proportion paid by the land was still smaller. Mr. McCulloch, in his recent 'Treatise on Taxation and the Funding System,' has the following remarks:—'Exclusive of tithe, the land is burdened with an extra weight of other taxes. Poor rates and county rates of all descriptions have always fallen much heavier on it than on any other species of fixed property; and though within the last few years some of the more striking anomalies in their assessment have been removed, they still continue to press with disproportioned severity on the land. Moneyed fortunes also, and funded and other moveable property, are exempted from all local burdens. An individual may have £100,000 engaged in trade, or vested in the public funds, in mortgages, or in stock of the Banks of England or Scotland, without being subject to tithe, or to any of those taxes for the poor and other local objects that fall on the owner of the smallest patch of land, as well as on most other descriptions of fixed property. There may be reasons to justify this exemption; but the fact of its existing presses so heavily on the land and other fixed property are peculiarly affected by taxation. It will be afterwards seen that the malt-tax, though of course it falls directly on the consumers, is, in its indirect operation, particularly injurious to agriculture; and, being a grievance peculiar to this department, it would entitle the agriculturists, had they no other claims to urge, to a countervailing duty on the importation of foreign corn. Such being the case, the agriculturists are clearly justified in demanding, in the event of the free importation of corn being permitted, that it should be burdened with a fixed or constant duty sufficient to countervail the peculiar charges that would fall on the land, were the ports unconditionally opened. It is impossible to refuse them this, without trampling on every fair principle. Such protection is not given to the agriculturists as a favour, but to keep them where they have a right to be kept—on the same level as the other classes of their countrymen. If they be relieved from these peculiar burdens, the necessity for the countervailing duties will of course cease, and they may, and indeed should, be repealed forthwith; but the equalization of taxation at home should, in all cases, precede the repeal of duties on importation. It is not possible, perhaps, to form any very accurate estimate of what the countervailing duty should amount to; but it would not, we apprehend, be difficult to show that, by fixing it at 5s. or 6s. a quarter on wheat, and other grain in proportion, the justice of the case would be satisfied, and the interests of the agriculturists and those of the public conciliated, and most effectually promoted. A duty of this amount would preserve all parties in the same relative situation after the opening of the ports as previously; and would treat them, as they should ever be treated, with equal and impartial justice.' As to the tithes, he would leave it altogether out of the question, for he regarded it as a charge to which the land was liable before the title of the oldest Norman baron commenced. He trusted, therefore, that he would never see the example of Ireland followed, and 25 per cent. of this tax sacrificed to the landlords, who had no claim to it. With respect to the malt-tax, that certainly was a very fair subject for inquiry. As for the poor-rates, he differed entirely from the opinion of Mr. McCulloch, and he saw nothing that justified such a distinction being drawn. The valuations and the deductions for poor-rates were the same on different descriptions of property, and if landed property paid more it was because that description of property was more valuable. He had gone over this subject with great care, and he had been most anxious not to deceive himself on the point, and had made the strictest inquiry into the matter. He would take a parish with which he was connected, and which was partially agricultural, and which contained a comparatively large town, namely, Ware, in Hertfordshire, where a great trade in malt was carried on, and he found that the same principle as regarded rating existed with respect to both descriptions of property. He found that farms containing 697 acres were assessed at £725, and were rated at £670. 14s., deductions being made for insurance, repairs, &c. There had been for the last two years three poor-rates at a shilling in the pound each year, being for each rate

£28. 16s. 8d. for the year, or £86. 10s. for the whole period. The surveyor's or highway rate, at eightpence in the pound, one rate each year, was £19. 4s. 6d.; church-rates, at fourpence in the pound, £9. 12s. 8d.; the county-rate, assessed at 1½d. in the pound, was £3. 12s. 2d.; the police-rate, assessed at 1½d. in the pound, upon the rental of £725, was paid out of the poor-rates. Another farm, containing 148 acres, was assessed at £219. 10s. 6d., and rated at £174. 5s. 6d.; and the rates amounted to £34. 17s. 6d. On the other hand, he would take a malting establishment in Ware, belonging to the same owner as the former property, which was rated at £202. Another malting house was rated at £149. 10s.; and a third at £135. Now, it appeared these paid £40. 19s. rates per annum. Maltings were rated according to the quantity, the steep at £2 per quarter, so that if a malting steeps 50 quarters, it was rated at £100. Malt steeps were rated at about £2 per steep, of which 110 belonged to one firm, and were rated at £220. Now, this certainly might be considered equal to the rating of land in the neighbourhood. On inquiry, also, he found that the same was the case in the neighbouring districts of the county. The tendency, however, was rather to benefit the land unduly at the expense of the other interests. For instance, this was particularly the case as regarded railways. The rates upon that description of property had become an enormous abuse, and the spread of the evil could only be prevented by expensive legal process. Indeed, in assessing railways, the first principle seemed to be that a railway had no remedy. The rating was taken on the profits of capital and stock. This was different from other interests; for all other stock in trade was specially exempted. He would instance what he meant, in the case of the Birmingham Railway, with respect to which the rates were arbitrarily increased in 1843 not less than £18,000 a year. The average rateable value of the land in parishes through which it runs was 30s. 3d. per acre. The whole rate per mile for the railway was from £800 to £2000 a year, or from £80 to £200 per acre. He would take the parish of Milton, where the railway paid £2000 per mile, or on ten acres, while the rate on the whole of the rest of the parish was £1355. Again, take the Great Western: he found that in the parish of Burnham, Bucks, the railway paid rates of £2940 per mile, or £292 per acre. This was a double injustice, for the county and all the other rates increased in proportion with the increased assessment in the poor-rates, and the tithes also increased in the ratio of the increase of the other rates. As for the highway-rate, he would ask any gentleman connected with land whether he could imagine an instance of any man who would take a farm which had not a road to it. Need he then say that these roads improved the value of land, and the landowners certainly met with more than an equivalent advantage for the expenses of this rate. But if they took all the rates chargeable on land, and charged them on the Consolidated Fund, they must do the same with regard to all rates payable in towns. Why was the agricultural county of Kent to be exempted from the payment of its police, and this not done in Marylebone? Why were the inhabitants of London, where, indeed, all the members of the House resided for a certain portion of the year, to be made to pay sewer and other local rates, while you exempted the country districts from any such payment? It was clear, if you adopted the principle, you must apply it equally to both parties. When the Duke of Richmond complained of the expense to the counties of the administration of justice, and that that charge ought to be defrayed out of the Consolidated Fund, was he aware that, if this were adopted, they must change the whole system which now existed? If the Government were charged with the expenses of the gaols, they certainly must have the control over those who filled the gaols; and the whole system of unpaid magistrates must be put an end to; and they must have stipendiary magistrates throughout the country, as in France and Prussia. This might be a very good suggestion, and the arrangement might be desirable, but he did not believe that the noble duke calculated on such a result. But even supposing that they could make out some part of their case, and show that some inequalities existed which fell on them more than on others, and that there were some little disparities which ought to be equalized, the committee, into which he hoped they would consent to go, was a proper place to investigate the matter. But they must satisfy him that these claims of protection by the landed interest, in consequence of the existence of such burdens, really existed before he could come to Mr. McCulloch's conclusion. But now he must really refer to the exemptions which existed as regarded landed property from burdens which are imposed on other interests. He did not like to trouble the House again in going into this subject at length, as he had so often gone into it on former occasions, but they should recollect that there never was a country in which land was so excepted from heavy burdens, which fell upon other interests. Take, for instance, the legacy and probate duty. There was none on real property. The total amount raised since 1797 upon other property was about £60,000,000, and of this amount not one shilling was derived from the land. (Cheers.) Then, again, take the house duty. In 1825 there were 527,000 houses assessed, and 136,000 farm-houses were excepted. If subject to the same payment of duty from 1803 to 1831, when this tax was repealed, the revenue would have received £5,000,000 more than it had. (Hear, hear.) Again, there was formerly a tax upon horses used in husbandry; this duty was repealed in 1822, and the revenue lost £470,000 a year. There were also a great number of other exemptions to the payment of the duty on horses belonging to those connected with the land. In the first place, the exception from the duty was made on horses ridden by occupiers of farms at less than £200 a year. Then this exception was increased to those under £500 a year rent; then for all horses ridden by bailiffs; then for all horses occasionally let out for hire; then upon all brood mares. Another exception from taxation was in connexion with fire insurances; 3s. in the pound was the ordinary fire insurance duty, but there was no duty on insuring farming stock. Again, £1 11s. 6d. was charged as a tax upon each saddle horse used in any other trade, but on farmers' horses there was none. Again, with respect to servants, farmers paid no charge for husbandry servants occasionally used as domestic servants. They had also been relieved from the duties on sheep dogs, tax-carts, and horses drawing them. There were also no tolls on lime, manure, &c. They had been exempted

from the tax on tiles used for draining; they had also been exempted from the tax on stewards, overseers, bailiffs, and clerks employed under them. No window duty was charged under £200 a year rent. The total reduction, then, of taxes affecting the agricultural interest between the years 1816 and 1834, according to the able table made out by the honourable member for Montrose, amounted to nearly £13,000,000. (Hear, hear, hear.) According to the same document, if they had been made to pay the probate and legacy duty since 1797, the exemption from taxation would have amounted to from 70 to 72 millions. Now, what were the burdens? Why was labour employed on land entitled to exemption not given in any other business? (Hear, hear.) He might be told that they should not touch this particular branch of industry—that it was unwise to tax the means and the elements of production. No doubt this might be sound; but then the exemption should be universal, and they should extend it to labour employed in manufactures, in mines, collieries, factories, and all equally valuable, but not equally encouraged, because they had not got the ear of the Legislature. (Hear, hear, hear.) If there were exemptions they should be fair and equitable between one interest and another, and not, as now, standing out in odious contrast. Now, with respect to the land-tax, the revenue of the country was £51,000,000; the land-tax amounted to £1,817,000. This tax was originally imposed at the rate of 5s. in the pound on the rental. If they now took the rental of the country at the amount generally taken, namely, £47,000,000, this tax would now produce upwards of £9,000,000. (Hear, hear, hear.) Last year they would find that the customs, the excise, and stamp duties, with half of the assessed taxes, produced £46,042,135, out of a total income of £57,137,991, including £5,397,455 property-tax, of which land did not contribute more than £1,323,969, including the charge of the tax on tenants' profits. (Hear, hear, hear.) It was obvious from these facts that the landed interest had exemptions from taxation to a much larger amount than was their due proportion."

Mr. Sidney Herbert was put up by the Government to answer Mr. Ward, making the usual official reply, and was followed by

Mr. CONNELL: The right honourable gentleman who had just sat down said there was no one in that House who had not a distinct opinion on the question under discussion. Judging from the speech of the right honourable gentleman, there was one exception to that rule—the right hon. gentleman himself. (Much laughter.) He must acknowledge he was completely at a loss to determine what was the drift of the right honourable gentleman's argument. He could not tell at that moment whether the right honourable gentleman maintained that tithes belonged to the landlord or the church. The right hon. gentleman argued the question of tithes as if they were still collected under the old system; but, as at present commuted, tithes were no more a burden on the landlord than on the shopkeeper. He had found himself in cathedral cities defending the right of the clergy to the tithes, as opposed to the landlords. Again, as to the poor-rates: if the manufacturer did not pay rates on the straps of his machinery, neither did the landlord on his standing corn. The honourable member for Essex cast a jealous eye on such establishments as Storr and Mortimer, and asked why they were not assessed to the poor. Let the honourable baronet go into any shop in the Strand, and ask the owner what proportion his taxes (he left out his assessed and window taxes, which were paid to the state)—what proportion his payments for paving, lighting, watching, and sewerage bore to the rental, and he challenged the hon. baronet to say that the shopkeepers of the towns did not pay local burdens to quite as great an extent as the farmers. (Hear, hear.) He should recommend his hon. friend (Mr. Ward), if he made this motion next year, to omit the word "exclusive," as applied to burdens on the land, for the common sense of the country treated such a proposition as nothing more than a thing to be laughed at. The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Herbert) played a part which did not sit well on him, that of a sophist, and his fallacies were perfectly transparent; and, if the Government had no better case than that presented by the right hon. gentleman, they must suffer as great a disaster that night as on any previous debate during the session, and that was saying a great deal. (Laughter and cries of "Hear, hear.") Granting that agriculture paid all the burdens, still the protection they claimed was no advantage to them. If protection was admitted to be an impediment to trade, and to the development of the resources of the country, it could not be a benefit to agriculture. The noble member for London proved, as one of the leading principles of his resolutions, that protection was the bane of agriculture. The right hon. gentleman at the head of the Government gave his unqualified approval to that proposition. He believed that amongst enlightened agriculturists two opinions would not be held on the subject in twelve months hence. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that higher ground would be soon taken than this bandying of injustice from one interest to the other. He knew the opinion was spreading rapidly (and he did not speak from any public demonstration), that manufacturers, merchants, shopkeepers, and landowners had but a common interest. He could never believe that a system which tended to restrict trade, and to retard the increase of wealth and population, could be beneficial to farmers and landed proprietors. (Hear, hear.) He should conclude by a remark as to Mr. McCulloch, who had been quoted by the right hon. gentleman. He wished to speak with respect of men of science, and he was willing to admit that, as a painstaking statistician, Mr. McCulloch had done considerable service; but, as an authority on political economy, he was not aware that that gentleman had added a single new idea to the science. He had been a commentator on Adam Smith, and, like the commentators of Shakespeare, he made dark what was light before. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) On the Bank of England, and on the Corn-Law question, this gentleman had a strange facility in shifting his views to the exigencies of parties and politicians. And when he was quoted as an authority on political economy, he begged to be understood that he, at all events, did not bow down to such authority. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MURDOCH and Mr. Vernon Smith both spoke afterwards. Mr. John Tyrell denied that he shrank from investigation, and Dr. Bowring enforced the main argument.

The House then divided, when the numbers were—  
For Mr. Ward's motion .. .. 109  
Against it .. .. 182  
Majority against the motion .. 73

#### JAMAICA LEGISLATION—OPPRESSION OF THE NEGRO POPULATION.

The following important statement of facts was made at a recent meeting at Exeter Hall, by the Rev. W. Knibb, the celebrated Baptist minister, of Jamaica:—

"I do not wish to say one word against the legislators of Jamaica, except so far as it is necessary to speak the truth, for I am confident that their actions will far more fully denounce their characters than any epithets that I could apply to them. I should not so fully enter into this discussion had not the truth of my statements been called in question by the honourable members of the House of Commons. (Hear, hear.) When I was traversing the bosom of the mighty deep a paper was put into my hands called the *Spectator*. In the slave-contaminated isle of St. Thomas, a person said to me, 'Have you any connexion with, or do you know the individual who is called, Knibb—he whom Lord John Russell spoke about?' (Laughter.) I said, 'I am the man.' (Loud cheers.) I will just read this extract from the *Spectator*, because I do think that, if the House of Commons choose to cast a slur upon the veracity of a missionary without any just occasion, knowing that they are shielded, and expecting that he is 5000 miles off, the people ought to know that all the truth is not confined within its walls—that a missionary may speak the truth though he has not as yet the word 'honourable' attached to his name. 'Lord John Russell admitted,' and you will excuse me reading an extract from the paper, 'that the West Indies had a considerable claim upon us owing to the recent abolition of slavery, but he denied that the plan would benefit the labourers in the colony. After emancipation they enjoyed a considerable degree of prosperity; that is quite true, the first two or three years. But now their wages have been reduced to 7s. per week. Taxes to support immigration purposes have been made to press heavily upon the labouring population, with the rise in the price of provisions; that taxation has gone to reduce their supply of food, and attempts are made to introduce vast numbers of labourers from the shores of Africa, entailing great danger lest civilization in the West Indies should be swamped by that inroad of people of a barbarous condition.' He made these statements on the high authority of Mr. Knibb. This avowal was greeted with loud cries of 'Oh! oh! oh!' (Cheers.) I will now, Sir, with your permission, let this respectable company know where the 'Oh! oh! oh!' ought justly to lie. It is necessary to state, that in Jamaica we are almost entirely dependent upon a foreign supply for food to eat, and so long as the cry shall be heard, that Jamaica cannot live unless the inhabitants make sugar and rum—so long as her fruitful soil is exhausted by these articles of export—we must find something to eat from other countries. I have the imports of Jamaica for the last three years, an account of everything that has come into that colony, and the duties paid thereon; but I will only call your attention to the year 1844, as showing the extent to which we are indebted to foreign powers for the food we eat. During the past year, 130,614 barrels of flour were brought in. They came from the United States of America, and the recent tariff has imposed upon each barrel a tax of 6s., the former tax being 4s. (Hear, hear.) Of corn-meal, which is very much consumed by the labouring population, and especially by the children, there were 32,337 barrels imported. In the time of slavery it was purchased by the planter to feed his negroes, and was then subject to a tax of 3d. per barrel. At the time of freedom, when this law was passed, when the free peasant had to purchase it, the tax was raised to 3s. per barrel. (Cries of 'Shame!') Of rice, which is consumed—and there is no difference in the tariff between slave-grown and free-grown rice,—rice, which is consumed very considerably by the people, there were 14,077 bags brought in, each bag weighing, I should think, about two cwt. The tax, when the slaveowner had to feed his slave, was 1s. per cwt. It is now 1s. per cwt. (Cries of 'Shame!') Salt fish, which is another article of food very generally consumed, and of which 150,000 cwt. were brought in last year, was without a tax at all, or at most a very trifling one, not amounting to more than 6d. per cwt., but that has been increased to 2s. Pork, and especially American pork—that which the better classes of peasants use, and indeed it is their staple food with which to savour their yams—was subjected to a trifling tax during the time of slavery. They have now raised it on American pork to the tune of 20s. 6d. (Renewed cries of 'Shame!') There were brought into Jamaica last year 29,803 barrels of pork, and to show you the difference between that brought from England and that from America—and I have been very particular in my statistics—I must state that 4718 barrels came from Great Britain and Ireland, which were brought in at a tax of 15s., and 27,106 were from America, and these were taxed by the House of Assembly at 15s. per barrel; the English tax laid by the British House of Commons is 3s. per cwt., or 5s. the barrel. So that from this single article alone, consumed by the peasants, or nearly so, at any rate the lower classes, a tax has been raised of nearly £29,000. This same principle runs through the whole. They will not allow the freeman to wash his hands without taxing the soap to a larger amount than they did before. The tax on soap was then 9d. per box, now they have made it 2s. And when I tell you that 30,930 boxes were imported last year, you will see how, in this article, the freeman is made to feel it. (Hear, hear.) I was afraid that my friends in England were not fully aware, as I believe they were not, of the extent of the necessity of providing food from another part of the world, and by the wicked conduct (for I cannot designate it by a weaker term) of these men who, while they were proclaiming their own distress, fastened such a bond upon their hapless victims. Taxes were made to press heavily upon the labourer that was brought in, though the effect has not been so severe as that arising from the taxes on food they must eat every day. But to show the anxiety of these men, as soon as the freeholds had been purchased there was a demand for white pine, and pitch pine, and lumber shingles. The tax was taken off, or nearly so, from white and red staves, with which puncheons and hogheads were made, and the hoops with which they were bound. (Hear, hear.) Before the intro-

duction of freedom the duty on staves was 12s.; they have kindly reduced it to 2s. The tax on wooden hoops was 4s., and they have reduced that to 1s. (Hear, hear.) The fact is, they use them, and the people do not; while upon the white pine and the pitch pine, which the individuals wanted to build their houses with, that which was 4s. before is made into 8s. for white pine and 12s. for pitch pine. (Hear, hear.) Those who have been in the colonies know full well that if the emancipated labourer wished for a comfortable home, instead of thatching it, he must have shingles, almost the whole of which come from America. Before freedom the tax on shingles was 1s., but that has been raised to 4s. and 8s. Now, there is just as much more wood in one white oak stave as there are in two shingles, so that on the same amount of wood they have taken off 12s., and put 2s. on; and with respect to shingles, which were formerly 1s., they have now put on 4s. and 8s. The imports of shingles have been 7,526,293 feet of white pine and pitch pine, while of staves imported for the planter there have been 827,262. The whole taxes raised on imports, principally from the articles to which I have referred, have been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1842 .. .. .	127,821	14	6
1843 .. .. .	190,250	9	3
1844 .. .. .	192,517	12	7

making a total of what is raised by the House of Assembly, chiefly on the food which the peasant eats, and the lumber he purchases, during three years, of £510,589. 16s. 4d. Now, then, who is right—myself, or the gentlemen who say, 'Oh! oh! oh?' (Laughter and cheers.) Perhaps it will be said that I ought to tell you how the money is spent. We have to deplore a spirit in the islands of the west, which appears never to be satisfied when matters are doing well; and hence there has been, especially during the last two or three years, a combined and well-directed effort to deluge Jamaica with other labourers at the labourers' expense. Lord John Russell stated that this was the fact. There has been expended in immigration, chiefly from 1835 to 1844, for premiums, or salaries, or bounties on ships, the sum of £105,514. 9s. 6d., and to erect houses, £22,757. 6s. 11d., making a total of £128,271. 16s. 5d.; and to keep up the tale, they have this year, in the midst of the whole of their distress, voted no less a sum than £95,000 for bringing in labourers, when I could prove, and have stated in Jamaica that I could prove, to a demonstration, that they had not work enough for the labourers they possess. (Hear, hear.) You will say, How could they be so blind to their interests? Why, every act they pass puts something into their pockets. There is Mr. Commissioner this, and Mr. Comptroller that, and Mr. Superintendent the other, and snug berths for themselves; and ruin for the colony is the motto on which they appear to act."

#### THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE BAZAAR.

(From Douglas Jerrold's Magazine.)

Within the walls of Covent-garden Theatre the drama of fiction has long found a bright abiding place and home. Within these walls for years and years has genius spoken to the people—solemn in the sombre robe of tragedy, or sparkling in the gayer vestments of her more mirthful sister, in art. Within these walls have enthusiastic assemblages, by turns mirthful and tearful, come to cast aside, for the hour, the sordid things of life, and revel in bright scenes, and among fair beings, poet-created. Within these walls have the high thoughts and grand imaginings, joyfully conjured up by genius in its solitude, found a living voice, and pealed into the beating hearts of thousands—rousing them to honest wrath, or, in more gentle mood, murmuring in whispers to be best answered by tears. Within the walls of Covent-garden Theatre the dramatic glory of our literature has been long enshrined—a mighty temple reared to a mighty power. For the present these things exist not. The worship has paused, and the worshippers have left the fane. We trust and believe that the power of the one has not ceased—that the others will yet return—that our great national theatre will be again what it was, and what it ought to be.

But the dramatic *interregnum* is not all barren. The theatre is not left mouldering, and dark, and empty. On the contrary, it has been as instinct with life—as teeming with admiration as in those olden days when crook-backed Richard dreamed his fearful vision, or Miranda listened to the song of Ariel, and entranced audiences shuddered at the one, or hung upon the melody of the other. And now there have been acted in Covent-garden Theatre—not scenes from the drama of fiction—but great scenes from the still more dread drama of reality. We have seen triumph within its walls—not fictitious stage kings, but true popular leaders. We have seen a demonstration of a power which does not fade with the glare of footlights—of a power mighty in its justice—of a power which will create a great, but a bloodless, social revolution—of a power which will restore to labour its just rights without depriving property of its just privileges—of a power which will link men of all climes together in a blessed brotherhood—of a power which will triumph over the earth, and bless all it triumphs over—which will enlighten and improve, and extend human happiness, and promote human comfort, as assuredly as God has decreed that what is good shall prevail, and as assuredly as all which life has decreed shall be accomplished!

The scene which, during the last month, Covent-garden Theatre exhibited, was a great demonstration—a great fact. The sight which it exhibited to the country was one to make it think. Within a spacious area were collected innumerable triumphs of industry and skill—mute parliament of labour. And these thousand objects imagined by ingenuity—created by toil—planned in all the eloquence of silence for the rights of those who fashioned them. The workman was represented by his handicraft; the tolling city was shadowed forth by rich stuffs, or glancing metals; and the fabrics, purposed from the loom, or darning from the furge, cried aloud, although they spoke not:—"Let us accompany our maker; let us go forth over the earth, civilizing, shingling, the forlorn man; and bringing, in return, plenty to the board, and peace to the hearth, of the toll-ward men and women who have fashioned us!"

A "Banner"—a title word for a banner—something—often an idle word for children's trophies, but



foolish goods brought forth of laborious idleness. But an idea can ennoble anything. Nobility, in its true sense, is an idea; and how grand is the idea which ennobles our Bazaar—which, even apart from its claims as an industrial exposition, makes it a great and holy thing. "Free Trade." These words form a spell by which the world will yet be governed. They are the spirit of a dawning creed—a creed which already has found altars and temples worthy of its truth.

The Anti-Corn-Law-League Bazaar has raised thoughts in the national mind which will not soon die. As a spectacle, it was magnificent in the extreme; but not more grand materially than it was morally. The crowd who saw it, thought as well as gazed. It was not a mere huge shop for selling wares; but a great school for propagating an idea. And the pupils were not Londoners alone. From every part of the land monster trains hurried up their visitors. From the tracts where tall chimneys stand like forests—from the districts where the plough, not the engine, labours—where the farm-steading takes the place of the factory—where the "mill" means not that weaving yarn, but that grinding corn—from town and country—shipping port and inland city—steam has whirled its tens of thousands to one common centre—to see a great demonstration—to take a great lesson, and then to narrate and teach what they have beheld and learned to others.

Nevertheless, these pages may fall into the hands of many who have not seen at all, or have heard little of, the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar. For their behoof we shall attempt a sketch in outline—it must be a rude and a hurried one—of the last grand demonstration of the League.

And first—not pausing on the threshold, not dwelling over the treasures piled in the lobbies—let us enter the Grand Hall, the inner and principal temple reared to Free Trade.

Let the scene burst at once upon us. Where are we? In a theatre? Where are boxes, and pit, and stage? It seems a sainted cathedral of old, through which the eye glances amid long vistas of pillars and of groined arches; a shadowy dim fane, into which light comes clothed with rich colour through the frosted windows; over which fretted arches, vaulted and echoing, extend; pillar, and roof, and oriel, rich with chiselling and the pomp of heraldry, and the gorgeous blazoning of old. Yet all this is but painted canvas and cut pasteboard. The art of the scenic decorator has been called into play, and in a few short weeks he has turned the theatre into a Norman-Gothic hall. The illusion is as complete as an illusion, which you know to be one, can be. Carved stone and oak are mimicked with rare skill. Mr. Grieve is another genii, who can conjure up a palace in a night.

But then the furniture—the tenants of our Norman-Gothic hall—what do they consist of? Taking up our station at one end, glance through the vista of pillar and arch, and see.

Long rows of tables extend away into the dim distance—two in the centre and one on either side. They are piled with rich merchandise, curiosities, miracles of art, wonders of nature. They comprehend the treasures of the warehouse and the museum. Rich stuffs and drapery arise from the walls, and the eye travels over seemingly never-ending masses of costly articles of every variety; for ornament, for use; for the boudoir, for the wardrobe; toys to please the eye, to minister to the very wantonness of luxury; things of necessity not so pretty, but much more useful; holiday bravery and every-day apparel; a sort of huge collection, not of one, but of all classes of social objects; of furniture for our homes, garments for ourselves, and ornaments for both; things to make us comfortable and make us gay; a never-ending, still beginning, panorama of the products of the labour of every artisan; the staples of every district; the wares of every factory; the goods of every shop!

Let us, however, be still more particular; and, pushing amid the thronging, chaffering crowd, make our way along the extending lines of tables, divided into stalls, each stall representing a city, or an industrial district, and, courteously informed by the fair and good ladies who preside, each over her peculiar charge of wares, examine more closely this great social museum.

Turning to the right on our entrance, we find ourselves among the productions of the stuff-manufacturing towns of the north. Yorkshire and Lancashire, these two grand bives of industry are, of course, well represented. Rochdale has its warm flannels, and rich winter clothings. Halifax sends light woollen goods of gay hues and soft fleecy texture; and Bradford is not behindhand in a similar way. On the opposite side of the theatre are the variegated prints which busy Manchester pours forth in a profusion which would clothe the world. The products of the swarming manufacturing towns which dot the north of England, and from among which the great wave of Corn-Law repeal first went forth over the land, are all represented here by the fruits of their numerous branches of industry. Nor are the far-off cities of Scotland mute. Glasgow sends carpets soft as velvet—elastic to the foot as living turf, glowing with colours bright and shining as the plumage of oriental birds—real romances of the loom. One of these, of large dimensions, is woven without a seam—a gorgeous piece of glowing texture. And Glasgow's neighbour, Paisley, sends shawls—delicate as Cachemire's—the fit vestments of beautiful forms. The north against the east for the oriental garb! The Land of Cakes against that of Roses! Galashiels, too, contributes plenty of her peculiar fabrics—variegated tartans and shepherds' hoddin grey. Galashiels is a classic brook; the ancient minstrel sung of its "braw, braw lads." In olden times the moss-trooper, reeking from the foray, plunged his panting horse through its gurgling rapids. Now there are mills upon the banks, where feudal strongholds stood, and their inhabitants are Free-Trademen, not free-booters. The times of modern reality are far better than those of ancient romance.

Leicester—the town of the three spires—of peeping Tom—we see your ribbons glancing and glittering like so many rainbows condensed into shot silk. Leicester is here in her rich boniary, and the busy hand of Nottingham is shown forth by her stores of gloves. Houlton sends—being of opinion that there is nothing like leather—tributes boots and shoes, for all occasions and places—from the muddy field through which the labourer picks his minding way. From the busiest centre of our manufacturing industry, to its remotest outskirts, have arrived offerings. Our great English and Scotch towns, surrounded by railways—swarming with artisans—ringing and shaking with the clatter of engines, forges, and looms

—and the remote islands of the Orkneys, placed "far amid the melancholy main"—have all of them done their duty to the Free-Trade Bazaar. These last out of the world specks of barren rock and bleak moor, dotting the wild northern sea beyond Cape Wrath, have offered their knitted hosiery—worked in smoky cabins in long winter nights—delicate fabrics—warm and fleecy—congenial to the bleak northern clime.

Then, turning from the products of the loom to those of the forge—from clothes and silks to iron and steel—let us see what the skill of cunning workmen in metals has done for us. Sheffield gives us knives of every sort—swords, axes, razors, scissors, all of the most exquisite finish, which the most consummate skill can impart to the most perfect material. Steel here glitters like burnished mirrors; there, dazzles like frosted silver. Weapons of offence and tools for industry lie side by side, all fashioned as never were tools or weapons since first the sparks flew from Tubal Cain's anvil. Birmingham offers as much iron-work; locks which would defy the "Forty Thieves;" specimens of mechanism, perfect labyrinths of wheels, and levers, and cranes. Darlston affords us the model of the mine, whence the raw materials of these wondrous triumphs of industry and science, ore and coal, are wrought from the earth. Colebrookdale proves that iron may be made ornamental as well as useful; it moulds the stubborn metal into forms rich and graceful as ever sculptor fashioned from clay; it works out statues, and vases, and fountains; goblets as delicately moulded as those which the potter, stationed near at hand, turns from his wheel. Then there are models by the dozen of the steam-engine—that glorious thing—the wizard which has formed half the wonders which surround it—which has put towns upon desert wastes, steamers in unknown seas, and which, labouring for the matter immediately in hand, has whirled tens of thousands to London, from every province of the empire, to gaze upon this accumulated treasury of industry.

But we might go on for days and weeks enumerating the contents of the League Bazaar. Let us content ourselves with drawing from them their obvious moral, with recording their silent pleading.

They represent Industry; they demand Industry's rights. Here, in this island, are hands and mouths; the labour of the one should be the food of the other. The spirit of Selfishness, powerful for a time, has said "No!" The people may not exchange what their hands have made, for the food which it would bring them. The struggling, honest, willing labour of the masses is paralysed for the luxurious, selfish idleness of the few!

Here, in England, is ingenuity to invent, and strength to execute, industrial achievements such as the world never before saw. Abroad there grows teeming food, the gift of the Deity. We would barter the products of our hands for the products of our neighbours' fields.

Selfishness forbids the bargain: backs in one land shall be kept bare, in order that stomachs in another may be kept empty; food shall rot in the fields in this country, because it may not be exchanged for merchandise, mouldering in warehouses in that.

But common sense, common humanity, common justice, call aloud, and with a God's voice proclaim, that God's gifts to all men shall not be marred by the foul will of a few; that the industrious shall not starve when there is food; that trade shall be as free as the sun, and the breeze, and the rain; that the great religion of commerce, which is civilizing, humanizing, fraternizing the world, shall no longer have a custom-house for its church, or a hostile tariff for its bible!

(From *Dolman's Magazine*.)

But what are the grandest productions of modern Gothic workers in stone, compared to that splendid canvas hall, with its arches, and pillars, and mouldings, and roof of the middle ages? The mind is bewildered by the magnificence of the scene; and wanders, half-distracted, from the hall of Westminster to the Valhalla of Germany; from the cathedral of Lincoln to the courts of the Alhambra. Portions from each meet our gaze by turns, and produce a splendid whole, which we are unwilling to scrutinize too closely, even by the light of the Chinese lamps that so gorgeously illumine it. A Free-Trade Bazaar!—a shop erected by our traders to exhibit and to sell the wares which they have presented, in the hope of attaining the proud privilege of being permitted to compete, without fear or favour, with the manufacturers of the world! It is a noble thought. It is a noble ambition.

Ay, and it is an interesting and an attractive sight to boot, to mark the different productions poured forth by our great marts of industry:—the iron works of Colebrookdale, the potteries of New Etruria, the draperies of Dunfermline (even the communion cloths, with the Bible and crown in the centre, and the crucifix on each side!), and the knives and beautiful model steam-engines from Sheffield! It is an exhibition that shows that the most active part of our population is big with thought and intention; that it is bent upon the attainment of an object. The history of the world, and of individuals who constitute the world, prove to us that, whatever man is firmly bent upon, that he will sooner or later attain. When the thousands who visit this Bazaar see the slave-grown sugar of the United States freely exposed on these stalls, can they continue blind to the hollowness of the pretence that excludes the sugars of Brazil, on the plea that they are produced by similar iniquitous means? When they hear that our own manufacturers, who have created the other articles that so much interest them will, in the course of two years or so, by the ordinary revolutions of English commerce, be clamouring for bread, while their warehouses are blocked up with store of goods for which there is no market; and that our fellow-subjects in Australia are feeding their pigs with wheat, while they themselves lack the comforts of civilised life—will they not see the hollowness of that plea which refuses to admit corn in England in exchange for our manufactured goods, lest we should be overwhelmed with Australian corn, and lest Australia should not have any corn to send us? We are sorry to be obliged to indite arguments so contradictory; but our colonists know too well that Government has refused their application on the two several grounds we have stated:—first, because the importation of their corn would overwhelm the British farmer; secondly, because they grow so little corn that a reduction of duty upon it could be no possible benefit to the colony.

(From the *Illuminated Magazine*.)

Bazaars and fancy fairs for class purposes have been common enough, but the Bazaar at Covent-garden has for its distinctive feature the union of all classes; perhaps

not all the people of all classes, but still supporters from amongst all classes, all shades of politics and religion. A free interchange of the gifts of Providence and the fruits of man's labour throughout the earth we inhabit, is deemed by a constantly increasing number of the community to be the best insurance against failure of production in any particular district. A merchant, who has only one, or but a few ships, insures them; but if he has many ships he does not insure; his risk is so divided that a loss does not seriously affect him. And precisely thus must be the position of a community whose wants are supplied, not from one, but from many districts in many and various climates. Whatever be the ultimate decision of the Legislature, whether for or against Free Trade, of one thing we are quite satisfied,—that English land will continue to rise in value as it ever has done. Population will continue to increase with the increase of food, and with the increase of population the land on which they dwell will become more desirable. And the richer the population becomes by extended commerce, the greater will be the price they will be enabled to pay for the land they require to use, whether it be for corn or cattle, or building or manufacturing purposes. We never yet heard of people in business thriving by the aid of poor customers, or of house-owners thriving by poor tenants; and, so far from anticipating that land can fall in value by the process of extended commerce, we are well assured of the contrary. Were we disposed to vent capital in land, it is not Polish or Russian, or American, Canadian, or Australian soil we should seek, but English; for the same reason that would induce us to prefer land near London to land near the Lizard—condensed population.

Antagonism of all kinds is very painful; and it was with extreme pleasure that we mingled in the smiling crowd thronging the theatre for a twofold purpose—to testify to a great question of political economy, and to triumph in the exhibition of the results of British skill and perseverance—an "Exposition" of British arts and manufactures; a kind of thing common enough in France, but rare in England, where the genius of production is stronger than that of exhibition. We had understood that we were to enter a Norman-Gothic Hall; but the aspect of Shakspeare's statue at the head of the stairs, surrounded by examples of manufactured wealth, prepared us for a different scene.

It was in truth a gorgeous Eastern Bazaar that burst upon us when we entered the body of the theatre, resplendent with artificial light. The days of Haroun Al-Raschid seemed to have returned. It was not as in other bazaars—a series of shops, but as though wealth of all kinds had been profusely heaped together without thought of cost, and without individual ownership; as though a barbarian conqueror had gathered together the plunder of many cities. The sound of the rock music ringing from the upper boxes added no little to the effect. The work-day world was all shut out, and we were in a region of pleasure, where all tastes were to be gratified by a simple act of volition; where people had nothing to do but to walk about, or sit down and enjoy themselves. It was like a first view of Aladdin's cave, the profusion of objects distracting the attention and forbidding either choice or criticism amidst the bewildering glare. Near an hour elapsed ere we could begin to make distinct observation and analyse the component parts of the scene before us, dividing it into distinct portions.

Crowds have attended this Bazaar from its first opening, and continued to attend it, though it was necessary at times to raise the price in order to keep them from crushing. This caused much disappointment, but unavoidably; and if there be a case in which people should bear disappointment with heroism, it is in the reflection that they make way only to swell the funds for a great public good. One poor woman feelingly deplored her loss. "I have come ten miles with my four children to pay my five shillings to the cause, and now I am asked for twelve-and-sixpence, which I have not to give."

It is a great public cause, and we never witnessed so much and such widely-spread conviction in any other. There has been a soul of devotion, a heroism in individuals of all classes, an amount of excitement no selfish feelings could have produced. Small tradesmen and tradeswomen in London have given away their goods out of their own shops to the Bazaar as a patriotic offering; giving away their stock and their trade at the same time—quiet, unostentatious offerings to the spirit of good, and with no hope of their names being published in the newspapers. Women have made presents of their jewels, toys, and trinkets, as well as their time; and we have no doubt that had such a proposal been made, and a Free-Trade use found for it, thousands of women would have been found to shear away the hair from their heads, as is recorded to have been done in one of the sieges of old to furnish cordage for the engines of death. We could almost wish that such a use had been found—not in the cause of war, but of peace—and we are sure that there are thousands of high-minded women who would have considered it a reproach to be seen adorned with the beautiful hair which might help to purchase freedom from misery to millions of their fellows. The distinctive mark of Free Trade would have been written on their brows in the unmistakable character of self-sacrifice.

#### THE PROTECTIVE SYSTEM.

(From the *Examiner*.)

Sir Robert Peel admits that the system is bad, but objects the dangers of change. Why, how much greater an alteration has he made than he contemplated, and with safety and advantage, as he now avers! When he re-adjusted the sliding scale he reckoned on an average of 50s., and it has been 10s. below the mark. What encouragement it is to him to proceed more boldly, it being seen that the protecting system has been so considerably (and as boasted), so safely, and beneficially relaxed, beyond the intention of the framers of the new law. It was always an injustice to talk of the protective system, but it is now a mockery to boot, for the difficulty is to find any portion of society acknowledging the benefit of protection. One half of the country complains of the mischief of the partial restrictions, and the other that the benefit of them has been so cut away that they are valueless. Like the Irishman in the sedan without seat or bottom, shuffling along with scraped shins, who had as lief walk, the farmers, with wheat at 45s., are beginning to think they might as well have Free Trade. The present state of things most unhappily combines the detriment of restriction to manufacturers with the detriment of delusion and false reliance to the farmers. It turns

the candle at both ends. Manufactures remain under their artificial disadvantages, and agriculture is further depressed. It is high time to decide which principle is sound—Free Trade or Monopoly, and to advance or fall back accordingly. The greatest absurdity is to condemn the principle, as the Premier does, and to adhere to it for fear of the change from bad to better. The evil of the protective system is confessed, as we have before shown: but in this sort of case the great tenderness and anxiety is not for the sufferers under an oppression, but for those who have had the undue benefit of it. When it appears that A has the title to an estate, of which B has had the possession and enjoyment, the law does not say, "This is wrong, but let us beware of sudden change, and B will be ruined if abruptly deprived of the estate which he unrightfully holds, and he has many dependents who would be thrown out of bread." Justice, in such instances, only looks to the claim of the wronged party: Parliament mainly considers the party profiting by the wrong. And yet, if estates were withheld from the rightful claimants to spare the unentitled holders distress and reverse of fortune, the extent of the evil would be the injustice; but in denying the rights of industry from tenderness for the classes profiting by its wrongs, there is, besides, the flagrant injustice, the loss to the country consequent on the restriction of its commerce and labour. There are, however, practically vested rights and vested wrongs: the first for the few, the other for the people. To yield to the poor advantages unjustly stolen from them, by taking from the rich advantages they never ought to have possessed, is an idea not to be endured. Yet the full exercise of industry is as much the right of the poor, as the undisturbed possession of his estate is that of any proprietor in the land. To swell their rents the landlords have stolen a part of the poor man's property (his field of employment), and Sir Robert Peel, confessing the wrong, trembles at the danger of restitution: for to give back to the plundered what has been unfairly and injuriously taken from him might seriously deteriorate the condition of him who has had the wrongful enjoyment. In dealing with every established oppression the first cure is for the oppressor.

#### CITY OF LONDON FREE TRADE REGISTRATION SOCIETY.

An adjourned meeting of electors from the various wards of the city of London was held on Thursday, at the Guildhall Coffee-house, for the purpose of adopting measures of preparation for the ensuing registration, and also for election purposes.

On the motion of Councillor JOHNSON, Mr. P. A. TAYLOR was called to the chair.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The secretaries of the various ward committees gave in lists of their members, and of the chairmen and secretaries.

Mr. BAIGT, M.P., addressed the meeting relative to the importance and the details of registration, and particularly dwelt upon the great moral effect produced upon the various constituencies of the empire by the result of elections for the city of London.

Some conversation ensued upon the importance of attending to the election of parish overseers and churchwardens, and of narrowly looking to the appointment, and watching the conduct, of vestry clerks.

On the motion of Mr. PARKER, of Portoken, seconded by Mr. REED, of Cripplegate Without, it was agreed that the ward committees should immediately commence operations in examining and procuring information relative to the registry, in so far as it embraced their wards respectively; and that they should put themselves in a state of organization to act efficiently when the new list should be published.

Thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting adjourned.

#### SOUTH LANCASHIRE REGISTRATION.

A meeting of the Registration Committee of the League, for the Manchester polling district, was held at the League offices, in Newall's buildings, on Wednesday evening. At the hour appointed for the meeting the room was filled by a large number of the most active and energetic of the Free-Traders of the district. Among those present were, Messrs. J. Brooks, J. Graham, H. Rawson, Alderman Armitage, John Shawcross, J. Barrett, B. Syddall, J. Simpson, R. M. Shipman, E. Worthington, S. P. Robinson, W. Shuttleworth, J. Barker, M. Mawson, J. F. Royle, W. McCall, R. Rumney, James Shawcross, J. Swallow, C. Duffield, &c. &c. G. Wilson, Esq., the Chairman of the League, presided, and stated the object of the meeting to be, to adopt measures for an immediate and thorough canvass of the district, to ascertain the number of persons qualified to claim for the county at the approaching registration, and to obtain the necessary information for objections to monopolists who are disqualified. He then went through the list of townships *seriatim*, and each of them was at once appropriated to the gentlemen who undertook to canvass them, each canvassing party receiving a township list from the printed register of the present year, and also a book containing a written street list of the same names; to which are added the voters residing in each township, but having qualifications elsewhere. With these they also received forms of the notice of claim, to be filled up at the proper time.

It was then resolved that circulars should be sent to all who are known to have purchased new qualifications, to inform them when and where they may obtain forms.

It was also resolved that the committee should meet on each Tuesday and Friday evening, at six o'clock prompt, to receive the reports of the canvassers, and to manage the general business of the district.

#### AMERICAN WHEAT AND ITS MARKET.

(From the Cincinnati Herald.)

In "Hunt's Magazine" for April, Mr. Williams, of Michigan, has an article on wheat and the importance of a home market. It contains the usual statistics designed to show how unimportant is the foreign market to the producers of the west and north-west, and how absolute is their dependence upon what is called the home market. The object is to enlist them in the support of the system of protection. Like other papers of the same kind, it is loose in its calculations, and short-sighted in its views.

Our annual export of wheat to all the world, it is said, is 4,600,000 bushels, equal to but a twenty-second part of

the crop of 1843. This presentation of the subject does not lessen the importance of wheat, viewed as an article of export. The proceeds are something like six or seven millions of dollars, and an advance of ten cents would be about half a million of dollars gain to the producers. This certainly is something.

Massachusetts, it is stated, "is a better market for flour than all the world beside." This is a small mistake. She consumes nearly 3,500,000 bushels of wheat, while our average export to foreign ports is 4,600,000.

As for Massachusetts affording an adequate market for the west, it is grossly absurd. Say that the crop of wheat in Ohio is but 20,000,000 bushels; the population is 2,000,000, which, allowing five bushels to each person, consumes 10,000,000—leaving 10,000,000 for export. Now, suppose Massachusetts drew her whole supply from Ohio, her consumption would amount to a little more than one-third. But when we recollect the vast amount of wheat raised by New York, and the incalculable capacities of the wheat-growing region in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and the territories on our north-west, one cannot but marvel at the coolness with which these home-market men attempt to impose their narrow notions and false statistics upon the people of the west.

Again, it is continually reiterated, that, even were Britain to remove her tariff on grain, it would do us no good—we could not compete with the grain-growing regions of Europe. It is forgotten that the demand in Britain, with the tariff removed, would go on increasing indefinitely—that the grain-raising districts of the north of Europe are limited in their power of production—and that our own wheat-growing region knows no limit. Let Britain change her system, and we would not fear to trust the energy and skill of our farmers, conjoined with advantages peculiar to their position, against the competition of the world.

In 1843, the Home Industry Convention issued a report, designed to show how futile were all hopes of a profitable foreign market for American produce. Statistics were given, of course, from which it appeared that, while our agricultural products had been increasing immensely, the exportation of them had been steadily falling off. In fifty years, the report said, our exportation of beef had diminished "nearly one-half, and that of pork about one-fourth." This was deemed conclusive, and the American agriculturist exclaimed—

"Surely our grain-growing and meat-producing states must see great encouragement for the future in the increasing demand from abroad of northern and western staples. It is quite unreasonable, so deem the abstractionists and politicians, that the farmers should think of seeking an outlet for their products among their own manufacturers, who are willing to take them in exchange for whatever they produce themselves, which we have found, after 50 years' experience, Europeans will not do."

The British Government had before that modified its duties on provisions, but the results had not been embodied in an official form. Meantime, all the home-market prints were ridiculing the idea of the West receiving any benefit from the change. The farmer and stock-breeder of the West would scarcely feel the difference. But what are the facts? Examine for yourselves.

	Dollars.
Beef, tallow, hides, horned cattle, &c.	623,373
Butter and cheese	210,749
Pork, bacon, live hogs, lard, &c.	1,894,894
Total	2,729,016

During the year ending September 30, 1842, the values of the following exports stood thus:—

	Dollars.
Beef, tallow, &c.	1,212,638
Butter and cheese	388,185
Pork, bacon, lard, &c.	2,629,403
Total	4,230,226

For nine months, ending June 30, 1843, the values were:—

	Dollars.
Beef, tallow, &c.	1,092,919
Butter and cheese	508,968
Pork, bacon, lard, &c.	2,120,020
Total for nine months	3,721,937

There can be little doubt that the total amount of exports for the whole of the year 1843, including the last quarter, must have been near five millions of dollars; and by this time the amount is probably more than double that of 1840.

These are facts against theories. That the late removal by the British Government of the duties from lard, oil, &c., will prove of vast additional benefit to our agricultural interests, no reasonable man can help believing. The effect of these changes on prices is everywhere felt, especially by the householder, who, without thinking of the cause, sometimes wonders why he should now be compelled to pay 6½ cents for beef that he bought a year or two ago for 3 and 4 cents per pound.

Let Great Britain remove her duties on grain, and although similar effects might not follow so soon, they would take place just so soon as the conviction became universal, that, no matter how large the quantity of wheat raised, the farmer might calculate upon a certain market for the whole of it. In view of these considerations, we certainly are opposed to all commercial regulations on our part, calculated to awaken a spirit of retaliation, and thus retard the progress of nations towards the only safe, stable, truly beneficial, and Christian policy—Free Trade.

#### MUTUAL DEPENDENCE OF MEN.

(From Dr. Hutton's Discourse on Free Trade.)

It must be obvious to every one who considers for a moment the state of things as it is, that God never intended any body of men, any more than any individual man, to be self-dependent. He has separated obviously that He might unite us. He has made our wants and our means of supplying them various, that we might supply each other. He has portioned the earth among us, and variously tempered the atmosphere and soil of each separate district, that each, rejoicing in its own peculiar productions, might have its acceptable contribution to make to the common store of all. Look at your tables covered with food conveyed to you from every various region of the world, even the poorest amongst you seasoning their humble meal with condiments from different lands, refreshing themselves occasionally with foreign fruits, send-

ing to the Indies for their sugar, and to China for their tea. Consider your clothing, often wrought for you by foreign artisans, or, even when native hands have wrought it in native looms, fabricated nevertheless from materials of foreign growth. But, so far as the absolute necessities of life are concerned, some one may, perhaps, inquire, May not, and ought not, nations to be independent—can we not always draw our bread at least, the staff of life, from our own soil? Let us not be too certain that we can. The God of the seasons may not be always willing that we should. He may withhold the early or the latter rain; He may send his mildew or His blight, and reward our self-confidence with famine. Admirably has it been said by an enlightened statesman that, "To confine the consumer of corn to the produce of his own country, is to refuse to ourselves the benefit of that provision which Providence itself has made for equalizing to man the variations of season and of climate."

If the great families of the earth will live together in peace and love, in friendly and familiar intercourse, absolute destitution need never come on any; for the hand of God, mercy-restrained, smites only partially, and He loves to see us ministering for each other to the sorrow. He has sent, healing for each other the wounds that He has inflicted.

"Why" (asks a poet), "does the will of Heaven ordain  
A world so mixed with woe?  
Why pour down want, disease, and pain  
On wretched men below?"

Not less truly than beautifully does he answer his own question—

"It was the will of God to leave  
These ill for man to mend,  
Nor let affliction pass the crave  
Before it found a friend."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. VILLIERS'S MOTION.—Sir Valentine Blake having withdrawn his notice of motion which stood first for Tuesday next, Mr. Villiers has precedence, and his motion will certainly be brought forward on that day. We feel assured that the Free-Trade members will do justice to the deep interest felt by their constituents, by attending in their places and supporting the motion.

MR. WARD'S MOTION.—Four of the supporters of Government voted in favour of Mr. Ward's motion, viz., Lord John Manners, Lord Newport, Mr. Repton, and Mr. B. Escott. Lord Ashley paired off in its favour with Mr. Baird.

The next aggregate meeting of the League will be held on Wednesday evening, the 18th inst., when the receipts and other particulars of the Bazaar will be announced.

BAZAAR LOTTERIES.—The large Wedding Cake was drawn for on Saturday last, and won by (No. 64) Mr. Edward Lucas, Croydon.—The list for Audubon's Birds is still open. Subscribers' names will be received at the offices in London or Manchester.—At the Leeds stall:—Chest of Joiners' Tools—won by Mr. J. Hirst, Eldon-terrace, Leeds. Timepiece—won by Mr. Edwin Eddison, Leeds. Rosewood Chair—won by Mr. James Bischoff, Highbury-terrace. Portrait of the Queen—won by Mr. C. Reynolds, Northwich. Captain Wm. Ball's Works—won by Mr. Stephen Unwin, Cuggeshall. Picture of Smoker—won by The League.

CARRIAGE OF GOODS TO THE BAZAAR.—We have to acknowledge the liberality of Messrs. Newcombe, Chaplin, and Horne, who conveyed the Sheffield goods to the Bazaar free of expense. The instances of similar liberality on the part of other companies are numerous, and to all highly creditable.

GRAVESEND.—THE REGISTRATION.—The Free-Traders of Gravesend are about to adopt active measures to forward the registration of persons qualified to vote. For this purpose they intend holding a meeting next Thursday evening in the town-hall, when the Mayor will preside. The meeting will be addressed by Mr. Falvey, from the Anti-Corn-Law League.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. FALVEY.—On Friday last, a testimonial, which had been subscribed for by about sixty gentlemen, was presented to Mr. T. Falvey, at the White Hart Tavern, Myddelton-street, Clerkenwell, as an expression of admiration of the talent and intrepidity evinced by him as a lecturer of the Anti-Corn-Law League, both in the manufacturing and agricultural districts. The testimonial consisted of a handsome silver snuffbox, richly chased, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. Timothy Falvey, by Metropolitan Free-Traders, as a mark of respect for his urbane and gentlemanly deportment, and his able and consistent advocacy of the principles of truth and justice. May 30, 1845." The testimonial having been presented by M. J. Lewis, Esq., in an able address, Mr. Falvey returned thanks in a speech of characteristic eloquence and power.—*Weekly paper.*

IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—At a meeting of the Leicester Complete Suffrage Association, a meeting of the Leicester Complete Suffrage Association, held on Tuesday evening, at the Townhall, the Rev. J. Bloodworth in the chair, a discussion took place as to the best means of enabling the working classes to "labour the best means of enabling the working classes to labour less and enjoy more;" during which Mr. Manning advocated perfect Free Trade as essential to the end desired. "For more than a century," he said, "the food of the goods had been falling in price, while the food of the people had practically risen. They wanted food to fill in a fair proportion. It had been said, on a former evening, that there were parties who would be injured by Corn Law repeal. He maintained that none would be injured but those who deserved it. There was a section of the aristocracy whose extravagance had led them to mortgage their estates. They might be injured, but was all the rest of the population to suffer for their benefit? (Hear, hear.) They wanted to have their cake and eat it; but it was impossible: they had eaten it, and they must go without. Should all the country be injured for the sake of those babes crying for their milk? (Cheers.) They must have perfect freedom of trade, and then the condition of the labouring classes would be improved."

IRON, &c.—At Friday's meeting in Birmingham the great ironmasters of the district resolved that the workers of the iron districts, notwithstanding the reduction of the price of the manufactured staple articles of South Staffordshire, should have the price of labour which they claimed. At West Bromwich the striking iron-continues amongst the puddlers, no arrangement having been



come to between the masters and the men.—*Worcester Journal.*

**ADVANCE OF WAGES.**—On Thursday week, a general meeting was held in the Old Schoolroom, Duffield, to appoint a deputation to solicit the firms of Brettell and Co. and Ward and Co., both of Belper, for an advance of sixpence per dozen upon all salvage gloves. On Monday, a deputation waited upon both firms, when that of Brettell and Co. promised to give the advance on all common salvage gloves, but not on supers. This caused a standstill amongst the super workmen, who declared they would not work till their request was complied with. On Messrs. Ward being solicited, they agreed to give the advance on all salvage gloves for one month, independently of any other house, making no distinction between common and supers. At the expiration of one month, should the trade remain in the same flourishing condition, the advance is to be continued.—*Derby Mercury.*

**THE GAME LAWS.**—The following is an abstract of Lord Dacre's Bill "for the further amendment of the laws in England relative to game." According thereto, no person is to sell game except a licensed dealer in game, &c.; but occupiers of land need not take out certificates. Dealers in game are to keep a book, entering the names of sellers thereof, the description of game sold to them, &c.; and such book is to be open to inspection at any time by justices of the peace, or persons having their warrant. Persons in possession of game are to account for it, and also for the possession of snares. Damage done by game is to be apportioned among the neighbouring proprietors, the amount being assessed at petty sessions, power of appeal being given to quarter sessions. The provisions of the former act, as regards all penalties and forfeitures, are proposed to be extended to this act.

**BOLTON.—DINNER TO THE WORKMEN OF MESSRS. KNIGHT AND WOOD.**—On Friday evening last, a dinner was given in the Townhall, Little Bolton, to the workmen employed at the Victoria Foundry, by Mr. John Wood, on occasion of his becoming a partner with Mr. Knight in that establishment. About 130 persons sat down to dinner. On the removal of the cloth, Joseph Peat, Esq., was called to the chair, and Mr. John Holt officiated as vice-president. After the customary toasts, the chairman proposed "the health of Mr. Wood, and health and prosperity to him in his new undertaking." The toast was drunk with three times three, and loud and long continued cheering. Mr. Wood returned thanks, and in doing so congratulated the company on the prosperity of trade, which kept all hands employed, and enabled the masters to give good wages. It might now be said, he thought, with truth, that the workmen employed in foundries had plenty of work for their wages, but plenty of wages for their work, and he trusted that such a state of things would long continue. After a great number of other toasts, interspersed with songs, recitations, &c., the party finally separated at a late hour, highly delighted with the entertainment.

**PUBLIC PARKS IN MANCHESTER.**—The park committee of Manchester have, within the last seven weeks, purchased sites for three public parks. For the last purchase, which consists of 31 acres of freehold land in the township of Bradford, the price was £6200, or about 10d. per square yard. The two sites previously purchased (Bulham-hall and Lark-hill estates) cost, the former £4250, and the latter £7000. As upwards of £31,000 have been collected, the committee have still a considerable sum at their disposal.

**PRICE OF MEAT.**—The *Monia Herald*, in recommending the Isle of Man as a place of residence, &c., gives the following as the prices of necessaries:—Beef, from 1d. to 6d. per lb.; pork 3d. to 4d.; fowls, 16d. to 2s. per pair; eggs, 4d. per dozen; mutton, 5d. to 6d. per lb.; veal, 3s. to 3d.; ducks 2s. per pair; herrings, 3s. per hundred, and all kinds of fish low. Brandy, 10s. per gallon; rum, 5s.; Geneva, 7s.; brown sugar, 3d. per lb., refined do. 6d.

**FOREIGN PROVISIONS.**—The General Steam Navigation Company's vessel Ocean, from Rotterdam, which arrived at the Custom-house on Monday, had 49 cows on board, 11 oxen, and seven calves, in excellent condition. She had also eight baskets of yeast, four baskets of sturgeon, and 32 baskets of other description of fish; 13 packages of cucumbers, and a large quantity of butter, cheese, and other articles of Dutch produce. The Company's vessels Princess Royal, from Hamburg, Sir Edward Banks, from Ostend, and James Watt, from Havre, all reported the same day, with a large quantity of poultry, butter, eggs, and other descriptions of provisions for consumption in this country.

**AGRICULTURAL PROSPERITY.**—The following advertisement appeared in the *Cambridge Independent* of May 21:—"Farms to let, the property of the Right Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke,—first, Eversden-hill Farm, situate in the parish of Great Eversden, containing about 113 acres of arable land—immediate possession may be obtained; second, Wragg's Farm, situate in the parish of Arrington, late in the occupation of Messrs. Wragg and Russell, containing about 300 acres of arable and pasture land, with immediate possession; third, Victoria Farm, situate in the parish of Hardwicke, now in the occupation of Mr. Dearlove, containing about 240 acres of arable and pasture land, with possession at Michaelmas; fourth, Wimpole-valley Farm, situate in the parish of Wimpole and Arrington, now in the occupation of Mr. Rowley, containing about 250 acres of arable and pasture land, with possession at Michaelmas."

**AGRICULTURAL MEMBERS.**—We are far from attributing to the agricultural members any tendency to theatrical exhibition. A more staid, deliberate, matter-of-fact body of gentlemen the House does not boast; but, of late, they have somewhat usurped the characteristic of a celebrated actor—Linton; and their appearance on the stage of St. Stephen's would now seem to be the acknowledged signal for general laughter. Few who have seen that irresistible comedian in *Mawworm* can forget the pious unctious with which he enunciated, "I like to be despised;" and few, we imagine, can have witnessed the exhibition of agricultural members in the recent land-and-grass debates, without having the style and the sentiment of *Mawworm's* declaration forcibly recalled to their recollection. Between the comedian and the "agricultural" county members there exists, however, a broad distinction. Linton exposed, with unerring truth and force, the follies and hypocrisies of others. The debaters on grass and land, perhaps with equal truth and great sincerity, simply expose their own.—*Exeter Advertiser.*

**FAILURE IN THE IRISH FLAX CROP.**—It is announced

that the flax crop has proved a ruinous failure in the flax-growing district in Ulster. A Belfast paper says,—"The Riga seed was generally the favourite in this country, but, owing to the unfavourable state of the season for saving it in Russia, it is thought the growers and venders have resorted to the nefarious practice of kiln-drying it. This would of course give it a firm and fair appearance to the eye of the purchaser, but the process destroys almost all probability of vegetation. We have been assured that between four and five thousand acres of land sown with this seed have missed, and that the ground is being prepared for potatoes and barley. The American and Dutch seeds, with the Egyptian lately imported to this country, are doing well, and promises a fair average crop, although later in growth and appearance than at this period in former seasons."

**OPERATION OF THE NEW TARIFF.**—The mean annual produce of duties in two years preceding the establishment of the new tariff, amounted to £22,637,494; and in the two years following the establishment of the new tariff, £22,720,886, comprising 813 articles.—*Newcastle Advertiser.*

**THE AMERICAN TARIFF.**—The *Washington Union* states that the Secretary of the Treasury is preparing for Congress a body of useful statistics, which will enable the national Legislature to form the best and wisest system of revenue reduced to the proper standard, and to do away with the unequal operations of the present system. It is certainly desirable for the benefit of manufactures to have a fair and permanent protection in preference to high duties subject to constant changes; but, while the information of the Secretary will be valuable to Congress and the people, the great unsettled questions with foreign nations and the falling off of our revenue may interpose serious barriers to any immediate and important changes, unless there is a sure prospect of our advances being reciprocated abroad. The duties on iron, coal, salt, hemp, coarse cottons and woollens, are doubtless too high; but are not the pledges made to Pennsylvania that these articles should remain at their existing rates, at least for the present, in some respects binding? There is a disposition at present, in the unsettled state of our foreign relations, not to meddle with the tariff.—*New York Sun.*

**THE SLAVE TRADE.**—The new treaty between Great Britain and France for the suppression of the slave trade, has been signed respectively by Dr. Lushington and the Duke de Broglie, and awaits the ratification of the two Governments. By this treaty England and France agree to maintain each a naval force on the coast of Africa within a certain latitude, and which forces are to co-operate in harmony in the maintenance of a strict surveillance. Treaties solely for the suppression of the slave trade will be negotiated with all the native princes and chiefs of the above-named coast of Africa, according as it shall appear necessary to the commanders of the French and English stations. These treaties will be negotiated either by commanders themselves, or by officers to whom they will give instructions to this effect. The right of mutual search, as between the two countries, is to expire after a given period. These are the principal features of the treaty.

**EVILS OF A FIXED DUTY.**—A fixed duty would in scarce years artificially raise the price of corn here by a sum equal to the duty higher than it otherwise would be. It would make the expense of growing corn greater by enhancing the price of all the necessaries of life. It would keep up rent and keep down wages. It would at all times

limit trade, for there always must be an immense mass of exchange, which a rise of 4s., 5s., or 6s. a quarter in the price of corn would prevent. The fixed duty would always narrow the sources of our supply. At the same time it would exclude our agriculturists from any market but our own when the harvests were very abundant, till the price here had fallen below the remunerating and proper market price, by a sum equal to the duty. While it increased the cost of growing corn on the average, therefore, it would prevent the farmer getting on the average and long run a remunerating price, and would be as injurious to him and the country as a sliding scale. Our purblind lawmakers see only a very small part of the social phenomena. They see, for example, the fact, that the country has not latterly produced enough for the increasing population; but they cannot see the possibility of the agriculturists growing as much and sometimes more in favourable years than would suffice for the people. They make their law, which is to be general and durable, with a view to the single contingency of the country never growing enough for its own people. For our parts, we believe in the possibility of the country growing more in favourable years than our own people can consume. In such years a fixed duty would cause irremediable injury to the farmer, by shutting him out from the foreign market till the price had become ruinously low. Lord John Russell therefore, while he declines against protection, would inflict all its evils on the community under the name of a fixed duty. A fixed duty would be protection disguised, and as gross an injustice and as heavy a curse as a sliding-scale duty of equal amount.—*Brighton Guardian.*

**SCOTCH PROVISION TRADE.**—Last week no fewer than 731 head of mostly large fat cattle were landed from Scotland. Upwards of 600 pigs, and several hundreds of sheep, in addition to about 100 tons of dead meat, came by sea from the North during the week. At the present prices these *vires* would realize £20,000, and yet would not furnish one hour's deglutition on a Sunday afternoon to the maw of this immense metropolis.—*Advertiser.*

**EXPORT OF MACHINERY.**—The exports of all descriptions of machinery from Hull continue large from week to week. They include the most costly, substantial, and ingenious works for numerous new manufactories on the Continent, including spinning and weaving mills, and steam-engines to work seed-crushing and saw-mills, gas, and other works of almost interminable variety. This machinery is to a considerable extent made on the spot, and within a few miles of the town, but the greater part comes down from the great iron works, and the seats of engineering industry in the interior and the opposite side of the island; Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Newcastle, Wolverhampton, Sheffield, and many other towns, independent of the huge castings from such foundries as those of Low-moor and the Buttery Company, all contribute towards the heavy machinery traffic to this great depot of exports for the North, and from hence issue, in countless ships, with companies of skilled artisans for all sides of the continent of Europe, whence they penetrate hundreds of miles into the interior, to become centres of the busy hum of industry. Rails,

chairs, engines, tenders, and carriage wheels for new railways forming all over the Continent, are also among the exports from Hull. There is, however, a marked change in the ports of destination of these important exports, which formerly went chiefly to Hamburg, Dunkirk, and the near ports of the Netherlands, to which places the supply appears to have almost if not entirely ceased—partly in consequence of the numerous manufactories already erected by British art in the neighbouring states, and partly through the erection there of British engineering works, with large capital, consequent upon the heavy duties formerly imposed upon the export of machinery from this country. This duty, as our readers are aware, since the erection of those works, was, about two years ago, entirely repealed, and the result has proved the policy of that experiment, in the impetus given to our native engineering manufactures, and the vastly increased amount of exports of machinery which now proceed to Russia, *via* Petersburg, more than by any other route; whilst Prussia, Denmark, Sweden, and other Continental nations, are continually making similar draughts upon us. The immense cases of cotton-spinning machinery, fifty to sixty feet long, which weekly lie upon our quays, or are trans-shipped at once from the railway to the sea-going ship, speak with a voice irresistible and impossible to be misunderstood, calling upon the skill, the labour, and the capital of Old England for redoubled competitive energy.—*Eastern Counties Herald.*

**GERMAN INDUSTRY.**—The *Presse* (Paris paper) states, that MM. Legentil and De Goldenberg, who were despatched on a special mission by the Minister of Commerce to examine the exposition of German national industry, which was held at Berlin in the month of September last, have furnished an account of their mission to the Minister, from which the following is an extract:—"The states of the Zollverein were not alone permitted to exhibit their manufactures. The productions of Austria, Hanover, Luxembourg, and Dutch Limburgh, the Hanse Towns, Holstein, Mecklenburgh, and Oldenburgh, were admitted, although not forming part of the German union. The entrance to the exposition was not free to the public, as in France. The Prussian Government covered the expense of preparing the buildings for the reception of the articles to be exhibited by an entrance-fee, demanded of each visitor, of six silver groschens (6d. British). Notwithstanding this charge, the crowd of visitors during the entire period of the exposition was immense. After having visited at the French exposition last year, it was impossible not to have observed the numerous deficiencies in that of Berlin." The report of the commissioners adds, "that they in vain sought for those handsome and ingenious machines which replace and increase a hundredfold human force; those exquisite productions in bronze, jewellery, gold and silver, and cabinet work; those splendid carpets, and that infinite variety of stuffs, whose execution has exhausted every difficulty of machinery, without demanding any sacrifice from good taste. In general, German manufactures, compared with those of France, are far from being perfect. Their progress has been less rapid than ours. It is true that they commenced but a few years since. It is in France that the German manufacturers supply themselves with foremen, painters, and chemists. When visiting the principal manufactories through Germany, the two commissioners met a number of Frenchmen directing the most extensive works. Without speaking of the French colony at Berlin, where several manufacturers maintain the character of their original country, they found a Frenchman at Chemnitz directing a manufactory for the construction of machinery; and at Elberfeld, the principal silk factory is directed by a native of Lyons. The cotton spinning mills at Ettlingen, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, and at Augsburg, the most considerable in the Zollverein, have been established by one of the principal manufacturers in Alsace. The same fact was observed in the flax spinning mills in Wurtemberg. With some exceptions, according to the report, the object of the German manufacturers is to produce a vast supply, and at a low cost. They regard cheapness more than elegance in their produce. The German, in his habits, seeks comforts. But what he considers to be comforts are not the superfluities, but the necessities of life. His tastes are simple, because his means of satisfying them are limited. There are not many great fortunes in the Zollverein, which in this respect differs considerably from Austria. This, perhaps, is the real cause of the inferiority which is to be remarked in their produce compared with ours. Although the introduction of machinery, and the centralization of labour in large manufactories, have made remarkable progress within a few years, the old habits and customs are still practised in certain provinces. Woollen cloth, for example, is manufactured in Silesia and in Saxony by a number of small artisans, who, assisted by their wives and children, spin the wool which they grow themselves. The cotton spinners employ but 815,000 spindles; that is, only the fifth of what we possess, and only the third of what would be necessary if the supply of the Zollverein were equal to its consumption. If we had a treaty with the Zollverein, our cotton manufacturers would find in Germany an immense market, which at present is monopolized by the British manufacturers, and from which they derive enormous profits. We shall continue the examination of this report, happy to give publicity to a document which is distinguished by an incontestable character of utility."

**INCENDIARY FIRES.**—We regret to state that an incendiary fire took place at Norton, near Emswell, on Wednesday night, by which a boarded and thatched barn containing a quantity of straw, belonging to J. Joacelyn, Esq., of Sproughton, and in the occupation of Mr. W. M. Bridges, was totally consumed. The alarm was given about ten o'clock, at which time the barn was in a blaze. The inhabitants were instantly on the spot, with Superintendent Smith, and a number of men belonging to the West Suffolk Police; and in the course of a short time Lord Thurlow arrived with two of his powerful engines from Ashfield and Wetherden. All parties rendered every assistance in their power, but all was of no avail. The fiendish act of the villainous incendiary was deeply deplored by the whole of the population, and especially by the labourers, Mr. Bridges having been long esteemed as a kind and indulgent master.—*Ipwich Express.*—On the 23rd of May, Mr. Taylor, of Botsough, had two wheat stacks, the produce of forty acres, consumed by fire. There is no doubt of its having been the work of an incendiary.—*Norfolk News.*

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### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending  
 Wednesday, June 4, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from  
 Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on  
 Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the  
 LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding,  
 but are included in the list of the week following.

Marsland, P. K., Stockport	£15	0	0
*M'Leas, James and Robert, Stretford New-road, Manchester	2	0	0
*Edwards, Joseph, 24, Brunswick-road, Liverpool	1	1	0
A Bet between two Leaguers respecting the Corn Laws, per J. Smith, Ashton-under-Lyne	1	1	0
Wilson, J., and Ford, G., Harpurhey, near Man- chester	1	0	0
*Milner, Robert, 5, St. James's-square, Manchester	1	0	0
*Ragland, Thos., 14, Cecil-street, Greenheys, do.	1	0	0
Dickinson, Thomas, 8, Dale-street, do.	0	15	0
*Webb, William, Esq., mayor of Hereford	5	5	0
*Pocock, Thomas, Darlington-place, Southwark	1	1	0
*Pocock, J. G., 18, Newington-causeway	1	1	0
Clare, Chas., 48, Blackman-street, Southwark	1	1	0
*Bunting, Mr., Swan-street, Minories	1	1	0
*Stack, John Cowell, Torquay, Devonshire	1	1	0
*Dowling, James, 2, Half Moon-passage, Leadenhall- market	1	1	0
*Wright, Thomas, 39, Grosvenor-row, Pimlico	1	0	0
*Mott, Mr., St. Paul's-square, Birmingham	1	0	0
*Callander, Robert, North Berwick, N.B.	1	0	0
*Dawkins, Thomas, 8, Sharpe's-alley, Cow-cross	1	0	0
Dawkins, J. W., 11, St. John-street-road	1	0	0
*Vivare, L., Ashley-de-la-Zouch	1	0	0
*Knight, John, do.	1	0	0
*Nickless, Thomas, Colebrookdale	1	0	0
*Cope, Thos., Wellclose-place, Fenton, Staffordshire	1	0	0
Anonymous, Houlton	1	0	0
Gibbons, Thomas, Bath	0	2	6
Gibbons, John, Frome	0	2	6

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed sub-  
 scriptions.

### Contributions TO THE BAZAAR.

Wood, Benjamin, Esq., M.P., 24, Great George-street	21	0	0
Hodge, Richard Edward, Ludlow	1	1	0
Armstrong, Henry, Sunderland	1	0	0
Jones, Thos., spirit merchant, Wheelgate, Notting- ham	0	5	0
A Friend to the League	1	1	0
Clarke, Mr., Camberwell-villa	1	1	0
Webb, B., Blackfriars-road	1	1	0
Brown, Josiah, Cannon-street	1	0	0
Collyer, Rev. Dr.	1	0	0
One of the League	0	10	0
Mavory, T. C.	0	10	0
Four contributions of 2s. 6d. each	0	10	0
Baker, Benjamin, Albany-road	0	5	0
Marshall, Mrs.	0	5	0
Morton, Mrs.	0	2	6
Thornwell, Mr.	0	2	6
Holdsworth, Mr., New Wells	2	0	0
Holdsworth, Mr., Wood-street	1	0	0
Bradley, John	1	0	0
Head, Mr.	1	0	0
Kershaw, Mr.	1	0	0
Scott, Robert	1	0	0
Oyston, Mrs.	1	0	0
Lazarus, Rev. James P.	0	10	0
Heywood, Mrs.	0	10	0
Hepworth, Mr.	0	10	0
Harrison, Mrs.	0	10	0
Wood, J. G.	0	10	0
Wood, Thomas	0	10	0
Wood, Benjamin	0	10	0
Clarkson, Henry	0	10	0
Hurst, Samuel	0	10	0
A Friend	0	5	0
Candler, Mr.	0	5	0
Candler, Mr.	0	5	0
Marshall, Miss	0	5	0
Stanway, Mrs.	0	5	0
Hugh, Mrs. James	0	5	0
Harnes, Mr.	0	5	0
Butler, Mrs.	0	5	0
Lamb, Mrs.	0	5	0
Johnstone, Miss	0	5	0
Gloynne, Mr.	0	5	0
Mitner, Mr.	0	5	0
Keddy, Mr.	0	5	0
Beacock, Mr.	0	5	0
Pickard, S.	0	2	6
Perkin, Mr.	0	2	6
Watson, Mr.	0	2	6
Gelderd, Mr.	0	2	6
Patel, W.	0	2	6
Nichols, Mr.	0	2	6
Thornbush, Mr.	0	2	6
Crewin, Edward	0	2	6
Hanson, Mrs.	0	2	6
Crosley, Mrs.	0	2	6
King, Mrs.	0	2	6
Wormsley, Mrs.	0	2	6
Depledge, Mrs.	0	2	6
Brown, Mr.	0	2	6
A Friend	0	2	0
Baldwin, Mrs.	0	2	0
Mossons, Mr.	0	1	6
Sellers, Mr.	0	1	6
Bunn, Mrs.	0	1	0
Hall, Mr.	0	1	0
Waters, Mr.	0	1	0
Oldroyd, Mrs.	0	1	0
Shaw, Mrs.	0	1	0
Forster, Mrs.	0	1	0
Hinks, Mr.	0	1	0
Watson, Mrs.	0	1	0
Walker, Mr.	0	1	0
Gilmer, Mr.	0	1	0
Ripley, Mr.	0	0	6
Shaw, David, and Son, Huddersfield	10	0	0
Brook, Wm., Gledbold, do.	10	0	0
Davis, M. L., } Brook-green, Hammarham	4	4	0
Smith, Mrs., }			
Anonymous—proceeds of sale of Newfoundland Dog, as per advertisement in Manchester Guardian	1	0	0

Williamson, William, Wellington-road	£1	1	0
Nelstrop, William, Albion cottage	1	1	0
Workpeople of Messrs. Hyson and Littlewood	0	12	10
Nuttall, Edward, Hope-hill	0	5	0
A Friend, J. O.	0	5	0
Roy, George, Hope-hill	0	2	6
Taylor, Robert, Portwood	0	2	6
Thomas, William, do.	0	2	6
Smith, Charles, Higher Hillgate	0	2	6
Chadwick, James, Railway Inn	0	2	6
Holden, William, Edgeley	0	2	0
Brookes, George, Higher Hillgate	0	1	0

In the notice of the Bazaar last week, we omitted to  
 state that among the visitors was Joseph Pease, Esq., of  
 Feethams, Darlington, who desired his name to be entered  
 with a subscription of £100 towards the Bazaar Fund.

"May 31, 1845.  
 "DEAR SIR,—I regret that the state of my health did  
 not permit me to attend the Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar; but  
 hope that the enclosed check for twenty guineas, which  
 I beg you will hand over to the Committee, will attest  
 my wishes for its success.  
 "I am, yours very truly,  
 "G. Wilson, Esq." B. Wood.

### BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

Bowles, Rev. Dr., Rectory, Woodstock, for 20 beds	£5	0	0
Norris, William, Bristol	1	0	0
Atkins, Thomas, Bicester	0	5	0
Leavers, Mr.	1	10	0
Heald, George, Shap, Westmoreland	0	5	0

### LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXXIII.

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

GENTLEMEN,—On Tuesday next it will again  
 devolve upon you to discuss and decide whether  
 food from abroad shall be freely admitted, for sup-  
 plying the wants and remunerating the industry of  
 the people of this country. Allow one of the many  
 to entreat your calm and serious consideration of the  
 course to be adopted on that occasion. I do not  
 appeal to you in your collective capacity; nor as  
 members of either of the great political parties; but  
 as men who are conscious of the claims of truth and  
 justice, and who feel the moral responsibility insepa-  
 rable from the possession of legislative authority.  
 Though I may only "tell you that which you your-  
 selves do know," let me not, I pray you, be there-  
 fore unheeded. It is on your own thoughts that I  
 rely; my purpose being to hold up a mirror wherein  
 you will perceive what portion of those thoughts is  
 most distinctly and strongly reflected in other minds.  
 On that portion I would fix your attention, that you  
 may estimate its relative weight, and its claim to  
 preponderate in the practical direction of your con-  
 duct, as legislators, on the question again submitted  
 for your decision.

Could taxation upon food be treated as an isolated  
 topic, there would probably be little difference of  
 opinion, or of action. Who would ever dream of  
 stopping a cargo of corn, coming as payment for  
 manufactured goods, from a New York merchant to a  
 Liverpool merchant, if this were "the be-all and  
 end-all" of the transaction? It would stand on the  
 same ground as any other case of honest barter,  
 with which a third party has no business to inter-  
 pose. The right is apparent; and as such ex-  
 change presupposes the wants, thus mutually  
 supplied, of food in the one locality, and of manu-  
 factures in the other, the advantage and humanity  
 of the transaction are apparent also. Hence few  
 of you profess hostility towards Free Trade "in the  
 abstract." The opposition arises, not from the  
 essence, but from the adjuncts and accidents, of the  
 question. Considerations of national policy, of  
 class interests, of party tactics, of public revenue,  
 or of temporary expediency, surround and smother  
 the main question, and determine many of you to  
 vote, for the present at least, against the untaxed  
 interchange of products which, whether in England  
 or America, and whether from the land or the loom,  
 are alike obtained by the application of capital and  
 the exercise of industry.

There is, then, gentlemen, in favour of Free Trade,  
 that clear and prompt decision which results from  
 the most elementary moral principles. The anta-  
 gonist considerations are all only different forms of  
 a temporary expediency. They are questions of  
 "how far" and "how long." Sooner or later, they  
 must wear out. Are they not worn out already?  
 Is not the time come for all such considerations to  
 yield, when once the question is commonly mooted  
 on the higher ground? The case for Corn-Law re-  
 peal is simple and complete. You concede the  
 right. It cannot be disproved. It has laid firm  
 hold on the public mind. Against it are only dis-  
 puted facts, and motives of a subordinate character.  
 Every year has made them less forcible and less  
 plausible. Every year makes them less satisfactory  
 as a reason for delay. The dying expediency cannot  
 resist the ever-living truth. The time is ripe for  
 decision. It must be so with all who become con-  
 scious of only balancing between a class or party  
 convenience and a principle. That consciousness is  
 itself a signal for dismissing the idea of further pro-  
 crastination.

Party ties extend not to such questions as this.

Like that of slavery, it is beyond their limita. It  
 disregards the customary division, and creates a de-  
 marcation of its own. There is always a suspension  
 of party when men are in earnest on a philanthropic  
 object. The measures which Lord Ashley has made  
 his own for protecting women and children, and  
 lightening the hours of labour, are irrespective of  
 Toryism and of Whiggism. He asks not whether  
 they promote or embarrass the party policy of  
 one or the other. Similar disregard is asked of  
 you, of every thoughtful, just, and humane man  
 in the House, on this paramount topic of the supply  
 of food for the population. He will not compro-  
 mise his generous impulses and beneficent purposes  
 for the minor objects of party. Be you as uncon-  
 promising on a matter which is not only more mo-  
 mentous, but which must impede, by its delay, all  
 other projects for meliorating the condition of the  
 people. All are compromised, endangered, per-  
 haps sacrificed, so long as this is unsettled.

Lord John Russell, who has declared that "pro-  
 tection is the bane of agriculture," still clings to a  
 fixed duty. Sir Robert Peel, who justly boasted  
 of having done more for Free Trade in ten months  
 than the Whigs in ten years, still upholds the last  
 modification of the sliding scale. Party leaders are  
 not the best judges of the fitting time for great  
 measures of the description now proposed. They  
 look too much to Parliamentary strength. They  
 are cautious of risking the adherence of any great  
 section of their supporters. They overstand the  
 time. Sir Robert Peel has committed this error  
 more than once; to say nothing of similar mistakes  
 on the part of his opponents. Public agitation  
 is the child of Ministerial procrastination. The  
 too-late measure brings weakness, which, at  
 an earlier period, would have been the source  
 of strength. At such junctures, it is for  
 followers to lead their leaders. They can render  
 no better service than by thus stepping out in ad-  
 vance. When Tory Free-Traders speak plainly,  
 Tory Protectionists will capitulate. The position of  
 Sir Robert Peel requires this, from those of his  
 party who share in his convictions, and who are un-  
 fettered by his ties to the antagonist portion of his  
 followers. They must say for him—he cannot so  
 well say it for himself—that the time is come. If  
 they announce "the hour," he will show "the  
 man." And, however long postponed, by a policy  
 which thus far may find some palliation in the pecu-  
 liar circumstances of his party, but which now has  
 reached its proper boundary, a proud day will it be  
 for him which shall (though by voting against him  
 in the first instance) consign his name to history as  
 the first Free-Trade Minister of the British Empire.

Gentlemen, it is believed there are many of you  
 who clearly see how this agitation must end. You  
 are prepared for the only termination of which it is  
 capable. Your decisive conduct now would avert  
 many of the evils which must attend that termination  
 if it be still postponed. The leaders of the House  
 might not be outvoted by your support of Mr. C.  
 Villiers's motion; but they would be taught that the  
 game of compromise was up. Nothing would re-  
 main but to provide decently for the funeral of  
 "Protection." It would become defunct by your  
 independent action. Sir Robert Peel would soon  
 do the rest. The turmoil out of doors would be  
 allayed. You would have no more votes and words  
 to swallow down on some future occasion. The  
 rapidly growing distrust of all political professions  
 and integrity would be checked. The farmer  
 would know on what terms to treat with his land-  
 lord. There would be a closing of the gulfs, some  
 widening, and others newly opening, between different  
 classes of society. And above all, that awful re-  
 vulsion would be averted, that recurrence of worse  
 than Paisley horrors, which perhaps a single bad har-  
 vest, certainly two bad harvests in succession, must  
 bring upon the country. Strong nerved must be he  
 who dares to look that calamity in the face. Pro-  
 vidence has granted an interval of breathing time;  
 but left the future discernible without the gift of  
 prophecy. Is it wise to wait? Is it right to devote  
 your responsibility on Sir Robert Peel, or on any  
 party leader? Can you so deliver your own con-  
 sciences, in the sight either of God or man? You  
 hold the balance. Your votes may be in a minority,  
 but the impression of your conduct will be not less  
 decisive than any majority. But if you sacrifice this  
 great question to a supposed and paltry political ex-  
 pediency, you cripple Sir Robert Peel in the prac-  
 tical application of his avowed principles; you  
 provide for the not very distant breaking up of your  
 party; you prolong a growing agitation; you expose  
 the country to fearful chances of discontent, dis-  
 traction, and confusion; you neglect the most  
 favourable opportunity of settling a question alike  
 urgent and momentous; you tamper with that which  
 is highest and purest in your own minds, and post-  
 pone to "a more convenient season" your full  
 conformity with the sacred duties and solemn  
 responsibilities of legislation. These are not words  
 of course, or topics of rhetorical pervasion. Their  
 reality is felt by him who writes them; who feels  
 them in common with the million to whom he  
 belongs; and who laments the inadequate power of



expression to transfer that feeling from his own mind to yours. No petitioners ever humbly prayed your honourable House with half the earnestness with which you are now individually besought to discard all fear and favour, all party ties or petty expediency, and to vote for the free supply of a nation's food, and the free exercise of a nation's industry.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

#### WHAT MAY NOT THE LANDED INTEREST DO FOR ITSELF? LOOK AT ESSEX.

There appeared, a few weeks ago, in the *Agricultural Gazette*, an article descriptive of certain practical experiments carried out on the farm of Mr. John Biggs, near Colchester, in Essex. I think the article is worth the attention of all persons interested in the reformation of agriculture; and especially those who have some lingering dread that the withdrawal of protection would injure agriculture.

It seems that Mr. Biggs, being situated near a town where there is a gas manufactory and other public works, has an advantage not common to inland farmers, in getting chemical ingredients. So that it may be justly enough said that other farmers cannot do what he does. To reply to this, I would observe that it is neither necessary nor desirable that all other farmers should do as he does. Except in the neighbourhood of large towns, where manures can be obtained in great abundance, it is unquestionably the most profitable course for a farmer to take—that of feeding a large quantity of stock to produce manures free of cost. The importation of beans, oats, barley, Indian corn, &c., duty free, to be added to the turnips, wurzel, carrots, and other roots, grown at home, would facilitate the fattening of stock, and the production of farmyard manure, far beyond anything yet known.

The description of Mr. Biggs's experiments will show what can be done upon a farm even when manures are purchased. What we of the Free-Trade party urge is, that the farmer should be able, and would be able with Free Trade, to feed a far larger amount of stock, and so fertilize his land free of expense; the profit on the stock paying for the manure, and the labour of preparing and applying it.

We say that full employment, at good wages, creates new markets, and enlarges old ones for butcher's meat. When ten or eleven millions of the population have barely enough of bread and potatoes, they do not eat beef and mutton and bacon. When they have enough of bread and potatoes, and some money to spare, they buy beef and mutton and bacon. The consumption of these articles in towns where the population, say in Brighton, is able to procure them, proves that the demand would be prodigiously increased all over the kingdom, beyond what it is or ever has been, if the people were able to use such articles continuously.

When a district of country previously depressed attains to a temporary prosperity, we see the consumption of butcher's meat increase rapidly. Look at any single town in Lancashire at the present time, compared with what it was in the five years preceding 1844; or look at the whole of the northern and midland counties. But temporary prosperity does not do for the cattle market what continued prosperity does. The continued ability of a family to obtain any article of food confirms the use of it into a habit, and it is sought for and used regularly. Not so when the family falls into periodical distress by reduced employment and reduced wages—losing clothes and furniture in their distress, and struggling when reviving trade comes round to restore their clothes and furniture.

If any man more than another has an interest in liberated trade and liberated agriculture it is the farmer. To feed his cattle and sheep and pigs rapidly; to produce great abundance of manures; to be free from the thrall of political services by tenancy-at-will, for political purposes which do him much harm and no good; to permanently improve the value of land by holding it on a tenure of security; to be able to ascertain through equitable prices what he can and should contract to pay for land; to be able to pay what he contracts for, and thus to create and sustain upon the firmest foundation a good feeling between himself and landlord;—these are a few of the substantial benefits which will accrue to farmers from Free Trade—from the abolition of that delusive and pernicious monopoly which, like will-o'-the-wisp, at once blinds their eyes and lead them astray.

I was particularly pleased with the beauty and deeply impressed with the instructiveness of the woven fabrics of silk and wool, and cotton and wool, and of wool in almost every possible variety of texture, displayed at the Bazaar in Covent-garden Theatre. Have not the growers of wool been scared out of their good sense and good nature since cotton came first into this kingdom? And since silk came in cheap? And flax? And foreign-grown wool? Yet is there not now a high and steady price for wool of home growth? Though the flocks of England and of Scotland increase year by year, and the importation of wool increases also, as also cotton and flax and silk, does not the wool of home growth maintain its price?

It does so. And it maintains its price because of the new uses it is put to in union with other materials, and because of the new shapes it takes at the hands of productive industry.

What, then, is there to fear from the union of bread and meat, of flour and sugar, and butter and fruit? With

the multitude the adornment of the body is secondary to the gratification of the appetite. Let the prime material of food, wheaten flour, come within easy reach of every family, as the prime materials of clothing are now allowed to come within easy reach of every factory, and the use of one will rapidly lead to the extensive use of the others. The pot, the pan, the oven, the roasting-jack, the picking tub, the cupboard with the sugar bason and the tea caddy, and all the jars and dishes,—all will come into play if the sack of flour be present, and another ready to supply its place when that is empty. These will do far more for farmers, if within the easy reach of families, even though some of the flour be foreign, than the factories have yet done for farmers, even though some of the wool they work up be foreign; and the factories, in respect of wool, have done a great deal for farmers.

I now beg to draw attention to the means taken by Mr. Biggs to increase the supply of flour and the employment of the population, reminding the reader that the manures which this farmer buys should be produced on the farm free of expense; and would be so under a system that would favour the feeding of a large quantity of live stock—a system of Free Trade. And I beg to subscribe myself,

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

*Mr. Biggs, near Colchester—Wheat after Wheat—Ammoniacal Water—An Opinion on Smut, Seed Wheat, &c.*

"In the latter end of June, 1844, I happened to be at Colchester, in Essex, and hearing of Mr. John Biggs, a farmer, occupying land within three miles of that town, I paid a visit to him on his farm. He is a tenant on the estate of Earl De Grey, and though only a tenant-at-will, and without the security which a good lease confers, he has been, and is now, a great improver of the soil. Yet, it must be remarked at the outset, that, though a tenant-at-will, he is not holding his farm on the ordinary terms. He pays the usual rent in the usual way, but his occupancy is the result of good service to Earl De Grey in another capacity. So that his tenure is probably as safe for his own life as if it were provided for on parchment. The personal kindness of his lordship has also been extended to Mr. Biggs, through his agent, to allow him to depart from the usual rotation of cropping on parts of the farm, in order to make certain experiments.

"Thus far, it is necessary to premise, to show why Mr. Biggs has been allowed to depart from the agricultural customs around him, so stringently enforced on others. He has been allowed to grow wheat successively on the same ground. On one piece of land he has grown the fifth crop of wheat in seven years. And as he has favoured me with an account of the produce of the crop which I saw in June since it has been threshed out, and that produce being 5 quarters 3 pecks per acre, I think it worth while to draw attention to the farm, the farming, and the farmer.

"Passing over several farms north of Colchester, whose gravelly soils last summer were afflicted with the long drought, and which faced the southern sun and the dry west winds, with but little shade or shelter, I reached the neighbourhood of Mr. Biggs's farm, some of which had been woodland within the last three years, some within six years and ten years; and nearly all of which, with other farms near it, had been woodland within the memory of younger persons than 'the oldest inhabitant.' The soil was generally tending to clay; much of it might be called thin and cold. None of it was of a natural richness to warrant such excessive cropping as it was compelled to undergo. Without vigorous and intelligently applied stimulants, the results at harvest would have been different. The adjoining farms, possessing quite as good a soil, but being very differently farmed, prove this. I found the farm-fields lying somewhat scattered, several small portions of land having been united into one farm by Mr. Biggs at different times. I believe the farm is still extending in size, by grubbing up the woodlands, and putting odd enclosures into one. The aspect was north and easterly, the shelter good, approaching in some parts to suffocation in summer time. It was exposed also to the game a good deal. The hedges had been cut down, and were kept clean at bottom, and only as high as would be a fence. These hedges and their bottom ditches employed one man at 11s. a week all the year, save harvest; and Mr. Biggs assured me that he saved this man's wages by the reduced number of small birds and other depredators, and foul seeds which resulted from the trimming of the hedges. He had two or three acres in separate places under seeds, colewort, turnip, &c. The advantage of a good fence and free air, where the plantations tended, as these, to suffocation, was also valuable. The first thing I noticed was the greater number of men he had at work, for such a moderate breadth of land, than is usual in that part of England. He pays £400 in wages on the same breadth of land upon which other farmers pay but £250 in wages. And last year they reduced their payment of wages to about £150. They say that the high farming of Mr. Biggs will not pay with present prices. He says that, however desirable it may be to have higher prices, he will make a better profit by the expenditure of £400 in wages, for such work as he executes on his farm, than they will from £150 or £200 in wages for such work as they execute on the same extent of land. Having his authority to use his name publicly, I do so that he may be personally referred to. Looking to my notebook I find that in front of his house, on the opposite side of the public road which passes his door, there is a small enclosure of two acres. He had obtained leave to raise wheat on this for seven successive years; the soil was naturally thin, and (my notes do not state so, but I think my memory is correct) a rather tenacious clay. At all events it was what would be called a poor soil. The design of treating it was to have a full crop of wheat alternately with a half crop of wheat. Last year's crop was the second of the system, and was the half crop, or fallow. He has one particular kind of manure which he calls 'ammoniacal water,' procured from the refuse of the gas works at Colchester. He tries every other kind of manure, and on these two acres had tried no fewer than eight different fertilizers, but had nothing to equal his 'ammoniacal water.' He thinks that, by sowing just half the quantity of seed every

second year, he will give the soil breathing-time under its burden of continued wheat. He proposes this instead of fallowing, as is the custom around him, every fourth year. His half crop looked but indifferently on the 24th of June, save on the portion watered with ammonia; that is, it struck me as being an indifferent crop before it was explained that it was only intended to be a half one. The manures used were these:—1st. Liquid composition of Pigeon's dung. 2nd. Pigeon's dung, without mixture. 3rd. Ammoniacal water, Mr. Biggs's own composition, upon which the wheat was dark in the blade and strong, and more full of promise than on any of the other manures. 4th. The same material applied as a powder. The wheat not looking as well, because, as Mr. Biggs thought, of the continued drought. The first rain of the summer fell next day; but I did not again see the crops. The cost of the liquid ammonia was 25s. per acre; the powder half that sum, owing to the lesser amount of labour bestowed upon it. The 5th was a composition of salt. The 6th, farmyard drainings. The 7th, chamber-ley; and the 8th, soot and lime. I have since received a note of the produce of this half crop; it was, upon an average of all the manures, 3 quarters per acre, weighing 65½ lbs. per bushel; being an increase in weight of 3 lbs. per bushel over the full crop on the same ground in 1843.

"I next passed to a field of wheat after mangold wurzel. In one or two places it was scorched by the drought; but as a whole looked exceedingly well. A compost, made from the gas-work's refuse, had been applied to the wurzel; before that it was wheat—his first crop on that piece of ground—and that wheat was 'after some of the worst farming in England,' for poverty and foulness.

"Next, we passed to a potato-field; where, with the aid of a compost, potatoes were growing for the fifth year, the previous crop being 3 bushels per rod—this crop also looked well. The ground was declared to have been so poor as not to yield over a peck of small potatoes per rod, before the application of the ammoniacal compost. Next, we came to wheat on a light gravelly soil, one acre dressed with the ammoniacal water; another piece of the same field dressed with a mixture of chamber-ley and farmyard manure—this looked exceedingly well. In this field there was a blank spot, which had been poisoned by the barrel containing the chemical fertilizer standing there, and spreading around more dribbles than enough. Next, we came to some colewort-seed in the very highest perfection; this had been manured, at an expense of 30s. per acre, by the compost. Mr. Biggs had been offered the market-price for it, at the rate of 12 coombs per acre (6 quarters); he did not take it, being sure it would yield more. Adjoining it was wheat, as good as any I had seen, judging wheat by its looks in June, between Yorkshire and Essex; and this was on land which did not yield over 3½ coombs per acre when he first got it; did not pay its labour, though that labour was of small amount—probably because it was of small amount. The crops of wheat on it now were usually 13 and 14 coombs per acre—wheat growing every second year. There used to be a ditch, the nursery of filth, across this field, occupying in breadth half a rod; the good it did was now performed by one of 18 inches, and all the evil was avoided.

"In another field, which bore wheat and looked well, a ridge had been manured with 'a material never before used as a manure,' but Mr. Biggs declined to say what it was until he had further proved it. At this part of the farm we found a large heap of compost, which men were conveying to the furrows of the ploughs, then at work preparing for turnips; the ammonia in this compost was strong beyond anything I had ever seen on a farm-field. The number of hands employed did not allow any unnecessary exposure to the air. Mr. Biggs considered that the saving of wages, by fewer hands, would have been a great loss in handling this manure. The heap had been carefully covered with earth, to suppress the ammonia while it lay there; the main ingredients were all from the gas-works.

Near this we saw 7 acres of grass, which had been mown for hay; the previous crop was wheat, and the one previous to that a rough copse-wood. The 7 acres cost £125 before the wheat was sown, for grubbing the roots and preparing the soil; the produce of hay was estimated at 9 tons on the 7 acres. It had suffered by drought, yet was much better than the usual crops of hay of last year. Wheat grew near this, on land which should have been fallow. Three ridges, manured with compost, had the full promise of 10 coombs per acre; the rest of the piece not more than seven. Next we came to the wheat, after wheat, for the fifth time in seven years; the produce of this, when threshed, Mr. Biggs writes to me, was 5 quarters 3 pecks per acre. Near this we saw clover which had been sown in the spring of 1843 with wheat. In September of that year, the wheat being reaped in August, the clover was mown on the stubble, and yielded 1 ton per acre. In June following, the period of my visit, the hay crop was 11 tons, the drought having affected it. The second crop, however, of 1844, was 3 tons. He expects to have fine wheat after this clover in 1845. Near this was wheat sown after wurzel, and after turnips. In regard of manure and soil, each had an equal chance; but that which followed the wurzel lingered hopelessly behind the other. Mr. Biggs sows no oats. Being able to grow wheat at will, he finds it more profitable to buy oats for his horses. He grows some beans. As some of his manures were mere experiments, but all less or more successful, he intends experimenting further this year. The farm contains 150 acres. He thus concludes a letter written to me in the latter part of last year:—"I would caution the inexperienced in farming, to be sure not to sow damp wheat for seed, as it will, in all probability, grow smutty or blighted. Having been forced, by being damp already, it will be weakened, and rendered unable to bear the changes of temperature which it will meet with. It should be a good dry sample, properly dressed, either with salt, lime, or blue vitriol. If we were to pay proper attention, the smuts would not be grown as they are. I had a proof of that this year. A poor man had about an acre of wheat, and he sowed it with damp seed, and it was in a most shocking state; and, in my opinion, this was the only cause. I grow my seed wheat in a particular manner; I add to the quantity I want for seed a large portion of carbon, phosphate of lime, and sulphate of ammonia, which make it stronger than usual, and will give it a dark colour in the sample. But this does not matter, as it is the better, and will endure greater hardships. In my practice for several years I have discovered that faint wheat is not fit for seed—the difference is very great."

"So much for a sketch of the mode of farming which

Mr. Biggs has devised for himself, seemingly with considerable success. Some other matters which I observed on his farm, and in his neighbourhood, deserve a few remarks, more particularly his method of reforming ill-behaved men; for he does not only turn to a good agricultural purpose the elements of fertility which other farmers neglect and despise, but he turns to a good moral purpose the erring men whom others cast out and proscribes, and punishes, by refusing them employment—the means of being honest; he adopts these men, puts confidence in them, pays them the highest wages of the district, and makes them sensible that they are elevated as high as the best-conditioned labourers, and higher than they ever were before. But I have not room to enter more largely into this subject at present.—*Pilgrim.*

### THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND "THE LEAGUE."

(From the *Manchester Guardian*.)

A few weeks ago, the Duke of Richmond made a speech in favour of protection to agriculture, in which he contrived to do nearly as much damage to the cause of monopoly as could have been effected by the most eloquent oration in favour of Free Trade. Smarting under the severe censures which his unfortunate exhibition has called forth from all parties, and especially from the Tory press, his grace attempted, on Monday evening, to redeem his character as the leader of the protectionists, by making a vulgar and unprovoked attack upon the leaders of the Free-Trade party. It appears that, on the evening in question, the Marquis of Normanby had presented a petition from the working men of Manchester, praying that the Legislature would lend its aid in promoting such sanitary improvements as are required; and calling the attention of their lordships to the fact that, "While in the district of Manchester the demand for labour had been good and wages high, yet the mortality in Manchester, and all the adjoining districts, had greatly exceeded the average mortality of England." Now, although this was not a new fact, it is one which cannot be brought too prominently forward, in order that all requisite measures of improvement may be promptly and effectually carried into execution. But what is the lesson which the Duke of Richmond wishes to draw from it? He appeared to think that the statement regarding the sanitary condition of this town might be converted into an excellent argument against the Free-Trade agitation; and, therefore, he thought proper to say that "he believed the state of Manchester to be in part attributable to the Anti-Corn-Law League, and recommended those connected with the League, instead of agitating against the Corn Laws, to look at home, and take more care of their own people." What a humane and disinterested remark to fall from the lips of the chairman of the Central Agricultural Protection Society! Of course his grace was ignorant of the notorious fact that, ever since public attention has been directed to the question of sanitary improvement, the town of Manchester has stood prominently forward in promoting every measure by which the public health might be improved. We question if there be a city or town in Great Britain, we might even say in the whole world, in which there has been manifested so strong a desire to improve the condition of the labouring classes as has been evinced by the middle and wealthier classes of this town. Singularly enough, at the very moment when the Duke of Richmond was charging the manufacturers of Manchester with signal neglect of their duties in this respect, Mr. Girdling, in his lecture at the Athenaeum, was making the following remarks on the same subject:—

"It was only yesterday that, in visiting many of the crowded districts of this great city (Manchester), I was gratified more than I can express, to observe, in so many directions, the evidence of amendment and amelioration: courts flagged and provided with drains; narrow streets, formerly full of mud and holes, now paved, and comparatively cleaned; and, more than all, as I learnt in several quarters, active and personal inquiries on the part of the local authorities into the actual condition of the labouring population. Seeing all this, and knowing what great measures are in actual progress,—and I allude more especially to the magnificent plan, for such, as far as I can learn, it is, for increasing the supply of water,—we may, without indulging in over sanguine expectations, fairly anticipate an amount of sanitary improvement of which every individual, be he high or low, will not fail to reap the advantage. I should neither be doing justice to my own feelings, nor to the municipal and other public bodies of Manchester, if I did not express my entire and unbiassed conviction, formed after some practical experience, that 'in no town in the kingdom, not excepting the metropolis, has so much been accomplished for the relief and comfort of the suffering poor, as in this town; and that too without the aid of those pecuniary resources which are possessed by so many of the civic corporations, and which, it must be added, are so often misapplied.'"

Now, if all this be true,—and we challenge any one to say that it is an exaggeration,—what becomes of the Duke of Richmond's charge against the Anti-Corn-Law League, seeing that many of the most active members of that association have been the most zealous in their efforts to effect those improvements which were necessary for the purpose of diminishing the mortality of the town?

In our endeavours to promote the cause of sanitary improvement in Manchester and elsewhere, we have generally discussed the subject on its own merits, and apart from any other public question. Such, however, is not the mode adopted by the chairman of the Agricultural Protection Society; and, as he chooses to view it in connexion with the Corn Laws, it may be worth while to inquire in what degree the evils arising from the overcrowded condition of our manufacturing towns are fairly attributable to the food monopoly, and to the manner in which the landowners have neglected their duty to the agricultural labourers under their charge? Of the 340,000 individuals who, according to Sir James Graham, are added to the population of Great Britain every year, not one-tenth part can find employment on the land, even although they should offer to work for eight shillings a week. The consequence is, that the remaining nine-tenths must look for employment and food in the towns and villages; and it has frequently been no easy task for the manufacturers to create profitable work for them all, under the operation of laws which cripple trade. What wonder, then, that the "working aristocracy" should for many years have paid little more attention to the well-being of the manufacturing operatives than the "idle aristocracy" have paid to the condition of the agricul-

tural labourers! It is no doubt true that the average duration of life in the country is much superior to that of the inhabitants of Manchester; but no one will say that the labourer is indebted for his robust health to the kindness or the liberality of the landowner; and as little reason is there for asserting that manufacturing capitalists are less humane than any other wealthy class in the country, simply because the rate of mortality in manufacturing towns has hitherto been greater than it is in the rural districts.

If the manufacturers of Manchester and other large towns are to be made responsible for the health of the population to whom they furnish employment, it is surely not too much to ask that the food monopoly, and all other restrictions on commerce, should be immediately abolished. The man who is only half-fed is ten times more liable to be struck down by some deadly contagious disease, than he who obtains an adequate supply of wholesome food. The man whose employment is precarious—who can earn 20s. a week when wheat is 45s. a quarter, and is unable to earn more than 10s. or 12s. a week when wheat is 70s. a quarter—will not be easily taught to study the laws which regulate health. It seems to us, therefore, that, considered merely as a sanitary movement, the agitation for the abolition of the Corn Laws is one of the most effectual modes of promoting the health and comfort of the community, and that, so far from meriting the censure bestowed on them by the Duke of Richmond, the manufacturers of Manchester deserve praise for their indefatigable exertions in the cause of Free Trade.

### LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S RESOLUTIONS.

(From the *Weekly Chronicle*.)

Having made a vow, when we took to public writing, to speak of all things without fear or favour, and to make the *Weekly Chronicle* a faithful record of our own impressions, we shall not pretend to adopt the conventional tone in which the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Globe* have thought it politic to talk of Lord John Russell's resolutions, and of their reception in the House of Commons. We deal with things as they are, not with things as they might be, or as we should wish them to be. If a man make a mistake, in our judgment, we tell him so, instead of expatiating upon his brilliant success with somewhat more than poetical license; and never, certainly, was a mistake more palpable, than that committed by the Whig leader, when he brought forward a motion at once so complicated, and so insignificant, that nothing but his high character, and the respect in which he is held personally by all parties, enabled him to escape the mortification of seeing the House counted out, from the utter impossibility of exciting an interest in the proposition which he had deliberately submitted to it.

Our readers, therefore, may regard as purely imaginative the glowing picture drawn by the *Morning Chronicle* of "the deep attention" and thrilling interest with which all parties hailed the speech of the Liberal leader; and as to the essay of the *Globe* upon "Practical Statesmanship," few things can be more absurd than such a eulogy from such a quarter. "Practical Statesmanship" in connexion with the Anti-Maynooth Journal! the only *avowed* organ of Liberal opinions that disgraced itself by an alliance with the bitterest bigots! The League may, indeed, hide its diminished head when twitted with the want of "practical statesmanship" by the *Globe* newspaper!

Lord John Russell's speech, however, was unquestionably a speech of much merit. It was calm, temperate, suggestive, full of excellent matter,—the sort of speech that a man of cultivated mind might make to a perfectly impartial and philosophical audience on a long winter's night, if asked to favour them with his views upon the general condition of the country. But when we have said this we have said everything. There was little novelty; no change of position. From first to last the House of Commons seemed to feel that if "Hamlet" were really performing, by particular desire, the part of Hamlet was unfortunately left out; that the great discovery which had been announced was somehow or another, not forthcoming; and that Lord John Russell himself, instead of the buoyancy and life displayed in his last speech on the Maynooth Bill, was tolling in vain to extricate himself from "the great Serborian bog" of his own motion.

This we had foreseen and foretold as inevitable. No man ever yet succeeded in condensing nine subjects into one, or in confining within reasonable limits a discussion so prolific in new matter. Mr. Sherman Crawford thickened the mass, by throwing the suffrage question into the caldron, though, thanks to Chartism, it occupied a very small corner; and such was the boundless latitude afforded by the debate, that nothing seemed misplaced in it, from gaol returns or Ribandism, which Lord Clements took for his text, to the sowing wheat stubbles with vetches, upon which Mr. Bickham Escott, the member for Winchester, very learnedly and convincingly expatiated.

But was this all that we had a right to expect from a man in Lord John Russell's position, after six months of painful gestation? What new light has his motion thrown upon the questions to which it more peculiarly related? What new principle has it laid down, to which the Whigs are pledged as a party? What practical result does it promise—no matter how distant, so it be good—which we may, henceforward, look to and labour for, as the consequence of their return to office? What broad line of demarcation has it drawn between them and the powers that be—we will not say to warrant immediate change, but to make its advantages clear and intelligible to the country?

We wish that we could answer these questions satisfactorily; but, with the single exception of "protecting agriculture" by means of a fixed duty in lieu of a sliding scale, there is rather a distinction than a difference between Lord John Russell and Sir James Graham. It is a question of *degree*, not of *principle*. Both would educate—both colonise—both speak of the New Poor Law as greatly preferable to the old one—both declare protective duties to be bad in the abstract, but leave it doubtful to what extent they are prepared to part with them practically; for Lord John Russell advocates "cautious and deliberate change," and Sir James Graham says that we must do nothing in a hurry;—both praise the legislation of the last four years, and assert its beneficial operation upon the labouring classes, for whose special benefit Lord John Russell's motion was intended; and the only cause of disagreement left seems to be the

precise extent to which these remedial measures ought to be carried.

This is not the sort of contest in which Parliament or the country can take much interest; and nothing, certainly, could exceed the general apathy, from the moment that Lord John Russell's views about the Corn Laws had been ascertained,—the only point that excited the slightest curiosity. For just as the Free-Traders reproach Sir Robert Peel with his inability to give the country the benefit of his own principles, so long as he allows his freedom of action to be fettered by a pledge not to interfere with the food of the people, so the Whig leader will find the same causes operating against him, while hampered in his onward course by the same unhappy reservation. How can he work out his own declaration, that "protection is the bane of agriculture," while, out of deference to the "rump" of the agricultural Whigs, he says that he means to "protect," to the extent of four, or five, or perhaps six shillings a quarter,—if, as Sir Robert Peel hinted, the Conservative malcontents would only give him a little encouragement? And why show his cards in this imprudent manner? Why not leave himself the benefit of doubt, when he has so little to offer in reality? Four, five, or six shillings a quarter! It is not even a decent bid for power, much less a basis for that united action by which alone an Opposition can expect to effect that change in the public mind which must precede the adoption of its principles.

But, say our Whig contemporaries again, it is not by Lord John Russell's speech, or individual views, that the importance of his motion is to be measured. Look to what it has produced! Look to the declarations of the Ministers;—the large and liberal views propounded by Sir James Graham—the immense admissions of Sir Robert Peel—the growing conviction on the Conservative side, that the benefits of "protection" have been greatly overrated, and that the abolition of the Corn Laws themselves need not be contemplated with any great alarm by the agriculturists, the question evidently having two sides, and the farmers, as was frankly acknowledged by Lord Pollington and Mr. Bickham Escott (who made a Free-Trade speech that might have been heard with pleasure at Covent-garden), having quite as much to gain by cheapening the price of their seeds, and the food for their cattle, as they can lose by a fall in the price of their wheat—even supposing its value to be materially altered. All this, says the *Morning Chronicle*, "is our thunder," or rather Lord John Russell's thunder in particular. He has brought it out! But for him this latent liberality might have continued "to bluish unseen," and "waste its sweetness" in the bosom of the Premier!

Never was there so fond a fallacy! The greater the change,—the larger the admissions amongst the former opponents of Free Trade; the greater the disposition now to recognise as indisputable truths, principles which were scouted in 1841 as delusive and dangerous,—the more shame is it for the Liberal leaders that they dare not take advantage of a state of things so propitious to the opinions which they profess to hold, and that they should allow their Conservative competitors to distance them in the race, upon which, four years ago, they somewhat reluctantly entered. We do not say that they are not sincere—we do not say that they are not honest; but we fear that they have little of that generous warmth about them—that ardour of conviction, that steady perseverance in purpose—by which the real apostles of Free Trade have been so pre-eminently distinguished. It is not in the House of Commons alone that the work has

been done. The League—the Press—the indefatigable labours of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Villiers—the writings of Mr. Deacon Hume and Mr. McGregor—the results of recent experience—the gradual exposure of past mistakes, even where sanctioned (apparently) by the authority of such men as Mr. Huskisson—the growing conviction of present benefits from every approximation to sounder principles;—all these things have helped to work that change of which the speeches of Sir James Graham and Sir Robert Peel afford so remarkable a testimony.

The question is, now, who shall consummate it? And what is there in the late debate to induce a belief that that honour is reserved for the Whigs, rather than for their political rivals? We see nothing—absolutely nothing! Lord John Russell has not extricated himself from the grasp of that small section of Whig landowners who seem to exercise a benumbing influence upon his faculties;—he has not seized the opportunity of moving on, or announced his determination to do so. It was Mr. Villiers, not Mr. Labouchere, who closed the first night's debate by that masterly analysis of Sir James Graham's speech, which will rivet upon it the attention of every thinking man, and force even the most doubtful to admit that there is no gainsaying the conclusion to which it comes, namely, that *cheapness* and *plenty* are the basis of every improvement in the condition of the people of this country. It was Sir Robert Peel who proclaimed that, far from repenting of the course which he had pursued, he would not go back one step in order to regain the lost confidence of his agricultural supporters; that the welfare of the proprietors of land did not depend upon the price of corn; that the state of things which prevailed in 1842 could not have continued without imminent peril to all classes; and that no system of "protection" which they could devise would half so effectually promote their own interests as such a relaxation of our commercial code as would secure to them, in the manufacturing districts, a perpetual supply of "rich and hungry customers."

CHARD, SOMERSETSHIRE.—Twelve pounds of excellent bread are selling in this town for one shilling.—*Bristol Mercury.*

THE WHEAT IN SUSSEX.—We hear that in several parts of this county the farmers have ploughed up their wheat-fields in consequence of the devastations of the wireworm.—*Brighton Herald.*

EARLY AMERICAN WHEAT.—The *Frederick* (Md.) *Examiner* says:—"Our friend Mr. Henry Layman left at our office, on Wednesday last, the 30th of April, a bunch of wheat stalks in hand. Best this who can! Frederick county against the world."—*New York paper.*

AMERICAN MANUFACTURES.—The work seems to go ahead and the mills are springing up in the South. The *Greenville* (S.C.) *Advertiser* has a sample of printing paper which was made at the new mill of V. M. Lee, Esq., seven miles below that village. A few years ago there was scarcely a paper-mill south of the Potomac. Now they seldom come north for the grain.—*New York Sun.*



## REVIEW.

*Sybil; or, the Two Nations.* By B. Disraeli, Esq., M.P. London: Colburn. (Third notice.)

The extracts given in our previous notices of this work sufficiently illustrate the peculiar powers of the writer—his comprehensive range of thought, his graphic talents in description, and his skilful analysis of motives and impulses which would escape the notice of one less trained in moral anatomy. We have now to view him as a politician and a philosopher; and in so doing we cannot avoid making reference to "Coningsby," of which the present work is the supplement and completion. Mr. Disraeli believes that political power in England passed from the hands of the feudal aristocracy into the possession of an anomalous oligarchy, not unlike in its constitution to that of Venice; and he believes that this great change was worked out under the Tudors and the Stuarts: its commencement was the Reformation, its completion the Revolution. This oligarchy, equally arrogant and selfish, assumed to itself the titles, functions, and social position which are only due to a generous and enlightened aristocracy; and in the possibility of such an aristocracy being developed from existing materials Mr. Disraeli is a firm believer. But, in the meantime, the country suffers under the oligarchy: it is fettered in its commerce, shackled in its trade, impeded in its industry, and forcibly prevented from developing its resources. The oligarchy seems to be a hostile garrison of different races, banded together for repressing the energies and stinting the enjoyments of the English people. That oligarchy forms, in effect, a distinct nation, having all the vices of an ascendency aggravated by the hypocrisy of fraudulent title.

The lower nation of workers has naturally developed itself into the form and character which the superincumbent pressure was calculated to produce. In some districts, a fraudulent system, similar to the Corn Laws, was devised by employers under the name of Truck, being an humble imitation of the compulsion by which all the working classes are forced to purchase provisions from English landlords exclusively.

The exposure of the oligarchy—its heartlessness, its selfishness and its meanness—is much more complete than the delineation of the lower nation: in the first case, Mr. Disraeli has had personal experience; in the second, he has been, for the most part, indebted for his information to Blue Books and Parliamentary Reports. He has been thus led to set forth exceptional cases as average results, and to represent the condition of the manufacturing community as far more wretched and dangerous than it ever has been. One important fact seems to have escaped his notice, and that is the civilizing effects of machinery: when multitudes are aggregated together pursuing their several avocations separately, there is much more of vice and social disorganization than when they have a common bond of union in the mill or factory.

As a politician, Mr. Disraeli has very ably portrayed the existing relations between the oligarchy and the people of England; as a philosopher, he has deduced from these relations aphorisms of great value, which must, for the future, take a permanent place in the social sciences: but we think that he has but faintly indicated the remedies which our present position imperatively requires. This is the more to be regretted as there is abundant proof in these volumes that the writer has not only a keen perception of the evils in our existing system, but that he has traced back their historical causes, and investigated their nature. He very justly remarks:—

"If the history of England be ever written by one who has the knowledge and the courage—and both qualities are equally requisite for the undertaking—the world would be more astonished than when reading the 'Roman Annals,' by Niebuhr. Generally speaking, all the great events have been distorted, most of the important causes concealed, some of the principal characters never appear, and all who figure are so misunderstood and misrepresented, that the result is a complete mystification, and the perusal of the narrative about as profitable to an Englishman as reading the 'Republic' of Plato, or the 'Utopia' of More, or the pages of Gaudenzio di Lucca, or 'The Adventures of Peter Wilkins.'

"The influence of races in our early ages, of the church in our middle, and of parties in our modern history, are three great moving and modifying powers, that must be perceived and analysed with an untiring, profound, and unpassioned spirit, before a guiding ray can be secured. A remarkable feature of our written history is the absence in its pages of some of the most influential personages. Not one man in a thousand, for instance, has heard of Major Wildman: yet he was the soul of English politics in the most eventful period of this kingdom, and seemed more than once to hold the balance which was to decide the permanent form of our government. But he was the leader of an unsuccessful party. Even, comparatively speaking, in our times the same mysterious oblivion is sometimes encouraged to creep over personages of great social distinction as well as political importance."

Now, the history of England is in truth, during the last three centuries, little more than a record of the struggle between the oligarchy and the people; or, to use Mr. Disraeli's language, between the upper and lower nations over whom Victoria holds

sway. The upper nation has in its favour the exclusive grasp of political power, hereditary privileges, and, what is more important, hereditary prejudices; a large share in the direction of national education, and consequent training of the public mind; and that habitual talent for administrative functions naturally formed by the exclusive exercise of such functions. To all this the lower race has only to oppose the strength which the gradual progress of society daily adds to the industrial classes, and the consequent growth of substantial equality in spite of fictitious distinctions.

Since the overthrow of feudalism, the relation between lord and vassal first passed into the relation between patron and client, and is now rapidly changing into the more simple relation between employer and employed. Between the capitalist and the operative there is little more connexion than between buyer and seller; if the operative looks for a greater degree of countenance and protection beyond wages, he must purchase it by a greater share of obedience than the mere labourer for which he is paid. All rights and duties between masters and men are reciprocal, and the flagrant errors into which the Chartists have fallen are all to be traced to ignorance of this simple truth. The landlords claim rights without the performance of corresponding duties; the Chartists demand duties without the concession of corresponding rights. Between both stands the political economist, who says—Simplify your relations so as to make them clear and intelligible, and then you will soon see how they are to be rendered equitable and equal. When the landlord demands a fixed price for corn, meaning thereby a high rent for land, he claims for himself a right over the industry of the country, the duties corresponding to which are impossible to be performed unless we can discover means of regulating the seasons and controlling the elements; when the Chartist insists on a fixed rate of wages, he claims a right to which equally impossible duties are attached, for it would be as easy to legislate for the whirlwinds as to fix the relations of demand and supply in the world's markets. The want of our age is simple justice: permission to exchange freely in the open market, so as to satisfy our mutual wants, advance our mutual interests, and cultivate our mutual affections.

*Douglas Jerrold's Magazine.* No. VI.

From this very interesting periodical we take part of an article on "The Law of the Land," which deserves serious attention. We have watched this magazine from its commencement, and, though we have occasionally lamented the appearance of some distorted views of the factory system, we are delighted to find Mr. Jerrold a zealous labourer in the cause of enlightened philanthropy, and a firm supporter of the demand for justice—not charity—to the industrial classes:—

## "THE LAW OF THE LAND."

"A common phrase this—the 'Law of the Land.' Most familiar and household-like its sound—grave and dignified in its meaning, and sonorous in its twang. People talk of the law of the land solemnly and sententiously, as of something perhaps a little mystic and obscure; but good, great, just, benevolent as a God, and mighty as a God.

"The law of the land! It comes glibly off the tongue. Orators prate of it fluently; judges lay it down solemnly. It is a received and venerated phrase; a most hallowed collocation of words. And no one seems to know or to think of the world of satire it contains.

"Yes, satire,—keen, biting, trenchant satire. It tells a mighty and a sad truth most unconsciously; reveals the nakedness of the deformity it would cover; tell our laws and our law-makers what they are—how they have cheated us—and in all this most unsuspected formula of words.

"The law of the land. Interpret the sentence—the law for the land—the law so affectionate to the owners of the land—the law which is proud to surround acres with a triple shield, while it leaves weak industry unprotected—the law made by landowners for the benefit of landowners—the law, their willing tool, their useful slave—the law which stints out the food of the poor for the 'landed interest,' which creates fictitious crime for the landed interest—the law made by land for land—exalting land, lavishing upon it all tenderness, blessing it with all humanity,—verily, the law of this country is the 'Law of the Land!'

"Ages ago, when England was little but a broad forest—when deer, and wolves, and wild-boars ranged where cities now stand—the law of the day, such as it was, was made by landowners for their order. Feudal castles—those chivalric receptacles for stolen goods—started up. Banditti, as ignorant as brutal—the titled thieves from whom our aristocracy are proud to trace their descent—waged war upon honesty, and industry, and weakness; and made laws too, enacted measures especially designed for their own disinterested purposes, established criminal codes as enlightened as themselves, and administered them as humanely as they were conceived philosophically.

"Such were our first legislators. From the land sprang our national code. In the land it is still rooted, and the land it still shelters. Nations suffer from hereditary legislation as individuals from hereditary disease; the first feature of acre legislation is its hereditary character. The landowners took care not only to make laws, but to leave their descendants the privilege also. The right of plunder was a precious heirloom. It has descended from those who imposed the forest laws to those who imposed the Corn Laws; from the tyrant of white serfs to the holder of black slaves. It is the spell which crushes the many to exalt the few; it is the hereditary curse; the evil which clings to us; cramping our energies, blighting our prospects.

"Class legislation means no more or less than robbery committed under the sanction of forms of law. And in the long head-roll of our laws, how few there are to be found which do not spring from class legislation—from one class legislation—from land legislation? Landowners have always been our legislators; the inevitable consequence has been that our laws have been framed for the benefit of land. True, this is what was to have been expected. Man is selfish—selfishness, like other bad passions, grows by what it feeds on. Our original legislators had a tolerably fair stock when they commenced operations, and, God knows, it has had plenty of food to batten upon since.

"I have no property myself," said a lordling, explaining his 'expectations' to the father of a lady he had wooed and won, 'but I have family connexions with the Grenvilles.' Of course this was quite satisfactory. We have heard of an 'order' naturally intended for the service of the state. It would be more correct to talk, an order naturally intended for the plunder of the public. The army, the navy, the church have all one grand object besides the three great ones—they are severally destined to serve. Livings, ships, and regiments are bought and sold. There is nothing that the spirit of aristocracy cannot convert into property. It has made the wild things of the earth property. It deals and traffics in the souls of men. It batters upon what was to be taught without money and without price. It makes the church of God the profit and the property of man. But let the church take care. Aristocracy professes for it a great reverence and a great love. The church is wealthy. It was more so once, and aristocracy and royalty fell jointly upon it—upset the fabric, and divided the spoil. Pleasant occupation—and a richer pleasure still—they said they did it for religion's sake! As they fed upon the church, they feed upon the state. The peerage drains upwards of three millions of money in pensions and places. Well may we be a 'pensive public.'

"For land then, and by land, has the whole fabric of our laws and constitution been built. For land, does the Corn Law furnish its yearly victims; for land, does the game law demoralize districts; for land, does the law of primogeniture set aside the law of nature; for land, does the law of entail defeat the plain rules of justice; for colonial land, are we hampered by numberless paralyzing fiscal restrictions; for land, is the absurd distinction drawn between personal and real property—always careful to protect the one at the expense of the other; for the sake of land, the goods of a sub-tenant may be seized for the non-fulfilment of a contract to which he was no party; for the benefit of land, the scraped up pittance devised to widows is pillaged, while the princely estate passes free from fire to son; for land, we live, move, and have our being; land governs us; land taxes us; Atlas-like, the land weighs us down. Judge-made law may be bad, but landlord-made law is worse. Morally, we are still *adscripti glebe*—

"The Law of the Land is the Law for the Land!"

## THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT BREAD.

(From the *National Anti Slavery Standard*.)

A wide and fertile world is ours,  
A world where every rood,  
Obedient to the Maker's word,  
Yieldeth his creature food.

Unnumbered fields with yellow grain  
And mellow fruit are spread;  
God gives enough for all—and yet  
The people have not bread.

The ocean swarms with food for man,  
The rivers, like a hand,  
It-teeming fulness bear into  
The bosom of the land.  
And petty streams, that velvete through  
The mighty inland thread,  
Yield up their fluky stores—and yet  
The people have not bread.

Earth, ocean, rivers, even the air,  
Their riches freely yield;  
The proudest grove, yet ripened grain  
Lies trodden in the field.  
The rich men smile and count his gains;  
The labourer's shock are fed:  
God gives enough for all—and yet  
The people have not bread.

Philadelphia.

THE WHEAT CROPS.—We regret to say that we hear from our correspondents in all quarters, that the prospects of the wheat crops are most unpromising. In many places in the eastern and midland counties, the wireworm has done immense mischief, and in others the plant has suffered so much from the long frosts and cold weather that hundreds of acres are being ploughed up altogether. One of our correspondents assures us, that an eminent agriculturist told him only two days since, that the amount of this year's harvest would not reach half of last year's. This, we think, is speaking prematurely, but it shows that great alarm exists on the subject.—*Liverpool Chronicle*.

FOREIGN COUN.—The following fact proves we have nothing to apprehend this year from any importation of corn from the Baltic. A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 18th May, says:—"On the report of the council of Ministers, the Emperor has authorized the importation, duty free, into the ports of Riga and Pernau, to the 15th of July this year, of rye, wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, beans, and peas from foreign countries, and his Majesty has prohibited the exportation of the said articles by sea from Riga and Pernau, and from other Russian ports, during the whole period of the navigation there this year."

IRISH RAILWAYS.—It must be gratifying to every man who is anxious for the improvement of his country to find that what we may call the emergency exists of a great number of Irish companies obtaining acts this session. A year ago, who would have thought of ten or twelve, or even fourteen, Irish railway companies, with capital subscribed by solvent proprietors, obtaining acts in this session of Parliament? The mere notion would have been scouted, yet the prospect is before us—the fact, we might say, is certain—that some twelve companies, at least, will obtain acts. Just think of the stimulus that will thus be given to Irish industry—to Irish improvement—to Irish prosperity.—*Irish Railway Gazette*.

## AGRICULTURE.

## PECULIAR BURDENS ON LAND.

WHAT ARE THEY, AND WHO BEARS THEM?

The monopolist landowners say that they are entitled to "protection"—that is, to have the price of the produce of their land kept up artificially—because "the land" is subject to many peculiar and special burdens. If they believed that statement to be true, there can be no doubt that the representatives of our squirearchy in the House of Commons would have readily acceded to Mr. Ward's recent motion for a committee to inquire what those burdens are, and where they fall. But no one believes the assertion, and, consequently, a great majority of the House decided that no inquiry is necessary. Those who thus reject inquiry must be content to have it henceforth understood that the pretence of peculiar burdens on land, in the sense of an unequal share of taxation, is a fraud and a sham. Still it is a subject that courts investigation. The owners and occupiers of land are unquestionably subjected to burdens which do not attach so universally to the owners of other property. The questions to be considered are, what are those burdens? whence do they proceed? and what is the remedy? We agree with the majority of the House of Commons, that no further evidence on the subject is required. The facts are patent; they are undenied and undeniable by any rational person. But it is most true that error and fraud take refuge in generalities: and to arrive at the truth with respect to the peculiar burdens of land, it will be necessary to examine them with some accuracy, and in detail. These burdens are of two classes—those which affect the owner of the soil, and those which fall upon the tenant. We will arrange and examine them separately. First, there are the landlords' burdens. These have been stated by Lord Mountcashel, Sir Edward Knatchbull, Mr. George Banks, Mr. William Miles, the Duke of Richmond, and other "protectionists" of authority, as mortgages, jointures and portions for younger children, poor-rates, county-rates, and highway-rates. Now, what is a mortgage but a debt incurred by the owner of land for his own pleasure or profit, and charged upon the estate? It is a consumption of the substance of the property—a mere deduction from its amount. Such a charge made by a former owner no more entitles a landlord to require his income to be enhanced at the public expense, than would the fact of his father or grandfather having sold a farm and spent the money. No doubt it is much pleasanter to succeed a saving, accumulating paternal line than a spending one, but that is entirely a family affair with which the public and the Legislature have nothing to do. Mortgages, therefore, afford no valid plea for "protection." Then, do jointures and portions form any sufficient reason why landlords should seek an equivalent by a tax upon the food of their fellow-countrymen? Let us answer that question by two others. Are landowners under the natural obligation of maintaining their wives and providing for their children? If they are—and even the high "protectionist" Duke of Richmond only claims to quarter his brother on the Treasury—why is it incumbent on the public to pay the jointures and portions charged on the estates of unproductive consumers? Let the majority against Mr. Ward's motion for an inquiry into peculiar burdens furnish the reply!

The poor-rates and county-rates fall upon landowners only in common with the owners of houses and other real property, while the regulation of those rates have been entirely in the hands of the owners of land. It was the landlords who, in 1794, when prices of agricultural produce began to rise, devised the scheme of partially paying wages of agricultural labourers out of the rates, which has entailed so much misery and degradation upon the labourers, and made the poor-rates so burdensome. If this be a burden peculiar to land—which it is not—it has been created by the owners of the land for their own advantage. The county-rates are exclusively managed by the owners of land, and are wholly applied to purposes which increase the value of their own property, or in punishing delinquencies for which they are mainly answerable. What are the crimes most common in the rural districts, but such as are the direct offspring of the poverty of the population, and of game-preserving? Nothing but the obstinacy of the landowners perpetuates these evils. They prevent the improved cultivation of the land which, by giving full employment to the rural labourers, would reduce the poor-rates most materially, and raise the agricultural population out of their present depressed condition. All practical agriculturists agree in this. Mr. Turner, a Devonshire farmer (and a protectionist), said lately at an agricultural meeting in that county:—

"Talk about emigration and over-population, there was land enough in England to support double the population. If the landlords would come forward and aid their tenants in carrying out those important improvements."

Again, at the Stockbridge (Hants) cattle show,

Mr. Spencer, a farmer, in enlarging on the advantages of such exhibitions, said:—

"Whenever an agriculturist took an interest in the improvement of his stock, and felt that generous emulation which prompted him to bring them from so great a distance in order to exhibit them, the natural result would be, that for the furtherance of his object he would so farm his land as to be able to procure a plentiful supply of food for them, and adopt a system of management which was sure to improve the estate—the property of the landowner—which showed that the latter was an interested individual, and ought to do all in his power to support such societies as the present, from which he would ultimately derive so much benefit. The labouring classes had also an interest in the success of such institutions; for wherever an improved system of management took place, a much greater amount of manual labour would be performed. This, at the present time, when so many of our fellow-creatures were, for want of employment, either driven to a union workhouse or to subsist upon the charity of others, would have a most beneficial tendency, and many an able-bodied man would become an honest and useful member of society who was now only a burden to it."

This goes directly to the point. And we could adduce similar evidence without limit, all showing distinctly that the landlords and the landlords' laws are the chief causes of pauperism and poor-rates. How, then, stands their plea for protection on this ground? Lastly, we have highway-rates. Now, if there be a greater benefit to landed property than another, it is that which gives facility of communication with markets. Let the reader take the first half dozen advertisements of farms to let, and he will find good roads to neighbouring markets, where they exist, set forth as a pre-eminent advantage. The produce of land is all bulky, and has to be taken to market by the grower, who, if he brings back manure, has a still heavier back-carriage. It would be about as reasonable for a landowner to ask the public to repay him the expense incurred in putting up good gates and fences on his property as to treat the rates for the maintenance of roads as a peculiar public burden on land!! What is deemed more cogent evidence before the numerous railway committees now sitting in favour of any particular line, than that it will facilitate the carriage of agricultural products to the great markets of consumption, and so enhance the value of land?

But, even had all these payments really formed burdens on landed property, have the landowners no special exemptions? How is it they pay no probate or legacy duties? Their manures and building materials are free from tolls; there are no assessed taxes on servants in husbandry; there is no tax from which they can be exempted which has not been repealed in their favour? And yet they pretend to allege peculiar burdens as an apology for "protection." Thus it is plain that there are no peculiar burdens affecting the owners of the land but such as are of their own creation, or which they continue for their own benefit, or by their own mismanagement.

Let us next inquire what are the peculiar burdens of the occupiers of land, and we shall find that they are all directly or indirectly the result of landlord legislation or landlord systems. The farmer is usually a yearly tenant, and is, therefore, unwilling or unable to farm to advantage. (On this point we will merely quote a passage or two from the letter of a correspondent in the last *Mark-lane Express*, which expresses the opinion of all farmers upon the subject:—

"This [insecure tenure] is one of the great barriers to improvement; for what sensible man will expend his capital in bones and guano, when the next year he may have a six months' notice to quit, without a shilling compensation? The custom is becoming more common. I could enumerate several instances where the tillages have been taken from tenants within the last few years."

And he afterwards says:—

"If a tenant wishes to adopt the economical system, and has forty head of cattle, but only convenience for the milking of twenty, what is he to do? He must either build conveniences, or pursue the old plan. And what security has he for building under a yearly tenure? Why, none; but a pretty good surly that his landlord will either send his agent or valuer, who will not take these matters into consideration, but raises the rent."

Again he says:—

"As long as landlords have such advantages over their tenants, so long will agriculture be kept in the background; so long must the labourer endure a scarcity of labour; and so long will the system be a public evil. With yearly tenures, the landlord would always have a great advantage over his tenants, if the tenants were paid for improvements."

And the only real security to a farmer is a twenty-one years' lease.

Here we have a pretty clear view of a "peculiar burden" on the tenant, one which makes him fear the competition of foreign corn-growers, and one which effectually prevents him from obtaining the fair and ordinary rate of remuneration for his capital and industry. But who dares to say that the public must be taxed to protect him from such burdens? Relief can come from the landlord, and the landlord only. Then there are game preserves; obsolete stipulations to follow unprofitable courses of culture; prohibitions to break up any grass land, though its conversion would be most advantageous; and hedgerow timber—fit emblem of a monopolist

landocracy—overshadowing and blighting acre upon acre of land, for which the tenant pays a full rent. Nobody denies that there are "peculiar burdens" on them as pleas for "protection"? What say the majority against Mr. Ward's motion?

Then there is the "peculiar burden" of protection itself. Let us trace a few of its effects. At a recent meeting in Berkshire, when some question between the titheowner and the parishioners came under discussion, a gentleman said, "their tithe had been advanced within half a century from £545 a year to £1000, and now to £1500." Now, that is pretty nearly the ratio in which rents have increased during the same period, while prices of farm produce are about the same as they were fifty years ago. At the meeting above referred to the following statement was produced. The speaker said:—

"He had been furnished with documents proving this from a gentleman in the parish, whose predecessors had kept an account of sales of farm produce there. The prices were,

In 1794-5—	In 1844-5—
Wheat .... 47s. 0d. to 52s.	45s. to 47s.
Barley .... 33s. 6d. — 35s.	35s. — 36s.
Beans .... 45s. 0d. — 0s.	44s. — 45s.
Peas .... 36s. 0d. — 42s.	39s. — 40s.

It was rather singular that the difference was so very slight between the prices of the two periods."

And while farmers are receiving only the prices of 1795, and are subjected to insecurity and fluctuations, and evils altogether unknown at that period, they have engaged to pay rents which are based upon a greatly increased produce, the result of greater skill and more capital furnished by the tenants, and calculated upon prices 20 per cent. higher than actual prices. Here, then, protection has failed, and in failing has caused one of the most intolerable burdens under which the occupiers of land suffer.

Such, then, are the "peculiar burdens" to which land is, in reality, subject; and, when their nature is clearly explained, perhaps it will occasion no surprise that those who are now receiving rents under false pretences should be shy of inquiry into those burdens about which they talk so largely and so loudly on their own dunghills—the protection societies.

## GAME-PRESERVERS' MERCY.

The following instances of the merciful administration of the game laws are reported in the last number of the *Aylesbury News*:—

WINDLOW PETTY SESSION, Thursday, May 22.—Present—W. S. and E. W. S. Lowndes, Esqrs., and the Rev. S. Wright.

Joseph Chapman, labourer, of Shipton Lee, appeared to a summons charging him, on the information of Pinfold, gamekeeper to G. G. Pigott, Esq., of Doderhall, with having trespassed on that gentleman's estate, in search of game, on the 10th inst. Chapman pleaded guilty, and as this appeared to be his first offence, the bench intimated that they should deal leniently with him. Ordered to pay £1. 10s., and allowed three weeks to pay it in."

If that be game-law leniency, what must its severity be? Picture the leniency which fines a man, who is fortunate if he earns 7s. a week, four weeks' wages, and two shillings over!! But then he is allowed three weeks to pay it. Now, what is the natural, the necessary consequence of such a sentence but that, in order to pay the fine, the man does more than "search for game," or else steals some one's property. Thus it is the game laws make criminals—not poachers merely, but real criminals.

At the same petty sessions, another labourer, Reuben Roads, who did not appear to the summons, was convicted, on the evidence of Mr. G. G. Pigott's gamekeepers, of setting snares on their master's property. Roads was, of course, convicted in his absence, and "in the full penalty," for he had been before convicted of poaching. This man has probably absconded, and will become a vagabond, and most likely be found, ere long, a confirmed criminal. Yet all this wrong and misery is perpetrated that empty-headed squires may enjoy the absurd sport of killing tame pheasants!

A similar course of game-law justice was pursued in another part of the same district.

ASHENDON PETTY SESSIONS, Monday, May 19.—Present.—Rev. G. Chatwoode, T. Martyn, and J. S. Baron, and T. T. Bernard and John Stone, Esqrs.

William Jakeman, a poor inoffensive but poverty-stricken-looking labourer, of Grendon Underwood, was charged by Thomas Brookless, one of the Duke of Buckingham's gamekeepers, with having taken two pheasants from a nest on the farm of Mr. W. Bear, in that parish. The poor fellow, with tears in his eyes, pleaded guilty. "He said he took the eggs to suck!" From the sequel it appears very natural that he should so have done. An inquiry was made as to his character. It was found to be good. The keepers knew no harm of him, and the constable said his character was very good. When asked about money, he said he had none; he had a family of five small children to keep out of his labour. He was a Sunday man, and in consequence had the increased wages of 10s. per week. Ordered to pay a fine of 2s., and allowed a fortnight to pay in."

And to this fine, let it be remembered, there must be added some 7s. or 8s. in the shape of costs. Again we ask, why are the peasantry to be made offenders against the law, and to be fined and imprisoned, for the sport of dukes and squires?



## FOOD v. RAILWAYS.

The following letter from a correspondent is an argument of the same sort as those which monopolist squires use when they complain that highway-rates are a special burden on land, when in fact the highways, to keep up which the rates are levied, form a prime element in the value of the neighbouring lands.

So our correspondent will find that the comparatively small portion of land taken from actual production of food for the purpose of constructing railways will give an additional productive power to that which remains far more than equivalent to that of the land abstracted:—

"To the EDITOR of the LEAGUE.

"Darwen, June 3.

"SIR,—You have shown us that the population increases above a thousand a day, who require a proportional increase of food. Show us, on the other hand, the quantity of land that must be taken out of cultivation to supply house-steads, factories, &c., for this increasing population; and again, the land that has been and is about to be taken from agricultural purposes for railways, &c. Without having any certain data before me, I cannot doubt that there are, or will be, 4000 miles of railways in England, which, averaging the width at 30 yards, will show 40,000 acres recently cut off for ever from producing food.

"Yours, &c., A WORKING MAN."

It is not the mere extent of land under cultivation which determines the amount of produce, but the method of its cultivation. There is not a doubt amongst those best acquainted with British agriculture that the production of food in this country might be at least doubled, if the owners of land were subjected to the wholesome competition of a Free Trade, and the occupiers relieved from the burthen of protection, and other landlord-imposed burdens. There need, therefore, be no fear lest ample area should not be left for cultivation. Besides, railways facilitate communication, equalize the prices of food and raw products in different parts of the country, and economize the use of horse labour thereby leaving a greater amount of agricultural produce to be applied in raising food for man. Let our correspondent examine any district in which the population is dense, and consequently much of the land is taken from agricultural purposes for roads, &c., and compare it with the thinly-peopled purely agricultural districts, and he will find that, from superior cultivation in the populous district, there is no loss, but a gain, from the abundance of roads.

## THE RENT IS THE BURDEN.

Landlords have been so accustomed to delude the tenant-farmers, who, until lately, received all the absurdities of the squires in alliance if not with acquiescence, that they imagine there were no limits to farmer gullibility. This was tried at the late "Protection Society" meeting at Stafford, where a Mr. Locker, and afterwards Lord Ingestre, tried to persuade the farmers that reduction of rent would not relieve them, and that the maintenance of the landlords' establishments was to be a paramount consideration with tenants. His lordship may "tell that story to the marines," but we opine he will not tell it upon the farmers again.

Mr. Locker said:—

"He felt quite sure that, at the present prices of agricultural produce, the tenant-farmers could not exist for three years. (Hear.) As for a reduction of rents meeting the difficulty, that was a complete fallacy. (Hear.) To strong lands, if the tenants had them rent free, they could not cultivate except at a positive loss. (Hear, and roar.) He was not of opinion that the land would ever go out of cultivation, but, should the depression continue, the present race of tenantry would be annihilated. (Hear.) Capitalists would be found ready to take the rich lands, but the poor strong lands would go out of cultivation."

Mr. Locker is so far right that strong land, held from year to year, and undrained, as is the case with nineteen-twentieths, must be cultivated at a loss in ordinary seasons and with moderate prices. But that is only because of the tenure and the want of draining. Strong land is that—and we speak from actual experience—most capable of improvement under a long lease, and in the hands of a farmer of competent skill. The idea of such land going out of cultivation is ridiculous. When the trade in grain becomes free, strong land will repay its cultivators at least as well as any other.

Mr. Locker then said:—

"Meetings like the present were never intended to set tenants against their landlords. He could safely assert that the tenants had now as great confidence in their landlords as ever, and that they were never upon more friendly terms. (Hear.) He did not see why a gentleman should reduce his income from £5000 a year to £3000 a year, merely because the Parliament had been legislating in a wrong principle. (Hear.) They should recollect, that if rents were lowered, gentlemen must reduce their establishments, and numbers of persons would be thrown out of employ. The rental of land had been recently coming down, and could not now be said to be at a standstill."

This is a very rich specimen of land-agent logic; for, from his language, we presume Mr. Locker to be.

Afterwards Lord Ingestre adopted the same strain, and a plain sensible farmer, in a couple of sentences, brought his lordship's theory and his speech to a hasty conclusion:—

"Mr. Locker had talked about a reduction of rents. He (Lord Ingestre) quite agreed with the observations of the squires who had seconded the petition. They must consider that the landlords had many and heavy burdens. Their expenditure was great in the keeping up of their establishments. They employed much labour, and consumed large quantities of manufactured articles; but it would be impossible for them to do so with reduced means.

(Hear.) A great reduction of rent would go a very little way towards alleviating the distress.

"A FARMER: Try it for one year, my lord. (Roars of laughter.)

"The CHAIRMAN: If rents are much reduced the landlords will have no money. Then what are they to do?"

"FARMER: DO AS WE DO MY LORD,—MAKE SHIFT. (Renewed laughter.)

"The CHAIRMAN, after a few concluding sentences, which were but imperfectly heard, resumed his seat."

But the landlords have got the law of distress, and so forth, for the express purpose of preventing the necessity of "making shift," even though their tenants are shifted into the workhouse. The following remarks of the *Times* on this meeting are pungent and just:—

"We cannot, indeed, wonder that puny and envious minds, incapable of appreciating moral greatness, or understanding the true standard of magnanimity, should venture to assign motives, or impugn those assigned. Thus, alas! it ever was; and thus, only Wednesday last, at a meeting of landlords and farmers at Stafford, under the auspices of that absolutely philanthropic society already referred to, strange tokens of incredulity and disaffection were exhibited, and chairman and landowners were scandalized at the daring array of opposition they encountered. And, who would believe it? one speaker, pretending to advocate the cause of tillage and benevolence, scrupled not to recommend a reduction of rents. A reduction of rents indeed! Are noblemen and gentlemen to toil and sag for the welfare of the community, and to be out of pocket for their trouble? Is it not enough that they are scared nearly out of their intellects by the hideous phantasm of an Anti-Corn-Law Bazaar at Covent-garden? Must they further be told of reducing their rents, diminishing their expenditure, clipping their establishments, curtailing their entertainments, decimating their dishes, discharging their supernumeraries, and, in short, abridging in every unnatural manner the necessary comforts of their very existence? Well might the noble chairman manifest a tremulous anxiety for their fate, if such a scheme were ever matured. Well might he demand what was to become of them?—what were they to do? Unjust and cruel extremity, suggested by the plain-spoken farmer in reply, 'Same as we do, my lord,—make shift!'"

"Genius of aristocracy, what an idea! What language! What a comparison! Enough to make one shudder. But, to bring this proposal for bettering the condition both of tenant and labourer by reducing rents to its proper issue, as there is nothing like the practical test of an argument, we cordially urge the adoption of the farmer's advice—'Try it.'"

## AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A correspondent writes to us, because "many farmers read the LEAGUE," to lay down what he designates as "a very simple theory of manure, which may tend to protect farmers from these new and most absurd quackeries called chemical or artificial manures." We insert the letter for the purpose of showing how much farmers have been stimulated to think and reason upon their own business by the recent course of events; not as acceding to his views, which are in some respects crude.

"1. In the first place, What is manure? It is either animal or vegetable matter in the process of decay, or the excretions of animals or plants.

"2. Plants, like animals, can only subsist and grow by the consumption of something that has grown or lived.

"3. The longer any substance intended for manure has been allowed to decay before it is applied, the less effect it will have in producing a good crop.

"4. No animal or vegetable substance, after it has been petrified or otherwise chemically changed, is any longer capable of supporting either plants or animals, and therefore it is no longer a manure.

"There are a great many substances used in agriculture: such as lime, acids, alkalis, &c. Are they manures? Certainly not. And, but for the very limited space I can expect to have of your paper, I should have treated of these substances separately. I will confine myself to the first, which is best known to farmers, viz., 'Lime.' This substance is petrified animals, and now a mineral substance perfectly incapable of supporting animals or plants. It is a strong caustic alkali. It is used by agriculturists with a twofold intention: first, as a pulveriser of stiff clay land; and second, as a 'stimulant' to the land. As to the first, there can be no doubt but, as long as it is a dry power, it will act as a separator of the adhesiveness of clay; but whenever it is slaked or saturated with water, it is inferior to sand as a pulveriser. It is therefore by its other effects that lime can be useful to farmers. It is used to kill roots, weeds, worms, &c., which, while they lived, took away support from the crop the cultivator wished to grow; which roots, &c., being killed, become manure. Our friend Mr. Williams goes along with this theory; he says:—'The indiscriminate use of lime to all kinds of land is bad.' And I shall add, it is hurtful to all kinds of land, unless used with the above objects. Lime is poisonous to land, the same as physic is poisonous to our bodies; and both ought to be used with skill and caution,—having a reason for its use, not to use it as experiments or indiscriminately. The calculation should be, whether a greater good could not be attained by the evil: lime is certain evil to the soil. I would have farmers to have a theory. In place of talking about 'lime,' as a quack doctor would talk about his universal cure for all diseases, it is requisite farmers should understand the qualities of substances they put into their land, so that they had an end in view to be produced by them. To cut my letter short, a theory of manures, &c., would save farmers from the modern chemical quackeries, by which large sums of money are paid for 'chemical manures' of no use; the very name expresses the absurdity. It is just as ridiculous to talk of chemical manure as to talk of a chemical dinner; yet farmers are quocked out of large sums for acids, soda, guano, and the like, which are generally bad for the land, and apply these substances without any attention, just as ignorant people take drugs from quacks, and without having learned as much chemistry as to know how very little use it ever can be to a farmer."

"AN OLD FARMER."

We agree with the "Old Farmer" that there is a vast

amount of quackery abroad about artificial manures, as well as that much caution and discrimination are required on the part of farmers before they lay out their money upon such matters. But amidst the quackery there is much error, and some really useful suggestions. The landowners are the great originators of the error, when they urge their tenants to buy and use artificial manures, which they believe will enable larger crops to be grown, and consequently rents to be kept up, without much more of security to the tenant, or permanent investment of capital, to which that security is a condition precedent.

As an occasional aid towards bringing a farm into a high state of cultivation, and to help forward particular crops, some of the foreign manures, such as guano, may certainly be useful. But no farmer should place any material reliance upon them. His chief dependence for manure must be on stock, which, moreover, ought—and with free trade in grain, certainly would—pay him a good profit besides. He must not "go to the barn's door for everything." Stock of some kind or other must be made to contribute to the farmer's income something more than as mere machines for making manure. And mere manuring alone will not bring the farmer success. It is of no use to supply what may be termed the food of plants, if the mechanical texture of the soil is not first rendered favourable to their growth. This must be done by draining, by subsoil and deep ploughing, and by dressings of lime or chalk on the heavy lands, and by claying, chalking, and treading with sheep and cattle on the light soils. All these things will only become general when the Corn Laws have been repealed, and the landowners have been driven out of their system of semi-feudalism.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

(From the *Scotsman*.)

EAST LOTHIAN.—Bold easterly winds have steadily prevailed during the month until this the last day of it, when, changing to the west, it has given rise to hopes of weather more favourable for vegetation. On the whole, however, it has been dry, and the few light occasional showers which have fallen, and even the smart rain on the 26th, were all serviceable than otherwise to the working of the turnip land, rendering it at the same time moist enough to ensure a rapid braird—a matter of considerable importance. At this season turnip sowing engages the undivided attention of the farmer; and, being the commencement of a rotation, much depends on the manner the land is wrought for this crop. A large proportion of the Swedish turnip has been already sown, and, generally speaking, the labour is as far advanced as in ordinary years.

Considering the cold, untoward weather, the crops look remarkably healthy, particularly broad-land wheat, which has a most luxuriant appearance. It may be a little later than last year, but it has seldom promised to be a more bulky crop. Both oats and barley are thriving, there being none of those half-brained fields so common last season. Beans came up thick and vigorous, but latterly their progress has been slow. Grass has not grown much either; wherever pasture-fields have been fully stocked, they are very bare indeed.

A very great rise has taken place in the price of fat cattle and sheep, the advance on beef being from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per stone, and nearly 2d. per pound on mutton. This has been occasioned by the demand for England. South country dealers have been through the county, and have bought up almost every fat beast in it.

The supply of grain in the Haddington market has lately been much smaller, and wheat, oats, and beans have risen from 2s. to 3s. per quarter. At this busy period, farmers have little time for thrashing or carting grain to market. Whether after this is over the advance will be maintained, depends altogether on the weather.

Guano has fallen in price within these few weeks about 30s. per ton. The large arrivals during the spring were all bought up by speculators, who are now anxious to sell, as the principal season for its use is getting on. It is being extensively used to the turnip crop, at the rate of from three cwt. to five cwt. per acre, with about ten or twelve carts of dung, and there is no doubt but this management pays well. A number of individuals are trying the experiment and to have been successfully made by Mr. Forster, of Fimdrassie, near Elgin, of promoting vegetation by atmospheric electricity, obtained by means of common wire. Some of these trials were commenced above a couple of months ago, but hitherto without any perceptible effect on either the wheat or barley to which they were applied. The all but universal impression is, that the whole concern is a complete hoax on the "agricultural mind." It certainly looks suspicious that Mr. Forster's experiment, made in Scotland, and with such wonderful results, should be given to the public first through the columns of the *Bristol Mirror* newspaper, where it was noticed in October last, and again in February, and without stating it to be on the authority of that gentleman himself.

At the Whitsunday term there were fewer changes than usual amongst the hinds or married farm-servants. Some allusions have been made in these reports to the new and improved cottages recently built by several proprietors in this county. But will it be believed, that within two miles of Haddington families are being reared to men and women in small hovels not larger than a farmer's dining-room, with the cow coming in at the same door as the family, and occupying a portion of the room? Yet such is the fact.—*May 31, 1845.*

PONNION BRIDS.—On Monday, June 2, the duties now chargeable upon the importation of the following foreign seeds into this country ceased and determined, and they will be added to the list of free goods agreed to by the House of Commons in their resolution of March last, and embodied in the act just passed, 18th Vic., cap. 12, enacting the same, viz.:—Acorn, aniseed, burnet, colchicum, cumina, fenugreek, forest, garden (assumed), lentils, lettuce, linseed and flax seed, lupine, maw, millet, parley, quince, shrub or tree, and worm.

The wheat crop of Missouri gives promise of an abundant harvest.—*American paper.*





chambers before mentioned. The fire originated in the lower part of the premises, and spread with great rapidity, resulting in the most strenuous efforts of the fire brigade to extinguish it. All the inmates escaped, save two, a Mrs. Satchell, wife of one of the partners of the premises, and her infant, a boy about 18 months old: they were discovered, when the fire was got under, burned to death in a frightful manner in Mrs. Satchell's bedroom. The fire originated in the shop, but how it occurred has not been exactly ascertained. Several neighbouring houses suffered much damage. We regret to add that Mr. Satchell died on Tuesday afternoon, the shock he received from the awful calamity having proved fatal to him.

On Monday night, between 11 and 12, a fire, attended with a considerable destruction of property, broke out in No. 11, Mount-street, Westminster-road, within a few doors of the National Baths. Mr. Todd, with his wife and child, and a female servant, were in their beds at the upper part of the building. There were likewise upon the premises Mr. Brooks, a lodger, with his wife and mother; and all had a narrow escape. The result was the destruction of the building, with the greater part of the furniture, stock in trade, &c.; but no injury was done to surrounding property.

Wednesday evening a meeting of the "merchants, manufacturers, and traders," was held in the Corn Exchange, Manchester, for the purpose of "considering the working of the act of last session which abolished imprisonment for debts under £20." Mr. John Brooks occupied the chair. The meeting was addressed by several small tradesmen, and a series of resolutions passed condemnatory of the measure; after which, a committee was appointed to collect information, and also to watch the progress of the bill now before Parliament on the same subject.

The *Kentish Observer* states that an officer of a dragoon regiment, a few days ago, was found dead in his quarters, it being supposed that he had committed suicide in consequence of losses sustained at the Derby.

From a return just issued, on the motion of Mr. Hume, it appears that the number of soldiers belonging to regiments of the line and the depôts in England and Ireland who have been corporally punished between January 1, 1839, to the 31st of December, 1841 (the last three years), is 1160; of whom 1014 were flogged once, 119 twice, 24 three times, 2 four times, and 1 five times. In the course of the same period 15,133 have suffered imprisonment. The number of soldiers corporally punished in the Royal Marines during the same period is only 31, and 891 imprisoned. In the Royal Artillery 62 men have been flogged during the same period, and 1281 imprisoned. In our regiments abroad 2109 have been flogged, and 9202 imprisoned. The corporal punishments inflicted in the Royal Navy were—in 1839, 2007; in 1840, 2028; in 1841, 2066; in 1842, 2472; and in 1843, 2170.

On Monday morning Joseph Connor, the wretched man who was convicted at the last session of the Central Criminal Court for the murder of Mary Brothers, in George-street, St. Giles's, expiated his horrible crime on the gallows in front of Newgate, in the presence of a large concourse of persons. It appears that the prisoner made an ample confession of his guilt on the morning after his conviction, and stated that, had the sheriffs not been so good as to employ counsel for his defence as they did, it was his intention to have pleaded guilty to the indictment, and save the Court all trouble in the matter.

Mr. Selon, the unfortunate gentleman wounded in the sad affair with Lieut. Hawkey, of the Royal Marines, has terminated his earthly career. He died at Portsmouth, on Tuesday evening, from the effects of the wound.

Two hundred and eighty-two books have been given to the guardians of the Greenwich union for the pauper library recently established. It is gratifying to perceive the excellent moral effect the trial of this scheme has had upon the inmates. Good order and good humour proceed from the practice; and, after the day's work is concluded, groups may be seen listening to some one reading, while others are employed in reading by themselves. Since the establishment of the library, the general conduct of the inmates has much improved.

On Wednesday, about noon, Mr. William Baker, a tradesman, living at Whitehall-place, Forest-gate, West Ham, Essex, died under an attack of hydrophobia, brought on from the bite of a dog six weeks ago. The unfortunate man was in the yard of Mr. Robert Ransom, a wheelwright of the neighbourhood, when the animal, which was of the terrier breed, bit him while he was patting it.

The total number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts during the week ending Saturday, May 31, was 903, an amount something above the vernal, though considerably less than the annual averages, in which the numbers are respectively 888 and 963.

The most extraordinary popular demonstration ever perhaps witnessed, was that which took place on Friday, in Dublin, to commemorate the anniversary of the imprisonment of Mr. O'Connell and the other defendants in the state prosecutions. The procession through the streets might be considered as a "monster meeting," far surpassing any of those assemblages which preceded the state trials. The trades of Dublin, with the rural population for 20 miles around, marched in the procession, with flags and music, and with all the order and precision of well-drilled troops. There could not have been less than a quarter of a million of persons in the streets, but not a single accident occurred. The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation Hall on Monday. The meeting was a crowded one. Mr. E. O'Mahoney gave in his resignation, on the ground of treatment he had received from the '82 Club. Mr. O'Connell denied that there was any connexion between the two bodies. Mr. O'Connell, in his speech of the day, expressed his admiration of the proceedings of the previous Friday at the levee, and of the conduct of the people; both of which were indicative of the rapid progress of Repeal. The honourable member, having discussed a variety of topics, gave notice of several plans he intended proposing for the furtherance of the Repeal cause. The rent for the week was announced to be 2412 10s. 6d.

The following are extracts from the 11th Report of the Commissioners on National Education (Ireland) for 1844:—"We had at the commencement of it 2913 schools, which were attended by 355,320 children; at the close of it the schools amounted to 3185, and the children in attendance upon them to 395,650. We have also to state that we have undertaken to make grants towards the building of 277 schoolhouses, which are yet to be completed, and which, when the whole are finished and

opened, we expect will be attended by about 25,000 additional children; we, therefore, calculate upon having altogether between 400,000 and 500,000 poor children receiving the blessings of education under us in the course of the present year. Altogether the national schools have about doubled, and so have the children in attendance upon them, within the last five years. We had 1581 schools at the close of 1839, and the number of children amounted to 205,000; at the close of the last year we had, as we have already stated, 3153 schools, and the number of children amounted to 395,000."

On Saturday an affray took place in the vicinity of Mohill, a disturbed district in the county of Leitrim. A party of police were out in search of some delinquents, and seeing a number of armed men, "Molly Maguires," in a field, they rushed upon them. The Molly Maguires fired, and the police returned the discharge, but with a sure aim, shooting one man through the heart and wounding others. The Molly Maguires fled and the police gave chase; but the country people got out of their reach. The police subsequently returned to the field, and were removing the body of the man who had fallen, when the country people, greatly reinforced, came up, rescued the body of their fallen companion, and put the police to flight.

Captain Broderick, secretary of the '82 Club, and chairman of "the levee" committee, has an advertisement in the Dublin papers, requesting authority to affix signatures to the Repeal pledge, agreed to on the 30th ult. in the Rotunda. It is said that the document has already received the signatures of upwards of twenty members of Parliament, in addition to those of the municipal authorities who presented addresses.

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. May 31	Mon. June 2	Tues. June 3	Wed. June 4	Thurs. June 5	Fri. June 6
Bank Stock	—	211	211	211	—	—
8 per Ct. Red. Ann.	99	99	99	99	99	99
3 per Ct. Con. Ann.	99	100	100	100	100	100
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	101	101	101	101	101	101
Long. An. Ex. 1850	11 9 16	11 9 16	11 9 16	11 9 16	11 9 16	11 9 16
Cons. for Acct.	99	101	100	100	99	99
Exc. Bills, pm.	62	61	63	63	63	63
Ind. Bds. on 10007	73	74	—	—	—	—
India Stock	240	—	280	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds	99	99	—	—	99	—
Brazilian Bonds	—	—	—	—	87	87
Banco Ayres	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colonia	94	—	—	—	—	—
Columb. ex. Venes.	15	15	15	15	15	15
Danish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	98	98	98	98	98	98
Dutch 3 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexican	57	58	58	58	58	58
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. conv.	62	67	—	—	67	64
Spanish 5 per Ct.	30	30	30	30	30	30
Do. 3 per Cent.	42	42	41	—	41	41

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

MARK-LANE, Monday, June 2.—There was a moderate supply of English Wheat to this morning's market, but the weather having undergone a most favourable change during the last two days, there was less firmness in the trade. For the finest samples last week's prices were obtained, but rather lower rates were accepted for other descriptions. There was very little demand for Foreign, either in bond or free, but lower prices were not accepted. The supply of English Barley was short, and there was but little Foreign offering; the demand however was slow, and prices remain the same as last week. The supply of Beans and Peas was short, and former rates were fully maintained. The supply of Oats was short from Ireland, and moderate from abroad. Fine Corn of all descriptions was in request at fully last week's rates; and though the demand for the inferior qualities was not brisk, former prices were maintained. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

	BRITISH.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50 White 45 to 54	—	—
— Ditto New 42 to 48	—	44 to 54
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old 42 to 48	—	44 to 50
— Scotch 42 to 46	—	44 to 48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed 21 to 23	—	21 to 23
— Ditto ditto Polands 23 to 26	—	23 to 26
— Scotch Feed 22 to 24 Potatoes 23 to 27	—	23 to 27
— Limerick 21 to 22	—	21 to 22
— Ditto Fine 21 to 22	—	21 to 22
— Cork 20 to 21	—	20 to 21
— Waterford, Youghal, & Cork Black 20 to 21	—	20 to 21
— Bigo 20 to 21	—	20 to 21
— Galway 19 to 20	—	19 to 20
Barley 24 to 33	—	24 to 33
Beans, Marazan New 31 to 33	—	31 to 33
— Harrow Old 38 to 40 do. 33 to 35	—	33 to 35
— Small do. 42 to 44	—	42 to 44
Peas, White, New 34 to 36	—	34 to 36
— Grey 32 to 33 Maple 33 to 34	—	33 to 34
Flour, Town-made per sack of 280 lbs. 35 to 43	—	35 to 43
— Norfolk and Suffolk 33 to 35 34 to 36	—	34 to 36

	FOREIGN.	Per Imperial Quarter.
Wheat, Dantzg, high mixed 48 to 56	—	48 to 56
— Rostock 47 to 54	—	47 to 54
— Stettin 44 to 52	—	44 to 52
— Hamburg 42 to 48	—	42 to 48
— Odessa 49 to 46	—	49 to 46
— Ditto Polish 47 to 40	—	47 to 40
— Russian soft 43 to 46	—	43 to 46
— Ditto hard 40 to 44	—	40 to 44
— Spanish Red 45 to 49	—	45 to 49
— Ditto White 50 to 54	—	50 to 54
— Australian 54 to 58	—	54 to 58
Barley, Grindling 23 to 27	—	23 to 27
— Distilling 29 to 31	—	29 to 31
Oats, Archangel 21 to 23	—	21 to 23
— Stralsund 21 to 23	—	21 to 23
— Dutch Brew 17 to 19	—	17 to 19
— Polands 33 to 35	—	33 to 35
Beans, Egyptian 33 to 35	—	33 to 35
— Peas, White 33 to 35	—	33 to 35
— Ditto Boilers 33 to 35	—	33 to 35
Flour, Canada per barrel of 196 lbs 28 to 36	—	28 to 36
— United States 28 to 30 18 to 20	—	28 to 30 18 to 20
— Dantzg 24 to 26 18 to 20	—	24 to 26 18 to 20
— Australian, per sack of 280 lbs 33 to 35	—	33 to 35

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from May 26 to May 31, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	7170	685	220	777	87
Scotch	—	670	240	—	—
Irish	—	—	1000	—	—
Foreign	379	421	1260	510	26

Flour, 6446 sacks, 224 burs.

FRIDAY, June 6.—The supplies of all grain since Monday have been moderate. The attendance of buyers, both on Wednesday and to-day, has been very thin. There is no alteration to notice in the price of any article. There was not any variation in the duties yesterday. S. H. LUCAS and SON.

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 2nd of June to the 4th of June, both inclusive.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	3140	—	7070
Barley	690	—	3610
Oats	140	9080	7400

Flour, 2610 sacks.

	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
Wheat	5550	51s. 2d.	Rye	5 32s. 0d.
Barley	437	29s. 11d.	Beans	593 36s. 6d.
Oats	17570	22s. 2d.	Peas	87 37s. 4d.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
26th April	45 11. 31	6. 20 11. 30	2. 35 9. 36	1		
3rd May	46 0. 31	2. 21 4. 21	0. 36 1. 36	10		
10th "	45 10. 30	5. 21 6. 31	4. 37 1. 36	8		
17th "	45 9. 30	0. 21 9. 29	7. 37 3. 37	0		
24th "	45 9. 30	1. 21 11. 31	0. 37 5. 37	4		
31st "	46 3. 29	5. 22 5. 30	1. 37 2. 36	7		

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.—Wheat, 45s. 11d.; Barley, 30s. 5d.; Oats, 21s. 8d.; Rye, 30s. 4d.; Beans, 36s. 10d.; Peas, 36s. 9d.  
Duty.—Wheat, 20s. 0d.; Barley, 8s. 0d.; Oats, 6s. 0d.; Rye, 10s. 6d.; Beans, 6s. 6d.; Peas, 6s. 6d.

Stock of Corn in Bond, May 3, 1845.  
Wheat. Barley. Oats. Rye. Beans. Peas. Flour.  
In London, 106767 2893 11037 — 2362 1403 45168 Cwts.  
Unit. King. 298327 6691 38752 — 16802 8088 238825

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

## FRIDAY, MAY 30.

## BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENT.

S. HARRIS and D. REEVY, Minorities, linendrapers.  
BANKRUPT.  
F. W. SEARLE, Upper Gloucester-place, Chelsea, cheesemonger. [Townshend, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square.  
T. WENMAN, Birmingham, merchant. [Lyndal and Sons, Birmingham; Rowland and Co., Threadneedle-street.  
W. M'ALPINE, Liverpool, tailor. [Bridger and Blake, London-wall; Francis and Almond, Liverpool.

DIVIDENDS.  
June 21. N. T. Smith, jun., Lime-street, City, shipowner—June 20. J. Pim, Clapham-common, linendraper—June 20. J. Finlayson, Ranelagh-street, Pimlico, grocer—June 20. J. Innes and C. S. Bracher, Karl's court, Old Hampton, brewers—June 21. E. Gibson, Kendal, builder—June 25. R. Hilton and N. Walsh, Over Darwen, Lancashire, paper makers.

CERTIFICATES.  
June 20. W. Jones, Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, commission agent—June 21. J. Weightman, Northampton, wharfinger—June 20. L. D. Dobell, Lower Mitcham, Surrey, dyer—June 24. W. and T. Higgins, Old Bond-street, hosiery—June 20. K. F. A. Hampson, Walnut tree-walk, Lambeth-walk, gas fitter—June 23. J. W. Sprague, Poole, Dorsetshire, grocer—June 21. E. May, Abgate High street, City, draper—June 21. R. Ward and J. Perry, Newgate-market, meat salesmen—June 21. J. Tolson, Huddersfield, fancy cloth manufacturer—June 21. G. Shaw, Oldham, Lancashire, cotton spinner—June 20. T. S. Dodd, Liverpool, luncheon—June 26. J. Jones, Pimlico, Lincolnshire, butcher—June 20. J. T. Reeve, Gravesend, victualler—June 20. S. Hutton, Brick-lane, Bethnal green, silk hat manufacturer—June 20. J. Burgess, Crutfield, Suffolk, farmer—June 20. C. Scott, Long-street, Macclesfield, grocer—June 20. J. Ralph, Bath, bookkeeper—June 21. T. Robinson, Reckton, Lancashire, lime burner—June 20. W. Coward, Hartlepool, Durham, bread baker—June 20. H. Turner, Theobald's-road, Bedford-row, cowkeeper.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3.  
BANKRUPTCY SUPPLEMENT.  
T. COOKE, Leicester, glove manufacturer.  
G. B. SCHOLLS, Lestock-hall, Lancashire, muslin manufacturer.

BANKRUPT.  
J. P. BRADLY and G. J. BRADLY, Great St. Helen's, City, wine merchants. [Harrison, Walbrook.  
W. MATTHEWS, Euston-grove, North, pianoforte maker. [Weightman, Warwick-court, Gray's Inn.  
W. CLARKSON, Redcross-street, boot and shoe manufacturer. [Llewellyn, Noble-street, Chesham.  
S. FAWCETT, Chiswell-street, linendraper. [Fawcett, Jewin-street, Cripplegate.  
J. YATK, Guernsey, and York-road, Lambeth, shipowner. [Wood and Wickham, Cornhill-court, Gracechurch-street.  
J. MOHON and R. SIMONS, Mincing lane, wine and spirit merchants. [May, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury.  
W. ABLE, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, plumber. [Walker, Wolverhampton; Capes and Stuart, Gray's Inn.  
F. H. CHURCH, Southampton, surgeon. [Humphreys, Newgate-street.  
L. PEARSON, Newcastle upon Tyne, leather dealer. [Williamson and Hill, Gray's Inn; Inglewood, Newcastle on Tyne.  
J. PITT, Plymouth, grocer. [Cross, Plymouth; Gregory and Co., Bedford-row; Terrell, Kaater.  
J. C. DENPARKY, Bristol, stationer. [Galsworthy and Co., Cook's-court; Gray, Bristol.

DIVIDENDS.  
June 26. L. J. Nicolay, Woolwich, draper—June 26. J. Wilson, Jermy-street, St. James's, bootmaker—June 26. B. Hoadley, New Bond-street, coachmaker—June 26. J. Welch, Hing-croft, Holloway, licensed victualler—June 26. B. Bright, Wigmore-street, Marylebone, licensed victualler—June 26. R. Barham, Kinsworth, Hampshire, linendraper—June 26. W. Tucker, Dean street, Westminster, farmer—June 26. W. H. Williamson, Dowgate hill, City, tobacconist—June 26. O. Jackson, Hertford, upholsterer—June 27. P. Murray, Manchester, travelling draper—June 27. N. P. Wood, Manchester, banker—June 27. N. P. Wood and J. L. Holden, Manchester, bankers—June 26. J. Crump, Mawley, Gloucestershire, corn dealer—June 21. W. Ferguson, Liverpool, draper—June 26. H. Dircks, Liverpool, millwright—June 27. G. Hocklehurst, H. Dircks, and J. H. Nelson, Liverpool, millwrights—June 26. A. A. Hobbs, Liverpool, wine merchant—June 26. W. Oliver, Darlington, Durham, printer—June 26. W. Granger, Hally-mill, Durham, paper manufacturer—June 26. J. Hall, Walsall, Northumberland, cowkeeper—June 26. R. Currie, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, bookseller—June 26. C. Murrall, Birmingham, factor—June 26. J. Hayward, Miterion, Warwickshire, miller—June 21. J. and G. Clarke, Ropemaker-street, carpet manufacturers.

CERTIFICATES.  
June 26. J. Hyatt, Commercial-road, Pimlico, victualler—June 26. T. P. Ross, King William-street, City, iron merchant—June 26. C. M. Firth, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, lithographic printer—June 26. T. Joplin, Sunderland, linendraper—June 26. W. Granger, Rally Mill, Durham, paper manufacturer—June 24. T. S. Stuart, jun., Liverpool, dyestaller—June 26. J. and J. Nield, J. Nield, jun., and J. H. H. Charlesworth, Derbyshire, cotton spinners—June 26. J. Nicholson, Blackburn, Lancashire, linendraper—June 24. J. S. Noyce, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, draper—June 24. W. Ferguson, Liverpool, draper—June 24. G. O. Smith, Kensington-park, builder.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.  
J. BURNIDE, Glasgow, boot and shoe maker.







# THE LEAGUE.

No. 90.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND, £100,000.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUND FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for three months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing an acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that remittances will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Gosch, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,  
JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER!

The first step which requires to be taken is that of the claims for counties. The time for making these claims is from the 20th of June to the 20th of July, inclusive; any claim made after the latter date will be too late.

The county franchise is divided into four important classes of qualification:—

1st. Freehold, which includes the ancient 40s. freehold of inheritance for ever; and property held under a lease for lives, which should be described as freehold in the notice of claim.

2nd. Leasehold for a term of not less than 60 years, originally of £10 annual value; or if for a term of not less than 90 years, of £50 annual value.

3rd. Copyhold of £10 annual value.

4th. Occupiers of land, or building and land under one landlord, subject to a bond fide rent of £50 a year.

In the first class, the owner of a 40s. freehold for ever must have been in possession from the 31st of January of the present year; and the same in the case of the owner of leasehold for lives of 40s. a year, provided he be himself in the occupation of the property. If the owner of the lease for lives do not occupy, the property must be of the annual value of £10.

In the second class, the owner must have been in possession from the 31st of July, 1844.

And in the third class, the occupation must also be from the 31st of July, 1844.

It will be obvious that the first thing to be done by our friends is to ascertain how many Free-Traders there are in each parish possessing qualifications, and who are not on the register; and this should be set about forthwith, that the notices of claim may be made in proper time.

There are various means of obtaining this information, as, for instance—

In all those districts where the purchasing of qualifications, as recommended by the League, was taken up systematically, lists of the names will have been kept by those who made the conveyances.

The poor-rate books may be examined carefully to ascertain the names of owners of property, and also £60 copyholders therein, who are not registered.

Assessors, and collectors of rates and income-tax; building and land agents, who are friendly, may also give much information.

In the neighbourhood of large towns, such as Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c., there are merchants, tradesmen, and others, who occupy large houses and

premises in the suburbs at a rental of £50; these, if not within the parliamentary borough, will be qualified, and, if not on the county register, should claim. Last year, on a careful examination of the rate-book of a township just over the boundary of the borough of Manchester, from forty to fifty occupiers of this description were found who were not then on the register for South Lancashire.

The next thing to be done is to take care that the claims are made out in proper form, and served in due time.

It is most convenient to use printed forms of notice; and these should be filled up with the greatest care, the following particulars being closely attended to:—

The name of the claimant to be written at full length.

The place of the claimant's abode (not the place where his business only is carried on).

The nature of the qualification must be correctly described in the third column. Any misdescription here will be fatal if the vote should be objected to. Leasehold or copyhold must not be described as freehold; or freehold as leasehold.

The situation of the qualification must also be accurately given as required in the fourth column. In cases of successive occupation, as, for instance, where the voter has removed from one farm to another since the 31st of last July, each set of premises must be set forth in the claim.

A correct copy of each claim must be kept, and the claim and the copy must each be signed by the claimant himself.

Should any of our friends desire to be furnished with further information on any particular point, they will please to address their inquiries to Mr. Paulton, League-office, 67, Fleet-street, or to Mr. Hickin, Secretary to the League, Manchester.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## THE DEBATE.

Could we forget the anxious uncertainties which the prospect of a late harvest, and the possibility of a deficient one, cast over the country—and could we look only with contempt on the conduct of men who sacrifice their strong individual convictions, and risk the gravest national interests, for the sake of the paltriest of party expediences—we should now address our readers in the language of triumphant exultation. The debate of Tuesday night on Mr. Villiers's annual motion was one unbroken series of triumphs for the Free-Trade cause. Again was every principle for which we have been contending these seven years past formally authenticated by the leaders of both the great Parliamentary parties, Ministerial and ex-Ministerial. The urgent necessity and duty of providing enlarged supplies of food for a growing population, and of giving (we use the Home Secretary's words) "a free and uninterrupted current to the flow of national industry;" the tendency of cheapness and plenty to raise wages, abate pauperism, and diminish crime and mortality;—were again pointedly affirmed by the chiefs of a monopolist Cabinet. All our premises are once more deliberately admitted to be sound; and not one of our conclusions is denied, except the practical one—that morality and policy demand that legislators should do that which they know, feel, and say ought to be done.

The "mind of the House"—as Mr. Villiers said, in the commencement of his admirable and masterly speech, and as every point of the debate strikingly confirmed—is altogether with us. In truth, we can scarcely speak of Tuesday night's discussion as a "debate." Debate there was none. Monopoly has long left off debating—has now ceased to attempt getting up a show of debate. Monopolists had not a syllable to say—did not make so much as a make-believe resistance to the Premier, when he quietly disclaimed their doctrines, and contemptuously disowned their arguments as unworthy even of the compliment of a refutation. And not only were all the principles of the League affirmed to be sound and just, but—a still more decisive indication of which way things are going—the League itself was treated with respect. There was no attempt, this time, to get up a stupid laugh at bad Ministerial jokes about "Covent-garden performers." The temper of the House with regard to us and our work was rather severely tested, when Mr. Bright so boldly alluded to the Bazaar—alluded to it precisely in that tone, and with an emphatic reference to those connected topics, which, ac-

cording to all the ordinary House of Commons conventionalisms, might be deemed most provocative of ridicule, and which, but twelve months back, most assuredly would have been received with every sign of contempt and derision. He dared their sneers—and he dared them safely. All felt that the member for Durham was on sure ground, when he said—"There was one member opposite who would not sneer at these things, and that was the right hon. baronet who led the party." When we add, that the division (in itself a very secondary matter) showed a diminution in the monopolist majority—as compared with last year, of 74—as compared with 1842, of 181,—we have said enough to impart to every Free-Trader in the empire the renewed stimulus which we feel ourselves, to pursue, with unfaltering faith and patience, those exertions which have placed our cause in its present proud position.

Yet we are little inclined to indulge in the tone of triumph. Exultation is not the predominant feeling with which any earnest and honest mind can view a result which exhibits the shameful spectacle of men deliberately refusing to do that which they deliberately say ought to be done, and must be done—knowingly and wilfully risking the fate of millions of people on the chances of the next six weeks' weather. The position in which the Government have now placed themselves is the most profoundly humiliating that any set of public men ever submitted to. They have again—for the second time within a fortnight—raised their voices in Parliament as witnesses against the policy to which they still so pertinaciously cling. Again has their good sense borne testimony against their integrity. Again have they spoken the truth, to their own shame and condemnation. This was most powerfully pressed by Mr. Villiers. The Home Secretary had, as all the world remembers, in the debate on Lord John Russell's resolutions, admitted every one of our facts and principles—especially with reference to the necessity of finding more food for a fast-growing population, and the effects of plenty and cheapness on wages, employment, morality, and public health. He not only admitted our facts and principles—but enforced, illustrated, and insisted on them. "Founding himself on these admissions," "feeling what a strong position he occupies," Mr. Villiers now asks Sir James Graham if he persists in them—and, if so, when and how he means to act up to them. He "claims from him"—as he has a right to claim, if there is meaning in words—"an alteration in the Corn Laws." The admissions are not retracted, but—with some incoherent and feeble attempts to pacify the agricultural mind—distinctly reiterated. The Home Secretary again says, that "an abundant supply of food is, after all, the matter of primary legislative importance." And yet, with a law on the statute-book for artificially contracting the supply of food, he leaves this matter of primary legislative importance to the chances of the barometer. Sir Robert Peel the same. He, too, talks of "sound principles," which he refuses to do anything with; distinctly recognises, as possible, a "better condition of society," to which he will not make even those "cautious and gradual" approaches which he professes to desire; and, while repudiating every argument by which the Corn Law has ever been defended, leaves it untouched. He says the Corn Law ought to be changed, and must be changed—only "cautiously and gradually," not suddenly—and he keeps it unchanged. A more disgraceful sacrifice of principle and duty to the most trumpery expediences of party, was never made, by public men. Sir Robert Peel is in the position of a man retaining office for the purpose of doing that which he expressly says is wrong, and obstructing that which he expressly says is right. A flatter contradiction between words and deeds was never exhibited to the disgust and indignation of all honest men. And, we must add, a more tremendous responsibility than that with which Ministers now charge themselves, in braving the consequences which THEY KNOW will ensue on the first deficient harvest, was never assumed by statesmen. No rashness can surpass that which Sir Robert Peel is now guilty of, under the name of "caution and deliberation."

We abstain from detailed comment on a debate every word of which will be read with deep interest by Free-Traders. We cannot, however, refrain from expressing our thanks to Lord John Russell, and such of his party as have on this occasion, for the first time, given their votes in favour of Mr. Villiers's motion. The Premier showed, both by his petulant allusion to his rival's previous votes, and by the tone in which he thought it necessary to bid for the support and hopes of the Free-Traders, that he appreciated the importance of the frank and manly move in advance made by the noble member for



London. We sincerely rejoice to see Lord John Russell thus practically recognising that the real question is now between *all* and *nothing*—that compromise is past seriously hoping for—and that the particular opinions which he individually entertains, as to the most desirable mode of working out a great principle, are not worth a thought as compared with the principle itself.

For the rest, the result of the discussion of Tuesday night was excellently summed up by Lord Howick. Suppose the word "*gradual*" interpolated in Mr. Villiers's motion—and all the Ministerial speeches are speeches in its favour. The Corn Law, by universal consent, is doomed. "*No man can doubt, after hearing the speeches of the Ministers, that in their consciences they are convinced that a repeal of the Corn Law would be advantageous to the country.*"

It now only remains for the industrious classes to pronounce, in the registration courts, their judgment on the morality of men who tamper with their consciences, falsify their convictions, and stultify their most deliberate professions, for the sake of party—who postpone the acknowledged rights and interests of a people, to the miserable exigencies, or supposed exigencies, of a false party position.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1845.

Seventeenth Week, ending Saturday, June 14.

On Tuesday, the 10th of June, the motion of Mr. VILLIERS, pledging the House of Commons to the total and unqualified REPEAL OF THE CORN LAWS, stood first in order of precedence on the "notice paper." This position, so difficult to secure, was favourable to the probability of a grave and serious discussion on the most important practical question of the day. But there were other circumstances which, to the superficial observer, would have been unfavourable. In the former days of our ignorance, when prosperity made us stupidly satisfied, and adversity ignorantly impatient, we were too apt to set down good and bad harvests, and good and bad times, to a kind of fatal necessity which we could neither anticipate nor prevent. If this spirit prevailed now, the motion of Mr. VILLIERS might have fared very badly. What with prosperity, and railroads, and shares, and speculation, and committees, and counsel, and witnesses, there is enough to divert and distract; but when to this is added the fact that, after a long period of fluctuating and peculiar weather, Tuesday, the 10th of June, was the first of a series of days on which the sun shined from the heavens with tropical intensity, Mr. Superficial might almost have been justified in exclaiming, "Pooh, pooh, there will be 'no House' to discuss a mere abstract motion!"

Much, however, to the surprise of Pooh-pooh, there was a House; and a most excellent one. The members of the Government were present; the agricultural members showed themselves, wedged in unhappy endurance to their seats, or sitting uneasily about the side galleries; while a full phalanx of Free-Traders crowded the Opposition benches. The strangers' gallery was packed; and it is a fact worthy of notice, that many of these "strangers," who sat from between four and five o'clock in the afternoon till two in the morning, enduring what might be considered a heat and a pressure approaching that of the Blackhole of Calcutta, were so enthusiastic in the cause that they were with difficulty restrained, by the calls of the messenger and the fear of the Serjeant-at-Arms, from testifying their approbation of telling points in Free-Trade speeches, by hands, feet, and voice. Altogether, the scene was as animating as encouraging; and dull must be his organs of observation, perception, and reflection, who does not feel satisfied that FREE TRADE is nearing the point when it will be what the French call *un fait accompli*.

The speech of Mr. VILLIERS, opening what may most emphatically be termed his case, occupied between two and three hours; and, though all novelty of point may be fairly considered as long since exhausted, there were repeated portions of that most elaborate and admirable address in which the solid and reiterated argument was relieved by that playful railery by which Mr. Villiers gives pungency to his sarcasm, without leaving behind the sting of personality. The particular stage, too, at which the question now stands in the agricultural mind, afforded much room for novelty, both of point and wit; and Sir Robert Peel fairly laughed outright at the picture of the deplorable condition of the agricultural societies, with their landlord condition of "no politics." Historical, descriptive, and prophetic, the speech of Mr. VILLIERS exhibited the question of the Corn Laws as it has been, as it is, and as it shall be; and such a speech, coming from the man who has for years tolled on, from the period of the dreariest indifference and ignorance to the present moment of all but universal assent and conviction, will be received in the country, as it was in the House, with the just respect which is due to talent, perseverance, and undeviating consistency.

Mr. VILLIERS then rose, pursuant to notice, and said—He believed there was a general admission of the propriety of his motion being made—or at least it was ac-

knowledge that, such was the importance of its object and the necessity of its being settled, that some member was expected to test the opinion and, if possible, elicit the views of the leading members of this House upon it. This duty had hitherto unworthily devolved upon him; and reference had been so distinctly made to his resuming the task, that, for the first time he believed, he should occasion disappointment if he had not done so. (Hear.) He agreed with the noble lord the member for London that there could not be a more favourable moment to legislate on the subject than the present; and he was happy to learn that many members on the opposite side now agreed with the gallant member for Broom (Col. Wood), that the next time it was thought expedient to alter the law it would be far wiser to abolish it altogether. (Hear.) He trusted, then, that he should escape the charge of bringing forward an extravagant measure at an inconvenient time; for no party was satisfied with the present law, and nobody believed it would endure. He was glad to observe that her Majesty's Ministers were each year getting more confidence in the principles for which he was contending, and he thought they must now see that nothing was gained by a timid and partial application of them. The interests assailed are not less offended, while the satisfaction to the public is less than if their measures were complete. (Hear.) He thought he saw in the House a preference for measures that settled great questions rather than small disturbances of them. His friend the member for Gateshead had hoped to conciliate the House the other day by a very moderate measure, on the subject of bringing corn from Australia; but he did not see that he was treated with more respect, or that he had more success, than if he had proposed the measure now before the House. (Hear.) He thought that his noble friend the member for London had not received much encouragement to reproduce the measure by which he had hoped to reconcile conflicting interests, and all men would say that he was justified if he never on this account mentioned it again. (Hear.) He observed, also, that in other measures, whenever the Government had acted with boldness, they had received the support of the House. Even the member for Essex had given his approbation to a total and immediate repeal of the duty on cotton; and, though he objected to the same principle being applied to the more important subject of corn, others in the House would support it. (Hear, hear.) He indeed hardly knew now, before a Corn-Law debate was over, with whom he was differing on principle. Wherever any responsibility was felt for the consequences of the law, or any disinterestedness existed, there he observed there was either apology for, or abuse of, the law. (Hear, hear.) There had been, in the course of this session, two or three noble lords, who had before supported the law, avowed one, that he wished it had never existed; the other, that he was sorry it was now necessary; and a third, that he was not afraid of its repeal. (Hear.) He believed that if the leading members of the Government, and those of the last Government, and the leaders of the League, were to retire into a committee to consult on the matter, they would find that they differed very little (laughter, and cries of "Hear, hear"); and if they reported to the House, the report, if not in the language yet in substance, would be the same as what he asked the House to agree to, namely, that it was a law wholly unsuited to the present circumstances of the country; that it never had had any very laudable object in view; that it had been very injurious to the working classes; that the sooner it was abolished the better. (Hear, hear, hear.) If there was such a thing as the mind of this House, he should say that this was the impression that would be found upon it; but it was well known that it was not the mind of the House, but the votes, that determined its legislation; and that there was no doubt of there being yet great difficulty in procuring their repeal. He had learnt only last night that the Society for the Protection of Native Agriculture was yet living (laughter); and they knew that the interests that that society represented preponderated in both Houses of Parliament—the majority in the Legislature approved of the purpose of the law; they were not quite satisfied that it had failed, and were not sure that it was yet unsafe or unadvisable to maintain it. With regard to this latter object it was the purpose of that very useful body, the Anti-Corn-Law League, to relieve their minds. (Hear, hear.) What the purpose of the law was, he believed there was no doubt: it might be simply expressed as intending to make land dear. (Hear.) Such had been the original object, and all subsequent legislation had had this object in view; and it was curious to observe the decided character of the legislation on this subject from the time that the proprietors of land became dominant in the State. He referred that period to the Revolution in 1688; and in that very year, when William III. accepted the constitution, and was at the mercy of the proprietors, they began boldly to deal with the subject. In that year a committee was appointed for the simple purpose of inquiring into "the cause of a fall in rents" (hear); and before the committee made their report they imposed a tax upon the people to enable them to pay the costs of conveying the produce of their land to other countries, thereby raising the price at home; this they called a bounty upon exports (hear); and this scheme lasted until the latter part of the last century, when, from the increase of the population, and the general discredit of the other tax, the most effectual way of raising the price was supposed to be in a tax imposed upon food coming into the country; and this policy has continued till the present hour—the same object of raising the value of land being always in view. (Hear.) Fortunately, though the constitution was the same, men's minds were not constituted as they were when the law passed. The people, in relation to their rulers, are numerically and intellectually far stronger than they were, and he did not believe that, when their opinion was strongly expressed against any grievance, it would long be maintained. (Hear.) This deference to opinion had been shown by the landlords on this subject, for they had spared no pains to influence opinion and delude the minds of the people on the matter, and he was bound to say that they had done so with considerable success. They had addressed themselves particularly to two classes, hoping by their countenance to maintain the system—one were the cultivators of the soil, and the other the working population (hear, hear); and he admitted that they had, to a considerable extent, deluded both these classes—they had

attempted to show that the law was necessary for their interest, and that it had generous and national objects in view. (Hear.) He was not sure that their task had been difficult, but he thought it would be so in future. (Hear.) They had heard this year, from the gallant member for Sussex, a description of the farmers of the country. He had told them that they were men whose vision was so contracted that they could hardly see more than one object at a time; that their whole attention was engrossed with the cattle that they reared, or the vegetables that they grew; and that they were apt to measure the world's affairs by the markets they got for those objects. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He said he could not submit to learn from them how this country was to be governed. (Hear.) If this was a true picture of such men it was not wonderful that they had been deceived by others (hear), or that they had been deluded into confusing the effect of price with that of profit, and that, when they were assured that they would be secured a high price for their produce, it was the same thing as a high profit upon their capital; or that, having their eye only upon one thing, they should forget that, if there was to be a large profit obtained from the land, there would be many who would desire to have the land, and that the land would fetch a high price in consequence. (Hear, hear, hear.) This they overlooked in their bargains; and they listened to men who called themselves their friends, and who told them that, if they would send them to Parliament, they would uphold the law that would give them a good price for their produce; and resist the men who told them that if they trusted to such a law they would be deceived: that they would pay more for the land in proportion to this promise of price, and that if the price failed them they would be ruined. (Hear, hear.) However, they believed their professed friends, and members are sitting in this House now upon no other pledge than that of keeping up the law that would keep up the price and give a high profit to the farmer. (Hear.) His position, then, to-night was, to call the attention of the farmers to this circumstance, and to ask them to say who were their friends and who were their enemies, and how far their supposed enemies had been wrong in advising them not to trust to this law, for that they would only be induced by it to give a high rent for the land? (Hear.) The member for Somersetshire had said that, thanks to the League, the farmers saw things much clearer than they did before. He trusted such was the case. (Laughter.) One of his objects in bringing forward this motion was, to procure for the farmer some explanation from the leaders of the Protection Society of his present condition—how he came, with so many friends, to be in his present plight. (Hear.) He saw the member for North Northamptonshire in his place. He had charge, he believed, of the library of the Protection Society (laughter); he knew, therefore, all that was known upon the matter probably; perhaps he would be good enough to explain matters a little to them: he hoped he would tell us what the real relation of the farmer was to the landlord, and how it came to pass that it was to the farmer's interest to pay dearly for the raw material out of which he was to get his profit, while the rest of mankind considered it an advantage to pay as little as possible for the thing they wanted. (Hear.) Would the hon. member tell them how it was the interest of the farmer to pay a high rent for land, and for the hon. member himself to pay a low interest for money? (Hear, hear.) He could not see the difference himself. If the land to the farmer was the material on which he employed his capital, it would appear at first that his object would be to get it as cheap as possible, as requiring less outlay; money was a thing that any capitalist might also require, and all men, he believed, considered it was fortunate when they paid a low rate of interest for it. (Hear, hear.) He assured the hon. gentlemen that it was a farmer himself who had particularly requested him to endeavour to get the gentlemen of the Protection Society to explain this matter to the House (hear), for they knew that the Protection Society only cared for the farmer, and had closely studied his interest. (Laughter.) He would only venture to put the hon. member on his guard in one respect, which was, that he was precluded from alleging two things with respect to the matter—one was, that the farmers' position was occasioned by the late measures of the Government; the other was, that the landlords were suffering as well as the farmers, or were in the same boat with the farmers. (Hear.) The first they could not say, because the farmers' friends in the House had all supported the measures of the Government. But what was more important was, that the condition of the farmer was no novelty; that he had frequently been in the same state, and that under each of three laws passed for his protection after the same fashion (hear); and, what was curious, he had been worse off when the land was most protected. (Hear.) He was worse in 1836 than he was in the present year; and, though he was told then it was owing to the Whigs being in power, he remembered that he was still worse in 1822, under the law of 1815 and when the Tories were in power, than at any other time. (Hear, hear.) He thinks, therefore, that there must be something wrong in the principle of such a law. But the other thing that the hon. member must not say was, that the landlords were badly off as well, for he believed that which was called the landed aristocracy were never better off; that they never made more display of their wealth; that they never were spending more money than they were now in London, and he was sure that the Protection Society could not prove that they had put down a dog or a horse, or turned off a groom or a footman, in consequence of the unparalleled distress, as they called it, of agriculture. ("Hear," and a laugh.) Now, really it would be a great advantage if the protection leaders would explain the case to the farmer, and tell him and tell the House what was the matter with him, and how it came that he had been so often indisposed in the same way. Lastly, whether it might not be that there was something that the landlord could himself do for him. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) Judging from the report of different meetings in the country, he could not help thinking that the agricultural interest, as it was called, was not altogether agreed upon the matter. He wished to call the attention of the hon. member to this subject. He had observed, in his endeavour to understand the case, that there were two kinds of meetings; one called meetings for the Protection of Agriculture, and headed "Agriculture," and the others held at the farmers' side, and headed "Farmers' Interests were discussed." Now, he believed that at these meetings there were very different views expressed, and he thought, at the first, and what he thought was

and clergy assembled, he observed plenty of abuse of the Ministry, great complaints of protection withdrawn, threats of withdrawing confidence, and a desire that the Canada Act and the new Corn Law should be repealed. (Hear.) But when he turned to the farmers' meetings they seemed to be talking of something else that would set them all straight again: they seemed to be sure that they could do very well if rents were adjusted to prices, if they were rendered secure in their tenures, and if other things, like game-preserving and useless timber in their hedges were to cease: in short, their hearts seemed to be full of something that the landlord could do for them; while the more respectable meetings (laughter) talked more of Ministerial treachery and protection lost. (Hear.) I see the member for Shropshire seems to doubt all this. Then let me give him some proof. I have a little evidence on the point. Here was a report from the Exeter Agricultural Association. The society met "for the purpose of considering the propriety of memorializing the county members on the present depressed condition of the agricultural interest." The meeting is said to have been attended by a large body of tenant-farmers—though the reporter judiciously abstains from mentioning the number—while a few squires and clergymen are specified by name. Sir R. W. Newman (in the chair) read the excuses of the county members for non attendance. Wm. Porter Esq., opened the first fire on the county members:—"He did think, when they had occasion to ask their representatives to give their strenuous support to the agricultural interest, it did look a little as if those representatives had not given that strenuous support which they ought, and which they promised to give. (Cheers.) He recollected, at the last election, that many of them had come forward, and had stated certain measures which they were prepared and anxious to support; but it had been with them as it had been with many other members, as soon as they had been elected they had ceased to recollect those measures—they had gone with their party, and had remembered only the men. (Cheers.)" Mr. Porter concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That this meeting, viewing with serious alarm the great depreciation in the value of agricultural produce which has taken place within the last few years, respectfully but firmly call upon the members for the county to urge on the Ministers the necessity of supporting the agricultural interest, and by every means in their power to place agriculture in a better position." Then J. Palk, Esq., addressed the meeting, and said:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, land has to bear peculiar burdens, particularly the poor, highway, and county rates), and it would be a great relief to agriculture to make them a national charge." To accomplish this truly patriotic scheme, "The landlords and tenants must act together. (Cheers.) Day by day they must strengthen the bonds which united them. (Hear, hear.) It was folly to say that either could exist without the other—together they must rise or together fall. It would never do for the tenant to be distrustful; and the tenant must have full confidence in him, if they would hope to force upon the Legislature those measures which were absolutely necessary to the existence of agriculture." (Laughter.) Then followed Mr. George Turner, who formed one of the deputation of the Central Protection Society to Sir Robert Peel, and bore testimony to delusions under which the tenant-farmers brought the present Ministry into power, and he ended with this notable bit of logic:—"He had been an extensive practical farmer for a great number of years, and he declared to them that he had never paid so much upon his estate as he had done within the last three years, and he had never received so little income. (Hear.) If that was not a clear case for demanding some assistance from the Legislature, he did not know what was." (Laughter.) Then came one Mr. Chapple, who said:—"Every man who was farming land at 20s. an acre at the present price was losing money. (Hear, hear.) What, then, was to be done? It might be that the members would say, 'Tell us what to do.' His answer to them would be, 'Let them go to Sir Robert Peel and tell him plainly that they will not support him to ruin us.' (Hear, hear.)" He wound up with this pre-emptory resolution:—"That the secretary be directed to forward a copy of these resolutions to each of the county members, with a request that he will use his most strenuous exertion to force on the attention of her Majesty's Ministers the principles contained in them." He would now read what farmers said when they were among friends. (Hear.) This was a meeting given to a real friend in Herefordshire. The chairman, in giving the health of Mr. Powell, said that, "This is not a meeting for any class of dependents to pay homage and respect which they do not feel, or to bend the knee to the rich aristocrat or grandee; but to show our worthy guest that his public utility, as well as his private worth, is not only felt but acknowledged by us." Mr. Powell said, in reply:—"The farmers in general look upon the newly-formed protection societies with a cautious eye. You will rarely see the name of a tenant-farmer attached to either of their lists—they know their own position too well. The only protection they want is to be put in a position to be able to protect themselves (cheers); and this they could easily do if farms were let on leases and corn rents." He would now read what occurred at a mixed sort of meeting in which a marquis had been in the chair, but where a farmer had been very bold, and had, after making very free remarks, said:—"Would the landlords help them in reality? Would they pledge that they will not take advantage of improvements when they are made? Would they guarantee leases? Would they take care that the crops were not devoured by game? If so, then the landlords might come to these societies with sincerity, shake hands with the tenants, and go to help the labourer. (Cheers.)" Here the reporter says, the lord, who had long been seditiously, became furious, declared he would leave the chair, tried to stop the farmer's remarks (laughter)—which seem to have been too much to the point—and relied upon the meeting to support the chair. The majority of the meeting, however, seemed more disposed to support the farmer, who said:—"He bowed to the chair, but he would add, that if landlords were sincere they should give security to their tenants. (A voice—'No politics, and great noise.') He was sure that all thinking people must admit that a hopeless despair was not the best hypodermic to support agriculture on any other than sound and just principles. (Cheers.)" The noble chairman, after rapidly giving one or two complimentary remarks, made his escape, when of course all the rest of the

landlords likewise departed. Now, he would read an extract from a farmers' meeting at a place in Derbyshire, where one Mr. Binns discusses the condition of farmers:—"Mr. Binns said, I am aware that, in most of the farmers' clubs which have been established in different parts of the country, great anxiety has been evinced by certain parties to exclude the discussion of what they call (and I believe them) 'obnoxious subjects'—such as rents, leases, and game. (Loud cheers.) But somehow or other, in almost every club of whose proceedings I have seen any account, these 'obnoxious subjects' have crept in. The farmers ought to use every effort to improve their condition, considering the diminished price of corn and cattle. If landlords would come forward when tenants were in difficulties, and say, 'We will meet your case by reducing the rent' (loud cheers), their struggles would meet with some alleviation. But such was not the case. Instead of meeting them with sympathy, on a tenant's complaining, the answer, in a majority of cases, was, 'If you do not like to stay on the farm, you may leave it; we have plenty waiting for it. (Hear, hear.) Let the farmers then, in future, depend more upon themselves. He knew there were some landlords who acted upon the principle, 'Live and let live,' but unfortunately they were few, comparatively. (Hear, hear.)" Then here is a meeting, invited for the purpose of both parties meeting on friendly terms, at which the honourable member for Sussex presided, but where the reporter says he could only count, including reporters and Mr. Darby, eleven persons, but one farmer among them, however, spoke to this effect:—"No one can regret more than myself the absence of the influential men. Whether the landlords are ashamed to meet the tenants as a humble body, or whether they are afraid of hearing something that would not be palatable, I cannot say; but I can guess which works in their breast the most. The cause of their absence is this—they deem the treatment of the aristocracy of this neighbourhood to be anything but what it ought to be towards them. I cannot imagine that they can be afraid of hearing any stupid tomfool like myself speak. I am at a loss to know their reason for absenting themselves; but, from what I hear in the market, when they attend these meetings there is nothing but recommendation of great landowners to set labourers to work, manure, drain your lands, but they omit one principal feature—they never tell tenants how they can afford to pay for it." These meetings, he (Mr. Villiers) thought, bore out what he had said on this point—that farmers are wanting one thing, while the landlords want another. This was, however, most important to those who complained of the present system. This had induced his friend the member for Stockport to move for inquiry, in order to prove that agriculture was suffering from the present system, and that freedom in this trade, like every other, was essential to its success (hear), which success would only be proved by the people having a plentiful supply of food. But to this the Secretary—who was appointed to meet the complaints of all sides, and who seemed to speak with the authority of one whose judgment was superior to that of other people, though he hardly knew on what ground—he told them that the remedy for all this was not to talk about it (hear); that, if his own friends would be quiet, they would not suffer; and that, if they on that side would be silent also, they would see that they would have no reason to complain (laughter): which was all very convenient, but not very conclusive. (Hear, hear.) The story was, that if everybody was quiet, improvement would go on, and that there would be no scarcity; but unfortunately nobody was convinced of that, and the agricultural gentlemen only withdrew their confidence and not their complaint. (Hear.) Now, he begged to draw attention to the matter of improvement which was to feed them all better than they had been. This was how it stood. The farmers say we can do nothing without leases or security for our capital, without rents being in some way adjusted to prices, without liberty to destroy game, without being more free in many respects than we have been. (Hear, hear.) The landlords say they can do nothing unless they have more protection, or unless the protection is restored to them that they used to have; they say they cannot improve unless favour is shown to them. Well, the landlords appeal to the Government in this House about this protection, and what do they say? Why, they tell them that protection never did them any good; that they should not get back what they had lost, and that it was possible that more might be taken from them. (Laughter.) Then the farmers ask the landlords for what they consider is necessary to make the land more productive; but the landlords say—"If you understood your business you would not ask for these things; they can't be conceded, and there are plenty ready to take the land if you are not satisfied." And so it stands: certain things are necessary for these improvements to be made, according to the opinion of the only people who can give them effect, and these things have not a chance of being conceded; but they were told that, if they would hold their tongue, there would be plenty of food, and enough to meet the wants of an increasing population, owing to the vast improvements that would be made. (Cheers.) He asked if they had any reason to expect that they should be satisfied with such a state of things? or whether they had not a right to inquire particularly into all that affected the property of land, and to examine if there was a prospect under the present circumstances of the community being supplied? (Hear, hear.) This inquiry had been made, and the result was, that numberless impediments exist in this country to the capital and skill that was required for the due culture of the soil being applied. Land was seen to be desired and possessed for many other reasons than that of producing food for the people. Land was valuable for pleasure, such as preserving game; for acquiring political influence by means of the franchise given to tenants-at-will; for acquiring consequence in a county by the estimation in which it is held; and also made especially subservient to creating and perpetuating families: all of which may be very desirable objects, but they are all notoriously injurious to agriculture,—all impediments in the way of progress and improvement, and opposed to what is essential to turn the land to the most account. (Hear.) They may answer the purpose of some owners, for a tenant-at-will may pay better at a contested election than a good crop of wheat. (Laughter.) And all these things the proprietor has a right to do if he likes—he has a right, and should be allowed, as far as legitimate interference went, to deal with or waste his property just as he likes; but let him acknowledge the same right to the labourers over their only property, namely, their labour. (Cheers.) In one

of the cases that he (Mr. Villiers) had mentioned, the importance was very great—he meant that of the mode of settling property, which was with the view to the custom of primogeniture. This led to the estate being held by the proprietor only for life: it was with the view to the eldest son being secured in the inheritance of the fee till the resettlement of the property was again made. The importance, however, to agriculture was, that the owner being tenant for life, and having usually a large family besides the eldest, he felt little interest in laying out his life income to improve the estate, feeling that he had other claims in the younger children for any money he possessed for this purpose. In consequence of the discussion on these matters, a noble duke, in the other House, had proposed an inquiry, and he believed a bill had been introduced to enable the tenant for life to charge the estate with improvements. Still, he must be an ardent improver who would consent to pay the interest out of his life income for this purpose; though, if he felt that he was increasing the value of an estate to be equally divided among his children, he doubtless would do all he could to improve the value of the inheritance. (Hear, hear, hear.) The general result of the system, as it was observed, was that the owner of the land was tenant for life, and the occupier was tenant-at-will, which were precisely the circumstances under which it was most unfavourable to good agriculture that the land should be held (hear, hear); and the consequence was that there was not that free, abundant, and certain supply of food for the people of this country that there might otherwise be. (Hear.) It was impossible to overrate the importance of this circumstance in the present state and progress of our population: that now would be seen and understood far better than it had been, for he asserted with confidence that the delusion under which the people had been silenced before, on the influence of the price of food on their condition, had been exploded, by what they had so recently experienced. (Hear, hear, hear.) He considered that, after the official statement made by the right hon. gentleman the other night on this subject, it was placed beyond all future dispute that the employment of the working classes was greatly and directly affected by the amount and cost of food in the country; it was impossible, therefore, in future that working men could be deceived by the silly fallacy that their condition was benefited by food being dear. (Hear.) He did, then, call upon gentlemen opposite, especially those connected with the Protection Society, to acknowledge that either they had been in error themselves, or prove that they were not parties to a deception (hear); for he asked how it was that they justified deliberately circulating what was so foreign to the truth? He thought it a serious charge, considering the interest they had in doing so. It was a deception practised upon the humblest, the most defenceless, the poorest of their fellow-creatures, for the purpose of augmenting their own pecuniary interest. (Hear.) He spoke of this seriously, because it had not been lightly done. It had been done coolly and purposely, and, he should suppose, at much cost. He had read the works that had been published by the Protection Society, issued with all the authority of men of rank and wealth and influence. He found this fallacy was the leading topic of all their speeches and pamphlets, and while it was endeavoured to be shown that the poor would benefit by food being dear, they sought to prove that the manufacturers had an object in injuring the working people by making trade in the great necessary free. ("Hear, hear," from the member for Devonshire and others.) Was he to understand then, that there were still some persons in that House who maintained the doctrine? (Hear.) Then he did deliberately call upon the members for Devonshire and Lincolnshire to prove in what way dear food was of advantage to the working class. (Hear, hear.) He asked them to stand forward to-night, as they ought to have done the other night, and reply to the statements of the Secretary of State, which established the fact that the employment of the people, and with it their whole well-being, depended upon the abundance and cheapness of provisions. (Cheers.) I ask them this night to vindicate the proposition which they have helped to circulate and endeavoured to make the poor believe. They are bound, after acknowledging those views, to speak out on the subject this evening. He should watch well what they said on the subject, and the House would draw its own conclusion if they shrank from the proof of what they had said. Till they had spoken on the subject he would say no farther, and would not make other observations which he had intended upon the conduct of persons in the highest station lending their names and authority to what he considered deceiving the poor and uninformed and unthinking portion of the people, with the full knowledge that the law that they were encouraging them to support was subjecting them to the severest privations. (Hear.) He, however,—knowing well that the truth was that, whenever food as the first necessary was abundant, there was an increased demand for labour, and when it became deficient, millions must become miserable,—he considered that too much attention could not be invited to the fact, for it would at least explain the variations which had taken place in the condition of the people before, and which might occur again. (Hear.) Let it only be remembered what was alleged on the other side during the period of severe distress, and when each man was taxing his brains to devise the cause for it, or rather to find an excuse other than the real one. If any one will turn to the debates, they will see that it was ascribed to machinery, to over-production, to over-population, to greedy capitalists, to joint-stock banks, to the want of emigration, and the want of reciprocity with other nations. These were the things alleged in 1842; when they on that side kept reiterating that it was owing to a deficient supply of food during four years together, and to obstructions placed by themselves on the trade with the countries from which they could draw their supplies. (Hear, hear.) Now, then, let them deny the fact if they can,—that there is much more machinery in use now than ever (hear); that there are more people by a million than there was; that production is much greater than it was; that joint-stock banks are as they were; that money never was more plentiful; that credit is generally good, and that there is not one state with which we had important trade at that time that has not raised its tariff since against us. (Hear.) How is all this to be explained? (Hear.) The honourable gentleman who seconded the address this session remarked upon it, and said he should like to hear it accounted for in some way. The Ministers have had an opportunity of stating their views on the subject; and what are they? They told them the other night. They ascribe it to



two circumstances: one is to the great fall in the price of food; the other is to the reduction in the protective duties, and chiefly on the articles of necessary consumption. (Cheers.) The Government of the country are asked to explain the prosperity of the country, and they proclaim it, that England's recent prosperity has been occasioned by an abundant supply of the necessities of life, and to the reduction of the protective duties that had long existed. (Hear, hear.) The first Minister is jealous of any cause being referred to but that of his own legislation especially for this purpose. We might say it was owing to the seasons if we pleased, but he said it happened together with his attack upon protective duties, and with his object, by so doing, of reducing the cost of living. (Hear, hear.) Here, then, was the authority for our present improvement. Here was his (Mr. Villiers's) justification for calling for the repeal of the law which yet existed to obstruct the supply of food. (Hear, hear.) Now, then, if the gentlemen opposite thought that dear food was an advantage, and made the country prosperous, they had reason, he granted, for opposing him, but they had reason also for complaining of the right hon. gentleman (hear, hear); and they should settle that matter with him to-night (hear); they should show him how he was wrong, and attempt to prove themselves in the right. He, however, had the same right to condemn the Government, with their views and experience, for not going farther, and suffering such a law as this to remain another day. (Hear.) Is it, however, a debatable matter? Is it possible that we are doubting about the advantage of cheap food? Have they ever given it thought, on the other side, what depended upon it in all economical arrangements of society? Why, the division of labour, the source of all our wealth, depends upon it. Men only devote themselves to other employments than producing food when they feel sure that food will be provided. (Hear, hear.) They only produce other articles upon the faith that other people will have the means of consuming what they produce (hear), but which they cease to have immediately upon those means being absorbed by something of higher importance to life than comfort or luxury. (Hear.) Let food become scarce, or require great sacrifice to obtain it, and the means for consuming manufactures are absorbed, and the producers without employment; and they must either produce food directly themselves, or become dependent as paupers upon the property of the country. This is, then, what actually occurs immediately that the customers of those who produce other things than food are withdrawn or impoverished; and in the present state of the country this is a matter of the highest importance. It is the tendency of any progressive country that fewer people should be employed in agriculture and more people in manufactures than in the earlier stages, so that the only vent now for our increasing population is in manufacturing employment. (Hear.) The market for their industry is at home and abroad (hear): impair either, by increasing the cost of food or obstructing the trade, and you throw people out of employment. (Hear, hear, hear.) They talk glibly here of producing this effect, because they suppose that the people do not starve, having the parish to go to; but have hon. gentlemen ever considered what is the effect of one of those crises in manufacturing industry which is produced by injuring the market either at home or abroad,—what moral as well as physical ruin it brings, what loss of station, what temptations, what degradation are occasioned by those extreme depressions? Be assured that you are producing evils that you can never repair by your laws, when you occasion a deficiency in the supply of food. You have complete power over the people when you undertake to regulate the supply of food; you can give or take vitality from their business and their bodies, as completely as you may from an animal in the receiver of the air-pump. You may exhaust or restore life at pleasure, and that by depriving them of their employments. (Hear.) The right hon. gentleman was indeed right when he said that scarcity was the greatest curse that could be inflicted upon us; what he questioned was, how far he had the right to ascribe that curse to Providence. He remembered hearing an eloquent gentleman speaking on this matter during the scarcity, and he said that we should examine our own conduct first in the matter, before we could consider ourselves qualified to blaspheme the Creator for what we called his curse upon us. (Hear, hear.) Do they remember that, at the time that they were calling their distress for food a visitation of Providence, in one of the Atlantic cities a pestilence was raging owing to the stores of provisions becoming putrid from remaining in the warehouses for want of a market; and that, had we not forbidden that food from entering our ports, we should have been properly supplied, and they would have been spared that visitation? (Hear, hear.) With such laws as that which he was discussing, they should indeed pause before they ascribed their distress to anything but their own cupidity. Providence fills the earth with good things, and has endowed us with reason to enable us to obtain them. It was their own folly then, and no want of God's beneficence, that caused us to suffer. (Hear.) But these things were all appreciated by the Ministers. After the speech of the right honourable gentleman, the other night, it was clear that they took the same view as on this side, of the enormous advantages of having a regular plentiful supply of food: they differed from their friends the members for Lincolnshire and Devonshire, who consider that food should be restricted in its supply. But the Government are fully prepared for what must recur if again we are visited with scarcity—they are officially acquainted with what was endured, and what was apprehended, in the most populous parts of the country on the last occasion. (Hear.) They can hardly bring themselves to allude to what they know, for fear of shocking the feelings of that House. (Hear.) Then he did ask how they could reconcile it to themselves to suffer this moment to pass by without taking some security against its recurrence? Why, it was the only thing in which they did not agree with him on that side—they do not deny a single principle they maintained: they say that food ought to be abundant; that protection was an evil; that in every way you ought to open the field for commercial enterprise; that you ought to facilitate the means for manufacture; that the raw material and those which are essential for manufacture ought especially to be relieved. All this they agreed to, but they refuse to deal with the law which restricts the supply of food; for he contended that what alleviations were made in those laws were avowedly not for the purpose of relieving the distress of the people, or to increase the quantity of food,—they

were accompanied by arguments to show that that was not the purpose for which they were altered. There have been two alterations—one of the English Corn Law, the other of the Canada law. The right hon. gentleman opposite did not refer the distress of the people to the Corn Law, and appeared to alter the law in a way not opposed to the interests of those for whose benefit it exists; and the noble lord the Secretary of the Colonies said distinctly, that whoever imagined it was his object to pass the Canada Act as a Free-Trade measure, or as a mode of diminishing the protection of landowners at home, would be grievously mistaken (hear, hear); and from all he (Mr. Villiers) heard he was not sure that he was in error. (Hear.) What, then, was his position in demanding now that legislation should proceed upon this subject? The right hon. gentleman opposite admits an annual exigency in providing for the increase of the population. Each year 380,000 persons are added to those that existed in the preceding year that must be fed. He tells them, also, that last year there were upwards of 1,500,000 paupers, which mean destitute persons, and that in England and Wales only—nearly one in nine of the population; and says that there are not many more only owing to the accident of good harvests, and what he has done in reducing protective duties. (Hear.) He (Mr. Villiers) then asked that some fresh means should be given to our people to exchange their skill and industry for food. If nothing is done what will be the inference wherever it is known, but that our people are impoverished by the selfishness of our legislation, and that we have the means of improving them in our hands, but that we refuse to act. (Hear, hear.) That is already the impression abroad wherever our circumstances are known. British wealth, British pauperism, and British Corn Laws (hear, hear), whenever this country is discussed, these things are mentioned together with wonder and reproach. (Hear.) There is a general belief that the riches of our aristocracy and the poverty of millions of our people are connected with the Corn Law, and it brings scandal on our name wherever it is known. (Hear.) He asked if any thing ever occurred in these debates to disabuse the minds of foreigners on this subject? What can be more calculated to confirm their impression than the right honourable gentleman's speech the other night, and the probable result of this debate? (Hear.) He wished honourable gentlemen could hear and know what is said abroad about the British aristocracy, owing to these Corn Laws; foreigners see that no intelligent man of independence defends them, and that all experience discredits them and that they are maintained for no one earthly purpose but that of making men richer whose wealth is enormous already. (Hear.) If this law is to remain unaltered after the admissions of the Ministers upon all the material points connected with their mischief, their responsibility will be enormous (hear), and that they must expect to meet—they cannot hope to escape it. (Hear.) They must, in the first place, remember that they cannot repair the mischief when it occurs by merely changing the law when it suits them; and whatever happens from not having altered the law now, they must answer for. In the next place, if a deficiency was to occur, they must know that there are circumstances likely to make the pressure much more severe at a future time than it has been. The surplus available for our use is likely to be much less on account of the greater consumption of wheat throughout Europe; within these few years countries have become importing countries that used to export, and the population here and abroad have much increased. (Hear.) At this moment Belgium is obliged to relax her Corn Law, and all the manufacturing districts are in a state of fever at the change not being sufficient to meet their wants. A petition to the Chambers has been sent to me from Liège, representing the feeling that exists upon the subject; and I find that it echoes every sentiment and opinion that is expressed against the Corn Law in this country, and shows to what an extent already they feel the increasing wants of their population. In Holland they enacted a Corn Law in 1831 in imitation of ours, and under the same pretence as ours—for the benefit of agriculture; and a person in the Consul's office at Amsterdam told him that every evil in every way that had been traced to our sliding scale, had been experienced under the Corn Law that they had, that it gave general dissatisfaction, and that the price of food was enormously high in consequence. In parts of France they do not grow enough for their own consumption; and he had been informed that the Canada Act, passed three years ago, had only added to the uncertainty of our market in the corn-growing countries of Europe. (Hear.) He should also mention another circumstance that would cause the pressure to be more severe when large importations were required, which was the Banking Act of last year. (Hear.) He was not going to discuss the general merits of that measure—he was not going to deny, in some respects, it might make banking establishments more careful in the conduct of their business; but he did conceive that it would be the means of causing greater sacrifices to be made to export the only commodity, namely, bullion, which it was possible suddenly to export to procure the food we required; it would sooner and more suddenly cause that disturbance in business which ended in a ruinous reduction of prices, by which manufactures could alone be exported for food. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, he did apprehend that, when a revulsion did occur from scarcity, it would be both more severe and hazardous than before. (Hear, hear.) They certainly had the moment to avert it. What reason could they set against such ordinary prudence? (Hear.) Surely they were not to have that wretched plea of local taxation set up again this evening, as opposed to the enormous advantage consequent on the free exchange of their industry for food. Why, such a plea from the Government was quite inexcusable, with their eyes open to the evils of restricting food. Why, it only shifted the responsibility of the law from the proprietors to the Government. (Hear.) They could do what they please; they have a majority for relieving themselves and their supporters if they are oppressed. (Hear.) If there is any injustice at present in the distribution of these local taxes, let them be borne more equally. (Hear.) He and others denied it altogether, and they knew opposite that they did not believe it, for they did not prove it, and they shrank from the inquiry that would ascertain it. (Hear, hear.) When the Government announces that pauperism and crime are increased by dear food, what an excuse is it for the continuance of a law that makes food dear, that the charge for these misfortunes has to be borne by the property of the

country! (Hear.) Give up making food scarce and you will diminish the charge, and do not spread poverty and crime throughout the country to favour the rich,—to favour the idle and unproductive classes, moreover,—the classes who, if they swarmed in the country, would never add to its wealth, deriving their livelihood from the sources they do. (Hear.) He did not impute that to them as a fault: they inherited their property, and did not acquire it for themselves; but they spend it usually unproductively,—their expenditure is usually in consumption that has not reproduction in view. (Hear.) Nobody grudges it to them, nobody wishes to interfere with the disposition of property in this country; but, in the name of justice and common sense, do not sacrifice the industrious and useful to the idle and unproductive. (Cheers.) This House does not act with the same carelessness in any other case that he knew of. What was it that was engaging so much of the time and attention of the House this year? Why, providing for the cheap and rapid communication of the country. (Hear.) Observe first the object had in view—the cheap transit of goods—to enable the consumer to have his goods cheap; very much to enable the distant produce to come into competition with the land, that hitherto had engrossed a superior market, and to enable persons to travel cheaply. Observe the jealousy with which you regard monopoly in these cases. You admit competition in the first place; for you examine the merits of rival lines; and then, when you give privilege, you take security that they shall perform what they undertake: you restrict their charge, and retain a power of regulating their business. (Hear, hear.) You do not trust them implicitly; you expect that they would attempt to serve themselves and neglect the public if you did;—but how do you act with respect to the company that undertakes to perform the most important duty to the people and the State that can be fulfilled—to supply the markets adequately with food? (Hear, hear.) Why, you do trust them implicitly; you expect that they will, of their own accord, increase the quantity at great outlay with the view to sell at the lowest price; and, when the people complain that they do as all monopolists ever have done, you have a Secretary at War who tells them to be silent, to say nothing, and that all will be well—to leave them alone, and there will be no cause to complain. (Hear, hear.) Why, he (Mr. Villiers) told him that this experiment of leaving them alone had been made: it was made from 1831 to 1838, when nobody disturbed them; they were fully trusted, and we know the result. In the month of March, 1838, he brought this motion forward, and he was little encouraged either in or out of the House to do so. He was told that he had better leave it alone—it did no good; he referred to this in his speech, and he said then, "I make this observation somewhat in anticipation of that reproach usually offered to those who incur the odium of meddling with this matter—that it is introduced at an unreasonable time—that there is no excitement on the subject—that the country is in a healthy state, and that it is mischievous to moot the subject at all: reasoning which, if I comprehend, I cannot admit. I do not understand the morality or the wisdom which would postpone the consideration of a difficult question, till we are precluded from entering upon it with calmness and caution. And, with regard to the want of excitement which appears necessary to procure interest and attention for this subject, I cannot help surmising that the day is not far distant when there may be more excitement attaching to it than may be convenient to those who now complain of its absence; for I cannot admit that exceeding healthiness of the country which is urged by some as conclusive against the discussion of this matter. When I look around and observe the numbers that are now dependent on the public relief for existence; when I see a commission now commencing its inquiry into the cause of the distress pervading six or seven hundred thousand of our fellow-subjects; when I see that funds are being raised to assist our fellow-subjects to emigrate from their country; I cannot help thinking there is some great fault in our economical arrangements." (On this occasion Sir Wm. Molesworth, then member for Leeds, seconded the motion, and he said, "Great improvements have taken place in agriculture in Ireland. Those improvements, together with abundant harvests, have produced, to a certain extent, nearly the same effect, in extending the field of production, as if the Corn Law had been repealed; hurtful competition has in some degree abated; wages and profits have risen; and the people have been more contented and peaceable. But this effect is only of a temporary kind—population and capital will again grow up to the field of employment; hurtful competition will again take place; wages and profits will fall; and the bulk of the community will be discontented and uneasy, unless the field of employment again increase in proportion to the addition to capital and population. Repeal the Corn Law; new markets will be created. With our perpetually increasing and inexhaustible means of purchase, our importations of food from other countries might go on increasing." This was said in 1838, and in about six months afterwards said they had the melancholy satisfaction of seeing all that they had the melancholy satisfaction of seeing all that they had foretold verified. (Hear, hear, hear.) He remembered that he was at Lambeth at the time when the accounts came of the bad harvest in this country; and he was astonished to hear the confidence with which the distress we should have to experience was spoken of there; they had the account of all the grain then in the Baltic they had the account of all the grain then in the Baltic, and it was unusually small; and the price did, as ports, and it was unusually small; and the price did, as they said it would, rise enormously as soon as they were informed of our harvest. There was but one feeling then, that this arose from not allowing the grower in Europe to look to England as a market. He knew of nothing that had altered the prospect of affairs since; and even the misery and suffering which had been seen to follow from our bad harvests had apparently made no impression upon gentlemen opposite. (Hear.) How long would they go on in this perilous course? It surely could not be contended that we were in a healthy state at this moment. There was a bill before the House, forced upon it by the reports officially made of the extreme dearth in parts of Scotland—a bill to afford public relief upon a larger scale. (Hear.) A report had been laid upon a table, also, respecting Ireland, in which a most frightful picture had been drawn of the state of a large portion of that people. Surely there was distress enough to call for a case for further legislation in the direction pointed out by the Government, as being conducive to the employment of the people, and the diminution of crime and pauperism. (Hear.) Will anybody pretend that to restrict supply of food which comes to them from

customer for British industry can be a mode of benefiting those who want custom for labour, and are without food? (Hear, hear.) Surely it is a natural right for the people of this or of any country to have the freest access to the means of subsistence which honest industry can offer to them. (Hear.) Sooner or later that must be conceded. (Hear.) Why delay it? (Hear.) Was it that he asked too much? How could that be said, when two measures in different degrees of moderation had been received with as little favour as any motion that he ever had made. (Hear.) The noble lord proposed a fixed duty: he did so to meet the scruples of those who might object to this measure. How was he treated? (Hear.) The member for Gateshead asked you to add to the stock here by a little grain from the antipodes. He was told that he ought to deal with the general question. Well, here was the general question. How are you going to deal with it? (Hear.) Your experience recommends you strongly to abolish the law. Your recommendation is a reduction of price here; yet how had that operated? You expected that corn would be at 56s.; it has been at 45s. You say every advantage has followed from this circumstance, even in the agricultural districts. (Hear, hear.) You say that our consumption is 20 millions of quarters, and you tell us that 10s. a quarter has been saved upon it. Well, that is ten millions sterling paid less out of the general means for one article, and has of course left so much more to be expended on the consumption of other articles the result of British industry. (Hear.) How would it have been otherwise than an additional blessing, had the price been reduced sufficiently as to cause another ten millions to be saved? (Hear.) The whole financial policy of the hon. gentleman is founded, if I understand it, on the ground of lowering the cost of living; he expects that we shall not feel additional taxation, if provisions essential to life are cheap. (Hear.) Considering what the taxes are in this country, how is it possible that the cost of living can be too low? (Hear, hear.) A short time since the right hon. gentleman was horrified at being informed that a body of great men in the north had combined to raise the price of an essential to the poor man's comfort, by making the article scarce. (Hear.) He reproved them publicly in the House; he called upon them, as good citizens, to cease to employ such unhallowed means for the oppression of the poor. This he said with respect to coal. How was it that he did not apply this to corn? (Hear, hear.) The poor could procure fire without coal more easily than they could get nourishment without corn? (Hear, hear.) He would only add one word more, which was as to the appropriateness of the moment at which he made the proposition: it was rendered so peculiarly by the lowness of the price. (Hear.) He had been astonished that the Home Secretary the other night—so shrewd a reasoner in this matter—should have supposed that, when the price was low in this country, the landlord wanted high protection most; why, it was the time when he wanted it least, for the price itself made the market so much worse for the foreigner that the slightest addition to the difficulty of bringing the grain so far was felt. It was therefore precisely at such a time that such a duty as 4s. would operate: it might keep out all American grain just by that amount, if the price here was very low (hear); but when the price was very high, the duty might be double that amount, and the community here would not be worse off. It was the difference of price here and abroad that determined the operation of a duty (hear): when the price here was low, this country was more on a level with foreign countries, and then the distance was a great protection. (Hear.) Now, if the law was changed, the price might fall a little here and rise a little abroad, and there would be but little come in; and at present there was but little wanted. (Hear.) He would now say no more. He would not conclude by any appeal to the interest supposed to be favoured by this law, and who preponderate in the House so greatly. (Hear.) Everything had been addressed to them by able men that could touch their feelings of honour, honesty, justice, prudence, and humanity; and, if that was still unavailing, he was sure that he could add nothing that would have more effect. He would only say, that, if they resisted all concession now, he should regret it more than he had done at any other time, because never had the time been so fitting for the change, or would they appear in future to have been ever so wrong in refusing it. (Cheers.)

Mr. OSWALD, one of the members for Glasgow, seconded the motion of Mr. Villiers, in a short speech; and then Sir James Graham, who had been busy taking notes, and who rose to reply, was intercepted by

Mr. CHRISTOPHER, well known as one of the representatives of North Lincolnshire, but whose change of name somewhat interferes with our recollection of his identity. He is of the famous Dundas family, which contrived to accumulate so many official honours and emoluments as to afford a standing target for the sarcasms of southerners against the "cannibals" Scots—being grandson of Lord President Dundas, the brother of the first Lord Melville. He changed his name to Christopher, in compliance with a will by which he inherited great property. Our readers may recollect that at the beginning of 1842, just before Parliament met, at a meeting of his constituents in Lincolnshire, he made some statements which were instantly taken up as a "pilot balloon," preparatory to the change of the old sliding scale for the new one. Mr. Christopher has P.R.S. appended to his name; but it is no injustice to his scientific acquirements to intimate that, though he took the lead in speaking against the motion of Mr. Villiers, he really not only said nothing, but less than nothing. The gist of his argument was this: the landlords are nailed to their land, and must grow corn, whether they will or no; but a manufacturer, after realising enormous profits in times of prosperity, can evade any time of adversity by locking his mill, and putting the key in his pocket! This comes of getting estates like Blaxham-hall, on the simple condition of changing one's name. Had Mr. Christopher received a mill full of delicates and complex machinery on the simple condition of paying attention to it, and had any tangle or fibre of the agricultural mind advised him to lock the door and put the key in his

pocket, doubtless his rather saturnine countenance would have taken a blacker hue.

Mr. MITCHELL, one of the members for Bridport, then rose; and, as he happens to be a speculator in foreign corn, he gave the House information of a practical nature, which told exceedingly well. Whenever the country suffered from a bad harvest, the manufacturers were frequently unable to meet their bills; and so, to protect themselves from such losses, his firm engaged in the corn trade, as a "hedge" to their other business. The country did not grow enough of corn for its population—that was an indisputable fact; and therefore somebody must import foreign corn. Under the Corn Law of 1842 the corn trade was confined to London; and of course the corn-traders of London were all in favour of the existing law. But how did it work? This Mr. Mitchell showed; and the importance of his statements were not owing to the fact of their novelty, but because they were urged with much point and effect by one engaged in the trade, and who was, therefore, practically acquainted with what he was stating. Bad harvest; sudden rise of price; drain of bullion; screw turned by the Bank of England; trade crippled; and a few lucky speculators in foreign grain enabled to realize immense fortunes at the expense of the entire community. The sliding scale drove us to the nearest and the dearest markets, and shut us out from the natural market of the United States; and it so happened that at the present moment there is a very short supply on the continent of Europe, so that, if we happened to have a late and deficient harvest, and required large importations, the sudden demand would suddenly elevate prices, cause a drain of bullion, and, in the present state of our railroad speculations, derange the money market, and convulse all commerce and trade. Well did Mr. Mitchell show, that to keep this great country dependent on such a state of things was as disgraceful as it was ludicrous. He ridiculed, too, the idea of corn being brought from the Continent at the absurdly low prices at which the fears, the ignorance, or the knavery of "farmers' friends" pretend it can be. Here was a practical man declaring that he could not ship and bring over grain to this country at a lower average charge than 12s. or 15s. per quarter—a sufficiently high protection in itself; while he showed, from the case of flax, how futile was the pretence by which the sliding scale was sustained. Altogether, the speech of Mr. Mitchell was very effective, and made a marked impression on the House.

Mr. BUCK, one of the members for North Devon, then spoke on behalf of the protectionists, urging nothing but the stock arguments; and Mr. Mark Philips, in a neat speech, took up the foolish averment of Mr. Christopher, as to locking mills and putting keys in pockets; and, as he is a landowner as well as a manufacturer, his position enabled him to give a calm and practical turn to the debate. Following him

Sir James Graham rose, and his speech was eagerly waited for and watched, in the hope on the one side, and the fear on the other, that he would make some new declaration in favour of Free Trade. Nor did he disappoint expectation.

"He would not shrink from again repeating all those principles which, on former occasions, he had avowed. (Hear, hear.) It was decidedly his opinion that the prosperity of agriculture must always depend on the other branches of the native industry of this country (hear,)—and that the public prosperity would be best promoted by giving a free and uninterrupted current to the natural flow of national industry. (Hear, hear.) He would go farther, and would say that it was his opinion that, by safe, gradual, and cautious measures, it was expedient to bring our laws respecting agriculture into a nearer relation to the sound principles which regulated our commercial policy with respect to other matters. (Loud cheers from the Opposition benches.) He might go still farther, and tell the landlords and farmers of this country that their prosperity would depend upon the wealth, comfort, and ease of the main body of the people."

Having made these admissions, the right hon. baronet proceeded to contend against any sudden alteration in the protective policy hitherto pursued by Parliament and the present Government. He urged that it was a delusion to hold out the expectation to the people of this country that by a repeal of the Corn Laws they would, in a series of years, be gainers in the price of food, or, as bearing on their interests, that they would gain any advantage. He admitted, however, that the rate of wages did not depend on the price of food:—

"He thought it had been truly observed by the hon. member for Bridport, who had addressed the House with great ability, that the price of bread had very little to do in any particular year with the rate of wages. He admitted that the greatest authority on this subject—he meant Mr. Locke—had said that in a long series of years the price of corn would materially affect the rate of wages, but in a short period of time the price of bread could not be said to rule the rate of wages. The rate of wages was decided, like every other commodity, by the demand for it and the supply; and the supply of labour had a tendency constantly to outstrip the demand. (Hear, hear.)"

He next dwelt on the artificial state of society, which, with other considerations, required the utmost caution in dealing with so great a source of employment as agriculture. He combated the doctrine that under the present system improvement in agriculture had not taken place:—

"He believed that it was an indisputable fact that, notwithstanding the population of this country had nearly doubled within the last half century, the supply of food at this moment was more easily obtained in Great Britain and Ireland for the double population than it was formerly. (Hear.) He could speak from personal knowledge

of the immediate neighbourhood and county with which he was connected. Within his memory that county, which thirty years ago did not produce sufficient food for the maintenance of its inhabitants, by enclosures, improvements, and successful industry, was now a county which exported largely in aid of the manufacturing population."

The hon. baronet glanced at the question of peculiar burdens on land, but neither admitted nor denied the existence of any such. He agreed with Mr. Villiers that an abundant supply was all-important:—

"The hon. member for Wolverhampton said truly, that an abundant supply of food, after all, was the matter of primary legislative importance. He (Sir James Graham) admitted that, and the point at issue was, what system of law would in a series of years give, with the greatest certainty, this abundant supply of food to this large population. If the hon. gentleman could show him that upon the whole, in a series of years, Free Trade and open ports would most certainly secure that object, all other considerations, looking at the amount of population of this country, would be secondary. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.) If such proof was adduced it would make him a decided convert to the doctrine of Free Trade. (Renewed cheers.) He did not attach any importance whatever to the offer of a protecting duty of 4s. (Hear, hear.) He thought by such a proposition they would still incur all the obloquy that could be heaped upon them as protectionists (hear, hear, hear); and the question therefore was, would they adhere to the present scheme of protection, or adopt a perfectly Free Trade. (Cheers from the Opposition benches.)"

If, as Mr. Tooke had stated, two millions of quarters could be annually imported at 45s., this would displace one-eighth of the quantity grown at home in ordinary years, would compel the conversion of heavy clay soils now growing wheat into grass lands, and would thus be the cause of the displacement of much manual labour:—

"He was, therefore, opposed to such a sudden alteration of the existing system, for he anticipated that if it were carried it would be found to produce the most disastrous consequences to those who sat on the opposite side, as well as that side of the House—disastrous consequences immediately to agriculture, and indirectly to the manufacturing interest—it would injure the home market, and be equally pernicious, if not fatal, to the agricultural and the manufacturing interests. (Cheers from the Ministerial benches.)"

Mr. BRIGHT said, that, from recent discussions both in that House and elsewhere, he could form but one conclusion as to the probability of the maintenance of protection. (Hear, hear.) To the first portion of the right honourable gentleman's speech he gave his cordial assent; but he was at a loss to know whether, as a whole, it was intended to afford hope to his (Mr. Bright's) side of the House, or consolation to the other. (Laughter.) He appeared, during the delivery of his speech, to have been endeavouring to say one thing at one part of it, and to unsay it at another part; so that it would have been impossible for any member of that House, if he were not

acquainted with the right hon. baronet's opinions from former speeches and previous passages in his life, to ascertain to which side of the question he was most inclined to lean. (Laughter and cheers.) He said that the change in the Corn Laws ought to be gradual and easy—that they ought gradually to diminish protection, and advance towards Free Trade by bringing corn into a nearer relation with other articles which the Government had already interfered with; and after that he proceeded to show that, if there were any further alterations made, it ought to be an entire repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cheers.) He showed with great force that the opinions of the noble lord the member for London were utterly untenable, and he would have said aloud, but that, from the noble lord's ability and character as a statesman, it was impossible he could apply that term with propriety to any opinion of the noble lord. The right hon. baronet, however, demonstrated that there existed no arguments in favour of a fixed duty; so that, having repudiated a fixed duty and demonstrated that the next change in the Corn Laws should be repeal, he then fell back upon the fallacies of some of the supporters of the Government in that House (with which fallacies the right hon. baronet notoriously did not agree); and he went on to speak as if he really thought that the statement of placing this country in dependence on foreigners for corn ought to have any weight in the discussions on this question. (Laughter.) There was a note of exclamation from the side of the House at which he (Mr. Bright) sat, when the right hon. baronet referred to that argument, for they supposed that they would never have heard such an argument at this time of day, and from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, who had such long experience in Parliamentary life. (Cheers.) They were astonished when they heard such an argument brought forward by a member of a Government whose policy had been characterized by many advances towards Free Trade, and whose principles were avowedly based on a gradual and steady approach towards that consummation. (Cheers.) The right honourable baronet, when he stated that they ought not to suddenly shock the agricultural interest, reminded him (Mr. Bright) of something which he had seen in that excellent paper, *Punch*. It was an advice from an old lady to a young lady who had been recently married, and it recommended the young lady, in order to obtain a complete mastery over her husband, to cultivate her nerves. (Laughter.) It appeared that the right hon. baronet took a similar view of this question to that which the old lady entertained. He encouraged the agriculturists to be sensitive, to be shrinking, in fact, to cultivate great tenderness of the nerves, and then he used that sensibility as an argument against the advocates of free trade in corn, and stated, that in consequence of it the present system of Corn Laws was not to be touched, although it starved thousands of the population of the country. ("Hear, hear," and loud cheers.) The right hon. baronet had asked the advocates of Free Trade—what House for some proof that Free Trade would give more food to the people; and he said that he felt with great force the responsibility of the question, whether he, as a Minister of the Crown, was to be in existence, and which restricted the supply of food to a population which



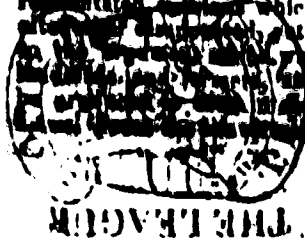
was increasing at the rate of 400,000 every year. Did the right hon. baronet want any proof to convince him that the true source of a certain and unfailing and abundant supply in the article of corn was to permit the laws of nature to take their course with respect to it, and to repeal at once those restrictive laws which ignorant men had made in direct contradiction to the laws of nature? (Hear, hear.) If the right hon. baronet did not know that, then he must have studied the condition of this nation to little purpose indeed. (Hear, hear.) How were the people of this great city fed? Here was a population of two millions, and during the last few weeks there was an addition of a hundred thousand or more persons to it, and all those individuals were supplied with provisions every day without the intervention of a Secretary of State, and without inconvenience or uncertainty. (Hear, hear.) In the street in which he lived he was delighted every day with the song of a lark, which sung as if it were not in a cage, and a boy every day, for a halfpenny, brought that lark a piece of green turf: thus on the principle of supply and demand was that bird supplied with an article so essential to its comfort; and that was the principle on which the monarch in the palace was supplied—on which the highest and the lowest received their supplies (cheers)—and they might rest assured that there was no principle of supply so secure as that which was allowed to regulate itself by the wants of the community. (Loud cheers.) The right hon. baronet said that if our ports were opened he thought there would be a larger quantity of corn imported than had been estimated by Mr. Tooke; and yet he immediately afterwards asked, where was the security of a larger supply in years of deficiency? Was he not aware that, in all those articles of consumption which we required, and which were not protected, though the produce of other countries, there was usually a good stock on hand? Corn was the produce of most countries; and how could he suppose such a deficiency when we were enabled to have a stock on hand of commodities, some of which were almost entirely the produce of one country, such as cotton. (Hear, hear.) There was more than six months' stock of cotton in Liverpool, although it was chiefly produced in the United States; and there was a similarly large stock of everything which we required which the unhallowed finger of protection had not touched. (Cheers.) Of all the articles which were not protected we had a large supply, and our experience on that head formed a conclusive argument as regarded the fears of the right honourable baronet (hear, hear, hear)—an argument which was a thousand times more conclusive than the prophecies of the right hon. baronet as to the dreadful effects which might be expected to follow the abolition of the monopoly in corn. The right hon. baronet spoke of the results of a panic, and persons being thrown out of employment, until he (Mr. Bright) had begun almost to think that times were changed, and that the right hon. baronet was sitting on the Opposition side of the House, and was striving, as of old, to get to the Ministerial benches. (A laugh.) He spoke as if he believed that, in consequence of the abolition of the Corn Laws, there would be a suspension of labour. Did the right hon. baronet know that the whole number of persons who were engaged in producing the 2,000,000 quarters of corn, which he spoke of, was not as great as the number of persons who were thrown out of employment probably in one town in this country by the state of things caused by this monopoly (hear), like Sheffield, Leeds, or Stockport? But he was certain he could name two towns at least in which a number of the population were thrown out of employment in 1841 and 1842 greater than the whole number of individuals who were directly employed in producing 2,000,000 quarters of corn. They could not find 25,000 persons in any part of England employed directly in the cultivation of 2,000,000 quarters of wheat, and yet that number of persons had been thrown out of employment in one or two towns in 1841. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. baronet talked of the improvement of agriculture, as the source of our future supply; every one knew that improvement had been going on, but was it such an improvement as would go faster than an increase in the population of 380,000 every year? (Cheers.) If it were not, then, should we be in a better position in a few years, through any effect of that improvement, than we are in at present (hear, hear), when it was notorious that there were three or four millions of persons in Great Britain and Ireland who had not the means of obtaining bread as a common article of food? (Hear, hear.) With respect to the argument of the right honourable baronet founded on the assumption that an abolition of the Corn Law would make us dependent on foreigners, he did not feel it necessary to follow it; and he alluded to that portion of his speech, because it exhibited the right honourable baronet in the most extraordinary position in which he could be placed, holding Free-Trade opinions, and defending Corn Laws like these. (Loud cheers and laughter.) The right honourable member for Newark had stated last year that the price of corn was steady under the present law, and on that ground he defended the law. Well, it was steady for the last twelve months, and the parties for whose protection it had been established were disappointed. As regarded the steadiness of prices under this law, the prices of wheat were more steady, and for a longer period, in 1833 and 1834, under the former law, whilst the right honourable baronet had admitted that the existing law had not yet been tested by a bad harvest, which was the test of legislation on the subject of corn. He expected that the motion of his honourable friend the member for Wolverhampton would have been resisted by the Government, not on grounds of principle, but on the ground that it was not expedient to take such a step at once; that it would be better to advance only in such a degree as the country might be found prepared for; and, when a member of the Government came to address them, he anticipated that he would have addressed himself a good deal to his supporters, the agricultural members at the lower part of the House, in order, as was very desirable, to break their fall. (Laughter.) As the right honourable baronet had not taken that course, perhaps he (Mr. Bright) would be permitted to address a few words to the gentlemen who represented the agricultural interest in that house. (Laughter.) Though the speeches of the honourable member for Lincolnshire and Lincolnshire had been very good, he had begun to think, had he not been so much interested in the results which would be produced by the repeal of the Corn Laws, that he would have applied himself mainly to the results which he (Mr. Bright) had

had with persons connected with agriculture, members of that House, he found that they were rather willing to receive any arguments which went to show them that their fears had been greatly exaggerated. He would ask them, was not the article of wheat in its nature the same as any other article of consumption and commerce, such as tobacco and cotton? (Hear, hear.) Would not the same rules apply to wheat as regarded competition which applied to other articles of agricultural produce? The Legislature had already admitted a large number of articles into this country which competed with agricultural produce, and the result was, that the agriculturists had not suffered evil, but obtained good from those changes. Take bark, for example. It appeared, by a report presented to that House, that during the last ten years the importation of bark had been 7,130,626 cwt., and yet, he would ask, had any grower of timber in this country suffered in consequence, by finding a difficulty in disposing of his bark (hear), or had it varied in its price more than other articles? Then hides were another description of import which was permitted by the Legislature; and the imports of foreign hides for the last ten years were 3,811,759 cwt., notwithstanding which the graziers and butchers found no difficulty in disposing of their hides. Suppose that a contrary system had prevailed for the last ten years, and that foreign hides were not allowed to be imported to this market, how were the people of this country to be supplied? They might be independent of foreigners in that case for their supply of hides, but they would also be independent of boots and shoes. (Laughter.) It was by carrying the principle of protection to its full extent that its advocates could bear so how untenable it was. That was the way in which to judge whether the advocates of Free Trade or Protection were in the right, and he was satisfied to abide by such a trial. The next article he would mention which was admitted by the Legislature, and which might be supposed to interfere with agricultural produce, was tallow; and he found that in the period which he had mentioned the quantity of tallow imported into this country was 12,054,257 cwt., all of which came into the country without any injury to the agricultural interest. The import of foreign flax in the last ten years was 12,057,286 cwt., and of wool 490,545,447 lbs., notwithstanding which the price of wool had been very fairly remunerative to the wool-growers of this country during that period, in fact, better than that given to the growers of wheat. The next articles to which he came were silk and cotton, which, though not articles of home agricultural produce, might be supposed to interfere with the growers of wool; and the importation of those articles in the same period was, of silk 52,839,571 lbs., and of cotton 4,300,721,655 lbs. Who could suppose, in 1810, when the importation of cotton was only about 90,000 000 of pounds, that within so short a period as had since elapsed it would have arrived to such an amount, that its consumption would be doubled and tripled within that period, and yet that the grower of English wool has not suffered from the competition to which he has thereby been exposed? The next article which came into competition with agricultural produce, and to which he would refer them, was rice—an article which would be admitted to enter into that competition, inasmuch as a rice pudding might fill the place of a bread pudding; and the amount of rice imported in the last ten years was 1,694,817 cwt. in a clean state, and 1,418,407 bushels with the husks. Of other articles within the same period, the importation was—clover-seed, 971,382 cwt.; rye, 207,107 quarters; beans and peas, 1,821,143 quarters; barley, 2,011,602 quarters; oats, 2,376,343 quarters; wheat, 12,390,991 quarters; flour, 5,317,815 cwt.; grain of all kinds, being thus upward of 19,000,000 quarters; of butter, 2,070,696 cwt.; cheese, 1,939,568 cwt. That was the amount of importation on articles which affected the agricultural interest, and it did not appear that it had produced the slightest injury to them. (Hear, hear.) The honourable member for Lincolnshire talked of a famine price, and stated that there had not been a famine price in the country during the last 25 years. He could tell the honourable member that they had had famine prices, and these laws were relaxed when it was feared that they were stretched so much that they would break with any greater tension. The honourable member, and other members of that House, might not, perhaps, know of a famine price, but to the poor man there was in this country still periodically a famine and a starvation price of corn, as if God had visited the earth with sterility, and that this country had been afflicted with one of those terrible disasters which they read of as having taken place hundreds of years ago. But it was not a famine of that nature,—the famine was caused by that House by legislation, and it was high time that the extraordinary imposition which caused it should come to an end. (Loud cheers.) The country now regarded it as such, for he and those who acted with him had not travelled through every county, and most of the towns of England, without constantly exposing it (renewed cheers), and as long as it continued there would be found to exist a soreness on the subject, a "foulness of breath," as Dr. Chalmers termed it, a non-acquiescence in the system, and a desire to have it abolished. There was no reason why the agriculturists should be afraid that evil consequences would arise to them from the importation of wheat, any more than from the importation of the other articles which he had named. (Hear.) If during the years 1838 to 1842 the price of 6s. a quarter was not able to cause a larger annual importation than 2,250,000 quarters of corn, how could 45s. or 50s. produce such an importation as they appeared to dread? He would not go into the question of the import of cattle and lamb, but he might say that there was a feeling in the country, that with respect to the subject of grease and butter, which had been lately discussed in that House, the magnanimous gentry and aristocracy had stooped somewhat in seeking to maintain protection on those articles; but the question of protection now was one of time, and he was willing to score off the whole of the speech of the right hon. baronet opposite after that part which contained his allusion to Free Trade. The right hon. baronet admitted that the principle of Free Trade was the keystone of the policy of his right honourable friend at the head of the Government. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Bright) hoped that the agricultural members would remember that statement, and ponder on it, and that they would not tell the farmers that they could resist the principles of Free Trade, for they (the agricultural members) were altogether in the hands of the right hon. baronet at the head of the Government, and what he said must be law, for they had no power to prevent it. (Laughter.) The right hon. baronet

was from day to day doing something to break down the system of protection; and there was a very large and influential party in the country strongly opposed to it, who would not relax their exertions. (Cheers.) They were active, as hon. members opposite knew—they were honest, as he (Mr. Bright) knew—and they would do every thing in their power to break down a system which was so injurious to the industry of this country. The opponents of protection were determined to continue their exertions. They began with collecting £5000, they then got £7000, last year they had collected more than £100,000; the people of Lancashire and Cheshire and Yorkshire were called on to adopt a means that would give them great influence in the return of members of Parliament, by increasing the county register, and in this way about £250,000 had been expended in the purchase of qualifications in the space of three or four months. He did not give this upon his own authority, but he would suggest to gentlemen to ask publicly, or privately, the gentlemen who had been last elected for South Lancashire, what prospects he had, with his present principles, of again representing that county. There were other counties on the list to which the attention of the League would soon be turned. They had put out a project for holding what is called a Bazaar, for want of a better name, for it did not exactly describe the exhibition. Many gentlemen opposite had visited it, and if any of them would give the House a short detail of what he saw there, he thought it would be a very good Anti-Corn Law speech. The amount of money taken at the door and from sales was more than £20,000. The amount of money subscriptions sent in, almost without solicitation, was between £4000 and £5000, and the amount of material left—valuable stock—made the whole contribution approach the sum of £30,000. Many persons had seen bazaars held under the auspices of duchesses, countesses, and patronesses of high rank; but they had never heard of one-tenth of that sum being collected. And this was a middle-class Bazaar, supported by persons into whose hearts Free Trade principles had sunk, and became a very religious question. (Cries of "Oh, oh.") There was a passage in the Mahometan bible which he recollected reading—the Koran—in which the man whom the world regards as an impostor laid it down as a maxim that "one hour of justice is worth seventy days of prayer." It would be well for those who ought to be familiar with the Christian maxim of doing unto others as they would be done by, to abstain from depriving the poor of food in order to put money into their own pockets. It would be better for them to endeavour to make their opinions intelligible to the country, than object to the statement he had made. He was speaking of the Bazaar and Exhibition, and was about to say that there were ladies at it, many of whom, when at home, lived just as sumptuously, just as independently, and just as respectably in every way, as the bulk of those gentlemen whom he saw opposite; and yet so firmly were they persuaded of the truth of the principles which the League held, and which the gentlemen opposite affected, but did not dare, to despise, that they came up to this metropolis, and for three weeks performed the arduous duty—for it was an arduous duty—of attending at the Exhibition and Bazaar. It was easy to sneer at these things, but there was one member opposite who would not sneer at them, and that was the right hon. baronet who led their party. He knew better than to sneer at the opinions of a vast body of the middle classes. He might not feel it right,

with the responsibilities of his office, to do exactly that which he (Mr. Bright) or others wished; but coming from that county from which he derived his birth, and knowing the feelings, the wants, and the condition of the middle classes, he would be the last man to sneer at the efforts they were making for the abolition of this law. An honourable member opposite had lately given to the world a book in which he represented the monarch of this country as reigning over two nations—the rich and the poor; and there was a deal of truth in that. Others talked of the widening of the gulf which separates the very rich and the very poor. The Corn Law created nothing, it blighted almost every thing. There was an abundance of capital, of labour, and of material in this country; but there wanted an honest distribution of it, and that honest distribution could only be given upon those just, true, and immutable principles which the great Creator had given for the regulation of the ordinary affairs of life. He knew that on going to a division his party would be in a minority; but he also knew that minorities in that House often became majorities; but if a man advocated a sound principle, and knew that millions out of doors supported it, let him not be deterred because the teller gave a majority against it, instead of in its favour. They had seen good principles growing and strengthening until everybody supported them, and bad principles fading away, and those who formerly adhered to them ashamed to recal them. If they wanted this law to be maintained, if it were resolved to continue a system so barbarous and unjust, their ancestors should have prevented Caxton from erecting his press in Westminster Abbey, they themselves should place an interdict upon the labours of William and Robert Chambers, proscribe Knight's Weekly Volume, and put down all newspapers, and, above all, put a stop to those locomotive engines which came up from Manchester to the metropolis in four hours and a half.

Mr. Stafford O'Brien followed Mr. Bright, and confessed that he had visited the Anti-Corn Law League Bazaar held at Covent-garden Theatre, and had felt constrained to do homage to the skill, ingenuity, and industry of his fellow-countrymen, of which he saw there such accumulated and substantial evidence. After him came Dr. Bowring, Mr. G. H. Cavendish, and Lord Ebrington—all in support of the motion of Mr. Villiers; and, as no one on the agricultural side ventured to get up, a loud cry arose for a division. As the gallery was clearing, Mr. Conden rose, the SPEAKER called "Order, order," the "strangers" resumed their seats, and the hon. and busy in the House instantly subsided into a dead calm. The member for Stockport, always efficient, did not appoint his audience now. Ranning rapidly through Mr. James Graham's arguments, he combated them all; and the concluding portion of his speech was very telling. They were charged with maintaining in seeking to abolish the Corn Law during the present period of distress, and comparative prosperity; but on that the House



the change he retorted the charge, and on the Government and their followers he cast the responsibility of whatever might hereafter happen from the present absurd and anomalous state of our law.

Mr. CORDEN rose, and said he should detain the House but a short time, but he was anxious to make a few remarks, in order to recal the attention of the House to the subject really before it, and to remind the House, and probably the country, that the question mooted by his hon. friend the member for Wolverhampton had not been met, but systematically evaded. The question was not as to met, but systematically evaded. The question was not as to the comparative cheapness or dearness of corn—it had nothing to do with the tariff—it had nothing to do with agricultural or manufacturing prosperity. The question was simply whether it was just to impose a law to restrict the supply of food. That question had not been met. He said more—it never would be met. (Cheers.) It was an argument that could not be answered, either there or elsewhere. Was there truth in the proposition of his honourable friend, that we had a law restricting and diminishing the supply of food? He asked, if the Corn Law was not to effect that, what was its purpose? Would any agricultural member say, that the country did not forget—that their former pleas for protection, on the ground of exclusive burdens, admitted that protection raised prices; and how could prices be raised but by restricting and diminishing the supply? But it was asked what proof there was that in this country the law restricted the supply of food—that the people were insufficiently fed? Would any agricultural member say, that in the county from which he came, in the south of England, the labouring classes and their families were sufficiently and wholesomely fed? If the hon. member for Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, or Somersetshire would pledge his honour that in the county which he represented, as a general rule, the labouring classes and their families were sufficiently and wholesomely fed, he (Mr. Cobden) would give up the whole of his hon. friend's proposition. It was argued by the right hon. Secretary of State for the Home Department, that the people of this country were now in a sound and satisfactory state of prosperity. He (Mr. Cobden) denied that altogether. He said that the great mass of the labouring classes were in a condition which permanently was one disgraceful to the Government of the country; and the House happened at that moment to be inundated with proofs from commissioners and authorities describing the degraded state of the people. Look at Ireland: gentlemen talked of Ireland as if it was not an integral part of the empire; and when he mentioned that there were five millions of people in Ireland who never touched wheaten bread but as a luxury, he was answered, "Oh, if you come to Ireland!" But still Ireland was a component part of the empire, and there, as well as in England, the Corn Law restricted the supply of food. When three-fourths of the people were living upon roots, that was owing to the prohibitory law. Look at Scotland: the commissioners stated that in the Highlands the condition of the people was almost as degraded as in Ireland. There was also a report from the midland counties, where the people were employed in the hosiery trade, not a small district he observed, a district 70 miles by 60, and where the net wages earned in frame-work knitting were 7s. a week. That was not the result of political economy. Such a state of things was produced under their blessed system of protection—that system of which they boasted. Such a state of things was produced under the operation of those laws which they so benevolently and considerately passed for feeding the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) The system of protection had produced nothing but misery to the labouring population of this country, and until it was removed misery would continue to be their inheritance. (Hear.) He would meet the opponents of the motion with this simple proposition—they could not benefit the condition of the mass of the people of this country but by the admission of more food. (Hear.) He did not talk of prices—he did not care about prices, and he wished the word "price" was not mentioned in that House; but he would repeat it, that unless a greater quantity of food were introduced into this country the condition of the mass of the people could not be benefited. (Hear, hear, hear.) What the people of this country were in want of was more of wholesome nourishment. He cared not whether that nourishment came from foreign countries, or was procured at home—he cared not from what source it was procured; but, unless the quantity of food for the supply of the country's wants were augmented greatly beyond what that quantity at present amounted to, all other devices—all the increase which they might be able to effect of the poor's rate—all the shiftings and changings of their plans and expedients could not have the effect of permanently raising the condition of the mass of the people. (Hear, hear.) He cared not if they doubled the income of every individual in this country, from the Queen herself down to the meanest beggar in the land; all this might take place—but the condition of the people, relatively speaking, would be no better than it was at present if they did not introduce at the same time a greater quantity of food. (Hear, hear.) And how was this additional food to be obtained—whence was it to come? That was a point on which parties and individuals in that House, as well as out of it, very widely differed. They (the protectionists) said that this additional food was to be procured by improvements in agriculture, consequent upon the maintenance and permanence of protection. (Hear, hear.) But had they not already tried that expedient for thirty years (hear, hear)? and was not the present condition of the people of this country the result of a thirty years' experiment? (Hear, hear.) Was that result not yet sufficiently deplorable to shake the faith of hon. gentlemen in their favourite expedient of protection? (Hear, hear.) If they had not strong grounds indeed—and what were they?—to resist the simple and straightforward proposition of the Free-Traders, why should they not now try the plan which that proposition embodied? (Hear.) They had failed in their own expedient, and they were compelled to admit it, and it was now high time—for the sake of the people, to say nothing of the comfort and welfare of the country—that they should try the plan which the Free Trade party proposed to them, and which they had hitherto so obstinately slighted. In reference to this question the House was favoured with a great many and very confident prophecies. The speech of the right honourable gentleman the Secretary for the Home Department was altogether an argument in the future tense.

The right honourable gentleman said that if they admitted 2,000,000 quarters of corn, this, that, and the other thing might follow. But he would say, let in these 2,000,000 of quarters, admit into the country the full quantity of wheat which it would consume, secure to the people their fair and proper supply of food, and he was confident that no consequence would follow which might alarm even the most timorous; at any rate, the country would not, and could not, be in a worse state than that in which it was under the present system. (Hear, hear, hear.) They had heard that evening, as well as on former occasions, a great deal about panic. But, as regarded panic, do not let that be used as an argument to him. Both he and his honourable friends around him had done their best to dissipate that alarm. They never told the farmers that they had anything to fear from Free Trade, or from the commercial changes which they sought to introduce. If there was alarm in the minds of the farmers, it was to those sitting upon the opposite benches that their fears were to be attributed. (Hear, hear, hear.) They had predicted that farmers without protection could not carry on their business, and that, deprived of that protection, land would be thrown out of cultivation. The right honourable gentleman the Home Secretary spoke of clay lands being thrown out of cultivation, but he (Mr. Cobden) maintained that, if heavy clay land was drained, it was the very description of land which, for wheat culture, of all others ran the least danger of successful competition. (Hear, hear.) Tired of their old, the protectionists had now taken up with a new story. The old story was, that, if they passed laws establishing Free Trade, they would throw the lighter soils—the sandy and chalky soils—out of cultivation. (Hear.) That argument the Free-Trade party had met. He had recently seen an eminent agricultural gentleman from the south, who told him that the farmers upon poor soils could not now cultivate their land unless a free trade were established in the inferior kinds of grain used in the rearing of cattle. (Hear, hear.) As to land, especially good land, being thrown out of cultivation, he would venture to offer an opinion, without wishing it to be taken as an argument, that land of every quality would be better cultivated if the Free-Trade policy were adopted (hear, hear); and that by the adoption of that policy they were likely to have much more land than at present put in cultivation. (Hear.) In reference to this point, he would put Lord Spencer, Lord Ducie, the late Lord Leicester, and other eminent men of their way of thinking in competition with the right honourable gentleman (Sir James Graham); and, however much he respected the talents of the right hon. gentleman, he could not take his predictions as worth one farthing more than the prophecies of those eminent individuals whose names he had just introduced. They did not fear the same dismal consequences which the right honourable gentleman anticipated, or which he affected to fear; nor were they apprehensive of that reduction of rent, which was such a bugbear to many honourable gentlemen, as the supposed necessary consequence of the introduction of Free Trade. His own belief was, that better rents could be paid under a system of unrestricted trade than under the present system of protection. (Hear, hear.) Some honourable gentlemen, in common with many agriculturists without, were afraid of their mortgages and marriage settlements. He would not join with them in that panic. He believed that every mortgage and every settlement would be much safer, and could be far more easily paid, had we a system of Free Trade, in the room of our present system of restriction. (Hear, hear.) The system which they at present tolerated, and which so many were desirous of perpetuating, was injurious to the community at large, and injuriously affected every portion of the community. (Hear, hear.) The present moment was eminently suited to put an end to this system, and to put an end to it without inflicting injury upon any class or individual. (Hear, hear.) The abolition of the Corn Law would produce no shock upon prices at the present moment. If they abolished the Corn Law that night, provided the newspapers took no notice of the fact, the farmers would not feel the change, with the exception that, after a short time, they would perceive it in the greatly increased comfort and prosperity of all classes around them. (Hear, hear, hear.) If, then, there were a suitable moment to select for making the change, how much had they to answer for who hesitated to take advantage of the occasion? The right honourable gentleman talked of the Free-Traders being rash. The same argument, if argument it might be called, had been used the last time that his honourable friend (Mr. Villiers) brought forward his motion. It was one of the stock arguments of honourable gentlemen opposite. (Laughter.) Was it rashness to propose the change now? Were they not rather the rash men who were passing over this opportunity of effecting it? (Hear, hear, hear.) They were themselves preparing by their present hesitancy to invest the Free-Traders with an amount of moral power of which they were extremely jealous. The time would yet come when they would have a recurrence of those scenes which had been often witnessed within the memory of the youngest of them. (Hear, hear.) When that time did arrive, who then would be regarded as the rash men? (Hear, hear.) Would it be the men who, like his honourable friend the member for Wolverhampton, had the foresight to urge upon the Government to prepare for the inevitable revolution; or would it be those who had avowed themselves Free-Traders, who alleged that this was a question only of time, and yet who were willing to put off this occasion, and to walk with their eyes open—not blindfolded—to the very brink of a precipice, and into that gulf out of which thousands of miseries and dangers might arise? (Hear, hear.) There was every danger—there was great rashness in slighting the present opportunity. (Hear, hear.) What was the danger which they had to fear from another scarcity? There were, at this moment, only 300,000 quarters of foreign corn in this country. The next harvest would, in all probability, be perhaps some weeks later than previous ones, and before next harvest the people of this country would have eaten closer up the amount of corn on hand than in former years; yet there were only at the present moment 300,000 quarters of foreign corn in bond! (Hear, hear, hear.) Was there ever such rashness, as for 27,000,000 of people, who were possessed of a capital that could grasp the produce of the whole world, and who could mortgage it before it was grown, to leave themselves in this dilemma! (Hear, hear.) Under a different system, what would have been the position of the country? Instead of having 300,000 quarters of foreign wheat in the country, they might have 4,000,000 or 5,000,000. That

would be brought in, not by the Government, but by the application of capital; and could the country more legitimately apply its capital than for the purpose of providing against a scarcity of food? (Hear, hear.) The Dutch, in ancient times, held 700,000 quarters of foreign corn in their granaries. That was probably sufficient for a year's consumption. What were the Dutch as capitalists compared with the capitalists of England? They might as easily hold 20,000,000 of quarters as the Dutch held 700,000 two centuries ago. The restrictive system which they had fostered and bolstered up, had brought us back to the barbarous position in which this country was placed five or six hundred years ago, with this sole difference that then, from the bad state of the roads and the want of the means of communication, counties used to suffer from famine; whereas now they were setting at defiance all the lights of science, all the discoveries of modern times, and all the improvements founded upon these discoveries, and were bringing us into the same peril as a nation, as we formerly had to encounter only by counties. (Hear, hear.) Why were they making these amazing strides in physical science, laying nations alongside of each other, as provinces had been united before? Why were they to have railways and steamboats? Why were they to go on, uniting nations together by all the discoveries of modern times, if legislation was to lag behind, and prevent them from availing themselves of those advantages which it was the interest and the birthright of the people to derive from these discoveries, and the consequences to which they led. (Hear, hear.) He would not allow the right honourable baronet, with his proverbial caution, to take from the honourable member for Wolverhampton what he considered his due. He (Mr. Villiers) was a man of cautious foresight. He was the man of prudence and forecast, who would make provision for future evils; and on the Government and on those who led them, when they should lead their followers—on the Government rested the responsibility of anything which might happen from the present absurd and anomalous state of our laws. (Cheers.)

It was now between twelve and one o'clock, and the House, with heat and numbers, was like a beehive about to swarm. Up started Mr. GEORGE BANKES, much to the annoyance of his own side of the House, by which he is considered as being a very particular bore. He, however, compelled the Ministerialists, who were exceedingly noisy and impatient, to submit to the infliction of his speech, by threatening to move the adjournment of the debate; and, obtaining a partial attention, he gave a sketch of the history of protection, which Lord John Russell, who followed him, termed "curious specimens of historical erudition," creating thereby much laughter. But, as the reporters have been more tender of the public than Mr. Bankes was of the House, we shall no farther advert to his speech than to say that, amid much impatience, he defended the agricultural interest and opposed the motion.

The two LEADERS now followed, one after the other, Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Sir ROBERT PEEL; and it was amusing as well as interesting to mark the operation of public opinion in their speeches. Lord John Russell was exceedingly spirited, and spoke out in a way which compelled Sir Robert Peel to run a race with him. He thus happily disposed of one of Sir James Graham's fallacies, upon which the latter had laid much stress:—

"The right hon. gentleman said, that, if they abolished protection, there would be 1,500,000 quarters of wheat admitted into the country; that agricultural labourers must therefore be thrown out of employment, and a consequent increase of misery. But the right hon. gentleman admitted, the other evening, that since the present Government came into office the population had increased 1,500,000; and, if they excluded foreign corn, they would require an additional 1,500,000 quarters of corn to supply their wants. If that was the natural result, therefore, the freer the intercourse they had with foreign countries, the cheaper would they be able to get that corn, and the better the supply."

Addressing himself to the Prime Minister, the noble lord said:—

"If the right honourable gentleman disapproves of my proposal of a moderate fixed duty, let him then diminish the sliding scale (hear, hear, hear); let him diminish it to 10s., and from 10s. to 1s. Even that might be a great relief to the country. But what I do believe is, that the Corn Law, as it now stands, cannot be long maintained. (Cheers.) I say that it is fully signified, not only by the ability of the attacks made on the law, but also by the manner in which it is defended in this House. I cannot conceive, unless it is better defended than it has been hitherto, that it can last for many years to come. ('Hear, hear, hear,' and cheers.) And if that be the case, why should not the landed gentry take advantage of the present state of things, the present moment of calm and quiet, to make the necessary alteration with coolness and deliberation. If they are determined not to do so, they must run the risk, in case of any inflammation of the popular mind, of being exposed to obloquy and reproach. No one can deny that the present Corn Law is intended to, and does in the opinion of political economists, add to the rent of the landlords. Only conceive the effect of this impression working on the minds of the people for many years. Here is a law which clearly adds to the income of those who legislate for the country. It is the business of those who legislate to prove that, though it adds to their incomes as legislators, it benefits the other classes of the community in the same proportion. Now, they cannot deny the effect of the law to be, that it adds to their rent, but they totally fail in proving that it confers a corresponding benefit on the rest of the community. (Loud cheers.) Let them consider the consequences of such an argument going on for many years with the sharp and intelligent eye of this community fixed upon them; and let them be wise in time. (The noble lord sat down amid loud cheering.)"

Sir ROBERT PEEL could not stand this, and very emphatically announced that—

"Though I shall vote against the present proposal, I cannot do so in some of the arguments we have heard to-





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Tweeddale, Miss Alice ..	3 0 0
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Booth, John Thomas ..	2 0 0
Midgley, James ..	2 0 0
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Gill, Richard ..	1 0 0
Oliver, Miss Martha ..	1 0 0
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Platt, Joseph ..	0 10 6
Ashworth, Mrs. John ..	0 17 0
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Jackson, Thomas ..	0 8 0
Coates, Solomon ..	0 2 6
Holt, John, Mutter-hole ..	0 2 6
Lord, Miss ..	0 2 0
A Friend ..	0 1 0

Brearley, Mrs., Rake-wood ..	5 0 0
An Opponent of the Maynooth Grant ..	2 0 0
Kershaw, James, Featherstall ..	1 0 0
Heap, William ..	1 0 0
A Friend ..	0 10 0
Leach, James, Whitelies ..	0 10 0
Lord, Simon, Lower-shore ..	0 5 0
Swindells, Mrs. George ..	0 5 0

**ERRATA.**  
 In the LEAGUE No. 89, for Anonymous, Crediton, £1, read  
 Gilchrist, William, 2, Summerland-place, Houlton; and for  
 Black, John Cowell, Torquay, £1. 1s., read Mark, John Cowell.

**BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.**  
 Bainatyne, Neil .. 1 0 0  
 Labrey, Wm., Broughton, Manchester .. 0 5 0  
 Labrey, Thomas, Brown-street .. 0 5 0  
 Geeve, James, 4, York-terrace .. 0 5 0  
 Wilson, Richard, Market-place .. 0 5 0  
 Cockledge, J., at Gosnell's, Lombard-street .. 0 3 0

**ERRATUM.**—Amongst the subscriptions for the pur-  
 chase of beds for the agricultural labourers announced in  
 the LEAGUE of the 31st of May, J. Pattison, London,  
 10s., should have been T. Haddison, Drury-lane, 10s.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—SHIPPING WANTED.**—We want  
 shipping to take our produce to England. There are at  
 this moment several thousands of tons of corn, and many  
 hundreds of tons of bark, ores of precious metals, gum,  
 and other productions ready for shipment, but there are  
 no vessels. The effects upon the wheat market are pecu-  
 liarly prejudicial, for the merchants cannot buy, and the  
 banks cannot make advances so long as there are no ship-  
 ments made. Thus everything is at a stand still. The  
 same may be said of the mining operations. We trust  
 that the attention of British shipowners may be called to  
 these simple but most important facts. In consequence  
 of the superior quality of the silver, lead, and cop-  
 per ores, and their extensive dissemination throughout  
 this province, it is the opinion of the most intelligent men  
 throughout the colonies and in England, that South  
 Australia must speedily become one of the most important  
 of the British settlements. This will not be surprising  
 when it is considered that, throughout the wide extent of  
 the British dominions, this is the only colony which ex-  
 ports these valuable minerals. Looking, therefore, to  
 this circumstance alone, it is high time that the British  
 Government should attend in earnest to the wants of the  
 colonists.—*South Australian.*



## LETTERS ON THE CORN LAWS, No. XXXIV.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(SECOND LETTER.)

GENTLEMEN,—My last week's letter had especial reference to those among you who generally support the present Administration, but whose personal convictions are believed not to be in favour of continued restrictions upon the supply of food for the people. I endeavoured to show you that the time had come for giving distinct expression to those convictions; and that Mr. Villiers's annual motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws afforded the appropriate opportunity. The petition has been partly granted, and partly refused. The minority remains as it was; the majority exhibits a decrease of no less than 74 votes in addition to the decrease last year of 53 votes. At this rate, two years must witness the extinction of the Corn Laws. You, gentlemen, could have saved us those two years of agricultural confusion and manufacturing agitation. Was it too much to expect of you that, instead of "expressive silence," you would have taken the bolder course of more expressive voting? Must there be a sliding scale in parliamentary conduct? Is the intermediate step of absence from the division an essential preliminary to the transfer of the majority? So it appears; and that you have done thus much, to so decisive an extent, demands its due acknowledgment.

And now allow me to remind you of the new position in which you are placed by the late discussion and division. Monopoly, which you allow to retain a majority, although you retire from the ranks of that majority, is stripped of all its excuses and pretensions. Sir Robert Peel has scarcely left a rag upon its nakedness. One after another, he trampled with remorseless heel upon the pleas by which your former votes were vindicated. He demolished his own sophisms as unsparingly as those of other people. High prices have nothing to do, he says, with high wages. If permanent, he affirms them to be a disadvantage to the industrious classes. There goes the ground for some scores of votes annually. Incumbrances on estates, and the pecuniary obligations of interests of a class, are next repudiated as a reason for the law. There goes the ground for another batch of votes. Then "the hope to make ourselves entirely independent of foreign supply is out of the question." A forest of support for monopoly is levelled by that blow. In short, all principle whatever is abandoned. The mischievousness of the system is confessed by most distinct implication. "The gradual abatement of purely protecting duties" is declared to be the policy of the Premier. And the only question is how to arrive at what is broadly acknowledged to be "a better condition of society and the establishment of better principles."

The etiquette of Sir Robert Peel's position prevented his voting with Mr. Villiers; unless he had done so, it was scarcely possible for him to go greater lengths than he did. He left not a syllable to be pleaded for the Corn Laws beyond the bare fact of their existence. They do not exist for the labourer, they ought not to exist for the landlord, and adequate home supplies of food, their professed object, are not only beyond their power, but an absolute impossibility. Gentlemen, you judged rightly that you could not vote against Mr. Villiers after such a speech from the Premier. Only an official person, or the voluntarily blindest of blind followers, could have done that. It was no speech to catch votes. Sir Robert Peel knows too well how to handle the net and line for it to have been so intended. He spoke, gentlemen, as your representative. He excused his absent friends. He showed cause for this wholesale secession from the ranks of monopoly. It would not have amounted to a rebuke had you been present and divided on the other side.

It is difficult to understand what are to be the degrees in that gradual abolition which is announced as the Ministerial policy. The only conceivable gradations are a fixed duty, or another Corn Law with a sliding scale upon a lower pivot. But these expedients are both discountenanced by Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham. A third is scarcely within the compass of human ingenuity. All are liable to the fatal objection of their temporary employment being previously understood. The term "gradual" is deceptive. Ministers talk of graduation, and mean delay. They do not propose to divide the descent into minute steps, but to procrastinate the one step a little longer. What will be gained by this delay?

What we lose by it is evident. We forego the opportunity of finally settling this question in a period of comparative quiet and prosperity. We risk its compulsory settlement in a period of scarcity, alarm, and comparative confusion. Did Sir James Graham read the first sentence of Burke's "Thoughts on Scarcity" before he cited that work? It is well worth bearing in mind:—"Of all things, an indirect tampering with the trade of provisions is the most dangerous, and it is always worst in the time when men are most disposed to it; that is, in the time of scarcity." Yet, for the chance of this worst of times, he would have us wait. Burke concludes

as he began:—"My opinion is against an over-doing of any sort of administration, and more especially against this most momentous of all meddling on the part of authority; the meddling with the subsistence of the people." The question is now of ceasing legislatively to meddle with the subsistence of the people. And the argument against commencing interference is not less strong against continuing that interference until the time of scarcity may come. Every syllable of self-gratulation in which Sir Robert Peel indulged, as to the state of the country since his Corn Bill passed, is a reason for prompt adjustment. These are golden months, if not moments, for the purpose. The contingencies of another harvest are fast approaching. They defy human calculation. If they turn out unfavourably, will you not bitterly reproach yourselves that your conduct was not more decided? And what is gained should the result be favourable, and the fields be again laden with abundance? The cry of agricultural distress will swell louder, and the embarrassments and entanglements of the question be worse than ever.

Sir Robert Peel has left very undefined certain "peculiar and special relations," which he says have grown up under the present unsound system. What these may be it is difficult to divine. Not the family settlements of Knatchbull notoriety; for he distinctly throws them overboard. Nor the connexion formed by leases between landlord and tenant; for leases are the exception and not the rule; nor can it be otherwise till the provision trade is allowed its free and natural course. Not the expensive style of living into which the notion of high rents secured by act of Parliament may have seduced the landowners; for that interpretation, too, is refuted by another portion of the speech. It is "something which does not rest merely on pecuniary considerations." It is a "moral relation." A moral relation constituted by monopoly! A friend-and-fatherhood of farmers, which would be desecrated by honest dealing towards the rest of the community! Make the most, gentlemen, of this shadowy reason for delay; catch it if you can, and ascertain its power; and pity the straits to which the Premier must have been reduced when he evoked it from the unsubstantial regions of its abode.

The whole speech is a cry for help; and you are the only people who can help. Unless you come to the rescue, it must be sought for, and it will be sought for, in a new Parliament. Cannot you take a hint? And given so plainly too? Sir Robert Peel is determined to proceed with the destruction of protective duties, and the practical establishment of the Free-Trade principle. His difficulty, declared in express terms, is the "necessary caution for the purpose of ensuring its general acceptance and stability." You can materially lessen that difficulty. Something you have done. The session, far as it has advanced, will yet afford opportunities for your doing something more. The course may be cleared for Sir Robert Peel against next year. Your absence has encouraged his progress. Desert him not at this critical point. One direct demonstration, and the work is done. It is due to him; due to yourselves, and now more than ever. It is needless to add that I deem it, above all, due to the country. By silence and absence you have won applause and gratitude. Come forward to cut short the dreary and perilous season of delay, and you will win the blessings of millions.

A NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

## DEATH OF JOHN MARSHALL, ESQ., OF LEEDS.

We have to announce, with sincere regret, the death of Mr. Marshall, of Leeds, whose eminence as a manufacturer was not more conspicuous than his energies as a patriot and his zeal as a philanthropist. By the honourable exertion of his industry and talents he acquired a princely fortune, and he employed it in establishments that have furnished comfort to thousands of operatives, and greatly added to the material wealth of the nation. Few manufacturers have more nobly illustrated the great importance of the capitalist to the labouring community; his great resources enabled him to work his mills during seasons of depression, and thus to save his men from those alternations of stagnation and suffering which have produced so much of misery in the industrial districts of England. Mr. Marshall was a zealous Free-Trader, and a member of the Council of the League. Though for some time in Parliament, he did not take a very conspicuous part in political life; but he was far from being an uninterested spectator of public events, and he was ever ready to aid largely and liberally in all efforts made to promote the cause of truth and justice. He has left behind him a large fortune, but, what is much more, he has left behind him an honoured memory and an unsullied reputation.

## THE LABOURERS IN WILTSHIRE.

UPAVON, WILTSHIRE.

This is a village 16 miles from Andover on the east, 18 miles from Salisbury on the south, and 10 from Devizes on the west. The chalky hills are near it on every side, and on the south-west begins the high and bare stretch of country, called Salisbury Plain.

This village and another called Rushill stand in a rich valley of alluvial soil, through which comes the upper branch of the river Avon. In winter it is said to flow through this valley; but at present it creeps, and often it seems to be so overpowered by the hot sun as to have fallen asleep in the meadows; while again escaping from the heat which threatens to dry it up, and from the plebeian hands that catch its fish when it sleeps in the meadow, it retires into the shade of the thick woods, leafy and leafy, where the shade cools it, and where no vulgar fishermen dare to trespass on its banks.

Sixty houses in a cluster, with a church tower and some trees among them in one part; farm-fields, broad and rich, around the houses; a gentleman's park, deeply wooded, in the bosom of the farm-fields; and another church tower and village of houses, the latter not so much clustered, the trees and the gardens giving them more of space and shelter and beauty,—these are the villages of Upavon and Rushill.

It needs but a small stretch of fancy to suppose that this valley, within a circuit of four miles, was once the Garden of Eden. There is the original richness of soil; there is the loveliness that once was and still lingers; there is the fruitfulness associated with foulness and rankness; and there is—strongest resemblance of all—the curse upon humankind in its heaviest form. If it differs at all, it differs in being heavier than the original: that was, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." But here it is, "Thou shalt sweat and live upon potatoes, and have less than enough of them." "Thou shalt sweat in the broiling sun in the month of June, 1845, mowing hay, and shalt only have bread and water, and not enough bread." "Thou shalt sweat for 7s. a week if thou hast a family of children, and for 5s. a week in summer, and 3s. in winter, if thou hast none." "Thou shalt pay 3s. a year of house rent, and the rain shall drop on you and the wind blow on you through the roof, but the house shall be propped up with poles to keep it from falling with every gust of wind, yet to keep you in constant terror and expectation that it will fall."

These seem to be a few of the forms in which the primeval curse manifests its presence here. The ground, as regards its richness of soil and fruitfulness, is certainly not cursed: for never did the month of June display finer crops of wheat, though at the same time the ground seems to have brought forth its "thistles," and also its chortles and nettles, and couch and docks, and sundry other plants called weeds, in very great abundance. In a field of about ten acres, of the best soil in the valley, there are at the moment as many thistles growing as would have supplied all Eden with seed, had Eden been as large as all Wiltshire. On a space not more than the tenth part of an acre I counted 150 thistles. In some fields close by the chorlock is one vast sheet of yellow bloom, the corn crop utterly suffocated below the triumphant weed. But in other fields here the wheat has got the mastery of all contending foulness, and nobly does it keep it. Every person on being talked to, says, that never, within their memory, was there a better promise for harvest than there is now.

Owing to the early closing of the post I must stop at this point. I shall resume in another letter.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

## COUNTY REGISTRATION.

On Monday last, a meeting of the professional and other agents of the League, with a number of other gentlemen engaged in the registration of South Lancashire and the neighbouring counties, was held at the League Office, Manchester. Mr. Wilson took the chair. Among those present were the following resident members of the Council:—Messrs. W. Rawson, J. B. Smith, W. Bickham, S. Lees, H. Rawson, and Alderman Roston. There were also present Messrs. E. Worthington and R. Webb, Manchester; J. Ascroft, Oldham; R. Johnson, Southport; H. Garsdale, Ashton-under-Lyne; W. Roberts, Rochdale; W. Ascroft, Bury; J. Shawcross, Stockport; R. Ascroft, Preston; and T. Johnson, Lancaster, solicitors; Messrs. C. E. Rawlins, jun., Liverpool; A. Taylor, Oldham; T. Wall, Wigan; C. Walker, Rochdale; J. Davis, Staleybridge; D. Knott, Bolton; T. Plint, Leeds; and several others. The members of the various local committees. The chairs addressed the meeting on the nature and importance of the duties which lay before them, and called upon the representatives of the several districts to state what had already been done by their committees. These statements ready been done by their committees. These statements occupied considerable time; but they were highly satisfactory, and all aided abundant evidence that, so far from relaxing in their efforts, the Free-Traders in the various localities are more anxious than ever to co-operate with the League in this important work. Copies of the rate-books have been very generally obtained, and a number of examinations have been instituted to ascertain the number of Free-Traders who are entitled to be registered. The meeting was occupied until after ten o'clock in discussing the various details and points to be attended to in the coming months. A circular letter, urging the most energetic action, and containing instructions to committees similar to those which have appeared in the LEAGUE, was ordered to be printed and issued forthwith.

VALUE OF LAND IN MANCHESTER.—A small piece of land adjoining the churchyard was lately sold at the rate of £425 per acre. The same individual also, not long since, disposed of a piece in the centre of the city at about £1200 per acre.—*Sp. M.*

## FREE-TRADE MEETING AT GRAVESEND.

On Wednesday last a lecture upon the principles of Free Trade was delivered by Mr. Falvey, at the Town-hall, Gravesend, the Mayor (—Saddington, Esq.) in the chair.

Notwithstanding the extreme pressure of the heat of the weather, and the temptations presented to outdoor promenading upon a fine evening in that favourite locality, the meeting was numerous and respectfully attended.

Mr. FALVEY addressed the assemblage, for nearly two hours, in an able and eloquent speech, elucidating the pernicious influence of the Corn Laws upon the agricultural, commercial, and manufacturing interests of the country; and enforcing the necessity of systematically attending to the electoral registration in order to attain commercial freedom.

Mr. Alderman OAKES (ex-mayor) then rose and expressed his opinion—which was warmly responded to by the meeting—that the inhabitants of Kent, and the country at large, were exceedingly indebted to the Anti-Corn Law League; but, great and successful as had been their exertions, much yet remained to be done, and he would, therefore, urge the electors and friends of Free Trade in that neighbourhood to immediate co-operation with that body. He concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Falvey.

Mr. FALVEY briefly replied, and moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which, having been seconded by Mr. Alderman Oakes, was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

## THE PECULIAR BURDENS UPON LAND.

(From Punch)

Mr. Ward has lately brought forward an unsuccessful motion for an inquiry into this subject. We quite agree with the majority that rejected it—there is no reason for any inquiry into the matter. We can save the House a blue-book (so called from its effect upon the looks of hon. members while engaged in its perusal) by a succinct account of these "peculiar burdens" for each of the three divisions of the united kingdom.

## ENGLAND.

*Imprimis*, we should say a very peculiar burden upon the land in England is—

1. A sporting landlord, in whose eyes partridges are of more consequence than paupers, and who in all his schemes of amelioration spells "peasant" with a "ph."
2. An ill-paid, overworked labourer, with a mind as bare as his body, a doghole for a dwelling, and an union-house for a refuge.
3. An ignorant tenantry, with a confidence in Sir Robert Peel and a blind dependence on protection and the landlord.
4. A non-resident rector, with a taste for Cheltenham waters, and a notion that the working clergy are composed of curates at £80 per annum.

## IRELAND.

1. An absentee proprietor, who considers hedge-shooting the natural amusement of the Irish peasantry; believes the only "gentle" residence for a man of taste to be an English watering-place; and holds the duties of property to be all on the side of the tenant.
2. A Protestant ascendancy parson, who looks on Orange lodges as a development of the Christian church; "Boone Water" as a hymn; and a national school as a favourite parade-ground for the Evil One.
3. A rack-renting agent, whose favourite argument is a policeman's bayonet.

## SCOTLAND.

1. A Highland landholder, with a preference for sheep-walks over small holdings, and a tendency to promote emigration on a large scale by driving out forty families in one clearing.
  2. A population of paupers depending on what the heathons like to give them.
- Let England, Ireland, and Scotland rid themselves of these burdens respectively, and we should not despair of even more wonderful results than a repeal of the Corn Laws, a millennium in which the Duke of Buckingham should play in Mr. Cobden's drying grounds, and Villiers sport over Sir John Trevellick's preserves; when Sibthorp should exchange the kiss of peace with Bowring; and Home and Herbert sit cheek by cheek on the Treasury bench, with the smile of brotherly love upon their faces, and their arms round one another's necks.

## FARMERS' PETITION.

The following petition was presented by Mr. Cobden in the House of Commons on Tuesday. Amongst the signatures are those of seven farmers who occupy upwards of 5000 acres.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Farmers, frequenting the market at Salisbury, in the county of Wilts, "Humbly sheweth,

"That, in the district in which your petitioners dwell, food and provender for cattle, now and for some months past, have been so scarce and expensive that the cost of maintaining stock during the present year has, in many instances, been greater than its actual value.

"That, owing to such scarcity and dearth of provender, cattle and stock are stinted in food, and thereby not only rendered liable to disease, but much diminished in value both as regards their flesh and their manure.

"That, whilst your honourable House has reduced the protective duties on the importation of cattle, and thus exposed your petitioners to foreign competition in that respect, no steps have been taken to enable your petitioners to feed and fatten their stock at the same cheap rate as the foreigner is enabled to do.

"Your petitioners, therefore, pray your honourable House at once to repeal the duties payable upon the importation of foreign beans and oats, and other articles consumed by cattle, and which said duties, owing to the present scarcity of provender, are now actually paid by your petitioners, and others similarly circumstanced, out of their own pockets."

*Enclosure.*—An excessive multiplication of smugglers is produced by the enactment of laws, whose object is not revenue, but the exclusion of foreign productions for the supposed benefit of domestic industry. Whatever may be the thought of the expediency of those laws with a view to national wealth, all must agree that the extension of smuggling must produce the most demoralizing effects.—*Morning Chronicle*.

## THE RAILWAY EXCITEMENT AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The great excitement which is exhibited at this time in the committee-rooms of the House of Commons presents so unusual a scene that some little account of it may not be uninteresting.

The committee-rooms of the House are situated in the cloisters, and in the immediate vicinity of the House; but, owing to the immense pressure of business arising from the numerous railway projects now before Parliament, various additional rooms have been constructed on the Thames side of Westminster-hall. The galleries leading to these rooms being temporary, are all made of wood: their appearance altogether impresses you with the sudden nature and extent of the business which demands this great increase of accommodation.

At 12 o'clock the committee commence their sittings, when the rush begins, and a busy scene presents itself: the ruddy squire, the hardy-looking farmer, the country draper and cheese-monger wend their way through the *mêlée* to their appointed room, the scene of their hopes and fears.

These are mixed up with the merchant, big with importance; the sinister-looking and well-satisfied lawyer, followed by his train of surveyors, traffic takers, and traffic provers—of engineers, burly contractors, and a host of others. And by no means an unimportant personage appears under the powdered wig of the barrister, numbers of whom dot among the hundreds of heads which the eye glances upon in that motley group.

Every town and district, nay, almost every village in the country, appears to send its contingent, from the braw Scot to the Cornwall miner. The Green Isle itself seems to be fully alive on the subject, by the numbers of her sons who are present.

So great is the crowd that, though the galleries are wide, policemen have great difficulty in keeping open a passage, the order to "move on" being rigidly enforced. What an extraordinary scene it is! and, as one looks at that strange assemblage of anxious faces, the idea cannot help presenting itself, that in many cases what a sad reckoning will come for all this turmoil; and how many a poor fellow, now full of importance, will rue the day when railway business, which now brings him to town, first directed his attention from his counter or his counting-house!

There have not been probably more than two or three cases for many years when any business in the House of Commons itself created half the sensation or excitement which every day appears in those railway committees.

But let us pass to the committee-rooms appropriated to railway business: they are numbered 1 to 20 respectively—each committee having consigned to it the fate of a group of railways.

The committee consists of five gentlemen, members of Parliament, who sit at a table covered with green baize which extends across the end of the room—with side tables running down the room, at which reporters are seated.

In the centre are the shorthand writers, who take accurate notes of the proceedings and of the evidence; and facing the committee—who, by the way, are the only gentlemen who wear their hats—is the line of barristers: gentlemen who, whatever be the fate of the bills before them, are reaping a golden harvest.

Some idea may be formed of this by the statement that one or two of the leading counsel will pocket upwards of £20,000 each in fees for their labours in this session alone; indeed, so much have they to do that, although some of them are retained in half the cases which have come before Parliament, they cannot, in effect—unless, as the Irishman says, he were a bird, and could be at two places at once—do their duty in any.

Behind the barristers are seated the swarm of attorneys, directors, witnesses, parties interested, and lookers on; and, as the rooms are crowded to excess, the heat is most oppressive. How those poor members of Parliament endure it is difficult to say, only that to sit for four hours every day in such an atmosphere, listening to the tedious details which are brought before them, is, indeed, a heavy penalty to pay for the honour of being a member of Parliament. They do look wretchedly jaded, and well they may; they really deserve great credit for the patience and attention which is admitted on all hands they give to the matters before them.

Surely no schoolboy listens with more pleasure to the sound of the bell which releases him from the "durance vile" of the school-room than those poor members greet the welcome announcement at four o'clock that the "Speaker is at prayers." Then each room pours forth its numbers into the crowded passages, and the loud hum caused by the anxious inquiry, the expressions of condolence or of congratulation, is heard along the galleries; the eager countenances of the crowd, within and without, show with what anxiety the various decisions are expected.

It is indeed a strange scene, and one which probably will not occur again for years; yet although its consequences will, it is to be feared, be in many cases disastrous, it is difficult to say whether speculation, if it must exist, could on the whole have taken a direction which would be more conducive to the general interests of the community, than the attempt to increase by means of railways the facilities of communication through the various parts of the country.

**TRADE WITH INDIA.**—The City writer in the *Times* reports that the merchants construe the commercial news from India favourably. "Some time ago, the accounts were invariably to the effect that the markets were overstocked with British goods, and that the trade with our important possessions promised to be anything but remunerating. Now, the demand for our manufactures appears to be on the increase, and prices are reported as having an upward tendency. The advance of freights at Calcutta shows the expectation of an increased export trade, on account of the reduction in the sugar duties."

**PENNY POSTAGE.**—The usual Post-office returns have just been issued; they show results which must be highly gratifying to the friends of penny postage. The total number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom in the year 1844 was 242 millions, which is an increase of nearly 23 millions on the previous year. (The number before the reduction of the rate, it may be necessary to remark our readers, was 76 millions.) But the most remarkable fact is the great increase in the London district, or old twopenny post, the letters of which have more than doubled since the penny rate was established.—*Morning Chronicle*.

## THE AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURISTS.

(From the *Adelaide Observer* of December 7, 1844.)

The commencement of harvest has recalled to our thoughts more forcibly, if possible, than heretofore the personal toils and mental anxieties to which non-agricultural settlers mainly owe their present measure of prosperity, and of which the agriculturists themselves may now, we hope, safely anticipate the well-earned reward.

The determination of the South Australian Company in England to become importers to the extent of their corn-paid rents, and so far relieve our own market of its depressing surplus, is one important step in advance; and, although the boon be only a negative one, it will have the effect of establishing a sort of protective minimum (for want of which the market has hitherto been an appalling one), and tend to the introduction of a more moderate scale of corn freight to England.

The over-sea markets this side the Cape of Good Hope have been successively tried with an alternation of good and bad fortune, of which the balance of results has tended to exculpate our own merchants from any charge of extortion in the way and apparently grinding prices at which alone they could (at one period especially) be induced to purchase. When the prices of articles of the first necessity become extremely depressed, holders are apt to attribute the depression to any cause but the right one; and it is not to be wondered at if the corn-growers of South Australia in 1843 charged a large measure of their disappointment against the merchants in 1844; whereas, the case was one of a *glutted market*, and nothing more.

We believe we have passed through a distressing era—and if, as we imagine, the former coexisting obstacles, political, mercantile, and competitive, which, singly or together, have marred our corn-exporting endeavours in so many instances,—if all these obstacles are actually in course of rapid removal (and the political hindrances cannot stand), the healthy current of reciprocity will supersede the stagnant, one-sided condition of our former exchanges, and produce the uniformity of interests so much desired and wanted.

The more wealthy cultivators may speculate upon the desirableness of shipping cargoes of grain, flour, and other produce in concert, and of superseding the services of the merchant; they may talk of this market, or of that, and determine beforehand what their returns shall consist of; but we candidly confess we are not sanguine as to the successful termination of such adventures, although abstractedly they would be productive of infinite benefit to a community which has so much to learn. But, if we may venture again to suggest any amongst the foreign markets yet untried, we frankly confess a predilection for one of the newly-opened Chinese ports north of Hong-Kong, and should rejoice sincerely in a united effort to introduce to the vast population of the Celestial Empire some proofs of our superabundance and successful cultivation.

The first steps to be taken in order to bring about a better state of things, are the establishment of a regular corn market, and a pledged adherence to routine.

With respect to our cultivators as a body, our sentiment is one of unmingled admiration and pride; we are at a loss to find any (unbackneyed) expression strong enough to give utterance to our own sense of obligation; and we are sure we interpret aright the views of our fellow-citizens, as well as those of absent friends and proprietors, when we declare that they have nobly performed their important, self-imposed, and arduous task.

It is our wont to admire the progressive metropolitan improvements, as well as the industry and inventive faculty of which it is our province to record such oft-recurring instances; but we should never wish to forget the agrarian labours which have occasioned the substitution of brickwork, solid masonry, and refined architecture for canvas and pine and paling; and we shall never cease to acknowledge that (humanly speaking) we are mainly indebted to the farmers for all our present prosperity, and the bright future which is dawning upon us.

\* \* A typographical accident, which occurred a short time previous to our going to press, having caused some considerable delay, we trust that, should any of our country subscribers be disappointed on receiving their paper by a later post, they will be good enough to attribute it to the circumstance mentioned.

**EXTRAORDINARY MONETARY SPECULATION.**—For some time past the copper coinage of William IV. had been eagerly purchased up by persons who are stated to be Jews, and a report has in consequence gained ground that gold is contained in it. What reason there may be for this it is impossible to say; but it is a well known fact that agents have been at work for the last two months buying up those particular coins in Westminster, and they now fetch double the price of their legal issue. The mania has extended eastward, and twopences for a penny piece, and a penny for a halfpenny, &c., is now asked for the "precious issue."—*Morning Chronicle*.

**INCENDIARY FIRE.**—On Sunday night last a valuable rick of wheat and another of straw, the property of Mr. T. Moore, of Palmer's-cross, were discovered to be on fire, and, in a short time, were totally destroyed. We are sorry to say that there can be little doubt of this destruction of property being the act of an incendiary. Two men, whose names are William Dudley and Thomas Coxall, are now in custody on suspicion of having been concerned in setting fire to the above property, as they were found loitering about the premises.—*Birmingham Pilot*.

**TRUTH'S PROMISE.**—When a great truth is to be revealed, it does not flash at once on the race, but dawns and brightens on a superior understanding, from which it is to emanate and to illuminate future ages. On the faithfulness of great minds to this awful function, the progress and happiness of the race have been men, who, having risen to great truths, have held them as a sacred trust for their kind, and have borne witness to them amidst general darkness, under scorn and persecution, perhaps in the face of death. Such men, indeed, have not always made contributions to literature, for their condition has not allowed them to be authors; but we owe the transmission, perpetuity, and immortal power of their new and high thoughts, to kindred spirits, which have concentrated and fixed them in books.—*Monday*.



## REVIEW.

*The White Boys; a Story of Ireland, in 1822.* By Mrs. S. C. Hall. London: Chapman and Hall.

Mrs. Hall has been the most faithful, because the most sympathetic, delineator of the Irish peasant since the days of Miss Edgeworth: her pictures of Irish life never degenerate into caricature on the one hand, nor exhibit the dull lifelessness of the Daguerreotype on the other; her figures live, move, and have being; they feel as well as act; and it is her triumph that feelings in her skilful portraiture have all the reality of deeds. The secret of her success is simple: *she has a heart*; generous in her feelings, large and liberal in her sentiments, uniting philosophic acuteness of perception to woman's most perfect susceptibility of soft emotion, she has devoted her energies to pleading the cause of a country and a people, whose worst sufferings have originated from the best intentions, whose direct crimes have been based on noble principles, and whose greatest evils have been perpetrated by those who aimed at accomplishing the greatest good. The evils of Ireland are social, not political; it is true that these social evils originated in a perverse political system, which divided Ireland into a serfdom and an ascendancy—giving to the one the vices of the slave, and to the other the still more aggravated vices of the master. The old poet declares that "the hour which makes a man a slave takes half his worth away;" and more sober history records that the hour which establishes a class in the ascendancy takes away a far larger proportion of moral worth from every individual cursed with this exclusive privilege of abuse. The double action of this system—the blight which it casts on the serf, and the perversion to which it dooms the superior—forms the main subject of the work before us. As it is not yet complete, we must defer to a future occasion any analysis of the story, which, like that of the Eastern reciters, pauses at the moment of most intense and exciting interest; but we shall extract a few graphic sketches, drawn to the life and from the life with a vigour and fidelity which has never been surpassed. The description given of Ireland by one of the writer's favourite characters, Dean Graves, to a young proprietor coming from England to enter into possession of his estate, is worthy the attentive study of all who wish to understand the real condition of the Emerald Isle.

"The country is fearfully disturbed just now," said the Dean, "and I am almost sorry you are coming among us at such a time."

"I have not the least fear," replied Edward. "Lady Mary declares there is no instance on record of their injuring a stranger."

"But you are a landholder, and they may fancy you composed of ejectments and latitudes," said Mr. Graves, smiling.

"No fear of that: I have forgiven them all arrears; and as I shall put every thing to rights myself—hear with my own ears, see with my own eyes, and act from my own judgment—I do not think I, for one, shall be injured."

"Mr. Graves again smiled at his brave words, but made no allusion to them, simply saying, 'Not in person I hope and believe. Even I have no fear of that; but take care you are not injured towards the people in heart and spirit. I dread the reaction upon such a mind, as I am told you possess. I dread the dissolving of your dream, for all knowledge of Ireland, acquired only by hearsay, leads to dreams. I dread the effect of the certain quantity of disappointment you must experience more than I do the evil whisperings or daring proclamations of those who will seek to win you to their several modes of thinking. I dread it because Ireland wants men like you—not to stand by a party, but by the country. Men with sympathies and capital, men also with memories, capable of tracing back the various causes of the people's discontent to bygone times and bygone events, which, however forgotten or overlooked in England, are still freshly kept in mind in Ireland—freshly as if they were but growths of yesterday; for they are continually revived, not only by agitators of the moment, but by a higher and holier class,—of feelings as well as of men; men who love their country and honour its patriots. You may imagine that in visiting Ireland you are visiting only one people; you are visiting two."

"Two!" repeated Edward, remembering at the moment Lady Mary's words.

"It is even so,—two! Protestant Ireland and Catholic Ireland, Saxon Ireland and Celtic Ireland; but the blood of the Irish Saxon is as hotly boiling as that of the Irish Celt. They boil against each other; and, perhaps, the chief motive of union between the Saxon Irish and your country is the Church establishment; that is the bond which binds the Irish Protestant to England; but for that both might overboil against you, as they do now against each other."

"Mr. Graves paused, and Edward for some time made no reply: he was thinking."

"I dare say," said he at length, "that what you observe is quite true; and perhaps we deserve it should be so. We have protected a party, and not a people.—I have often heard my poor uncle say as much."

"You are right in that opinion," observed Mr. Graves; "whatever party has been dominant in England, has, to a certain extent, protected that nearest to itself in Ireland; but as the peasantry, the very, very poor, have no party, no covenant with their country, the population of Ireland have had only occasional friends. Strangers frequently, like yourself, come among us, with generous and large desires of usefulness, and kindly and extensive sympathies, but, insensibly drawn into the vortex of party, they either become accustomed to the misery which at first appalled them, or are so overwhelmed by its extent that they turn away altogether from the voice of the weeper, and join in

the common cry of want of care and providence in a population, who, even when able to obtain employment, have only existed on what, in your country, would have caused a hundred rebellions, under the name of starvations. A few speak loudly of, and feel keenly, the moral degradation that want creates; the cry of the multitude is echoed by them; and initiated by others—by others who augment evil by misdirecting agitation; yet, all the while they argue that the fruits of peace may be thus gathered—grapes from thorns and figs from thistles."

"The country sadly wants repose," said Edward Spencer.

"Most true," replied Mr. Graves, "but the deep sea-calm of starving multitudes, sinking by hundreds into the grave, is not, I am certain, the sort of repose which you would wish to see continued in my poor country." Neither spoke for some moments, and then Mr. Graves resumed: "Let me," he said, "again caution you against harsh judging in any case! Do not suffer the Orange party of the North to persuade you that their warmer brethren of the South are all violent and bigoted; nor the Roman Catholics of the South to impress you with the idea that the Orangemen of the North are all bitter and fierce destroyers; in all you hear you must take into account the quick beatings of our hearts, and our universal habit of exaggeration; not from a desire to falsify, but as issuing out of a rich imagination that converts us into a nation of poets. We think what we say, while we speak; but we feel strongly, and do not prepare our words before we utter them. We want judgment rather than genius."

Mrs. Hall is a zealous Protestant, and her testimony to the character of the Catholic clergy is therefore above suspicion:—

"There are few things in the actual world so touchingly beautiful as the respect and affection subsisting between the Roman Catholic priest and his flock; those who know and observe the people, cannot wonder at their strength and endurance; from the cradle to the grave the priest is the peasant's adviser and his friend; he knows all his concerns—not only the great business of his life, but its minutiae; his private cares and sorrows, his faults and his crimes, are all in the priest's keeping; his judge, his advocate, his punisher, he is also his protector—very, very rarely his tyrant. Those who talk of the luxury of priests' fare now-a-days, and of its being drawn from the misery of the people, know little of his way of life; his narrow means, or the very limited number of his enjoyments. The pomp and circumstance of the Roman Catholic creed take hold of the Irishman's imagination; and the sympathy and kindness of his priest win and keep his heart. When an ignorant Irish Roman Catholic becomes 'bad to his priest,' he must be utterly lost to good; for he holds no other faith, and has put aside all that stands between him and destruction. Such, at least, things were five-and-twenty years ago!"

"Press of matter obliges us to defer further extracts from this interesting work till next week."

ON THE USE OF BREAD.—Bread is the most common and the most wholesome of all the food which our beneficent Creator has given us for the support of life. At the delicate table of a prince it is as necessary as at the table of the labourer. It is of great use and importance both in sickness and in health. It appears to be designed as the principal food of man, for the plant which produces it will grow almost in any climate, and it is difficult to find an inhabited country where wheat, if properly cultivated, will not ripen. Though we eat bread every day we do not tire of it, which is an evident proof that we cannot do without it. It we make too frequent use of those costly and dainty dishes, which pride and luxury have invented, they soon cease to please our palates; but we always eat bread with pleasure: and the man who has made it his daily food for seventy years, still relishes it, though he may have lost his taste for all other food. Ought we not, then, daily to look up to God, as we eat bread, and to praise Him for granting us this blessing? If we would choose the best food, can there be any more natural, more wholesome, or more nourishing than bread? It refreshes more than the smell of the most precious aromatics. They may, indeed, fly more to the head and be more heating; but even the smell of good bread, though simple, may serve to convince us that it contains what is essentially proper to form and repair the nervous fluid. Its quickly dissolving when moistened shows its nutritive quality, and that it is easy to digest. We may here reflect on the visible care of the Creator for our health in appointing us this food. Bread is the best adapted to resist corruption, which our best juices are liable to. It has an acid quality in it, and is an excellent preservative against putrefaction. We are certainly unworthy of the bread that daily feeds us if we be insensible of its being a blessing granted to us from God. Surely we should love and adore that kind Father who causes the earth to produce bread for our support. What! shall we, like brutes, receive our food without thinking of Him from whom it comes? Surely not. Is it not enough that we receive our food in our infancy without being able to express our gratitude for it? O God! now I know the hand that supports me, let me ever adore Thee for it. Help me to prove the sincerity of my gratitude by sharing the bread which I possess in abundance with those who are in want! Many of Thy dear children possess much less, though they deserve more than I. They are pinched with hunger, while I have enough and to spare. Lord, it comes from Thee, and I would share it with my fellow-creatures, who have the same natural right to Thy favours.—*Sturm's Reflections.*

A WORD TO REVOLUTIONISTS.—The criticism and attack on institutions which we have witnessed have made one thing plain, that society gains nothing whilst a man, not himself renovated, attempts to renovate things around him; he has become tediously good in some particular, but negligent or narrow in the rest; and hypocrisy and vanity are often the disgusting result.—*M. W. Emerson.*

CHARITY.—I cannot condemn a man for ignorance but behold him with as much pity as I do Lazarus. It is no greater charity to clothe his body, than apparel the nakedness of his soul.—*St. Thomas Brown.*

"THIS IS THE WAY THE MONEY GOES."—In the year 1843, £8,001,449. 1s. 4d. were spent by the people of this kingdom in tobacco: a tolerably round sum to "and in smoke." If the weed had been worked into pigstall, rather more than half-an-inch thick, it would have formed a line 90,470 miles long—long enough to go nearly five times round the world!

## AGRICULTURE.

## FREE-TRADE A LANDOWNERS' QUESTION.

It is impossible for the advocates of monopoly to deny that the object of the Corn-Law makers was to keep up rents. This is proved by the debates of 1814 and 1815 on the subject. But it is no less true that the restrictive system then established by the owners of land was founded upon a narrow and partial view of their own interests. Their gain, if any, was temporary and precarious; while their anxiety to support the laws intended to keep up rents has ever since placed them in a false position with relation to the rest of the community. Already are the tenant-farmers beginning to acknowledge their obligations to the League, for exposing the errors and mischiefs of the protective system; and the day is not far distant when the landowners will admit that the efforts of the Free-Traders have materially aided the owners of the soil to regain a position of real usefulness.

Landowners have grasped at a mere shadow, and in so doing they have lost the substance of much real wealth and enduring influence; and the result has been alike unsatisfactory to themselves and injurious to the community. We have repeatedly shown the various modes in which the tenant-farmers have been injured and depressed by the Corn Laws and their consequences, direct and indirect; that agriculture has been for thirty years past the only business into which men of capital and enterprise have entered reluctantly; that it has been one in which ordinary skill and ordinary means would not secure the usual rate of remuneration; and, as a necessary consequence, that, while all other arts have advanced with unexampled strides, the art of husbandry has been nearly stationary. We have been accustomed most frequently to expose the evils to which tenant-farmers and farm-labourers have been subjected by this state of things, because they have been the victims of legislation intended by the legislators for their own benefit; and because the monopolists have of late years contrived to use as a stalking-horse the alleged interest of the industrious agricultural classes in the monopoly. But has protection really benefited the landowners? Without hesitation we say it has not. It is true, that the Corn Laws created a belief amongst farmers that a certain high range of prices could be maintained by means of acts of Parliament, and induced them to engage to pay rents calculated upon such prices; and that rents so calculated have proved to be higher than, according to the existing state of agriculture and actual prices, the lands are worth. At first sight this looks like an advantage to the landowner,—an unfair and unrighteous one certainly, but still an advantage. Let us examine the subject, however, and we shall find that, as in all other cases of unjust gain, there have been more than equivalent losses. In the first place tenants, in expectation of obtaining the prices promised by act of Parliament, have adopted a style of farming far lower than they would have done had no artificial enhancement of prices been attempted. They have produced much less than they would have produced had the trade in grain been regulated only by the natural laws of supply and demand; and though the landlords have probably obtained, through the Corn Laws, a larger proportion of the gross produce of the soil, there is not the slightest doubt that, if Free Trade had been permitted in 1815, the actual rents of agricultural land would at this moment have been much higher than they are, because the gross produce of land would have been immensely greater than it now is. And, what is even more important to the landowners, their rents would have been safe. They would have been paid by tenants obtaining living profits. What landowner can at this time say so much of his rents?

On every side we hear of abatements of rent. That miserable plan of giving up ten, fifteen, or twenty per cent. upon the rental, because the tenants are unable to pay in full, is in operation. If there be anything in which farmers are unanimous it is that landowners must make sacrifices to meet the time. And all the time everything relating to farming is in a provisional state. There is much talk of improvements in husbandry, and undoubtedly the art is making considerable advances amongst a small number of intelligent persons; but, as regards the majority of average farmers, little has been done, and it may be safely said, little will be done until the Corn Law question has been settled; and it is upon the state of average farmers that the rentals of the landowners depend. The question, then, which has to be resolved is—How will Free Trade affect the ability of ordinary farmers to pay present rents? This is of necessity, the most anxious consideration of the landowners. We believe there is also an earnest desire with most landowners that their present tenants should be enabled to continue in their farms. We have often had occasion to tell the landowners many unpleasant but wholesome truths, and we feel that we are doing them a service in telling them that the majority of landowners are kindly towards their tenants. Little that of many tell





## NATIONAL ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

**THE NEXT AGGREGATE MEETING** of the LEAGUE, in the THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT GARDEN, will be held on WEDNESDAY next, the 18th inst. **GEORGE WILSON, Esq.**, will take the Chair at SEVEN O'CLOCK precisely.

The Meeting will be addressed by **RICHARD COBDEN, Esq., M.P.**; **JOHN BRIGHT, Esq., M.P.**; and **W. J. FOX, Esq.**

Tickets of admission to all parts of the House may be had as usual at 67, Fleet-street.

Seats will in future be reserved for all Farmers who may make application at the Offices of the League, up to the hour of meeting; and their attendance, whether favourable or opposed to Free Trade, is especially requested.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. C., Old Brentford."—Sir,—I take the liberty of calling your attention to a statement in the LEAGUE of this week under the head Registration, viz., that to qualify a person for the county by rent, it must be £50 per annum under one landlord; ought not that last sentence to be left out? Does it make any difference whether the rent be paid to one, two, or three landlords? I know a man who has voted, and is still a registered voter, and yet pays a rent in two parishes, and to two landlords. I, myself, also pay rent to two landlords, and was registered without opposition; so that I think the words referred to cannot stand as part of the law. I should like to have this matter understood, else it might be a stumbling-block to some, for there are many paying £50 rent, but not all to one landlord; and some such I know who intend to register this year.—I remain, yours truly.—June 9, 1845.

[The Court of Common Pleas, last Michaelmas term, in the appeal of Gadaly and Barrow, South Lancashire, decided, "A party occupying two sets of premises, under two landlords, one at £40 a year and the other at £10, cannot be said to occupy any premises at a rent of £50; it must be one holding at a rent of £50, under one landlord, to entitle the claimant to vote."

"A West of England Free-Trader must be of age before he can legally claim to vote.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Gadsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, June 14, 1845.

One of those singular and important meetings of the labourers of Wiltshire, which evince the most rooted hatred of the Corn Laws in the class for whose benefit they are audaciously said to have been enacted, has just been brought under our notice, by our able contemporary the *Wiltshire Independent*, in his paper of Thursday last:—"The meeting was held at Upavon, a populous village in the fertile 'Bourne,' a district purely agricultural, and where, if any where, the farm-labourers might be expected to be in favour of that 'protection' which so many land-owners and farmers declare to have been devised for their especial benefit. But even here, 'protection,' such as is afforded by the Corn Laws, is sadly at a discount, and hundreds of men, spite of the threats of the farmers, their masters, to discharge them if they attended the meeting, wended their way to it after a hard day's toil, to discuss their grievances and to make them known to the public. Upwards of 1000 persons, chiefly consisting of agricultural labourers, some of them accompanied by their wives and elder children, were present, and formed an imposing and interesting scene, assembled, as they were, under a fine old tree on the green. The meeting was conducted in the most orderly manner, and the deepest interest was exhibited by all present in the proceedings."

The chairman and the speakers all belonged to the class of farm-labourers, and they described their grievances with a natural eloquence which was clearly the result of thorough conviction united to plain common sense. David Keele, the chairman, declared that the labourers after a hard day's work could earn no better subsistence than potatoes and salt, and his hearers responded, "We don't get half enough of that." His illustration of the coercion used by the protectionists to stifle the complaints of the labourers was equally clever and characteristic:

"Our opponents, in my part of the country, serve the people like as the carters used to do the ploughboys when I was a boy. They would give the boys the whip, and threaten that they would give it them again if they told their parents; and so it went on from day to day. The case is the same with the labourers. Your masters say, if you come forward to tell your case, you shall be turned out of employment (hear, hear), and thus they keep you in fear; and you will never be better as long as you are kept down in this way. But if you come forward boldly and tell your case, you can't make it worse. ('That's true.') If the ploughboy had told his father of the carter, the carter would have been punished, and that is what he was afraid of. Your are prevented coming forward by the arbitrary conduct of your opponents (hear, hear), but fear not their frowns: they are in the hands of the Lord, and can only go so far as he permits. Always remember, however, that, whatever law is issued by the Legislature, we are bound to obey; whoever resists the powers that be, resists the ordinance of God. It is the arbitrary Corn Law that has done all the mischief,

and we believe Free Trade will be beneficial to ourselves and families. (Loud cheers)."

Mr. Westell dwelt with great force on the injury which the Corn Laws inflicted on the farmers by affording an excuse for the exaction of oppressive rents, and thus forcing tenants to stint the wages of labour. Abundant proof was given of the utter inadequacy of the wages of the farm-labourers to procure sufficient sustenance, to say nothing of comforts. One man with five and another with eight children declared that their earnings were only 7s. per week. The examples given of "the short and simple annals of the poor" were equally graphic and affecting:—

"The children," said Ozias Lealey, "would jump across the house if they saw a couple of potatoes, and quarrel which should have them. It was enough to drive a man mad. When he came home at night, and found them crying for food, and he had none to give them, it almost drove him mad; he could not stand it another winter. What would the gentlemen think of this, filled as they were with their roast beef and sherry wine; when the poor man was happy in heaven he knew not where the rich would be. [Several people exclaimed that every one with a family was in the same state, and many others would have come forward to speak, but were kept back by fear.]"

At the conclusion of the meeting three cheers were given for the League, and three for the repeal of the Corn Laws. These are significant facts: they show that, where the labourers are allowed to think and act for themselves, the artificial scarcity superinduced by restrictive laws is as indignantly denounced, because it is as severely felt, as by other classes of the community.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The Minister of Marine presented to the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday the demand of a credit for reinforcing the squadron stationed on the western coast of Africa, in virtue of the convention lately concluded for the repression of the slave trade. M. Guizot entered the hall while his colleague was reading the *exposé des motifs* of the bill, and was surrounded and complimented by his friends. The Minister of Marine next deposited on the table copies of the convention, signed in London on the 29th of May last, and of the instructions to be given to the superior officers in command of the respective stations. M. Thiers afterwards ascended the tribune, and reminded the Chamber of its recent decision relative to the enforcement of the laws against the Jesuits, and trusted that the Ministry had taken it into serious consideration. The Minister of Justice replied, that no new fact had occurred in the interval to require the enforcement of those laws. He felt, he said, all the importance of the question, and would give it a prompt solution when necessary.

The *Akhbar* of Algiers states that on the 2nd instant, Marshal Bugeaud had an engagement with the Arabs near Orleanville, and defeated them, killing 50, capturing 150, and taking a considerable quantity of cattle.

SPAIN.—The *Castellano* announces that the troops and carabinieri who had marched from Murcia for Algeiras on the 19th, to intercept a convoy of smuggled goods on its way to this last town, had returned without being able to effect their purpose. The entire population of the district had taken arms to protect the smugglers, and several musket shots were exchanged between the people and the military force. The parish priest, however, having interfered, hostilities ceased, and the troops and carabinieri were obliged to retire, without executing their orders.

HOLLAND.—A petition to the Second Chamber of the States-General has been drawn up, and signed by a number of wholesale and retail dealers at Amsterdam, representing the injury done by the existing excise laws, especially the excise duty on sugar; they show that while the sale diminishes the consumption increases; this they affirm is owing to the great extent to which smuggling is carried on, especially on the eastern frontier of the kingdom, so that not only the commerce in refined sugar from Amsterdam, the centre of its production, to the province of Drenthe, Overijssel, and Groningen is stopped, but, contrary to the natural course of things, large quantities are constantly sent from these provinces to Amsterdam.

BERGUM.—From the information received from several parts of the kingdom, we learn that the appearance of the corn, especially rye, promises an abundant harvest; the country has not for many years looked so well. Even the rapeseed, which it was thought would wholly fail, has a very favourable appearance in several places. A letter from Antwerp, of the 4th inst., says:—"We have observed that for some days past the price of wheat has fallen in several markets. Since yesterday it is free from import duty. We expect a large supply of wheat from London; three vessels loaded with wheat have arrived this morning, and others will arrive this afternoon. There have been violent storms in several parts of the country, with torrents of rain, and in some instances with hail, which caused considerable damage. Some buildings were struck by lightning, but no very serious injury was done."

AMERICA.—The packet-ship *Queen* of the West arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday morning; she sailed from New York on the 21st ult.; the news supplied is trifling, and of very little importance. Nothing new had transpired in reference to the Oregon question. We have advices from Texas to the 7th ult., which state that opposition to annexation had almost entirely disappeared. Public meetings in favour of the measure are held throughout the country, and the *Houston Star* of the 3rd thus speaks of the position of the Government with regard to it:—"We rejoice to say that we have the most positive evidence that the President and a majority of the members of the Cabinet are anxious to act with the utmost harmony with the people, and will cordially co-operate with them in their efforts to consummate this great measure at the earliest practicable period."

THE RIVER PLATS.—The brig *Chilmark* arrived at Liverpool on Monday evening from Buenos Ayres, bringing advices to the 5th of April, and Government despatches. Private letters mention that on the 30th of

March official despatches were received at Buenos Ayres from General Oribe, dated the previous day, announcing the complete defeat of Rivera by General Urquiza on the 27th, at a place called India Rivers, 90 miles north of Monte Video, after an action of two hours, with the loss of all his infantry, artillery, and baggage; 1000 men were said to have been killed, and 500 prisoners taken, including a great many officers. Rivera is reported to have escaped with eight men. Great rejoicings were made at Buenos Ayres on account of this triumph, which, the advices state, no one doubted to have been a serious affair, from which results of importance would probably arise.

TAHITI.—The Sydney papers of the 6th of February, received on Tuesday, state that the accounts from Tahiti of the 29th of December last left Queen Pomare residing in a fortified place at Raiatea, refusing to hold any communication with the French. According to their own accounts, the French were going on quietly in the island.

## DOMESTIC.

The Board of Trade have issued a return of the number of railway accidents for the quarter ending April 1st, 1845; by which it appears that 22 persons were killed, and 17 injured more or less seriously. Of the fatal accidents, all, except four, happened to persons connected with the lines, and the others in a similar proportion.

It is rumoured that Mr. Milnes Gaskell, now a Lord of the Treasury, will be made Secretary to the Board of Control, in the place of Mr. Emerson Tennent, who goes out to be Colonial Secretary in Ceylon; and that Sir Charles Douglas, M.P. for Warwick, will succeed Mr. Milnes Gaskell. Let the electors of Warwick be on the look-out.—*Globe*.

It is a very extraordinary circumstance that Mr. Thomas Bowles, who was on board the *Royal George* when she sunk, and who is now, probably, the only survivor, should have been on the Yarmouth Suspension-bridge during the late accident. He was precipitated into the water, but was once more providentially saved. He is, we hear, about 83 or 84 years of age.—*Bury Post*.

In the parish of St. Matthew, Bethnal green, the board of guardians have issued an order, offering rewards for the apprehension of no less than ten persons who have deserted their children, nearly thirty in number, and left them chargeable to the parish.

On Monday morning, the Waterman steamer No. 3, which had taken in several passengers at the Westminster-bridge floating pier, was rounding from the landing-place, and had arrived opposite the Duke of Buccleuch's mansion, about 200 yards distant, when she struck violently upon a barge laden with 50 tons of gravel, which had sunk during the night. The iron plates on the larboard side of the Waterman were driven in by the violence of the shock, and the water rushed into the fore cabin and soon filled it, but the vessel being divided into compartments by watertight bulkheads, it could not penetrate further.

In the western districts of Perthshire the epidemic among cattle is very prevalent, and one farmer has lost seven cows within the last fortnight. The symptoms of the disease are similar to those which have been manifested elsewhere; and, unless where proper treatment has been adopted early, it seems to be generally fatal in its effects.—*Perth Courier*.

Twenty-four farmers, whose stock, it is supposed, will sell for £600 each, are known to be preparing to emigrate from Bodedern and the adjoining parishes.—*Shrewsbury Chronicle*.

At a meeting in Edinburgh, on Saturday, Sir James Forrest presiding, an association was formed "for protecting the interests of the poor, and for preventing or lessening, chiefly by moral influence, the ejection of numbers of small tenants, especially in the Highlands, and for mitigating the distress consequent on such ejections," to be called "The Scottish Association for the Protection of the Poor." Several cases of grievous, if not fatal, distress were mentioned, arising from ejections or inadequate parochial relief; and the "commission" sent down by the *Times* to inquire into the clearances of Sutherland and Ross was alluded to and loudly applauded.

Mr. O'Connell is making a repeal tour in the south of Ireland, and is every where received with enthusiasm by vast crowds of the poorer classes.

The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation-hall, Dublin, on Monday. Owing to the absence of Mr. O'Connell the attendance was very scanty. Mr. John O'Connell brought forward a petition against the 10th clause of the new Irish Colleges Bill, which gives the right to Government to appoint the professors. The petition was agreed to. The rent for the week was announced at £370.

Since the recent fatal fires the vestrymen of the parish of St. Marylebone have taken the subject of fire-escapes into their consideration, and in order that no delay may take place, should a fire occur in that parish, of having fire-escapes at hand to rescue the inmates, have caused to be printed and exhibited all over the parish large bills, stating where the fire-escapes are to be found at all hours.

The 13th Light Dragoons, while en route, had a talk on Sunday at Maryborough, Major W. D. Hamilton in command. The major stopped at Fallon's Hotel, and not having called for any attendance during the forenoon, suspicion was excited, the more so as his bed-room had been made fast on the inside. The proprietor of the hotel with others forced open the door at two o'clock, when to their astonishment and horror they found the major lying on the broad of his back waltering in his blood. It seemed that the unhappy gentleman had cut the veins and arteries of his sword arm with a razor. Surgical aid was in immediate attendance, and the arteries were tied up. The major is a native of Bath, and attained the majority only a few months ago. He is better.—*Freeman's Journal*.

Since Saturday last the arrivals of shipping in the river Thames from foreign ports have been exceedingly numerous, and the respective docks now present an extraordinary bustle, furnishing for a time employment to many labourers, who previously had been without the means of supplying themselves and their poor families with the common necessities of life. The arrivals from foreign countries, independent of coasters, amount to 128, many of which are richly laden.

On Wednesday last the ship *William* arrived from Hobart Town in the West India Dock, with a cargo of sugar and rum, and a number of passengers. The ship has ever been reported into this country, and is one of the world. The wheat is of a superior quality, and grain being the size of a pea, and it is supposed to be

ceptible of great improvement when subjected to our improved mode of culture. The William Jardine, in addition to the wheat, brought 1400 bales of wool and a quantity of tallow.

During the last few days several gentlemen's houses have been robbed, chiefly at the west end of the town, by persons who, it is supposed, have watched the owners from home, and taken that opportunity to inquire for them. It is then their custom to request the liberty of the house, which finished, they get the servant to writing a note, which they seal it, and, during their absence, fetch them a light to seal it, and, during their absence, percolate any article within their reach. Several valuable watches and time-pieces have been thus abstracted, besides other descriptions of property; and the rogues have actually acknowledged in their notes the immense benefit the trifle they have taken will be to them.—*Globe*.

From a return just made to Parliament, we learn that plans and sections for the formation of no less than 8080 miles of railway in Great Britain and Ireland have been deposited with the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.

A dreadful explosion from gunpowder took place in a respectable tradesman's shop, named Steele, at Durham, on Monday last, which was attended with very lamentable results. Two or three persons were buried in the ruins, but happily extricated without loss of life. Others were seriously injured.

There is a bill now before the House of Commons to make the stealing of dogs a misdemeanor. For the first offence, before a magistrate, the party may be committed for a period not exceeding six months, or be fined above the value of the dog a sum not exceeding £20; for the second offence to be indicted, and may be transported for seven years; or imprisoned, or fined and imprisoned. A penalty of £20 may be levied for having possession of stolen dogs or their skins.

We understand that the Belfast Repealers have a requisition to Mr. Dr. O'Connell, jun., in course of signature, requesting him to become a candidate for the representation of Belfast, on the expected vacancy.—*Northern Whig*.

The report circulated last week that Mr. Satchell had died in consequence of the shock he received at the fire in Fenchurch-street, in which his wife and child perished, is contradicted; that gentleman, we are glad to say, is reported alive and well.

A decision of considerable importance, connected with the opening of Trinity College, was pronounced in the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on Tuesday. In the present term, Mr. O'Hagan, on behalf of Mr. D. C. Heron, a Roman Catholic student of Trinity College, moved the Court that a peremptory *mandamus* should go to the visitors, the Primate and the Archbishop of Dublin, requiring them to hear Mr. Heron's appeal against the decision of the Provost and Senior Fellows, who had refused him a scholarship, because he was a Roman Catholic, and would not take the Sacramental Test. The Chief Justice gave, this day, the unanimous decision of the court, that the peremptory *mandamus* should go, notwithstanding the return of the visitors. "This (the *Dublin Evening Post* remarks) is a judgment of the last importance. It raises the question distinctly as to the right of the Catholics of Ireland to scholarships—of which they have been so long deprived. The law is with them. High legal authorities at the bar and in the college are such that, and we confidently anticipate that justice will at last be done. We congratulate the country on this great step in advance towards it."

**A GAME-LAW FACT.**—For the last three months, one John Grantham, a glove-maker, of Gawcott, who has a wife and five children, has been suffering under game-law proceedings, at the instance of that very feeling nobleman, Buckingham's Duke. We find that John (the glove-maker) having the fear of Richard's (the Duke's) vengeance before his eyes, did, as the latter's gamekeeper avowed, make a hare in the hamlet of Lisborough. The working man was charged by Buckingham's factotum in game matters with having taken the said hare, whereupon the justice, before whom he was so charged sentenced him to pay by less a sum than £5. 10s. fine and costs, or to be imprisoned. After a fortnight's imprisonment the said £5. 10s. were raised by Grantham, and he was liberated. This was a disappointment to his prosecutors. Fresh proceedings were determined upon. Grantham was surcharged in double duty for having killed Richard's hare without a certificate; a distress warrant was issued against him for £28. 1s. 6d., the double duty. This amount his goods and chattels would not realize, and he was in consequence conveyed to the above prison to await her Majesty's pleasure, or till the amount was paid. In consequence of his having an interest in two mortgaged cottages, which he has offered to any one who will pay the money and release him, the parish refuse to assist his wife and family.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

**A PROHIBITION TARIFF.**—The *Gibraltar Chronicle* of May 6th contains an official translation of the new tariff imposed on all goods imported into the Emperor of Morocco's dominions, from which it would appear that that potentate is no great friend of Free Trade. Most of the duties are nearly prohibitory, and some of them are altogether so. Woollen cloths imported into Morocco must pay 2s. 1d. per yard; raw silk, 4s. 2d. per lb.; cotton goods, from 10 to 12 yards, 1s. 0d. per piece; from 20 to 24 yards, 2s. 1d. per piece; 36 to 40 yards, 3s. 1d. per piece; which is equal to from 35 to 50 per cent. ad valorem. Raw cotton and refined loaf sugar, which formerly paid 4s. 2d. per cwt., will now pay 2s. 10d. Nothing is said in the Gibraltar paper as to the probable cause of the alterations, which appear to have excited considerable interest. The British merchants residing there, who trade to Barbary, are said to be making a representation of their case to the Board of Trade, with a view to obtain some relaxation of the prohibitory system. It is considered not unlikely, that when the Emperor finds out, as he is sure to do ere long, that in the arithmetic of the custom-house, two and two do not always make four, he will deem it necessary to make another alteration of the tariff. It is reported at Gibraltar that, in the treaty at present negotiating between France and Morocco, by M. Delarue, there is a clause to the following effect:—"That all articles, the produce of Barbary, are to be admitted into Algeria duty free; and, in return, French manufactures are to pass free from Algiers to Barbary."—*Manchester Guardian*.

## THE FUNDS.

	Sat. June 7	Mon. June 9	Tues. June 10	Wed. June 11	Thurs. June 12	Fri. June 13
Bank Stock	—	213	211½	211½	213	—
3 per Ct. Red. Ann.	99½	99½	99	99½	99½	99½
5 per Ct. Red. Ann.	102½	102½	103	102½	102½	103½
Long. An. Ex. 1840	—	11 7-16	11 7-16	11 5-16	11 7-16	—
Cons. for Opp.	99	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Exc. Bills, 6m.	61	62	61	61	61	—
Ind. Bds. 1000f.	71	74	73	74	74	—
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belgian Bonds	—	99½	99½	99½	—	—
Brassian Bonds	89½	90	—	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres	—	—	—	—	44	—
Chilian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colomb. ex. Venes.	15½	15½	15½	17½	17	17½
Danish	—	—	80½	—	—	—
Dutch 4 per Cent.	98½	—	98½	98½	98½	98½
Dutch 2½ per Ct.	63½	63½	63½	63½	63½	63½
Mexican	37½	38½	37½	37½	37½	37½
Peruvian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Portug. conv.	67½	67½	67	67½	67½	67½
Spanish 5 per Ct.	24½	24½	24	24½	24½	24½
Do. 3 per Cent.	41½	41½	41½	40½	41½	41½

## MARKETS.

## CORN MARKET.

**MARK-LANE, Monday, June 9.**—The supply of English Wheat fresh up to this morning's market is moderate. It has been taken off readily at the prices of this day week. In Foreign Wheat there is not much doing; but one or two cargoes of fine Dantzic have been purchased on speculation. Some extremely fine Australian has fetched as high as 60s. per quarter. Barley, of which the arrivals are not large, continues to have a very limited sale. Oats are in fair supply, and sell easily at last Monday's rates. There are scarcely any Beans or Peas offering, and both are fully 1s. per quarter dearer.

B. H. LUCAS and Son.

BRITISH.		Per Imperial Quarter.	
Wheat Essex, Kent, & Suffolk Old Red 42 to 50	White 46 to 54	—	—
— Ditto. — New	42 — 48	44	54
— Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Old	42 — 48	44	50
— Scotch	42 — 46	44	48
Oats, Lincolnshire & Yorkshire Feed	—	21	23
— Ditto	—	21	23
— Scotch Feed	—	23	26
— Limerick	—	21	22
— Ditto	—	21	23
— Cork	—	20	21
— Waterford, Yougal, & Cork Black	—	20	21
— Sligo	—	20	21
— Galway	—	19	20
Barley	—	28	30
Beans, Maragan	—	31	33
— Harrow	—	31	33
— Small	—	32	34
Peas, White, New	—	34	36
— Grey	—	33	35
Flour, Town-made	—	35	43
— Norfolk and Suffolk	—	35	43

FOREIGN.		Per Imperial Quarter.	
Wheat, Dantzic, high mixed	—	48 to 56	—
— Mostock	—	47 — 54	—
— Stettin	—	44 — 52	—
— Hamburg	—	42 — 48	—
— Odessa	—	42 — 46	—
— Ditto	—	47 — 50	—
— Russian	—	42 — 48	—
— Ditto	—	40 — 44	—
— Spanish	—	48 — 49	—
— Ditto	—	50 — 54	—
— Australian	—	56 — 58	—
Barley, Girding	—	23 — 27	—
— Distilling	—	29 — 31	—
Oats, Archangel	—	—	—
— Stralsund	—	—	—
— Dutch Brew	—	—	—
— Poland	—	17 — 19	—
Beans, Egyptian	—	32 — 34	35 — 37
Peas, White	—	33 — 36	—
— Ditto Boilers	—	36 — 38	—
Flour, Canada	—	25 — 26	—
— United States	—	26 — 30	18 — 20
— Dantzic	—	24 — 28	18 — 20
— Australian, per sack of 380 lbs	—	33 — 35	—

Account of CORN, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from June 3 to June 7, 1845, both days inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	5280	898	33	416	19
Scotch	—	480	110	—	—
Irish	—	—	1653	—	—
Foreign	5174	8510	7421	8	1046

Flour, 4533 sacks.

**FRIDAY, June 13.**—The weather this week has been uninterruptedly brilliant. This, together with a fair arrival of English Wheat since Monday, has made the trade flat. There is, however, some demand for fine Dantzic Wheat, at about late rates. No English Barley has arrived this week; but the trade continues very dull. The supplies of English and Foreign Oats are quite trifling; and there are no Irish fresh up this week. All descriptions are held at higher rates, and the little business doing is from 6d. to 1s. advance from Monday. Beans and Peas sell in retail quantities at high prices; the duty on both these articles declined 1s. yesterday.

B. H. LUCAS and Son.

Account of Corn, &c., arrived in the Port of London, from the 7th of June to the 9th of June, both inclusive.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
English	5180	—	—	—	—
Scotch	—	—	—	—	—
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	5180	—	—	—	—

Flour, 410 sacks.

**LONDON AVERAGES for the Week ending June 10, 1845.**

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.
5th May	46 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10
10th "	46 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10
17th "	46 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10
24th "	46 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10
31st "	46 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10
7th June	47 0. 81	9. 81	9. 81	9. 81	1. 26 10

**Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.**—Wheat, 46s. 8d.; Barley, 30s. 8d.; Oats, 21s. 10d.; Beans, 80s. 9d.; Peas, 37s. 6d.

**Stock of Corn in Bond, May 5, 1845.**

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Peas.	Flour.
In London	104747	998	11057	—	9008	1406
Out. King.	99837	6091	60735	—	16009	6008

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6.

CROWN OFFICE, JUNE 6.

MEMBER RETURNED TO SERVE IN THIS PRESENT

PARLIAMENT.

County of Down.—A. E. Hill, of Hillsborough, in the county of Down, Esq., commonly called Lord Edwin Hill, in the room of the Earl of Hillsborough, called up to the House of Peers.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

W. MOSSMAN, Clerk's-place, Islington, fancy stationer.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

M. COFFEE, Liverpool, victualler.

BANKRUPTS.

C. GENT and G. MILLAR, Bread-street, City, commission

merchants. [Lloyd, Milk-street, Cheap-side.

F. A. DE WILDE, Wells-street, Oxford-street, cabinet iron-

monger. [Lawrence and Pews, Bucklersbury.

J. SMITH, St. Dunstan's-hill, City, ship broker. [Weir and

Smith, Basinghall street.

J. SMITH, Reading, Berkshire, grocer. [Lamb, Queen-street,

Cheapside.

W. WALTERS, Harcourt-street, Marylebone, silk mercer.

[Galworthy and Co., Cook's-court, Lincoln's-inn; Gray,

Bristol.

J. BURBURY, Leek Wootton, Warwickshire, maltster. [Mor-

ris and Wallington, Warwick; Jones, Stareton, near Stone-

leigh; Nelson, Gresham-place, Lombard-street, City.

J. CRABH, Chardstock, Dorsetshire, hemp manufacturer.

[Temple and Son, Bridport; Terrell, Exeter; Clowes and

Co., Temple.

J. DAVIS, Bristol, chemist. [Hudson, Bloomsbury-square;

Hopkins, Bristol.

E. T. JONES and H. M. CROSSKILL, Rochdale, Lancashire,

booksellers. [Smith, Chancery-lane; Holgate and Roberts,

Rochdale.

J. M. NELSON, Liverpool, general broker. [Olliver, Old Jewry;

Evans, Liverpool.

W. R. CARSCADEN, Leeds, hosier. [Williamson and Hill,

Gray's-inn; Sykes, Leeds.

DIVIDENDS.

July 1. S. Hewlings and C. W. Wisbey, George-yard, Lom-

bard street, City, bills brokers.—July 1. G. Jemmett, Long-acre,

coachmaker.—July 1. T. Kirby, New Bond-street, oilman.—July

1. A. Jarrett, Cattle-street, Southwark, hat manufacturer.—

June 27. J. Hart Greenwell, builder.—July 1. I. T. Couchman,

High street, Kensington, builder.—June 27. B. W. Palmer, Da-

ventry, Northamptonshire, wine merchant.—June 27. R. G.

Ward and J. Perry, Newgate-market, City, meat salesman.—

June 27. A. H. Simpson and P. H. Irvin, Blackfriars-road, en-

gineers.—June 27. E. Botham, Spelthamland, Berkshire, inn-

holder.—June 27. H. Williams, Farringdon, Berkshire, grocer.—

June 27. J. F. Wood, Oxford, surgeon.—June 27. J. P. E., and

H. Kensington, W. Styan, and D. Adams, City, bankers.—June

28. D. Pugsley, Great Dittaff-lane, City, warehouseman.—June

28. A. Bohte, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, tailor.—June 27. B.

Vines, Poole, grocer.—June 28. W. Young, Godalming, Surrey,

nurseryman.—June 28. G. A. Kollmann, St. Martin's-lane, piano-

forte maker.—June 28. I. Argent, Fleet-street, City, victualler.—

June 28. J. Martin, High-street, Shoreditch, tallow chandler.—

June 28. W. Scott, Regent-street, wine merchant.—June 28. C.

Robinson, Great Trinity-lane, City, oil merchant.—June 28. S.

Symonds, Basinghall-street, City, Blackwell Hall-factor.—June

28. J. Vines, Battersea, Surrey, miller.—June 28. T. C. Hodson,

Lombard-street, Herefordshire, linendraper.—July 1. J. Hill, Stroud,

Gloucestershire, hatter.

CERTIFICATES.

July 1. R. Thurlow, Southampton, oil merchant.—July 1. T.

Gibbons, jun., Wells next-the-Sea, Norfolk, merchant.—July 1.

S. May, Myddelton-street, Clerkenwell, watch manufacturer.—

July 1. W. Cawthorn, jun., Salisbury-street, Strand, wine

merchant.—June 31. W. Kacey, Aldermanbury, City, silk

dresser.—June 30. J. Barwick, Swan with Two Neck-yards,

Great Carter-lane, livery stable keeper.—June 31. B. Pugsley,

Great Dittaff-lane, City, warehouseman.—July 1. J. B. and R.

Gordon, Poplar, cooper.—June 30. C. T. H. Bellamy, Hove-

draper.—June 30. D. Holdforth, Stratford, Essex, grocer.—June

27. T. Overend, Staindrop, Durham, maltster.—June 27. R.

Clark, jun., Montague-close, Southwark, wharfinger.—July 1. J.

Hill, Stroud, Gloucestershire, hatter.—July 1. J. Schofield,

Greenacres-moor, Lancashire, grocer.—June 27. J. Williams,

Cardiff, draper.—June 27. G. Barron, Davies-street, Berkeley-

square, builder.—June 27. J. Brown, Skinner-street, Snow-hill,

perfumer.—June 27. T. Clegg, Deptford, coal merchant.—June

27. J. G. Todman, Gray's-inn-lane, licensed victualler.—June

27. D. Morton, Lower Thames-street, fishmonger.—June 27. C.

B. Sweeney, Green-street, Grosvenor-square, apothecary.—June

27. A. Radcliffe, sen., and A. Radcliffe, jun., Hermitage-place,

St. John's-street-road, glaziers' diamond manufacturers.

SCOTCH SHAGBARK TARIFF.

J. MILLER, Edinburgh, victualler.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

H. BENT, Brierly-hill, Staffordshire, chain maker.





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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 91.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the LEAGUE FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of the receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing a acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward small contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after perusal, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and the neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quintin Dairymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER!

The first step which requires to be taken is that of the claims for counties. The time for making these claims is from the 20th of June to the 20th of July, inclusive; any claim made after the latter date will be too late.

The county franchise is divided into four important classes of qualification:—

1st. Freehold, which includes the ancient 40s. freehold of inheritance for ever; and property held under a lease for lives, which should be described as freehold in the notice of claim.

2nd. Leasehold for a term of not less, originally, than 99 years, of £10 clear annual value; or if for a term of not less than 20 years, of £50 clear annual value.

3rd. Copyhold of £10 annual value.

4th. Occupiers of land, or building and land under one landlord, subject to a *bonâ fide* rent of £50 a year.

In the first class, the owner of a 40s. freehold for ever must have been in possession from the 31st of January of the present year; and the same in the case of the owner of leasehold for lives of 40s. a year, provided he be himself in the occupation of the property. If the owner of the lease for lives do not occupy, the property must be of the annual value of £10.

In the second class, the owner must have been in possession from the 31st of July, 1814.

And in the third class, the occupation must also be from the 31st of July, 1814.

It will be obvious that the first thing to be done by our friends is to ascertain how many Free-Traders there are in each parish possessing qualifications, and who are not on the register; and this should be set about forthwith, that the notices of claim may be made in proper time.

There are various means of obtaining this information, as, for instance—

In all those districts where the purchasing of qualifications, as recommended by the League, was taken up systematically, lists of the names will have been kept by those who made the conveyances.

The year-books may be examined carefully to ascertain the names of owners of property, and also £50 freeholders, who are not registered.

Quakers, and collectors of rates and income-tax; building and land agents, who are friendly, may be consulted for information.

In the neighbourhood of large towns, such as Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, &c., there are merchants, bankers, and others, who occupy large houses and farms in the suburbs at a rental of £50; these, if not

within the parliamentary borough, will be qualified, and, if not on the county register, should claim. Last year, on a careful examination of the rate book of a township just over the boundary of the borough of Manchester, from forty to fifty occupiers of this description were found who were not then on the register for South Lancashire.

The next thing to be done is to take care that the claims are made out in proper form, and served in due time.

It is most convenient to use printed forms of notice; and these should be filled up with the greatest care, the following particulars being closely attended to:—

The name of the claimant to be written at full length.

The place of the claimant's abode (not the place where his business only is carried on).

The nature of the qualification must be correctly described in the third column. Any misdescription here will be fatal if the vote should be objected to. Leasehold or copyhold must not be described as freehold; or freehold as leasehold.

The situation of the qualification must also be accurately given as required in the fourth column. In cases of successive occupation, as, for instance, where the voter has removed from one farm to another since the 31st of last July, each set of premises must be set forth in the claim.

A correct copy of each claim must be kept, and the claim and the copy must each be signed by the claimant himself.

Should any of our friends desire to be furnished with further information on any particular point, they will please to address their inquiries to Mr. Paulton, League-office, 67, Fleet-street, or to Mr. Hickin, Secretary to the League, Manchester.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## LOOK TO THE REGISTER!

We again entreat our friends to be vigilant, active, and prompt in the business of that general election whose initial process commenced yesterday, and will continue until the 20th of July, inclusive.

We cannot call it by any other name; no other word would adequately represent the fact. This is the distinctive peculiarity of the constitution under which we have been living, in this country, since the year 1832:—*Registration is virtual election*. It is not wonderful that the people of Great Britain have taken thirteen years to learn this, and have not quite learned it yet. Such a constitution as that of 1832 is perfectly new, and without precedent in the history of nations. The world has had ample experience of all varieties of forms of government—monarchical, aristocratic, democratic, and mixed—this alone excepted. But a government by registration; a government which gives so much to democracy, and so little to democratic enthusiasm and impulse; a government where the popular will is practically everything, if it express itself through the medium of certain complicated technical forms, compliance with which must precede, by months or years, the actual exercise of the powers which those forms authenticate—and next to nothing, if those forms are neglected; a government where popular elections take place by anticipation, under another name, noiselessly, indirectly, almost privately, and in the entire absence of all the ordinary excitements of popular feeling;—this is something quite new. There never was a constitution, resting ultimately on a popular basis, which exacted from the people so large an amount of what may be called the unpopular virtues—forethought, patience, calculation, dogged determination and perseverance, sleepless attention to minute and tiresome details. It is no business of ours here to criticise this constitution. We must take it as it is, good or bad, and do the best we can with it. Through the medium of this same constitution—by the large popular powers which it confers, exercised under the technical conditions which it imposes—must the national industry now work out its emancipation. The battle of Free Trade must, like every other political conflict of this generation, be fought in the registration courts.

Everywhere, except in the registration courts, the battle has been fought, and the victory won. But that victory is, and must remain, barren, until the constituencies are ready to make it their own. We trust this will be quite understood. The Parliamentary triumphs of which we boast—and most justly boast—are a reason, not for slackened, but for redoubled popular exertion. Were the leaders of the great Parliamentary parties still advocates of

protectionist principles, there might seem less occasion for solicitude about registration. There would be room for hoping something from their conviction and conversion. But they are convinced—and we are none the better for it. We have got their conversion—and we see what it is worth. Sir Robert Peel understands our question perfectly—as well as we understand it ourselves. He "believes" the Free-Trade principles "to be sound," and he even "claims the liberty of continuing the application of those principles." Yet he deliberately leaves this country to face the fearful contingencies of a backward and deficient harvest, with the granaries of the world barred against us. What can more impressively show that registration is the one thing now to be done? The openly and emphatically avowed Free-Trade convictions of the Cabinet, and their obstinate maintenance of a monopolist policy, afford together the most powerful incentive that can be imagined to a decided and energetic expression of the will of the constituencies. They tell us that a successful registration is absolutely necessary, and that it will be infallibly effectual.

We beg our friends and constituents, the Free-Trade public of Great Britain, to work in this matter, not only with activity and patience, but with faith—a faith hearty, entire, and undoubting. On the most desperate-looking registration list of the most monopoly-ridden county, look not despairingly. Though it should seem that your utmost efforts can only avail to effect an inappreciable reduction of a monopolist majority, make those utmost efforts. No effort can now be quite hopeless. In the present state of parties and opinions, there is no saying, of any electoral district, that Free Trade will to a certainty be in a minority at the next general election. "Whig" and "Tory," as parties, are, to all practical purposes, extinct. Monopoly is a house divided against itself, and the division daily widens. Protectionists are beaten and broken at all points, distrustful of their cause and of one another. The great bubble of 1811 is burst. The "organized hypocrisy" is disorganized past all hope of redemption. The mere number of actual and avowed converts to Free-Trade principles gives no

adequate measure of the altered position of our cause in districts now represented by monopolist members. The number of such converts may be comparatively small; but the number is immense of those who will flintily refuse ever again to waste time, strength, enthusiasm, or money in promoting the election of men that seek their confidence by making promises whose fulfilment is a demonstrated and experienced impossibility. When the next election comes, it will find Whiggism and Toryism faded into historical traditions, and landlordism little more than "the wretched remnant of an expiring faction." The Free-Trade principle will be the only principle—the Free-Trade party will be the only party—with which any prudent public man will dream of identifying his tenure, or his hope, of office. Now, now is the time for Free-Traders to get themselves ready for grasping as magnificent an opportunity as was ever placed within a nation's reach.

We rejoice that it is in our power to enforce and illustrate our precepts, by pointing to the admirable example which has been set—especially to counties containing large and populous trading towns—by the Free-Traders of the very important electoral district of EAST SURREY. The subjoined address, just issued by the "East Surrey Free-Trade Qualification and Registration Society," is a most cheering manifestation of a spirit, which, were it general and active through the country, would soon place monopoly among the things that have been:—

"The objects of the society, which has been established by a body of the constituency of Surrey, are to qualify and register Free-Trade electors for the Eastern Division of that county. The population of East Surrey numbers 490,758 souls, of which 377,876 form the commercial and manufacturing communities of the great urban districts of Lambeth and Southwark, while 112,872 only are embraced in the more rural division of the county. Yet so watchful have the landed interest been of their political rights, that of 112,872 inhabitants of the country districts, 8483 have acquired the franchise, while trade, with its town population of 377,876 souls, is represented by only 2823 electors. The Chaudon clause has been worked to its last available vote, while the forty-filling freehold has been comparatively neglected. Land has used the instrument which the law placed in its hands—Trade has refused to listen to the very call of the constitution, which placed within its reach, and for its protection, a compensating political balance. In East Surrey freehold qualifications are easily obtained; and, by certain arrangements of this society, the law and other expenses are rendered as small as possible. In Southwark and Lambeth there are at least 2000 persons already qualified to vote for the county, who are not on the register; and it only requires zeal and industry to convert a majority of

1000 into a majority quite as large. The great object of the society is to secure for the large town populations in the county their fair share of influence in the choice of its representatives. That in Buckingham or Dorsetshire political power should rest exclusively with the landowners may be unavoidable; but this society is resolved, that in East Surrey such a state of affairs shall exist no longer. To enforce this resolution, it is therefore proposed to apply to East Surrey on a large scale those operations in the qualification and registration of electors, which in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Middlesex have been so signally successful; and the society is enabled to announce that it will receive the cordial co-operation and assistance of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League."

And we may announce, that the cordial co-operation and assistance of the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League may be freely invoked, and confidently counted on, by ALL constituencies and sections of constituencies that are determined to "listen to the call of the constitution," and to seize and use the powers which the constitution gives for the efficient assertion of rights that are antecedent and superior to all constitutions. The co-operation and assistance tendered by us to the East Surrey electors are given quite irrespectively of the mere circumstance of the local vicinity of East Surrey to Fleet-street, London. The League has no topographical partialities. Wherever Free-Traders are, there is the League. Every Free-Trading constituency, or section of a constituency, throughout the length and breadth of Great Britain, has the League for its neighbour, and may ask and have the League's best and heartiest services in the great national work of the enfranchisement of national industry.

#### METROPOLITAN AGGREGATE LEAGUE MEETING.

On Wednesday evening the first metropolitan meeting of the League, since the Bazaar, was held at Covent-garden Theatre; G. Wilson, Esq., Chairman of the League, in the chair. The resumption of these meetings, after a cessation of two months, appeared to give an additional zest to the audiences attending them, and, coupled with the announcement of Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Fox as the speakers for the evening, led to so great a demand for private boxes that the Council were compelled to appropriate the dress circle to that purpose. The unusually large attendance of ladies consequent upon this arrangement, and the setting apart of the orchestra stalls for the accommodation of farmers, many of whom were present, gave to the theatre a somewhat novel and interesting appearance. Several foreigners were present, and among the rest the celebrated American poet, W. C. Bryant, whose name was hailed with loud applause. The announcement of the receipts of the Bazaar, and the realization of £16,000 beyond the £100,000 proposed to be raised during the past year, with the large surplus of unsold goods, was received with most enthusiastic cheering.

Among the gentlemen present were:—Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; James Pattison, Esq., M.P.; Arthur Pattison, John Bowring, Esq., LL.D., M.P.; the Hon. C. Pelham Villiers, Esq., M.P.; Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; William Johnson Fox, Esq.; John Houghton, Esq.; Dr. Buck, W. E. Hutchinson (Leicester), Major-General Briggs, Captain Cogan, Dr. Haslam, W. Graham (Glasgow), John Lambert, Esq. (Salisbury). — Squarey, Esq. (Salisbury), Charles Squarey (Salisbury), Messrs. W. Leavers, D. Dewar, Rev. Dr. Hutton, J. Hutton, P. A. Taylor, A. Fordall, J. Butler, Rev. J. G. Adeney, Messrs. R. R. Moore, R. Ricardo, J. Hart, W. Evans, J. Clode, jun., A. Novello, G. Offer, J. Bell, R. Davison, J. Ashton, W. Burton, G. Smith, W. Taylor, jun., John Jarvis, J. B. Allen, Alexander Wilson, Samuel Lees (Manchester), J. Taylor Crook (Liverpool), Frederick Pennington (Liverpool), Provost Henderson (Paisley), Messrs. T. Powell, Joseph Ivimey, J. P. Tompkins, James Farren, Alexander Powell, W. H. Patchin, John Porteus, J. Tibbitts, John Watson, James Waterman, J. Baynes, J. Hodgkin, W. Ellis, J. Blackburn, J. Faulkner, W. Gover, R. Burnett, J. Miller, Rev. Mr. Whitehead; Messrs. H. C. Wilson, A. K. Watson, W. Poulter, G. Hawkins, J. S. Stock; Rev. A. M. Walker; Messrs. Samuel Lucas, J. P. Burnard, A. A. Lyon, W. A. Wilkinson, G. Crowley, S. Smith, Joseph Phelps, Press Granger, J. Barham, C. Lattimore, Richard Ware Cole, H. Crompton, R. G. Welford, Henry Hull, J. Hickson, H. Cole, G. Wade, T. Miller, T. Falvey, J. Simpson (Edinburgh), H. Keeling, J. Chalmers, T. Waterlow, J. Sewell, T. Bourcualt, W. Hampton, R. L. Tweedale, James Hendry, R. Hely, C. Fox, G. Hyde, G. J. Dixon; Rev. T. Sadler; Messrs. E. Brain, J. Gossell, J. C. Williams, R. B. Loper, J. Grieve, H. Whitehead, W. H. James, Dr. Evans (Southampton), Mr. James Duberley, Edward Davy (Crediton, near Exeter), Messrs. Henry Cooke, — Pritchard, D. Krane, W. Guise, T. Shiffeld (Carlisle), Henry L. Keeling, John Wood (Glossop), Edward Wray, Frederick Fourlock, — Dick, David Ammoner, Thomas Mason, T. Pattison (Manchester), &c.

The CHAIRMAN then came forward and was greeted with loud and prolonged applause, which having subsided he addressed the meeting as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, it is no great novelty to us to see this theatre filled to overflowing; but certainly, looking at the complexion of the stage and every part of the house, I must say it never has been my lot to behold a more brilliant assemblage than that which I now look upon. (Cheers.) It will very naturally be expected that some allusion should be made this evening to those proceedings which have for a time of necessity superseded our nocturnal meetings, only to give place to others of a continuous, more agreeable, and, I believe, equally gratifying description. I mean the Bazaar. (Cheers.) It is not necessary to refer to the immediate reasons for holding it: it was no secret twelve

months ago that the League had determined, for the purpose of meeting the current pecuniary wants of this organization, as well as to convey to the country the expression of intense interest which Free-Traders felt in the abolition of all monopoly, to collect a fund amounting to £100,000. (Cheers.) It is also well known that from the first ladies have attended our meetings, and have countenanced by their presence the greater portion of our public proceedings; that, in a time of great distress in our manufacturing districts, when our petitions to the Legislature failed, they memorialized her Majesty, praying that it might please her to look upon the sufferings of the people, and to mitigate them by admitting corn, which was then in bond, duty free. The ladies obtained signatures to those memorials by a personal canvas from door to door, and in the depth of winter, throughout the manufacturing districts of the north of England. (Cheers.) They did more. In 1841 they held a Bazaar in Manchester, which realized the sum of £10,000 sterling; and further, they proposed, in order that they might show their unaltered and unchanged interest in this movement, to complete the £100,000 by holding a Bazaar during the past year in this theatre, which, however, was subsequently postponed until the present year to make way for other movements, perhaps of a more important character. This exhibition has been recently held; and with what success I shall presently show. (Cheers.) As I have said before, if procuring pecuniary contributions alone had been the object to be sought for, a Bazaar in all probability is the last thing to which a powerful body like the League would have committed itself, depending as it does on such a multitude and such a variety of assistance, in order to give it the fullest prospect of success. In the first place we proposed to make it national, and it became so. We received contributions from Shetland at one end of the kingdom, and from Cornwall at the other; and I dare say those who had an opportunity of visiting it will agree with me, that there never was presented to the eye of man in England so great a profusion of every thing which was valuable and beautiful, and that did such credit to the industry and skill of the working men and manufacturers of this country, as in that Bazaar. (Loud cheers.) It is not my intention to enter into details respecting pecuniary considerations connected with the Bazaar, beyond this statement, that, from many districts where it was difficult to forward contributions in goods, small purses were sent (hear); that from many other districts both the one and the other were contributed; and that from every county in England some little acknowledgment was made of the interest which was felt in the Free-Trade cause. (Cheers.) From Devonshire we received in money contributions £41. 5s. 9d., from sales £96. 13s. 6d., making a total of £136. 3s. 9d. From Northamptonshire we received in money £17. 10s. 6d., for sales £121. 0s. 8d., making a total £141. 11s. 2d. From Wales we received in money £32. 4s., for sales £131. 1s. 6d., making a total of £163. 5s. 6d. From Cheshire and Derbyshire in money £72. 13s. 6d., from sales £157. 2s. 8d., making a total of £172. 15s. 8d. From Nottinghamshire we received in money contributions £27. 1s., from sales £205. 6s. 1d., being a total of £232. 7s. 1d. From Gloucestershire we received in money £1. 15s. 6d., from sales £239. 2s., making a total of £240. 17s. 6d. From Staffordshire we received in money contributions £31. 15s., from sales £192. 15s. 5d., making a total of £223. 10s. 5d. From various agricultural counties we received, in money £102. 13s. 6d., from sales £69. 6s. 11d., making a total of £252. 0s. 5d. From Sussex, the money contributions amounted to £33. 12s. 6d., and we received from sales £230. 17s. 4d., making a total of £264. 9s. 10d. (Cheers.) From Leicester we received £58. 17s. 6d. in money, and £238. 18s. from sales, being a total of £297. 15s. 6d. From Cumberland, Northumberland, and Durham, we received, in money £70. 7s., and from sales £253. 1s. 1d., being a total of £323. 8s. 1d. From Warwickshire we received, in money contributions £28. 10s., from sales £387. 10s. 10d., making a total of £416. 0s. 10d. (Hear, hear.) From Shropshire, more particularly from Colebrookdale (loud cheers), we received, in money contributions £30. 16s., from the sale of goods £519. 5s. 4d. (cheers), making a total of £550. 1s. 4d. From London, we received in money contributions £270. 17s. 3d., from the sale of goods £1688. 4s. 5d., making a total of £1959. 1s. 8d. (Loud cheers.) From Scotland we received in money £200. 9s., from sales £1744. 5s. 2d., making a total of £2001. 14s. 2d. (Renewed cheers.) From Yorkshire we received in money contributions £517. 14s. 10d., from sales £3573. 17s. 9d., making a total for Yorkshire of £3891. 12s. 7d. (Loud cheers.) From Manchester we received in money £695. 3s. 1d., from sales £1513. 4s. 11d., being a total of £2208. 8s. (Cheers.) And from the other towns of Lancashire, in money £2209. 12s. 3d., and from sales £2398. 8s. 2d., making a total from Lancashire, including Manchester, of £4610. 8s. 5d. (Immense cheering.) The receipts from the smaller stalls amounted to £1721. 19s.: being from the post-office (laughter) £113. 7s. 6d.; confectionery, £428. 1s.; book-stall, £571. 5s. 2d.; model-room, £213. 3s. 2d.; glass-stall, £80. 18s.; toy-glass, £140. 10s.; medals, £99. 15s. 10d.; curiosities, &c., £77. 18s. 4d. The amount received at the doors was £4815. 17s. 6d.; there was received also for beds for the agricultural labourers £123. 8s., and small subscriptions £233. 6s. 6d.: giving altogether £25,010. 10s. 11d., as the total amount received from the Bazaar. (Immense cheering.) And, notwithstanding this, we have remaining by us as many contributions undisposed of as will furnish another Bazaar equal to any that has ever been held for any other purpose in this country. (Cheers.) But, ladies and gentlemen, there is another very gratifying feature in connexion with the Bazaar. It is the conclusion of our exertions on account of the £100,000 fund. (Hear, hear, hear.) We class the contributions and the fund after this manner. On December 31st, 1844, the public receipts in favour of the fund amounted to £266,009. 7s. 3d. Since received, £3632. 5s. 2d.; Bazaar, £26,046. 10s. 11d.; making a total of £110,687. 13s. 4d. (The audience here rose en masse, and cheered for a considerable time.) But it is not merely in a pecuniary sense that we can congratulate each other on the results which have attended this Bazaar. We were visited the first day we opened by upwards of 8000 persons; and 180,000 individuals passed through from first to last, being an average of upwards of 7000 a day, the Bazaar lasting 17 days from beginning to end, and the receipts averaging more than \$1200 per diem. (Cheers.) We feel, then, that

the special thanks of the friends of Free Trade are due to those alone who have at this juncture completed the large fund we originally proposed to raise, and have given an earnestness to the country of an interest which was never surpassed upon any other question of the same class—I mean the ladies. (Cheers.) The moral effects of that demonstration will be referred to and felt for many years to come. I have heard but one opinion expressed in the country by those who visited the exhibition, namely, that they never in their lives saw so great a multitude collected together, nor the same order and decorum preserved during the whole of the time they visited it. (Hear.) Your contributions are now diffused throughout the empire, doing your work; and when other things shall take place, which for a time may appear more congenial to the taste of the more energetic Free-Traders, the simple relics of the result of the labours of those who contributed to the Bazaar will be reading a quiet lesson in the domestic circle for years to come. (Cheers.) I have now great pleasure in calling upon Mr. Cobden to address you.

Mr. COBDEN then came forward amidst loud and reiterated cheers, which having subsided, the honourable gentleman spoke as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen, I could not help thinking, as my friend the Chairman was giving you those interesting and somewhat novel statistics, that I am following him at some disadvantage, inasmuch as I fear there is little chance of my being able to communicate anything so new, or even so agreeable, to you as he has done. He has just returned from the north, where he has been making up his accounts; I have just come from a railway committee, where I have been on the tread-wheel for the last three weeks (a laugh); as much a prisoner as though I were in Newgate, and with the disadvantage of being conscious that I am in a place where there is more time wasted than even in that distinguished goal. Yet even under the roof of St. Stephen's there has been something of late passing of rather a cheering character, and I think I may say, I do bring good news from the House of Commons. It is not such a bad place after all, especially for agitation. (Laughter.) Last year we made a little mistake at the beginning of the session: we laid our heads together, and came to the conclusion that we could employ ourselves better out of doors in visiting some of the counties and rural districts, and agitating a little in the country; this year we changed our tactics, and we thought that Parliament, after all, was the best place for agitating. You speak with a loud voice when talking on the floor of that house; you are heard all over the world, and, if you have anything to say that hits hard, it is a very long whip, and reaches all over the kingdom. (Laughter.) We determined to confine ourselves during this session to Parliament, and I think the result has shown that it is the best field for our labours. We brought forward a succession of motions. We began with one, in which we challenged our opponents to meet us in committee and examine the farmers and landowners, to show what benefit the Corn Laws had done them; they refused our proposal, and I have no doubt the country put the right interpretation upon their motives. (Hear, hear, hear.) Then my friend Mr. Bright, who is an active-minded man, looked about and thought that, amongst all these burdens upon him, he did not think there was one greater than the game that was eating up its produce. (Cheers.) He felt anxious, it possible, to point out to the landowners where they could find a margin in their account-books to turn a penny, and compensate themselves for repealing the Corn Laws, by abolishing the game laws. And, therefore, he moved for his committee, and was more lucky than I had been, for he has got it; and I have no doubt that in due time, when the secrets of that prison-house come out at the end of the session, he will be able to show you, from the mouths of the most intelligent farmers in the country, that there is one burden which they consider heavier than all their local taxes, county-rates, highway-rates, and even their poor-rates—and that is the burden of these excessive game preserves. (Cheers.) Then we had our friend Mr. Ward's motion, by way of sweeping the ground clear for Mr. Villiers to pass over with his great annual motion. Mr. Ward proposed that they should give a committee to inquire what was the amount of these special burdens of which we had heard so much, in order that we might compensate them, pay them off, and have done with them. They said they would not have any inquiry made into it. (Laughter.) Now, you who are Londoners know an old trick called a "dodge," which is sometimes practised on the credulous and the philanthropic in your streets. A mendicant is sometimes seen walking about with his arm bandaged up; he has a special burden (laughter); it is a grievance, and he makes money by it. But sometimes, if one of the Mendicity Society's officers come and ask him to let him undo the bandage to see what this special damage is, you find these artful dodgers very loth to comply. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, that is the case with our landlords (hear)—I mean the protectionist landlords—only the protectionists; they have been going about extorting the benevolent feelings of the community upon the plea that they are labouring under some serious disadvantage or great and heavy burden; and when Mr. Ward comes forward and offers to undo the burden to let them go free, and take the bandage away, they are like the impostors in your streets—they take to their heels and run away. (Cheers and laughter.) Those were our motions in the House of Commons; that was our place of agitation: but I must admit that we have not done so much for our cause as has been done by our opponents. I must say that I think their motions, resolutions, and amendments have been of much more importance to us than anything we could have done. (Hear.) They had the great and mortal grease debate; and they brought forward their local motion for the relief of farmers by repealing their local burdens; and what do you think one of their very first heard it with my own ears or I would not have believed it—that in the maritime counties, where shipwrecks and accidents occur, dead bodies are washed on shore, and they have to hold inquests on them, and the expense is charged to the county-rates. (Laughter.) Now, that is the argument of the great landed interest. They will not allow a debate, brought forward by Mr. Villiers with his accustomed talent and earnestness. (Cheers.) They heard a rumour in the House, that they had been deceived, known, because they are conscious of their own weakness.



know what the dodge is in the House,—we heard a rumour, before the debate began, that they did not intend to have any discussion on the other side: it was determined they would not talk; and I believe, if my friend Mr. Villiers had not dexterously alluded in the course of his speech—pointedly alluded—to three of their county members in such a way that they were forced to stand up and speak,—I really believe not one of them would have opened his mouth. (Laughter.) But, however, there were three or four of them that spoke. The most significant part of what they said was, as an Irishman would say, what they did not say. (A laugh.) They did not say a word about the farmers upon this occasion; not a syllable about their farmers being interested in the Corn Laws. Why, what a change! Three or four years ago, to my knowledge, they talked of nothing else but the farmers; how they would stand by them, and how they came there to protect the interest of the tenant farmers. I do not know whether it was our challenge to discuss that point in committee, or whether it was from the fact that we happen to have some of the best and most extensive farmers with us,—for I found myself just now seated between Mr. Houghton on one side and Mr. Lattimore on the other (loud cheers),—I do not know whether we may take credit to ourselves, or whether we ought to give the honour to our excellent agricultural friends who have come amongst us; but so it is that nothing is now said in the House of Commons about the farmers having an interest in the Corn Laws; nothing is said about special burdens, for fear we should ask them to undo the bandage. (Laughter.) But the most significant part of that discussion was in the declarations of opinion by the leading men on both sides of the House—by Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham on one side, and Lord John Russell on the other. (Hear.) I was very curious to know what Sir James Graham would say upon the occasion. He had spoken a few nights before on Lord John Russell's motion, and he then brought out in a most gratuitous manner,—I feel deeply indebted to him for it, though I did not see that it was quite relevant to the occasion,—but he then brought out voluntarily, from official sources, some of the most startling proofs that ever I have met with in my experience, showing the extensive evils, physically and morally, that arise from scarcity of food, and the great blessings that overspread the country when food is abundant and cheap. (Hear.) He showed, by the statistics of pauperism, crime, disease, and mortality, that all the best interests of our nature are identified with an abundance of the first necessities of life. My friend Mr. Villiers followed him, and with that promptitude for which he excels, and in which he has no rival, I would venture to say, in the House (cheers), he turned to account every fact that the Home Secretary had dropped, and applied them instantly and with immense force as proof of the truth of the doctrine which he had so long been arguing. And when my friend brought forward his motion a few nights afterwards, he again pinned the Home Secretary to the inference which naturally followed from his speech of the previous evening. I was curious to hear what Sir James Graham would say: I listened with great anxiety to what he would say to the public when he spoke upon the subject. I thought he must draw back a little to please those who sat with blank faces behind him; but no: he got up and reiterated all he had said before. He stated that he did not withdraw one word of what he had uttered; that he did not recant one syllable of what he had said; that those were his principles, and he would abide by them. Sir Robert Peel followed and though he has been going at rather a quick pace lately (laughter and cries of "Punch")—I hear somebody calling out "Punch," well, he is an admirable authority to quote—an excellent commentator, an admirable critic, is *Punch*—he is never wrong, he is infallibly right: *Punch* represented Sir R. Peel as going last ahead of Lord John Russell on this occasion;—but I must say that, just as he had been travelling before, he seemed now to have quickened his pace. What a contrast did the speech of Sir Robert Peel present to that which he delivered last year on the same occasion! (Hear.) Then everything was said for the purpose of exhorting the men behind and below him on the same benches; and everything that could be uttered was said to insult the Free-Traders (hear, hear): but he had not then had the grossest debate, nor had he found out the quality of the men then. He has had a twelvemonth's experience: they have set up for themselves; they have found out their weakness, and, what is more, they have let Sir Robert Peel find it out also; and now he can afford to treat them as he likes. The right honourable baronet tells them that he intends to carry out the principles of Free Trade gradually and cautiously; but still that they must be carried out. We had Lord John Russell, and he voted with us. (Hear, hear.) I wish he had done so without any qualification; but, however, as we have got him amongst us, I hope we shall amend him. (Hear, hear.) Lord John Russell proposes a very little fixed duty; but in the same speech in which he propounds this, he tells us he does not approve of a tax on corn: he thinks it is one of the most objectionable taxes that could be raised. Then why does he propose it? He does not intend to keep it; he merely proposes it just to put those people in the wrong who refuse even to put a little tax on corn. I have no doubt next year he will give up that inconsistency, and will be in favour of total repeal. (Hear.) Well, ladies and gentlemen, we came forward, as far as words could convey it, the votes were for us; but that cannot last long. In this country we must be governed by one of two methods: you must be ruled either by moral or physical force. Moral force means governing according to right principles, when those principles are acknowledged to be true. They may govern by a species of moral force when they can manage to persuade men that, while they are governing wrong, they are governing right; but you never can rule by moral force when you yourselves avow that you are carrying on principles which you believe to be unjust and untrue. I think you ought to feel deeply indebted to such meetings as this, which have stood by this question; which have offered on public men in its advocacy; which have aided in disseminating the knowledge that has gone forth from this vast building, in which we have brought the public mind on to show that they are bound to acknowledge the justice of our principles. (Cheers.) Now, there is but one universal opinion—that it is a question of time. Three or four years ago everybody used to tell me that it was a question of time to think of carrying this principle of total repeal.

Now everybody says, "There is no doubt you will effect the total repeal; the only question is as to the time." We have narrowed the controversy; we have reduced it down to one little word. The whole question hinges upon one monosyllable—"when?" I think the *Times* newspaper put out a very fair challenge to the League the day before yesterday, in a very beautiful article, in which it said we were called upon to argue this question upon that ground; to show the justice, expediency, and policy of our doctrine of "immediate repeal." I have no objection to answer that appeal (cheers); and in doing so, if I am matter-of-fact and dull, you must bear with me, and that patiently, because I shall be followed by those who can treat the subject with greater interest. Mark me, it is quite right, if I am to lay the basis of a matter-of-fact argument, that I should come first. I will be the heavy foundation-stone; and here behind me are the Corinthian capital and the gorgeous pedestal—the architectural beauties that are to grow upon this foundation. It is right, too, that we should have this kind of variety; because one of the boasts of the League is this, that we can find audiences such as could only be assembled in ancient Rome to witness the brutal conflicts of men, or that can now be found in Spain to witness the brutish conflicts of animals (cheers);—we can assemble multitudes as great to listen to the dry disquisitions of political economy. That is our boast. Now, to our argument. As Sir Robert Peel would say, "there are three ways of dealing with this question." (Laughter.) Firstly, you may acknowledge the justice of the principles of total repeal, and you may defer it until it suits your party, or until circumstances compel you to abolish the Corn Laws totally and immediately. Secondly, you may abolish it gradually by a vanishing duty, putting an 8s. tax, and sliding off 1s. a year till it comes to nothing. That may be done by an act of Parliament, and would involve the principle of total repeal. Or, thirdly, you may adopt our principle of total and immediate repeal. (Laughter.) Now, firstly of the first. The policy of our present Government appears to be this—"We will acknowledge the principle; that will stave off debate. We could not meet them in debate if we did not acknowledge the principle; if we took the same ground as the members for Essex, Somerset, and Sussex, we should be rolled over and over in the mud in debate by these Leaguers, and be hoisted and hauled at the corners of the streets, when we walked out of the House." (Laughter.) Well, they give up the principle of protection. But they say, we will not apply our principle of Free Trade; we will tell them, this is not the time; and more, we will not tell them (we will take care of that) what is the time. That shall be as it suits our party. What would be found in the innermost hearts of these men? or, if you could get to their private conferences when they are behind the scenes, what are they thinking about as to the repeal of the Corn Law? I know it as well as though I were in their hearts. It is this: they are all agreed that this Corn Law cannot be maintained—no not a rag of it—during a period of scarcity prices, of a famine season, such as we had in 1839, 1840, and 1841. (Hear.) They know it. They are prepared when such a time comes to abolish the Corn Laws, and they have made up their minds to it. There is no doubt in the world of it. Is that statesmanlike, think you? (Cries of "No, no.") First, for the farmers. They have told them, with all the high authority that belongs to their life and station, that the Corn Laws will be abolished; they tell their tools, the papers, like Grandmamma, to deal out in their diurnal twaddle, the argument that if the Corn Laws are abolished the farmers will be ruined even if they paid no rent. (Laughter.) That is the language of Grandmamma to-day. That is the sort of slip-slop in answer to the admirable article in yesterday's *Times*. How does this work? In the first place the farmers are told by Sir James Graham and Sir Robert Peel that the Corn Laws must be abolished and Free Trade be established; but it must be done gradually and cautiously. Now, I appeal to my friends Mr. Lattimore and Mr. Houghton, both experienced and able men, whether they could put the farmers in a more disadvantageous position than that in which they are now, under the pretence of benefiting them? They hang them up on the tenter hooks of suspense. These party newspapers are alarming them with all sorts of raw-head-and-bloody-bone stories of what Free Trade is going to inflict on them; and the Prime Minister is telling them that, notwithstanding all that, he is prepared to carry out Free Trade. Nothing could be worse for the interest of the agriculturists, whether farmers or labourers—for the welfare of any class of capitalists, especially for one having such a vast amount of capital and so large an interest at stake as the farmers—to place them in the position which these pretended friends of theirs do by their present policy. Now, what is that policy morally? They will not deal with this question now, when they can do it calmly and deliberately: they wait for a period of excitement and clamour. They are calculating on repealing these Corn Laws some day when Palace-yard is crowded with famishing thousands. What is the effect morally of such a proceeding as that? It is to induce the belief among the people of this country, that moral influence has no effect whatever on their legislation. (Hear, hear.) May they not, after such an example as that, appeal to their countrymen upon any future occasion, when a body of men shall be found willing to exert themselves through a period of years, as the League has done, to effect a great and benign change in our laws,—may they not appeal to such an example as that, and say, "What is the use of your agitation? or what is the use of your printing, passing resolutions, and sending petitions to Parliament? The League tried that for years; they persevered for seven, eight, or nine years; but when 10,000 people met in the street, called aloud in the voice of man-ee, and threatened with danger the persons of their legislators, then they yielded, but never dreamed of doing so till then." (Loud cheers.) Now, the second plan of doing this work is the passing a fixed duty of 8s., and diminishing it 1s. every year. What is the effect of such a change as that on the farmers? They begin with a fixed duty of 8s., or any sum you please. The farmer is told by the land-agent or by the landlord himself, "Well, we have passed a duty of 8s., but you know you have only been getting an average protection of 6s. or 7s. for the last ten years for corn imported; we must try and see what the effect of this will be. We need not talk anything about game laws, under-draining, sub soil ploughing, clearing away these hedgerows, or adjusting rents; wait and see how this law operates." The consequence is, nothing is done, but all must wait. The farmer goes on; next rent day comes; the landlord or his agent says, "Well,

Farmer Hobbins, I don't think much harm is done by this change in the Corn Laws: it does not seem to have been of so much good to us after all. We will wait a year or two; I don't think there will be much harm." And so nothing is done: the farmer goes on, in the meantime, exerting himself to meet the coming danger which is apprehended when duty is low. What is going on abroad in the meantime? Why, the foreigner is told, as soon as that 8s. duty comes down to 2s. to 3s., then there will be a wide door opened for grain in England. The foreigner is induced to increase the production every year more and more, expecting to find a market, and when the low duty does come, he is prepared to pour into this country corn, swamping the farmer at the end of this seven or eight years, just as he is now swamped in the month of May or June by an inundation of corn under this sliding scale. (Cheers.) Then we come to our principle of total and immediate repeal. In answer to the word "when"—we say "now." (Loud cheers.) The landlord says it will create a panic, and, in order that that argument may not wear out, they set their newspaper organs to frighten the farmers and keep the argument alive. Well, but what is there to be feared from this total and immediate repeal? We are told there are vast quantities of corn lying somewhere abroad ready to be poured into this market when we repeal the Corn Laws. I think this argument was dealt with so admirably by the *Times* newspaper that I will just read an extract from its columns of the day before yesterday:—

"Count up every quarter of corn in every one of earth's richest granaries; track all her winding shores, penetrate every creek, and every stream; measure every diluvial delta and every sheltered valley, the natural fertility of the plains and the artificial productiveness of the hills; take the sum of all the warehouses, all the heaps, and all the standing crops; and we entertain no doubt whatever that reasonable and candid men will be astonished above measure at the 'universal nakedness of the land.' The Baltic and the Euxine, the Gulf of Genoa, the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, and even the rivers that flow under our feet, are names of terror to some minds, as if they flowed with corn. But rivers of corn are as pure and impossible a fiction as rivers of gold. Once you begin to investigate, to measure, and to count, you find the most formidable accumulations dwindle into a few months' or a few weeks' sustenance for such living and growing multitudes as London, Manchester, or Glasgow. There is not too much corn on earth, nor will there ever be till the saddest and awfallest words that ever were spoken are finally unsaid, which they never will be in this mortal world."

Now, there is the profoundest philosophy presented in all the charms of poetic language. But I like to go to experience: I never like to deal in the future, or to argue on what will happen; but let us take the lights of experience to guide us in our paths for the future. (Hear.) We have had occasions in this country, when we have had a sudden demand for corn all over the world for this country as though we had a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. In 1839, 1840, and 1841, during all those three years, the average price of corn in this country was 67s. We ransacked the world for corn during those three years; our merchants sent everywhere for it; we swept over the face of the earth, bringing every nation to send their corn to this rich market, and gain this high price for their produce. I will give you a list of places from which we received corn in one year during that period: from Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Prussia, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Portugal, Spain, Gibraltar, Italy, Malta, Ionian Islands, Turkey, Egypt, Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, Morocco, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, East India Company's territory, Australia, Canada, United States, Chili, and Peru. Every region on the face of the globe—Europe, Asia, America, Africa, and even Australia—were ransacked for corn. How much do you think we got in the course of that year,—bringing the nations of the earth with the high price of 67s. a quarter? In 1839 we received in wheat and flour together equivalent to 2,875,605 quarters, about 1-8th of the annual consumption of the wheat of this country. In 1840, when we had given them a year's stimulus, the imports were 2,432,765 quarters of corn. In 1841, 2,783,642 quarters. During those three years we imported 8,091,972 quarters, being an average each year of 2,700,000 quarters. Now, mark me, that corn was sent out for by our merchants with a knowledge that the price in this country for corn was nearly 70s. a quarter, and was brought here with the belief and under the conviction that every quarter of it would be admitted into this country under a 1s. duty. There was, therefore, during those three years virtually a total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws; and you see the result in the supply for this market. Now, we say, pass an act for the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws, and you do not put us in the same position that we were in during those years in stimulating other countries to send us corn; for now our corn is 46s. a quarter instead of 67s., as it was then; and, therefore, if you were not inundated with corn in those dear seasons, where is the corn to come from that is to inundate you now? (Loud cheers.) No; there is no such thing as a store of corn abroad in the world; there is no provision made by people for a contingency that they do not expect to arise. There is no cultivator on the face of the earth that has ever put a plough into the ground, or a yoke upon his horse, with the idea of producing one bushel of wheat in order to meet the demands of this country consequent on the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. There is no stock abroad, therefore no supply, except that which has been provided for a known and expected market; and if we repealed our Corn Law tomorrow, there is literally not a quarter of wheat provided in order to meet the demands in consequence of such an abolition of our Corn Laws. But it is our opponents who want to introduce an unnatural and artificial inundation of corn in this market: they by withholding the time, by promising that it shall come, by telling foreigners abroad that when it does come they can compete with our farmers, though they do not pay a shilling of rent,—or, who say to the foreigners, "Wait until Sir Robert Peel is pressed on by the cry of distress to repeal the Corn Laws, and then you may supply all England with corn, for our farmers cannot compete with you."—these are the men who are inviting this inundation of corn; who are not content with circulating fallacies at home, are trying to spread delusion through the Ukraine and in the valley of the Mississippi, over all the face of the habitable globe, and wherever their false and delusive influence can reach. (Cheers.) Now, I have argued this question as it

there were only farmers concerned in it; I have dealt with it with a view to the interests of the parties supposed to be likely to be injured by it: but are there no other parties to this question? Why do we advocate the removal of this bad law?—because it is destructive to the interests of the great body of the people. (Hear, hear.) This movement has not taken place, this agitation has not had its origin or been sustained by the vast proportion of the intelligent and humane population of this country because it is an error in political economy—it is opposed because the Corn Law is intended to restrict the supply of the food of this country and to put the nation on short commons. (Cheers.) That is why we oppose this Corn Law; and we do so in the name, not merely of farmers and landowners, but of the great body of the people. If we can show that the law is unjust as respects the interests of the great majority of the people, then, though its total and immediate repeal did involve injury to that class for whose benefit it has been unjustly maintained, it is not an argument that would weigh one instant with me in opposing its total repeal. (Loud cheers.) Whoever said this law was passed for the great body of the people of this country? We have never heard any attempt to show that. We have heard it urged that it was good for the landlords, to compensate them for the peculiar burdens that I have described just now; but you know we have found out that that was an imposture (laughter): we sent the Mendicity Society officer after them. We have heard it maintained that it was for the benefit of the farmer; but farmers are only 250,000 people out of the 27,000,000 inhabitants of these islands: that is their proportion in Great Britain, but whoever heard them argue that it was for the benefit of the great body of the people? They have given up that case, when they say the law ought to be abolished at some time; for I maintain that if this law, which has been in existence for the last thirty years, is not a law for the benefit of the people, they never ought to have passed it; and it is a shame to themselves, and they ought to hide their faces for ever, for having maintained it, if it is not for the benefit of the great body of the people. (Loud cheers.) I say, if it is not for their benefit—and it never was—why on earth should they come forward and say that it should ever be repealed? And if it is to be repealed at all, I say, let it be repealed immediately, as it is an unjust law. (Hear.) They may set up other interests. I believe Sir R. Peel is frequently talking of a due consideration to the great and important interests that have grown up under this law. I plead for the vastly greater and more important interests that have been crushed to the earth under this law. (Cheers.) If they want any proof of this I bring their own Home Secretary, with his prison report and the statistical tables, into the witness box, to prove what the law has done. Now, then, for the sake of that class—the most numerous of all—for the sake of all the unprivileged classes of this country—I plead for the total and immediate repeal of this Corn Law. (Cheers.) I do it upon the ground of expediency, as being better at this moment than any other time in which you could repeal the law. I do it on the ground of justice, because I say if it is not a good law you have not a right to retain it one instant. (Hear.) What will be the effect on the great body of the people when the time comes at which we believe Government contemplate the repeal of the Corn Law? They are going to repeal it, as I told you—mark my words—at a season of distress. That distress may come; ay, three weeks of showery weather when the wheat is in bloom or ripening would repeal these Corn Laws. But how? We had a taste of it in 1839, 1840, and 1841. Are the people of this country to be subjected to another ordeal before this Corn Law is repealed? What provision is made against that calamity? For here is probably the most important consideration for us at the present moment. Divine Providence has repealed the Corn Laws for this year by an abundance at home. He has in a great degree repealed the Corn Laws; but He has not given us the benefit we should have if we had an unlimited range over all which He designed for the good of his creatures over this earth's fair surface; but still we have a mitigation by His bounty of the rigours of the landowners' Corn Law. (Hear, hear.) Suppose another such reverse to take place as we have witnessed in this country within the last six years—such a revolution as the youngest man amongst us has beheld during the period of his life—or supposing it to come this year, what provision is made against such a calamity? I have told you how much corn could be got here in 1839 after our failing harvest of 1838; but there is no such supply available now, as those nations are increasing in numbers along the whole of the maritime districts of Europe. They are wanting more and more of the corn of the interior. The Atlantic states of America are increasing and consuming more and more of the corn of their interior; and we offer them no inducement to spread themselves out from the cities—to abandon their premature manufactures—in order to delve, dig, and plough for us; and they are more and more in a condition to consume all that they produce. (Hear.) I heard in the House of Commons, from Mr. Mitchell, a gentleman himself practically acquainted with the subject, who in an admirable speech that riveted the attention—as all practical speeches in that place do, where men will content themselves with speaking only upon what they do understand (cheers).—I say, in an address which riveted the attention of every one in that House, Mr. Mitchell exposed the bankrupt condition of this country, so far as its future provision of food goes, looking to the whole world as our resources. We have now 300,000 quarters of foreign corn in this country. Where is the supply to come from? Ought we be called upon to answer that question? Not but it ought to be answered by our Government. That is a question which ought to be thrust upon them. (Hear.) I do not believe they have nerve enough to bear the responsibility that will be cast upon their shoulders, if that argument is pressed upon them. Then look at the position in which our unprivileged middle classes and capitalists will be placed, as well as the poor who first suffer from famine, for want of bread. They are not allowed to starve in this country: they have a right to relief, and justly so, from those above them; and, if you have a scarcity, it is the middle classes who must have to support the lower and working classes, and at the same time maintain themselves, with a very inferior business to do it with. Look at our capitalists, who go down to the House of Commons, and into the lobbies; go into one of those places where I dare the misfortune to be at present. Bear in mind that the League has a plan in store, by

and breadth of the land. What would be the effect of a bad harvest upon those men who have subscribed their thousands and ten of thousands to some new railway scheme, and have signed the parliamentary contract? It is all very fine and plain sailing now when everything is at a premium, everything is up; get shares to-day, sell them tomorrow, pay for them the next day, and get 20 per cent. (Laughter.) But these shares will be held by somebody; and if we have a failing harvest, whenever it comes, then the day of reckoning for the holders of these shares and scrips will arrive. I would advise every speculator in railway shares to keep a sharp eye on the barometer. He should take in two papers—a railway paper, and the *Mark-lane Express*; and when he has seen the price of shares, then let him go and observe the price of wheat in Mark-lane. But if a bad harvest comes, and a rise in prices takes place, they are a class that will suffer; and not merely they and their families, but it will entail misery and disasters on every section of the community. Now, these are the points that I want to see urged upon the Government at the present moment. Throw on the Government—as a Government, do not let us be misunderstood—throw on them the whole of the responsibility of this state of things. (Loud cheers.) Now, gentlemen, that is about the completion of my case at present in favour of the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Laws. As the lawyers say,—"Gentlemen, that is my case." But I want to know, if there is nothing to be said in answer to this, why we should not carry the repeal of the Corn Laws, and carry it now? It is merely partisanship. These men cannot make up their minds to admit that they may have been wrong at some former time. What I want to do is this—to open a door as wide as possible for the conversion—the avowed conversion—of our opponents. (Hear.) I wish we could burn Hansard, and all the debates that have ever taken place, in order to let these statesmen be at liberty to adopt a new course of policy, dictated by their present convictions. But they are afraid of being taunted with having said something different before from what they are ready to say now. We have all said something different before from what we have said now. Have we not all grown wiser? Have we not all learned something by the discussions for seven years? (Hear.) I want to see these men get up in the House of Commons and avow that they have learned something by our discussions in that assembly. I set myself up to teach people years ago; I have been learning more than anybody else every day since; and why should not they make that frank and free admission? If they would make an admission and make a clean breast, and confess that they did not know so much formerly as they do now, they would never be taunted afterwards. Now, I have only one word to say, before I sit down, upon another subject. I want to see the people of this country feel alive to the ensuing registration. (Hear, hear.) This next registration will, in all probability, decide the fate of the Corn Laws. Most likely we shall have a dissolution next year. I want every man to make that his business as much as he makes his ledger or his counter his business—every man who is convinced that the Corn Law ought to be abolished to feel it his paramount duty to look after his votes and the votes of his neighbours before the next registration. The work begins on the 20th of this month for the counties. This is the time for men to look after their own votes, and to find everybody else they can that have got votes and will support Free Trade. There is another duty: there are a

which we intend to prepare the counties and to conduct them; and I entreat from this place every man interested in this question, that he will make it his paramount duty, from this time, for the next two months, to give his attention to the subject of registration. If we do this, we shall totally repeal the Corn Laws yet, before a famine comes. In doing so you will set a glorious example to all future times, of the way in which such questions ought to be carried. I really hardly regret, though it has been attended with very heavy sacrifice, that the agitation has lasted so long. If we had carried the repeal of the Corn Laws by a multitudinous shout in 1839, 1840, and 1841, it would have been something like yielding to brute force and clamour; but now, why—besides the advantage of repealing the Corn Laws—our agitation will have been attended with many other advantages. We have been teaching the people of this country something more, I hope, than the repeal of the Corn Laws. (Hear.) We have taught the farmers, I trust, to begin to think for themselves; we have made landlords and farmers think of improving their lands; we have taught the middle classes, I hope, that they have a moral power, if they choose to exercise it, and a power of applying it as great as the monopolists, if they will but avail themselves of it; but I hope, in addition, that we shall set an example of truth to the working classes, showing them that these questions can be carried by moral means, and that, if they will accomplish anything for their benefit, then they will adopt precisely the same organization which we have before done to accomplish our object. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amidst most enthusiastic and long-continued cheering.)

The CHAIRMAN came forward and said, Mr. Bright will now address you.

Mr. BRIGHT then came forward, and was received with loud applause. The honourable gentleman addressed the meeting as follows:—Upon every occasion of our meeting in this theatre it has appeared to me that we have been able fairly to find topics of rejoicing and congratulation from the occurrences which have transpired since a previous meeting. To-night, I think, we are in this position more decidedly than at any other time. We have been two months without holding a meeting here with all the formality of a chairman, advertised speakers, and the common routine of a public assembly; but I cannot help looking back to that extraordinary and prolonged meeting which was held from day to day, for seventeen or eighteen days, within this hall. It may fairly be called a monster meeting. If 100,000, or 120,000, visited this building during the holding of that meeting, and became a portion of it, I take it that it was the very largest and the most important assemblage of Free-Traders that has been witnessed since the first organization of the Anti-Corn-Law League. (Hear.) We had specimens of the industry and ingenuity of our countrymen engaged in almost every trade; and the vast variety of the products of their skill seemed to me to make, though it were a mute, yet a powerful appeal to the Government of this country on behalf of the millions by whom they were contributed to that great exhibition. We had Free-Traders from every part of the kingdom, and some from foreign countries, who met here face to face, and shook hands with each other—who talked over the progress of this great cause in which we are all so deeply interested, and who renewed again, and solemnly renewed, the pledge which we have made before our country and the world, that the organization of which we are a part, and the agitation with which we are connected, shall never cease so long as there is a law upon the statute-book of this country which interferes with the free exchange of the products of this most industrious people, and makes our country, boasting of its freedom, a laughing-stock and scorn to the world. (Cheers.) I need not here enter into any panegyric on the exertions of those of our countrymen by whose extraordinary sacrifices the late exhibition and Bazaar were carried to a successful issue. In another place, where their virtues and their sacrifices in this cause are not so much regarded, I have spoken in their praise. (Cheers.) Here it may be enough to say, on behalf of this meeting, that from our hearts we thank them for what they have done: we take it also as a pledge of what they are still willing to do: we know that it is through them that this question is not now a question merely of statisticians and political economists, but that it is a question of a deep and overpowering interest at the hearths and in the domestic circles of thousands of homes in this united kingdom. (Cheers.) I am disposed to ask your attention for a few moments to one of the commonest charges which are now brought against all who are anxious speedily to carry out the principles of Free Trade. Many arguments are gone and never will come back, except the dark ages should return upon us. But it is common for people to say that we exaggerate the evil of the Corn Laws, and greatly overstate the advantages which may be expected from their repeal. These statements are made by men who admit the principle for which we contend, but who are for the most part nearly as bad as open opponents, inasmuch as they are but lukewarm friends. Now, I am ready to maintain that no man, however great his power of description, can overstate or exaggerate the evil, the wickedness, and the deep and horrible criminality of the principle on which the Corn Law is based. (Hear.) It is intended perpetually, or, if not perpetually, as often as it may be safe, to give us, and to spread over this land, a partial famine for the sake of private profit. The men who passed the law would not have sent their wives and children to report to Government thereon, if they had believed in their consciences that they were passing a law which was not based on a reference and regard to private profit, but wholly and solely to the public good. (Hear.) It is a law that dooms a portion of the greatest property in this country to partial confiscation. It may or may not give a small increase to the rate of land; it may or may not give a small power to landlords; but one thing is certain, and it is that it does continually and incessantly restrict and interfere with the free exchange and sale of the only property of the vast bulk of the population, which is their labour and skill. (Cheers.) I am not one who pay any undue regard

great number of bad votes on the list for counties. Some say we want to disfranchise the people. I do not want to disfranchise any one; but this I do say, that if we are to fight fairly we must fight on equal terms. If we put on false votes our opponents strike them off; we cannot fight them with our legal votes against their illegal votes, and, therefore, we must strike them off. (Cheers.) I have no hesitation in telling you that there are counties where there are many bad votes. I will be bound to say that in Buckinghamshire, for instance, you will find at the very least 1000 I have heard competent people give a surmise that there are 2000 spurious votes on the register in that county. (Hear.) There they are; nobody looks after them; nobody ever thinks of going and objecting to them. Everybody is afraid, because they hear there is some man they call the Duke of Buckingham. (Laughter.) Why, if they would only consider these things a little more rationally, they would see that the Duke of Buckingham, as I assure you, is not a more formidable man in the registration court than any of you here. You, who are Leaguers, consider yourselves as united with a body that can protect you morally, legally, and pecuniarily, against 150 dozen Dukes of Buckingham. (Loud cheers.) Now, there is East Surrey: what a scandal it will be if that county should return two monopolists at its next election. There is not 1 man in 100 in Southwark and Lambeth that is upon county lists, and yet, if you go down into the agricultural districts, you will find one in 30 or 40. It is one in 30 in the agricultural parts of East Surrey, but only 1 in 100 in the metropolitan districts. (Hear, hear, hear.) Now, I say it is the duty of every man to get himself on the list, and his neighbours likewise. There are thousands, I believe, qualified to be there who have not thought of it: it will be a scandal to the people on that side of the river if they do not see to this. We will take care of Middlesex; we have it in hand, and will look after it. (Cheers.) There are a few more counties which we will give you a good account of in due time. I do not consider any county hopeless. I will tell you that we have something else in view besides registration: we will apply our organization to contesting counties as well as registration. (Hear.) Now, why should not the principle of co-operation that we have exercised so long and so usefully be carried out in the work of contesting counties where there is a chance of winning them? Why not have in each parish in every populous county an earnest man who will devote himself, as far as he can, to bringing persons to vote, and appealing to their patriotism and good feeling to vote without putting the candidate to one shilling expense. I say we can contest counties, ay, at one per cent. of the expense of that which it costs our opponents, if we adopt our organization. Why, how can monopolists contest a county without expense? What motives can they appeal to? Where is their organization? It is gone. They are all backbiting each other in their counties. One of their members is accused of voting with Sir Robert Peel, and another voting against him. When they meet in committee they are all pulling each other to pieces just like so many village gossip. (A laugh.) Bear in mind that the League has a plan in store, by



to authority; that is, to the opinions and sentiments of men who have lived before us. I think we are foolish if we disregard what they have left us which is wise; but it would be no less foolish if we were to throw away the lessons of our own experience, and go back to rely only on that which they have left us. But I will quote the opinion of a man who is held in great esteem by many who widely differ from us; a statesman, who is acknowledged to have been a far-seeing one, and whose eloquence and power in the senate and as a writer were perhaps never surpassed. Burke says of this very question—"Monopoly is contrary to natural right. Free Trade is the same thing as the free use of property." Well, we have maintained often on this stage, and in every part of the kingdom, that the poorest man in this realm has as much right to his labour and to the whole of its proceeds as any man who wears a coronet or rules with undisputed sway over half a county. (Cheers.) If the property which is in the industry and skill of the people of this country could be placed in a balance, and weighed against the property in jewels, land, plate, pictures, and all the things with which the great of the earth delight themselves, would not the property of those who are called poor be infinitely more—would it not be infinitely more valuable, and infinitely more to be relied upon, infinitely less to be parted with, than the so-called property of the rich? (Cheers.) Then it appears easy to understand this proposition, that Free Trade is the same thing as the free use of property. There can be no justice, and nothing but a hideous wrong in preventing a weaver, smith, or labourer of any kind from freely exchanging that which his labour has created for that which he may want more. I have long held the opinion that in this and in most other lands industry and freedom will give man at least enough of the comforts of life;—in this country above all others, where, in some respects, all classes have a better chance, or have some advantages which are, perhaps, not enjoyed in any other country. But if the law steps in,—if it comes down on the poor, if it oppresses the poor because they are poor—if it denies them the commonest, most obvious, simple, and natural rights,—I know not how we should have other than a vast body of the lowest classes of society sunk continually in the lowest and most degrading suffering. (Cheers.) The case which we bring before the public we believe not to be a vague and fanciful one. We do not deal very largely in the prophetic; we rely on facts—facts that are passed and are upon record, and well authenticated; and facts, speaking with an equally loud voice, passing around us on every side. I would wish to ask your attention especially to some facts with respect to one town in this kingdom, to show that we do not exaggerate the evil of the Corn Laws, nor picture in too high colours the advantages that we should derive from their abolition. I allude to the town of Bolton, in Lancashire. I may state that the circumstances which I am about briefly to bring before you were collected by gentlemen of high statistical knowledge and of great information, and most painstaking men on all these subjects. They were collected for the use of Mr. Villers, for a motion of which he had given notice, but which motion he did not go on with for the simple reason that the whole case was given up in the House of Commons, and that Sir J. Graham proved his case most satisfactorily. (Cheers.) This case of starvation, with respect to Bolton, extends from the year 1835—a period of ten years. In the three years, 1834, 1835, and 1836, the average price of wheat was about 44s. 8d. At that time in this town there was a gradual and steady increase of prosperity. All branches of trade were active, population was fully employed, and machinery was standing for want of hands. Wages rose in every trade; and, for the first time in the history of the cotton trade, the wages of the mule-spinners rose 10 per cent. Poor-rates were very low; and in Little Bolton—that is one portion of this large town of 60,000 or 70,000 inhabitants—no poor-rate was laid for more than a whole year, cottages were well tenanted, rents well paid, shopkeepers were thriving, schools were well attended, and general improvement was visible everywhere. So far for a period of low prices. From 1838 to 1842, during those five years, the average price of wheat was about 61s. 4d., being nearly one-half more than from 1834 to 1836. That was attended with a gradual decay of trade. During 1839 and 1840, mills, foundries, machine shops, and other branches of trade were working short time—three, four, or five days in the week. Many large establishments were entirely stopped, some from insolvency, and others from increasing losses; and nearly all these remained idle till 1842 and 1843. In March, 1841, it was estimated that during the year 1839-40 (that is, in twelve months within those two years) the diminution of wages owing to mills and other works running only short time, or being wholly at a stand, amounted to £130,000; and that the increased cost of food to the 100,000 inhabitants of the Bolton district, as compared with the years 1834-35, was not less than £195,000: making together a loss of £325,000; or a difference of £1000 for every working day in 1839-40, as compared with 1834-35. By 1841 there were 1500 houses and shops untenanted; and thousands of people were thrown out of employment, and the wages of those employed fell from 10 to 15 per cent. In 1840 the out-door relief to the poor of that town was three times as great as the average of the three years ending 1838. In Great Bolton, in the year ending March, 1840, the sum paid for the relief of the poor was £1558; and in the year ending March, 1841, it was £2259—an increase of more than fourfold. Soup kitchens and charities, &c., of various kinds were opened in the month of January, 1842, and 6127 persons were relieved by the "Bolton Poor Protection Society." It was observed, also, that the consumption of animal food (butcher's meat) diminished enormously, and it was very commonly purchased by the working classes in pennyworths. Shopkeepers and all classes of tradesmen were in great difficulties, and many became insolvent. Places of worship were less attended, schools became forsaken, and the whole town presented a picture of appalling misery. It was about that time that Colonel Thompson wrote a letter from Bolton, in which he described the state of the town, and headed his letter "The Siege of Bolton." This went on till 1842, when the harvest was better, and the prices of provisions rapidly fell. From that time to this, wheat has averaged about 50s. the quarter. Mills, foundries, machine shops of every kind have again been set in motion, some of them after standing two or three years; workmen are again fully employed; and wages are from ten to fifteen per cent. higher than in 1841. (Cheers.) In 1844 occurred, for the second time in

the history of the cotton trade, an advance in wages of the mule hand-spinners. I ought to state with respect to those wages, that the men engaged in that particular business are those who from the commencement of the cotton trade have been most highly paid; and there has been, therefore, a desire to get into that particular branch of employment, and the fact of this striving for the highest rate of wages has always prevented the highest rate from going higher. And when fluctuations have come, and these periods of depression have arrived, then these wages have, on several occasions, fallen; but in 1835, in 1844, and again, I believe, this year, in consequence of the extraordinary impulse given by the greatly reduced price of provisions throughout the country, even this payment of the highest paid hands has been able to overcome the competition of those who have wished to get into that rate of payment, and these hands have had their wages raised with the rest who are employed in that extensive trade. (Cheers.) In Bolton untenanted houses and shops have fallen in number from 1500 in 1841, to 381 at the beginning of this year, and those that are unoccupied are gradually being filled with tenants. Poor rates are again diminishing; shopkeepers and all classes of tradesmen are again prosperous; iron foundries, engineering and machine making trades are now paying more by £1159 weekly than they were in 1841; cotton-mills, more or less standing from 1839 to 1841, are now employing (including only one new erection) 2090 persons, whose wages, averaging 10s. 9d. per week each, men, women, and children, make £1123 a week—showing an increase of wages paid weekly in these two branches of trade alone in one town of £2282. The increase of wages in other branches of trade is estimated at £700; total weekly increase of £2982, or an annual increase of £155,061. But if 100,000 persons in that town and district, saving only 1d. each in cost of food per day compared with the dear years of 1839, 1840, and 1841, it would, with wheat at 48s. instead of 61s., amount annually to a saving of £151,666, which, added to the increased wages, make a total of £306,730, by which sum they are better off in wages and cost of food than in the years when protection was doing its highest or worst for working men. Now, I have not taken Bolton because there is anything peculiar about it; every manufacturing town in the kingdom can tell the same tale, and there are some towns that could show even a greater contrast than that which I have just now read to you. It is not only true of the manufacturing towns, but it is true to a very considerable extent of the condition of the labourers in the agricultural districts. We had a Parliamentary committee whose evidence, taken in 1836, gives us some light on this subject. Out of nearly forty farmers examined, thirty, I think, or more, declared that never in their lifetime had they known a period when the labourers on the farms were able to obtain so large a share of the produce of the farm in return for their labour as they were at that period of low prices. We know that from 1838 to 1842, poor-rates were constantly increasing in the agricultural counties, able-bodied pauperism was gradually increasing, and there was a state of things arising which foretold a greater evil than Free Trade to squires and lords who are owners of the soil. (Hear.) Well, then, what is the case now? I have had an opportunity lately of seeing a great many farmers: I generally have a sort of levee three days a week, from about nine o'clock in the morning till twelve; and I see some of the most intelligent farmers that come up from the country. They come up either to discuss matters connected with the game question, or to give evidence on the game committee, and they tell me,—I may state only what they say in private, because what they state before that committee is not to be told till it is printed for the use of the country,—but they tell me—and I think one and all of them would admit—that the condition of the agricultural labourer in employ is now much more satisfactory than it was four or five or six years ago. Now, whence this change in Bolton, Stockport, Paisley, and the rural counties? Ay, and whence the change that has taken place in this metropolis? What does it come from? There must be a cause for something that is so extraordinary and limitless in its results, and which strikes every one with wonder. It cannot be any little Parliamentary juggle that has been going on in the country. It is not that Sir Robert Peel is in power instead of Lord John Russell. Your particularly improved state of things cannot have arisen, because especially Sir James Graham is at the Home-office. (Laughter.) It is because during those years to which I have referred, when so much suffering existed, we had monopoly with very little adulteration. It was doing then its work actively: it was subservient to its masters in the horrible purposes for which it was intended. Now, monopoly has vanished, not because the League has driven it away from us, but because a benignant Providence has not willed that this country should be given up to destruction and desolation. (Cheers.) If monopoly be a good thing, I should like it to be carried out; if protection to agriculture be an advantageous thing for the working classes, let us not be afraid of applying it—let us see how far it may be carried, and what will be its results when it is carried out. Why, from the experience we have of the results, we are certain that, if such a state of things could exist in the country for ten years together, as the Corn Law intended should exist perpetually, there is no Government, no force or cohesion in society, which could hold the population together in common order. There can be no doubt whatever that this island would present a spectacle more fearful and dreadful than any which is recorded in the pages of history. Now, this shows it cannot be carried out; their principle cannot last. There is something in the nature of every man that revolts at the idea of benefiting himself or his country by putting them all on a short allowance of food. (Cheers.) But, then, if plenty be a good thing—and I take plenty to be the result of Free Trade—why cannot we make it perpetual? No one now proposes to make protection perpetual; we propose to make Free Trade instant, constant, and lasting for ever. Does not Sir R. Peel acknowledge that the great improvement which has taken place has resulted partly from good harvests, and partly from his legislation? (Laughter.) He is not particularly modest to set up for a partnership with Providence in giving all these blessings upon earth. (Renewed laughter.) But if it be true that his legislation has done anything to produce it—and I will not deny that it has been in the right direction—yet is it not a testimony to the truth of everything that we have advanced; does it not show that his policy so far has been in the direction of that which the much-despised science of political

economy teaches, and that where he is going in the direction of Providence—lagging, it may be, very far behind—he is doing that which Providence does in so much greater degree—showing blessings upon the remotest corners of the kingdom? (Cheers.) Well, if this case of Bolton be true—and it may be taken as a type of many towns in the kingdom—I think that we have not overrated the evils which we have attributed to the operation of the Corn Laws. (Hear.) If what we see now round us in this state of prosperity, which has come on us with only three good harvests, be the result of that abundance of food, I ask you if we have too highly coloured the Free-Trade picture when we say that, on the abolition of the Corn Law shall commence a period of greater, constantly-increasing, and more lasting prosperity to this kingdom than these people have hitherto known? (Cheers.) But we talk about food. No doubt food is to be the foundation; but if we look back to six years or five years past, and see what all that poverty meant—if we see that it involved the loss of independence to millions, want of education to a whole generation of children, criminality to thousands who but for it would have been untainted with crime, and premature death to vast multitudes who, but for famine, the infliction of this law, might have grown up to have been useful, honourable, and excellent members of society (hear, hear, hear).—if we see that these were the results—and we have the authority for the Home Secretary to the fact—that in 1836 the commitments in England and Wales were 20,000, and in 1842 they were 32,000: there was a gradual increase while the price of wheat was rising, whilst in 1843 they had fallen to 29,000, in 1844 to 26,000; and I doubt not, if this harvest be good, and the present state of the country should remain unchanged, that we shall find, when the accounts are made up at the close of this year, that the number of commitments have again diminished; if all this be true, then where is your philanthropic society like this League? (Loud cheers.) It is good to sympathize with the criminal, and to visit him in his cell; it is good to educate and to offer him an asylum; and I honour every man and woman who is engaged in such a godlike work; but I recollect how little one man or woman, or a single mind or intellect, can do in a matter of that kind. But look what an association like this can do! The unlocking, as it were, the granaries of the world; inviting from all parts of the earth everything which this dense population requires; giving them all that God intended they should have as a reward for their industry (loud cheers); and placing them on that fair stage whereon they can work out their own redemption and save themselves from dependence, ignorance, crime, and a premature death, brought about by the starvation of the law. (Cheers.) Now, what is there opposed to us at present? Argument we look for in vain: it is even difficult now to catch a fallacy. Look at the recent debate—Sir Robert Peel, who, without exception, I take to be, as regards his own supporters, the most cruel and remorseless leader that men ever had (loud cheers);—he got up and said he must oppose the motion of the hon. member for Wolverhampton; not that he could vote against it on the grounds stated by some hon. members near him, for he certainly thought the time was gone by when this country could pretend for a moment to be independent of foreigners for its supply of food. Now, that fallacy was taken to be entombed. He said again, that he thought that recent experience had demonstrated that a low price of food was not accompanied by a reduction of wages; that in fact there was very little, if any, connexion between the price of food and the rate of wages. That may be considered as settled. He said, moreover,—and it was a very unkind thing in him to bring up ideas which had once been cherished so fondly, and especially unkind to dash them away so suddenly,—he said he thought this law could not at all be defended on any ground of mortgages or encumbrances upon land. (Laughter.) He said it could not be defended upon any ground of class interest; and that, certainly, is a very great change from what was said in 1828, when he defended the Corn Law upon the ground that it was a part of the constitution of this country to support the magistracy, landowners, and gentry. The special burdens, I believe, never were once mentioned in the debate. It was so recently that Mr. Ward had come forward with his motion, and they had so little to say on these special burdens, that it was not thought desirable to bring that plea up at that time; and I dare say that by this time twelve months that will have gone with all the rest. (Cheers.) I want to know how soon this imposture is to come to an end? (Laughter.) I think it is sensibly breaking up. I have heard from a gentleman on the platform that the Royal Humane Society, which saves people from drowning, have a dinner annually, and after the cloth is removed, wishing to get up a subscription, they have a procession round the room of those—I was going to say unfortunate, but, perhaps, fortunate—individuals that have been preserved from drowning by this society; and they go round the table in procession, and no doubt it is a very affecting and solemn sight. (Hear.) When the sympathies of the audience—of those who have had dinner—are fairly roused, I believe it ends by sending the subscription book round. (Laughter.) Now, these protectionists consider themselves as a sort of Royal Humane Society for the purpose of saving farmers from Free Trade and ruin. (Laughter.) They had a dinner at Freemasons' hall. I wish they had got up such a procession (cheers and laughter)—that they had advertised throughout the whole of Great Britain and Ireland for all the farmers that had been saved from ruin by them. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) How many do you think there would have been in the procession? I am sure they would not have been difficult to count. (Laughter and cheers.) No; the defence of the Corn Laws is a matter now which men of intelligence will not meddle with. In the House of Commons no man who is not drawn to it by the fact of his foolish pledge out of doors, or some peculiarity of position, no man who is known for the possession of a cultivated mind, will ever stand up to say anything in favour of the Corn Laws. The position of the landowners is becoming truly pitiable. I have a great respect for all my countrymen, and I have some regard even for the landowners; but I do feel commiseration for them when I see them becoming an isolated class, and the sympathy of their countrymen is being rapidly withdrawn from them. Their labourers have no fellow-feeling with them whatever; nor is it very likely they should have. A meeting was held last week at Upson, in Wiltshire, at which a great many persons were present—a large number of them agri-





having been the occasion of distress and suffering; and, if we look from his admission to the facts, we may accumulate on his head yet more and heavier crimes. It has accumulated guilt; it has plundered the honest, the poor, and the industrious; it has entrapped children and bred them up in theft and fraud, and made them its victims, and has even been accessory to murder, and sent one after another to the grave: in fact, it has done as much iniquity on a broad scale, as Fagan, the Jew, is depicted by Mr. Dickens, in "Oliver Twist," as having conducted on a small scale. Now, the very same defence is set up for it. "The law has lived 150 years," says Sir Robert Peel. What said Fagan in court? "I am an old man!" The appeal did not avail him in his guilt. The scene is told by Dickens in one of those expressive passages which go to every imagination and heart, realizing at once to us the cunning of the man as well as his criminality, and the feeling also of others, in a way which may well rank amongst the masterpieces of that fictitious writing—the only great fiction which is founded upon truth—the truth of human nature, and which he has thus described in the work to which I refer:—"Guilty!" says the jury; and the building rang with a tremendous shout, and another, and another, and then it echoed deep and loud groans, that gathered strength as they swelled out like angry thunder. It was a peal of joy from the populace outside, greeting the news that he should die on Monday. The noise subsided, and he was asked if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed on him. He resumed his listening attitude, and looked intently at the questioner while the demand was made; but it was twice repeated before he seemed to hear it, and then he only muttered that he was 'an old man, an old man—a very old man'; and so dropping into a whisper, he was silent again." Age did not save him, nor shall it save the Corn Law; his day of doom arrived, and so shall theirs; and louder shouts than Dickens has described shall ring the peal of its condemnation, and hail with iterated joyousness the fact, that at last there shall come its black Monday for this old black Monopoly. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) This is not the place in which political matters or political characters not necessarily involved in our own peculiar topics are to be discussed. I, therefore, go not into my opinion of the career of Sir Robert Peel, or of the many reasons that would present themselves to my mind why I might prefer that the country received this great retribution from other hands than his. (Hear.) But there are some reasons why it would be better that he—why it would be better that he than any other man whatsoever—should at last grant this great measure, and become its author, and that, after having in various ways gradually led forward the adoption of Free-Trade principles in the various bearings of our commercial legislation, he should at length crown the whole with this; and the commercial blood in his veins run the more rapidly as he lived to see how much good could be accomplished in the nation, and what a bright scene of peace, joy, and prosperity would follow from the complete carrying out of this principle; and in that learn a moral lesson to be taught him in no other way: for all my animosity towards Sir Robert Peel would be gratified, and the worst vengeance I may wish inflicted on him would be this,—that in the contemplation of the blessings of Free Trade to the country by him conferred, he might read how much better is one single simple act of right, than a whole life of parliamentary tactics and political expediency. (Loud cheers.) As the great event we anticipate is coming, so it will have passed by; and looked back upon, and through the following, years of time, this agitation will be revolved in people's minds; and it will be desirable that they should not forget it, and that no lapse of time whatever should obliterate the period from their memories. (Hear, hear.) I trust that means will be taken in furtherance of this purpose; and that when her Majesty shall have reigned some half century, in her age she should call to mind the splendid amusements of her youth, and fancy to give them a passing glance before she left the world, it may make them the means of imprinting a wholesome lesson on the mind of the Prince of Wales; and perhaps then the recollection of her old sports may lead her to give another *salvatore*, of which the adornments will be the costume of the Corn-Law period, and the peculiar effect which it had on the dress and manners of the population, (Hear.) Should she do so there will be a curious assimilation: very unlike either the grotesque drapery of George II., or the heroic costume of the Elizabethan era. There may be jewels and splendour there; but they will have to be ticketed—those bright diamonds—as the result of the tears and groans shed by the labouring population. Members of both Houses of the Legislature may come to that Hall, and they will carry a map of the world in their hands, on which they will intently look to show how their country is peered on them in order to discover any corner, however remote, of the globe, from which a single handful of agricultural produce might be imported into this country in competition with the growth of their own estates. Farmers will be there with the garb and look in which they told the labourer not to come for relief if he had the opportunity of earning anything like as much as 6s. a week. In the corner of the splendid room may be seen "a woman, in her unwomanly rage," striking "The King of the Shire." And in the opposite corner, perhaps, a noble with a petition for the continuance of protection in one hand, and in the other a proposition for subscriptions to relieve these poor sempsters, and plans of charity bales; he sustaining the character of a charity-monger; for in our country, there are charity-mongers as well as chess-mongers and fishmongers. (Cheers and laughter.) Throughout the whole there would be large groups of ragged peasants, some of them dressed up like the double figures one occasionally sees in burlesque ballets. A peasant with a shawl hat and green ribbons on it in front, and a great hole in that same hat behind; a clean smock, frayed for covering a coat out at the elbows, and dropping from his limb in rags. There would be whole tribes of lean lanks in workhouse jackets and felons' jackets; and interspersed amongst them individuals as poseurs, with their sword-guns; and incendiaries with their tar-pentine balls and lucifer-matches. It would be a sort of dance of death, which, in the recollection that this was all a thing of the air gone by, might be met with on the marble floor, the umbrellas of defunct Monopoly, and would tell that death had long since gathered his "harvest home" from artificial famine, and had only empty gleanings left; while over him they would dance to those Free-Trade quadrilles, whose merry sound anticipated the period when that gladness shall

have its exuberant outpouring. And not then—oh no, never! not while the world stands, shall the cruelty of that Corn-Law system be obliterated from the memory. Some (were such a scene as I have imagined ever to take place) might be present at it who would not have been living but for the repeal of the laws whose deadly operation might also have sent them where it has sent so many others: for it is the peculiar cruelty of this system that it wars on the young; it obstructs the young man's prospects in life; it makes the choice of occupation and professions the great difficulty of a parent; with those yet young it annihilates all chance of that education which should be the sole business of their tender years. And babes—what is their food? Their milk, butter, bread, sugar—all heavily taxed, or else their prices raised by the influence of taxation; as if not even the babe at the breast was to be spared, but there was the hard hand of Monopoly interposed to dry up the resources of its nourishment; to stop whatever could be administered to it from without to advance its growth; to show its own unholy and infernal character, by keeping up that degree of mortality which, even in this country, makes life in such numerous instances but a short prelude to the grave. Never let it be thought that this agitation is so limited as only to refer to a question, or a series of questions; that it is only one particular matter, or that it is an abstraction that is in conflict. There is much more in it than this: the aim and tendency is that Free Trade should become the policy of this nation; and in its becoming the policy of the nation how much is involved. For as different nations in ancient and modern times have had each their characteristic policy,—as one was democracy, and another absolutism, and another conquest,—so is it desirable that Free Trade should be the characteristic of the national policy of this great industrial people to which we belong; and that being so it should not only direct this or that particular measure, but affect, as it must and will eventually, all institutions, all proceedings, arrangements, operations of society, all home legislation, and all foreign relations. What an amicable position with all the world would a nation be in—one whose policy was Free Trade! What jealousy could it excite? If it is said abroad, "England arms, let us arm too," this implies expense, trouble, violent dispositions, an outbreak of passion, on both sides insult and injury; but to say, "England trades, let us trade also," involves no harm to anybody, but much good to all. There would be no talk then of bombarding, none of invading, our country. Invading! What would the invasion be? Why, the landing of cargoes of corn would be the only invasion we should look for; and we should return it by the invasion of cotton on other shores. Countries may go on thus invading one another without any mischief. There is this great difference as to the champions of the one sort of warfare and the champions of the other—that military heroes are paid by the country for spreading desolation; but commercial heroes pay the country for leave to minister to its enrichment. (Loud cheers.) A Free-Trade policy would give an advance to civilization; we should import other things besides food; we should require luxuries as well as necessities; and we should send abroad luxuries too as good as those which we obtained. Enjoyment would be diffused amongst us; libraries and museums would rise in augmented numbers;

parks and pleasure grounds would extend themselves, and pay a better rent than a wheat field under monopolist protection. Through all ranks and classes a taste for refinement, knowledge, and truth would pursue its course; and if for a while we take the start of the majestic world, the world would soon advance with us: humanity would rise into a proper enjoyment of its nature, and society would assume a condition more truly elevated and more replete with good than the world has ever yet witnessed. To carry all this out there must yet be a continuous effort, and not effort in this country only. These meetings are often graced by the presence of foreigners. There are some such, I believe, here to night; there always are some, and led, I hope, not by mere curiosity,—nor departing merely with the satisfaction of that curiosity,—but with some impulse of sympathy, some stimulus to make exertion. I would say to any and all such, "Help us, help us; for it is the world's cause; it is yours as well as ours. Whence-soever you come, and whithersoever you may go, (Oh! help, help in this matter, for it is the cause of humanity. It has no respect of language, government, or country; it is for the well-being of all; and join you with us in exertion for its promotion.) (Cheers.) To the gallant Frenchman, if such be here, I say let not our national rivalry pursue its old course. There has been enough in the long line of our warfare, from the time of our Henrys down to recent years; let that suffice. Look not only at our dockyards, but at our manufactories; not merely at our ships of war, but at our merchantmen, and the stores they take out with them. Wherever your tricolour is, be it the rainbow of peace; and thus may it become unto you a promise of a more glorious career—more glorious for yourselves and others than that which you gained even when your victories were most important, and one capital after another surrendered to your conquering arms. (Cheers.) I would say to the Germans—men of a nation of deep and far-reaching thought; of mind wide-spreading as your own unbounded forests, let that thought turn its direction to the things of earth as well as air; to commercial principles as well as to antique legends. Be not the slaves of any system of monopoly, however its extension within German limits may seem to secure it from that term which bears a hostile aspect to the policy of the rest of the world. Be not the tools of your Zollverein; but learn that custom-houses should have their proper places, as fortresses of exclusion and repulsion, not at the boundary of any particular state, but at the very ends of the earth, and mark only the difference of land inhabited by humanity, and that bounded by the wild beasts of the forest. To Holland, I would say, remember the old lesson which you taught the world. You, primeval missionaries of Free Trade, stick to your ancient principles and practices; and Belgians, however severed from you, be one with you in this interest, the interest of all enlightened and industrial nations. (Cheers.) Italy, fair and fertile, where so many fine minds have indulged in speculations that were ages before the world—you, whose Broccaria taught legislation to humanity as relates to punishment, learn you to legislate for humanity as relates to trade and commerce. Let Rome sustain higher glories than its ancient period of conquest, in that mild conquest that carries the victories of civilization and peace, truth and justice. And you,

poor exiles from Spain and Poland, or whatever country has cast you out—you who sojourn with us, and can only call yourselves citizens of the world—why, there is that in Free-Trade principles which makes the world worth being a citizen of, demolishing so much of the ancient barriers between nation and nation. We offer you them, here, as some consolation in your time of exile and proscription; and when your turn comes—as come it will, I trust, for all exiles in the cause of freedom—when it comes on you or your children, may this lesson be borne back with you, a glad and happy remembrance of that terrible time; and installed with you in the honours which you may then wear, and the institutions which you may have to form and carry on. To the Americans I need say but little: they feel how much the battle is theirs as well as ours. A century and a half ago, we imported corn for the sustenance of your forefathers: I trust they will have the opportunity soon of amply repaying the compliment, with liberal interest upon the length of time that has elapsed. The independence you have achieved is one which needs no severance of relations as to the interchange of whatever other countries can produce; and in your own vast regions and growing population you see that which should unite you with all the world, showing the old and the new world one at least in this, that they have learned the lesson of a common interest, and can unite heart and hand in promoting the good of common humanity. Your own Channing, with prophetic voice, in almost, if not the very last publication he issued, described Free Trade as one of the great tendencies of the human mind—as one of the principles of the age which was sure to make its way—by a rapid progression into universal practice. And were I to lack reasons for describing my feeling of this subject, as something infinitely above the manufacturing, agricultural, or money questions of any country,—as something even above a national policy,—were I to require words to express its sacred and religious character, as tending to realize in the condition of society that benevolence which is a holy bond between man and man—as almost partaking of the character of worship—seeing that that is worship in which the sacrifice of true and loving hearts is offered, and in which kindly and benevolent actions are wrought,—why, I should give such a description in the words of a fellow-countryman of Channing, and a kindred genius, who describes, in solemn strain, the divine presence as not merely realized amid the beauties and the wonders of nature, but as also capable of being seen by the mind amidst thronging cities and in aggregated crowds. [After citing some beautiful lines to this effect, Mr. Fox continued:]—

Such is the language which the sight of an immense assemblage such as this, animated by one heart and mind, is calculated to impress on one's soul—not the less acceptable that it is the language of an American poet, of a living poet; and, as the person of Mr. Bryant is not known here, though his name and his poems are well known, I trust I do no offence to the modesty of genius when I say, of a present poet, whose presence is most welcome. (Loud cheers.) And that from other countries, as well as from our own, the poet and the artist, in all their different modes of appealing to taste and developing genius, have shown themselves amongst us, as well as statesmen, merchants, and politicians, is one of the peculiar and high gratifications of these meetings, is one pledge that the great mind of humanity is going along with us;—that the power which has been created belongs to the elements of nature, works in their way, and produces analogous results. Our agitation, like some of those mighty elementary principles, not merely overturns, but creates; not only destroys, but fertilizes. It is like, if we may rely on some late discovery, the electric matter of the atmosphere, which may be conveyed by rods into the soil, and will render that soil fruitful. It is like that power, that electricity, of which the thunder is the voice before which the guilty tremble; which strikes down whatever obstacles impede its course, though they be lofty towers, feudal or ecclesiastical, the warrior's column, or the ancestral oak, which has braved the storms of ages; yet, while it is so relentless, guided by the rod of science, it plays on the grass and sinks into the ground: and there the grass springs up the greener; the stem of corn is the sturdier, and bears a fuller ear; the sun looks down calmly from that blue sky which is over all; and richer fields waving for the harvest raise man's gratitude to heaven, and send him on his earthly course thankful and rejoicing. (Mr. Fox resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then came forward and said:—I have once more to thank you for the great order which has marked this meeting; and as the next business of the League will be that which will occupy a considerable portion of our time, I beg to propose that we end this meeting with three cheers for the registration.

The call of the Chairman having been heartily responded to, with "one cheer more," the meeting separated at twenty minutes to eleven o'clock.

#### MR. VILLIERS'S MOTION.

Some few inaccuracies having been pointed out to us in our analysis of the votes last week, the following is a more correct statement of the number of Free-Trade members of the House of Commons who have supported Mr. Villiers's motion for a repeal of the Corn Laws in the several following years, viz:—

1812.	1813.	1814.	1815.
92	140	165	188
Increase in 1813			
	" 1814	-	48
	" 1815	-	25
		-	23
Total increase			
		-	96
Diminution of Majority in 1843			
	" 1814	-	45
	" 1815	-	99
		-	171

WEEKLY HALF-HOLIDAY.—We are informed that Messrs. Harter and Edwards, of the Irwell silk mill, Salford, have allowed their hands, amounting to 700, the privilege of the half-holiday, without any abatement in their wages. At present there are four establishments, employing nearly 4000 hands, who have had the same concessions granted to them.—*Manchester Times.*

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### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEAGUE FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, June 18, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Gedney, John, Redenhall, Harleston, Norfolk	25	0	0
*Jackson, H., and Son, 66, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell	2	2	0
*Jackson, Mrs., and family, 66, do. do.	1	10	0
*Sturmy, Herbert, Wellington-street, Southwark	2	2	0
*Southall, John, Leominster	2	0	0
*Romania, R. 33, Chesapeake	1	1	0
*Jameson, J., Houry-lane, Chesapeake	1	1	0
*Whitehead, Henry, 7, Whitehead's-grove, Chelsea	1	1	0
*Bell, John, 51, Union-street, Southwark	1	1	0
*Keez, J., Albemarle Villa, Devonport, per R. Burnet	1	1	0
*Jury, W., Dublin, per J. L. B.	1	1	0
*French, Joseph, 18, Norton-folgate	1	1	0
*Brook, Richard, Southwark-bridge-road	1	1	0
*May, Thomas, do.	1	1	0
*Bourne, Wm., 109, Blackman-street, Southwark	1	1	0
*Evans, Edward, surgeon, Stone-end, do.	1	1	0
*Martin, Thos. Hatley place, Old Kent-road	1	1	0
*Pike, George, 93, High-street, Southwark	1	1	0
*St. Cuthbert, Union-street, do.	1	1	0
*Crosby, Wm., Queen-street, Southwark-bridge-road	1	1	0
*Bradley, Wm., Great Guildford-street, Southwark	1	1	0
*Pemberton, James, Lamb and Packet, Preston	1	0	0
*Osborne, H. B., 65, Redcliff-street, Bristol	1	0	0
*Mill, John Stuart, East India House	1	0	0
*Pryor, Chas. D., Trinity College, Cambridge	1	0	0
*Tiffin, Robert, 73, High-street, Southwark	1	0	0
*Bloombury Auxiliary to the Anti-Corn-Law League, held every Saturday evening at the King's Head, Museum-street; George Toovey, honorary secretary, John Holloway, treasurer (5th subscription)	1	0	0
*Keston, George, Brixton-hill	1	0	0
*Husfield, Joseph, Union-street, Southwark	1	0	0
*Brygrave, Wm., surgeon, New Kent-road	1	0	0
*May, Edward, carrier, Godalming	1	0	0
*Steel, John, 106, Bermondsey-street	0	2	6
*Shepperson, Samuel, 61, Hunter-street, Bermondsey	0	2	6
*Bogget, Wm., Wild's-tenants, Long-lane, do.	0	2	6
*Carter, George, do. do.	0	2	6
*Edgington, T., Little George-street, do.	0	2	6
*Shepperson, John, do. do.	0	2	6
*Moody, Thomas, 2, Stacey-place, do.	0	2	6
*Chell, John, 22, Elm-street, Long-lane, do.	0	2	6
*Jest, George, 101, High-street, Southwark	0	2	6
*Butterworth, E., 141, Oldham-road, Manchester	1	0	0
*Wilson, Benjamin, Dalston	1	0	0
*Grieve, Thomas, Langbain, N. H.	1	0	0
*Lancaster, John, glazier, Burnley	1	0	0

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE BAZAAR.

Pease, Joseph, Darlington, per R. Codden, Esq., M.P.	100	0	0
Rubinson, Mrs. John, Allerton-street, Liverpool	1	0	0
Received on account of the Bazaar Fund, from Huddersfield, per Fred. Schwann, Esq.	110	0	0
Received from the sale of articles at Rochdale, on account of the Bazaar	75	19	6
Carver, William, carrier, Halifax	5	0	0
Hewitt, Samuel, Pendleton, Manchester, per E. Arncliffe, Esq.	5	0	0
Nelson, Mrs. George, do. do.	4	0	0
Archer, T. and W., Leicester	2	2	0
Walton, John, Halifax	2	0	0
L. P., Miss, the proceeds of a shawl sold to Mrs. W., otherwise intended for the Bazaar, per Mrs. Higgin, Manchester	1	0	0
A Friend, per Mrs. Massie, of Manchester	1	0	0
Hewitt, Mrs. John, Pendleton, Manchester, per R. Arncliffe, Esq.	1	0	0
Heard, Mrs. Storey Knoll's, Manchester	0	10	0
Naylor, Miss, Altringham	0	10	0
A Friend, per C. H. Holmes, Leicester	0	10	0
Pearce, Mrs., Pendleton, Manchester, per R. Arncliffe, Esq.	0	2	6
A Free Trader, Portwood	10	0	0
Walker, S., Chester	0	5	0
Roscoe, David, Wellington-road	0	2	6
Goldhead, John, Bridge-street	0	2	6
Thomas, M. G. H., E. Kely	0	2	0
Leah, William, do.	0	1	0
John, Robert, Portwood	0	1	0
Cropper, John, Lancashire-hill	0	1	0

### ERRATA.

In LEAGUE No. 83, "Contributions to the Bazaar," the following subscriptions (included in the sum of £41. 2s. 10d. received from the Manchester Ladies' Committee) ought to have been stated:

Buffield, Charles	25	0	0
A Friend, per Mrs. Higgin	1	1	0
Harrison, J., surgeon	0	5	0
Wellington, Mrs.	0	2	6

And in LEAGUE No. 90, "Contributions to the Bazaar," from Huddersfield, for Shackleton, James, jun., 2s. 3d. read Shackleton, James, and Sons, Woodend, near Hebden-bridge.

### BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

Hutchinson, John Henry, 19, Little Porteney street, Golden-square, 12 beds	£3	0	0
A Friend, per ditto	0	5	0
Little, Robert	0	10	0
Meryweather, Josiah, 42, Bedford-street, Commercial-road East	0	5	0

**EXPORT OF WHEAT.**—It is computed that the export of wheat by the vessels now in harbour loading for London, including the cargoes of the Jane, and Elizabeth Buckham, will amount to 51,000 bushels.—*Lancaster Examiner* (New South Wales), Feb. 5.

### LETTERS ON AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

#### LETTER II.

I resume my correspondence from Upavon and the villages near Pewsey, in Wiltshire. It was my intention to write at considerable length about the meetings of the farm-labourers last week; but being a stranger in that district of country, and knowing not a single individual, I thought it best to defer until I made some inquiries as to the truth of the statements made at the Upavon meeting.

First, as to the remarks I made last week about the richness and foulness of the farm-fields in this district, it must be said, in justice to some farmers, that the charge of negligence does not apply to them. Even where specimens of very bad agriculture are seen on good land, I am told that they should be set down to the score of poverty on the part of the farmers, rather than to the want of skill or attention.

Well, if farmers are too poor to cultivate properly, we may be at least excused for asking why they are so poor, and why such poor farmers should be occupying from 600 to 1200 acres of land each; why sufficient labour should not be employed when labourers are so abundant, and their work so cheap—so very cheap.

And, once for all, let me remark to those who deny the right of a stranger to come into their district to get information of, and pass remarks upon their style of farming, on their carelessness or their wastefulness, that the right is given to such stranger by themselves. They say they cannot cultivate their land without an artificial price for their produce—not without "protection." If they said, "We rely solely on the natural prices of common markets, and solely on our own resources," then there might be some ground for saying to the stranger who visits them on behalf of the public, "You have no right to interfere with us; we do not call upon the public to pay any of our expenses; so the public has nothing to do with our private affairs." Instead of this, the agriculturists will not allow their affairs to be private: they come to seek public relief; we must inquire into their right to receive it.

But, apart from this view of the case, I contend that it does good to let one part of England know how the other lives; one section of society know how the other struggles. The farmers of Wiltshire have struggled all winter and all the spring to keep their flocks alive, and their cattle. They are now somewhat relieved by good pastures and new hay; yet still they struggle. They are clipping their sheep, and getting light fleeces of wool—fleeces light in weight and inferior in quality—which is the result of the flocks having been half-starved. This indicates a continuance of their struggles to pay their rents. Is it then doing no good to ascertain these truths and make them known?

But the labourers are also struggling, and the farmers do not like to hear their labourers talked about. This is the real ground of the objection to strangers. The farmers do not object to their own complaints being heard. They are very much offended, indeed, when told not to complain. Mr. Sidney Herbert bade them attend to the cultivation of their farms, and not come whining to Parliament with their complaints. And they were so vexed at Mr. Herbert, who had just before been their idol, for saying this, that some sixty of them or more went over to Warminster three weeks ago to hiss him when he marched into that town at the head of the Salisbury troop of yeomanry cavalry. He got intimation of this intention, however, and sent the troop in under command of a junior officer, Cornet Earl Nelson, and went himself into the town quietly in the evening.

All this may be precisely as I relate, or it may not. It is related precisely as I have heard it from the lips of farmers who claim a right to tell their grievances; who are grieved that Sidney Herbert forbids them to do so, and who say that they would have hissed him at Warminster had he shown himself to the crowd. So that I infer strangers or any one else are quite at liberty to write about the farms and the farmers and all their complaints, so as nothing hurtful to their sensitiveness about their poor labourers, nothing opposed to their prejudices, is said.

Whatever I may write of the farmers or of their labourers is intended to be fairly and even kindly written. I may differ from many of them in opinions on certain subjects. But they must bear in mind that it has been, and is now, customary with them to read only such newspapers, or such statistical evidence as agrees with their own opinions, or their own agricultural politics; and they must not be surprised if persons who look at every side of every question, and ransack the whole world—the geographical, physical, moral, social, and political world—for facts; they must not be surprised if such persons should come to different conclusions from theirs.

For instance, many persons believe—and I am one of them—that the starvation of the sheep flocks and the cattle, during last winter and spring, would not have occurred had the farmers been allowed to purchase provender from Egypt or the continent of Europe, to assist in feeding their stock, which they were prevented from doing by that Corn Law which is said to be for their "protection."

Many persons think—and I am one of them—that, rather than pay large sums of money for foreign manures to grow corn at home, our farmers should feed a greater amount of live stock at home, even by the assistance of foreign provender, and thus have, besides the profit on

stock, an abundance of the best manures to grow corn and employ labour at home.

These, and twenty similar topics of the most vital interest to the farmers, are what we want to discuss with them, and that in a friendly manner: they disagreeing from us when not convinced, we disagreeing from them when not convinced. But hitherto their policy has been to shut their eyes, and put their fingers in their ears. The policy of those who profess to be, and who in reality are, their political guides, is to hide from them the truth, or to distort facts by misstatements, so as to make such facts pernicious as falsehoods.

The time has come, let the farmers and their political instructors believe it or not, when they must open their eyes and their ears to both sides of the Corn-Law question, and both sides of other questions arising out of that. In a journey through this and adjoining counties, which I am now upon, I shall study to deal as fairly and respectfully as it is possible to deal with such things as may come under my observation; yet I say it candidly, that the farmers, and those who bid the farmers shut their eyes, and bid them put their fingers in their ears and make themselves deaf, shall be compelled to look up and listen. We shall do it good-naturedly. The winking man's nose shall be tickled with a straw, that he may withdraw his fingers from his ears to catch a fly; then, when he catches a straw and not a fly, he will have to open his eyes to see who tickles him. Eyes and ears once opened, we shall take care to keep him, or any one else, from closing them again.

Local circumstances affecting his own, his landlord's, and his labourers' condition will be found sufficient for this purpose. And as a beginning I proceed to give some account of the meeting of 1000 labourers at the village of Upavon on Tuesday evening, the 10th of June, and of the condition of the persons attending it, which I learned by subsequent inquiries.

#### LETTER III.

It may be as well to give the statements of the three farm-labourers who addressed the Upavon meeting. Two or three other persons spoke, and so far as I could hear them, not being near enough to hear distinctly, they spoke sensibly. But I understand their addresses were mostly urged against the Corn Law. The readers of the LEAGUE are already familiar with such arguments. What was most interesting to me, and will be I suppose to others, were the statements made by the farm-labourers themselves.

The first who spoke was David Keele, an elderly man, who was chairman on the occasion. I did not arrive in time to hear him address the meeting. Mr. Westell, a schoolmaster, from Marlborough, was speaking when I arrived; and with him I afterwards found David Keele,

and had some conversation with him. He seemed to be a sensible man of retiring manners. He is said to be a man of strict moral character, and a good labourer. He had once been at a labourers' meeting on the Corn-Law question in another village some months ago, and in consequence was discharged from his employment. He has been taken into work again. He was asked to come and be chairman at the Upavon meeting, as it was feared no labourer there would dare to make himself so prominent. And this was supposed, because twelve months ago the head agent of an estate there had said, in the name of himself and master, that no Anti-Corn-Law meeting should ever be held in Upavon; and, further, because it was threatened, that this very meeting should be prevented. A consultation among the farmers and gentry was held, however, on the previous Saturday, and it was then resolved to let this take its course, and not to interfere with it.

When I got there, I saw a temporary stage raised against the gable of a cottage, and facing to an open space of ground in the centre of the village. A very large tree,—elm, if I remember rightly,—prodigious in trunk and branches, overshadowed the space; and underneath it, and from it up to the cottage gable, there were at least one thousand men and women and children standing. The men constituted about two-thirds of the whole; and the greater part were in smockfrocks or fustian coats, just as they had come from their work. Two policemen stood in one part of the crowd, and two more stood singly. David Keele sat on the little stage, wearing a clean white smock; but the crowd in front made it difficult for me to see him. The persons who had invited him to the meeting had undertaken to his wife that they would bring him safe home. She said she did not care how far he went out of her sight to do good, as she hoped the meeting was to do good; but it would be the end of her if anything happened to him.

His opening address was as follows—a reporter from the *Wiltshire Independent* being present to report—

"He said he was glad to see so many of his fellow-labourers assembled. He wished it to be understood that it was not their intention to break the laws of the country, for whatever laws were made by their legislators they were bound to obey as far as they could according to the dictates of their consciences. Neither did he wish them to break the laws of their masters; it was their duty to follow their employment diligently, and if their masters did not give them sufficient wages to support their families, that was no reason why they should leave their employment. If John, or Thomas, or Harry stole my shirt, that is no reason why I should steal his. They were not to speak of those arbitrary laws called the Corn Laws; and he would ask their opponents, or any reasonable man, if the Legislature issued a law which did not work according to just expectations, whether they had not a right to lay to rest the Corn Laws? It was the law of



Free Trade they were met to advocate—a law which would be every way beneficial to them, to their wives, and to their families. (Hear, hear.) It was very evident that distress existed among the labouring population; he knew it by experience, and he doubted not many of them did also. (Cries of 'Yes, yes, we feel it.') There is many a man who goes out to work with a little bit of bread, and, after working all day, returns home to potatoes and salt. ('We don't get half enough of that.') Was it not right, then, that they should seek out for something better? The poor man had an equal right with the rich to attempt this, and to send his petitions to Parliament, to endeavour to get his grievances redressed. They would recollect the case of the four lepers, whom they read of in the Bible, that sat in the gate. They said, 'If we sit here we shall die, and if we go to the Assyrians perhaps they will save us alive; and if they kill us we shall but die.' You and I (said Keele) are in the case of starvation (cries of 'Hear, hear,' and 'That's true enough'), and if we remain quiet much longer starved we shall be. If we petition Parliament, it is more than a peradventure that we shall be heard; and if we are not we can but starve. (Cheers.) Our opponents, in my part of the country, serve the people like as the carters used to do the ploughboys when I was a boy. They would give the boys the whip, and threaten that they would give it them again if they told their parents; and so it went on from day to day. The case is the same with the labourers. Your masters say if you come forward to tell your case you shall be turned out of employment (hear, hear), and thus they keep you in fear; and you will never be better as long as you are kept down in this way. But if you come forward boldly and tell your case, you can't make it worse. ('That's true.') If the ploughboy had told his father of the carter, the carter would have been punished, and that is what he was afraid of. You are prevented coming forward by the arbitrary conduct of your opponents (hear, hear), but fear not their frowns; they are in the hands of the Lord, and can only go so far as he permits. Always remember, however, that whatever law is issued by the Legislature we are bound to obey; whoever resists the powers that be resists the ordinances of God. It is the arbitrary Corn Law that has done all the mischief; and we believe Free Trade will be beneficial to ourselves and families. (Loud cheers.)

After this Mr. Westell spoke, and then William Perry, a labourer, from Charlton, a village distant about a mile and a half, offered to make a statement. Perry, as I have since ascertained, is a man of the best moral character; a steady good labourer, and deeply imbued with a sense of religion. He is, I think, a Baptist, but of that I am not sure, as I did not ask him. But, having heard him speak reverentially of his hopes and trust being in God, I mentioned it to some of his neighbours, and they told me that he was a man of strict piety, who "never ate a mouthful of bread without asking a blessing on it;" who "never went to bed at night without kneeling down by the bed of his children to pray." I had a lengthened conversation with him and some of his neighbours two days after the meeting, but I then confined the subject to their social condition.

Perry appeared to me to be about 35 years of age. He was of middling stature; wore a straw hat, red neckerchief, and a fustian coat. The following was his address, as reported; and having myself heard it I think it is fairly reported, except, perhaps, that it does not convey to the reader that he was rather agitated at first, and hesitated so much as to make some of his neighbours call "Don't be afraid to speak, William." It was to this that he alluded in saying that he had no reason to be afraid to speak. The report proceeds thus:—

"William Perry, a labourer, living at Charlton, then said he was come forward to speak to his fellow-labourers, and he had no reason to be ashamed to speak before any man. He had five children, the eldest 10 years of age, the others of the age of 8, 6, 4, and 3. He had 7s. per week to maintain his family. If any person present could tell him how to manage this for all to have enough he should be glad. There were 21 meals to be provided out of 1s.; leaving no provision for clothes, firing, candles, and soap! When he came home two or three of the children were generally gone to bed, but when he came in, they began crying, 'Father, bring me up a piece of bread.' He had often heard this cry during the winter, and even within the last week. What could he do?—he had no bread to give them. Then there was rent and shoes to be paid for at Michaelmas. How could he do this in an honest manner? His desire was to live honestly, in a godly way, but he could not do it. Perhaps he met a man to whom he owed money; of course he did not like to meet him; there were not the feelings of an honest man; but what could he do? If there were not some good and charitable people in the country he should be starved. (Voices—'The same here,' and 'Tis too true.') He was thankful God had spared him and his family to the present moment. This day he had walked three miles and a half to his work. He took a bit of bread with him, and had a drink of water; and had a little when he got home. ('We all know that's true.') A voice—'What make's you tremble so?' If, said Perry, I had been home to a good supper and a quart of good ale, I should not tremble. He wished every labouring man to have three or four acres of land at the same rent as the farmers gave. They would pay this, and gladly. (Loud cheers, and cries of 'Yes, yes; and we don't mind 10s. an acre more.') Yes, said Perry, we don't mind 10s. an acre more. (This speech was received with loud marks of applause, and repeated confirmations of the truth of the statements contained in it.)

Next came a labourer, also of Charlton, named Osias Seeley. His address is not reported, nor was it easy to do so, as it was rather long and not very well connected. It took well with his hearers, who understood the topics introduced. This man, it seems, some years ago was a widower, with a family of children. He then married a widow with children; and now they have a third family, in all seventeen children, eight of whom were during the winter dependent on his wages for support. His address was a mixture of the pathetic and ludicrous. He told of how he had one night in the previous week had only two

potatoes in the house, and how eight children "scrambled" for them for supper over forms, stools, &c.

Here I may remark that, owing to the unmarried men receiving the inferior wages of 3s. a week in winter and only 4s. and 5s. in summer; and also, as they are most commonly sent to the workhouse to prevent men with families being sent there, they strive to get married as soon as they can; and, if a young man finds a widow with children willing to have him, he involves himself eagerly with a ready-made family, that he may not be compelled to go again to the workhouse. Moreover, the inferior payment of the young men renders a provision for marriage by economy and good conduct utterly out of the question. Hence they rush into marriage without furniture, or a lodging, or clothes, or without any hope but that of soon having a family, which will compel the farmers to give them employment.

All the worst features of the old poor law are retained here, and the best banished. At the meeting complaint was made of the parish-road system common here, of men getting relief from the parish by being sent to work at under wages.

Several little incidents attracted my attention. One of the speakers was telling the labourers that they must tell their masters this, and must tell their masters that. A labourer called out, "But how be we? Masters never gives us a chance to speak to them." This was subsequently explained to me to mean that some of the farmers always communicated through the bailiff with their men; never spoke to them themselves. Again, there was a point made by one of the speakers which seemed to be well understood about "pitting potatoes," to keep them until required. On inquiry I found this to refer to a farmer who had said that he did with his labourers as he did with his potatoes: he did not keep all the potatoes out for use every day; and he did not, like some farmers, try to find work for the men all the year round. When he did not need them he put them in the workhouse until they were needed.

All such topics as had bitterness in them against certain local ruling powers were warmly welcomed; and I could not help feeling, and also saying, that I thought such topics were most improperly dwelt upon by some of the speakers.

I was glad to hear that the bulk of the men assembled gave earnest and loud shouts of "No, no!" when they were asked if they would ever again submit to be marched into Devizes at an election to drown the voices of any of the candidates. It seems that from this very place, at the last Devizes election, more than a thousand men, many of them those comprising the Upavon meeting, were paid a day's wages and supplied with beer to go into

Devizes to make such a noise when the Free-Trade candidate or any of his friends offered to speak as to completely prevent him or them from being heard. They did this successfully, being marshalled and led on and signalled to when to make a noise and when not, by the very agent and gentlemen near Upavon who threatened to prevent them from holding this meeting, and from making their grievances heard.

I saw a labourer the other day in the village of Charlton eating a rhubarb pudding. He kindly offered me a piece of it, which I declined. He again offered it, saying, "It be made of good flour and good rhubarb; I grew the rhubarb myself. The only thing as be against it is the want of sugar. Rhubarb want a good bit of sugar to make it sweet; and sugar be terrible hard to get by the like of we."

"You were one of the band of men," I said to him, "who went last year to Devizes to prevent the Free-Traders from being heard at the election; now, do you know that you prevented those men from being heard who would have told you how you might get sugar to your rhubarb puddings, and you did all you could to prevent them from getting sugar, plentiful and cheap, for you and such as you. Do you know that?"

"Why, you see," said the man, "it was not of our doing, as you may say; we was forced to it like. We had nobody to tell us what was right. And they said Mr. Sotheron was a good sort of gentleman, and we was all to help him."

"Well," said I, "what would you have thought if a number of men had been brought to the Upavon meeting last night, paid a day's wages, and furnished with beer to hollow and make a noise to drown the voices of such honest men as William Perry from being heard? Would you not have thought that those who did so were afraid to hear the truth, and afraid to let you who listened hear the truth?"

"Ah!" said the man, "we been told many times since the election that we did terribly bad to go there. They said we made terrible fools of ourselves."

This man's remark relative to Mr. Sotheron, one of the county members, is, I believe, well founded. That gentleman is highly spoken of as a kind-hearted, good man, and as such he must surely disapprove of the means taken to stifle all discussion upon the momentous question which gave that election all its importance.

#### LETTER IV.

It does not follow that every poor man down here is poor, despite his efforts to the contrary. Some are quite willing to shift on any way rather than work. One of these spoke rather candidly to me. He said, "What we wants, master, is victuals and drink, and a little work—over so little work." The listeners exclaimed, "That be just your sin!"

The land about Charlton is the property of Lord Normanton, so remarkable for his game-preserves thirty miles farther down the country. He has not had this estate long, and there is no game preserved on it. I asked some men if there was, and they said no, they wished there was. They said, they would not be so hard run up for victuals then. "But the gaol," said I; "you might be caught and sent to gaol?"—"Well," they replied, "the gaol itself ben't so bad as the workhouse; and better do anything than starve."

Having ascertained that William Perry was a man of good character, I took occasion to see him and some others, to hear from their own lips an account of their income, expenditure, &c.

First I went to Perry's house. This was on the day after the meeting, at about 12 o'clock. Perry, being with other five men at a distant part of the farm mowing, did not come home to dinner. They had bread and cheese and a bottle of ale (small beer) with them. It must be always borne in mind that in Wiltshire and the West the liquors which in London are called strong ale, are called beer; and the small beer or table beer of London is ale in Wiltshire. Thus Perry in his address, speaking of his desire to have a "quart of good ale" to his supper, meant a quart of good small beer.

I saw his wife and some of his children. She told me that Mr. Wansborough, the farmer for whom Perry worked, had been to her in the morning, and complained that her husband should have gone to the meeting on the previous night. And then asked if she meant to say that she and her family were badly off? She told him yes. That there were seven of them—the eldest child only ten years old, and that a girl—who could not go out to do anything; and they had only 7s. a week to pay house rent and get food and clothes.

Mr. Wansborough then reminded her that she herself might have been at out-field work when she did not go. The woman told me that she replied, that she was, with so many young children, not always able to go out to work in the fields. Whereupon Mr. Wansborough told her that she must go out that afternoon; that he needed hands to the hay; and that, since they complained of poverty, she must go out and work or her husband must leave his employment. He then repeated what he had before said, that "he wished he could only find out which of his men it was that spoke first at the meeting; he would find means to make them regret it."

The woman told me this; and subsequently Perry himself. And both he and his neighbours said that, had any of them gone to the meeting prepared to tell their grievances, all might have done so, and more would have done so than did. They said it could do them no harm publishing what had occurred; they thought they were as bad as they could be.

Perry's wife was accordingly out at work in the afternoon. He and the five other men were mowing vetches—the clover of last year having failed for hay this year. Mr. Wansborough was making hay of the vetches. The men told me that when they asked how much an acre they were to have he said 1s. 6d. They said they could not do it at that; and at last they went to work without any bargain. They said they would try to get 2s. per acre if they could, but perhaps he would only give them 1s. 6d.

This is one of Lord Normanton's farms. This tenant has not been long in occupation of it. He manages the land much better than some of the farmers near him. He may pay low wages—yet not lower than others; but he employs everybody he can get at this season of the year in keeping the farm clear and orderly. His crops look splendid. If anything is what it should not be, the wheat is too thick. It seems as if it would suffocate itself. Thick sowing, I understand, is common thereabout; but it is surely a great loss both of seed and of crop.

The chalky downs which rise above the village have rich crops of fine dark-bladed wheat upon them. Mr. Wansborough's farm extends between three and four miles into Salisbury Plain. A portion of it on the plain was broken up two or three years ago, and has borne heavy crops every year since. Last year the crop was of the prodigious magnitude of fifteen and sixteen sacks of wheat to the acre; and the wheat, as also the straw, of superior quality.

Talking of this, the men who reaped it said they had to walk 3½ miles out to the downs in the morning, and the same back at night, and reaped that prodigiously heavy crop at 8s. per acre.

If any of these statements are incorrect I shall be glad to publish a correction from Mr. Wansborough himself. But I believe them to be correct; and moreover, when he and his neighbours do all they can to prohibit inquiry and stifle complaints, and still ask the public for the thing called "protection" to themselves, they must allow us to publish such statements as we find presented to us.

One great grievance of the labourers is, that there being such large farms, and consequently so few farmers, two or three of the latter rule a whole parish. If a man gives the slightest offence to his master he is paid away, and a message is sent to the other farmers not to employ him; and he is not employed save at hay time or harvest, when they cannot do without him.

If large farms are to continue, and the Corn Law also; or rather, if the smaller farms are to be swallowed up by the larger ones, as is yearly the case now, what do the farmers expect to do with their families? They cannot get farms to their sons, nor get farming husbands to all

their daughters. Must they not go into trade? or follow some profession? Whether has the farmer with 1000 acres and a large family most interest in—the Corn Law, which, in seasons like the last winter and spring, starves his stock; or in a fine flourishing trade which will afford outlets for his family?

Men of fewer years than forty have worked in the parish of Charlton when there were six farmers in it; and a man still living there remembers when there were fifteen farmers. Now there are only two. And now the labourers are worse off and fewer of them employed than at any former time.

Here I should give the details of their style of living now; but I have perhaps gone far enough until next week.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

#### MEETING OF LABOURERS.

(From the *Wiltshire Independent*.)

A public meeting of labourers residing in Lynham and its neighbourhood was held on Tuesday evening last, on the Green. In spite of the strenuous exertions of the monopolists to prevent their men attending the meeting—many of the farmers having threatened to discharge their labourers if they did so—nearly 800 were present, many of them accompanied by their wives and children.

WALTER MATTHEWS was called to the chair. He said they were met for two purposes: first, to see what the Goutiere Reform Society had been doing, and to receive their report; and, secondly, to consider the best means of getting rid of the Corn Laws. The report of the committee was then read. It stated, that during the past year meetings had been held, and resolutions in favour of Free Trade unanimously carried, at the following places:—Goutiere (3); Avebury, Brambury, Upavon, Wootton Bassett, Lynham (2); Brinkworth, Stratton St. Margaret's, Highworth, Clack (3); Spithill (2); Clatford, and Stocklane—in all 19 meetings, at which about 14,000 people have attended to protest against the Corn Laws. The committee call on the inhabitants of North Wilts to compare the statements contained in the report of the North Wilts Protection Society with the above facts.

GEORGE AWDRY, of Marlborough, then addressed the meeting, and concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That the Corn Law, the object of which is to make food scarce and dear, is the primary cause of the distress of the labouring poor of North Wilts." This was seconded, and carried unanimously.

CHARLES MAUMONT moved the second resolution—"That this meeting is fully convinced that whatever the Corn Laws may have done towards keeping up rents, they have done nothing, in North Wilts, towards keeping up wages; for the employment furnished and wages given, now we are under the protection of those laws, are insufficient to keep us in health and strength." Carried unanimously.

After giving three cheers for Free Trade, the meeting separated.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the LEAGUE.

SIR,—I hold stock in the Government funds which paid my father 5 per cent., and now pays me 3½, and in nine years will pay only 3 per cent.; or, in other words, I receive 65s., and shall soon receive but 60s., instead of 100s.

I am acquainted with parties having money out on mortgage, who are obliged to take 3½ and 3 per cent. on the security which, not many years ago, yielded 4½ and 4 per cent.

There are hundreds, and I may say thousands, similarly circumstanced; for the debt-burdened Governments of Europe are seeking to reduce their dividends, and the deeply-mortgaged landed gentry are equally eager in availing themselves of the state of the money market to lessen their interest payments. We, the recipients, know that this state of things is a natural consequence of the accumulation of property, and of the unvarying laws of supply and demand; and our only consolation is that to a certain extent, though not entirely, we are compensated by the decrease in the expenses of living. At the same time we cannot help inquiring why it is, that the owners of land, which is but another species of invested property, have not during the same period suffered a similar decrease of income; and, indeed, we may ask why, on the contrary, have their annual returns increased?

You, Sir, and your coadjutors, have demonstrated that the uncalculated agricultural protection is injurious to tenant farmers and farm-labourers; it only exists, then, for the landowners; and I deny that, while their incomes are free from the diminutions to which the possessors of other realty are compelled to submit, they have a shadow of a claim to protection at the expense of the rest of the community. I maintain that landlordly distress, where it exists, arises from increased expenditure, and not from diminished receipts; and I challenge those who dispute my position to produce the rental of any considerable estate for the last 25 years.

I do not object to the landlords possessing all the advantages that their position in the midst of the best food market in the world naturally gives them; but I do most strenuously protest against the continuance of a system of legislation which aims at increasing or even keeping up their incomes, while the influence of the times occasions a falling off in mine.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

London, June 16, 1845.

FAIRPLAY.

To the Editors of the LEAGUE.

SIR, I have been very ill, and from home. I write this almost with a dying hand; and my best hope is, that the holy League will help the fatherless children and widows to their right, that the man of wealth be no longer exalted against them—may triumph within the present year.

Yours, &c.,

CENTURION.

#### IMMEDIATE ABOLITION OF THE CORN LAWS

(From the *Times*.)

The Ministry having now surrendered every point, except one, to the gentlemen of the League, it devolves on

the latter to address their arguments and their inquiries to the present turning point of the controversy. They have to make out a good case for their belief that an immediate abolition of the duty will not prove disastrous to the parties interested in maintaining the price of corn. The question is simplified by the admissions of the Premier and the Home Secretary. They have limited it to the present—the immediate. There is a slight difficulty perhaps in defining the present, which, strictly speaking, has no existence at all. But the difficulty is more metaphysical than practical. We have Swift's authority for assigning to the Present as distinct and comprehensive an idea as to the Past and the Future. In the *Battle of the Books*, when Jupiter wishes to set at rest the controversy between ancient and modern learning, he calls for the three Books of Fate containing the records of time under the above three convenient heads. Our readers are acquainted with another and a more familiar page in which the same image occurs. We presume, therefore, that in the question of vested interests there is no difficulty as to the chronological meaning of the present time. We shall not be far wrong, perhaps, in considering that Ministers have restricted the proposed inquiry to ten or a dozen years. If, after that period, corn should settle down to as low an average as 35s. or 40s. a quarter, it is no concern of theirs. They profess to be anxious only for the present result.

Now, we must say that of all the rash assertions that can be hazarded on the subject of the Corn Laws, no one seems to us more gratuitous, and more likely to be disproved by fact, than this, to which Ministers now fall back as if it were the most obvious and unquestionable part of the question. We can much more readily believe that, in the event of a total repeal of the duty, corn will become ultimately and permanently cheaper, than that it will become immediately cheaper. To us it seems the extreme of ignorance and presumption to anticipate any one immediate result of a decided character. The commodity is one the fluctuations of which Providence has especially placed beyond the reach of human forethought, adding uncertainty to the primeval curse—the reeling brain to the sweating brow. The vicissitudes of nature and of man conspire to thwart calculation, and to warn us from presuming too far in guessing results which Heaven has reserved to its own inscrutable counsels. But we may fairly and piously call attention to certain facts likely, so far as they go, to produce certain results. And we think the facts of the case indicate a greater probability of a rise in the price of corn than of a fall; i. e., taking the average of the next ten or dozen years.

The repeal of the duty, setting the question at rest for ever, would undoubtedly bring into the market, and literally into the field, a large accession of wealthy persons, ready to speculate both by buying and selling, and by actually producing the commodity. Once remove those most vexatious elements of uncertainty, the accelerated fluctuations of the sliding scale, and the ups and downs of the political question, and we shall infallibly see many more men, much more money, much more skill and forethought, applied to emancipated material. Often as this expectation has been expressed, we have never yet seen a shadow of a doubt thrown upon it. But, on the other hand, it is still more certain, for it is an ascertained fact, that the amount of this material—the probable subject of an increased competition of men, mind, and money—is limited, exceedingly limited; not only so, but singularly incapable of being suddenly multiplied to meet an increased demand.

Count up every quarter of corn in every one of earth's richest granaries; track all her winding shores, penetrate every creek, and every stream; measure every diluvial delta and every sheltered valley, the natural fertility of the plains and the artificial productiveness of the hills; take the sum of all the warehouses, all the heaps, and all the standing crops; and we entertain no doubt whatever that reasonable and candid men will be astonished above measure at the universal "nakedness of the land." The Baltic and the Euxine, the Gulf of Genoa, the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi and even the rivers that flow under our feet, are names of terror to some minds, as if they flowed with corn. But rivers of corn are as pure and impossible a fiction as rivers of gold. Once you begin to investigate, to measure, and to count, you find the most formidable accumulations dwindle into a few months' or a few weeks' sustenance for such living and growing multitudes as London, Manchester, or Glasgow. There is not too much corn on earth, nor will there ever be till the saddest and awfulest words that ever were spoken are finally unsaid, which they never will be in this mortal world.

Now, this is a simple inquiry for which there are abundant materials. Nothing would be easier than to lay before the British people an exact and all but authentic statement of the quantity of accumulated corn in the whole world. There are merchants who would very speedily have the information in their desk, if they thought that it answered their purpose to know what are really the facts. It does answer their purpose, and the purpose of the British nation, to be fully informed upon this point.

Nor is it less capable of proof that the commodity does not admit of rapid and certain multiplication. All attempts to produce corn cost corn. Present quantity is sacrificed to a hundred ways to future increase. The production of 100,000 quarters of corn over and above the present supply is as expensive an undertaking—i. e., it costs as much food—as the building of a fortification or of a fleet, as a military expedition, or any other important work. Nations which in other respects are poor and ineffective, are so also in the production of corn. It is as costly and difficult an affair to feed the world as to conquer it. The nations of Europe whom we subsidize against the arms of France, will stand in equal need of British capital to compete with the British agriculturist. A simple account of the roads, conveyances, implements, cattle, dwellings, habits, strength, and skill of those whom our farmers have been taught to regard as formidable rivals will show how much is to be done before the foreigner can compete with us on a large scale; and how difficult it will be for nature's most favoured climes and soils to keep pace with the fast increasing wants of mankind.

#### COLONIAL VIEWS OF "PROTECTION."

(From the *Nelson Examiner and New Zealand Chronicle* of Feb. 8, 1845.)

The English newspapers which have reached us by the late arrivals contain little matter of interest, except what relates to the affairs of New Zealand. The visits of the

Czar and the King of the French, however pleasing they may have been to the actual spectators of the pomp and circumstance attendant upon them, are but flat, stale, and unprofitable when retailed in the columns of a newspaper 15,000 miles from the place of their occurrence. The admirers of legitimacy have, however, the cheering news of the birth of a new acion of royalty; while the hungry bread-consumer, who left his native land in the hope that "seven halfpenny loaves would be sold for a penny," may congratulate himself on being where he is when he reads that the efforts of the League have not yet succeeded in throwing open foreign markets to the half-starved companions whom he left pining in unemployed wretchedness in Paisley or Glasgow. The League has, during the year, been making great efforts to disseminate its opinions, holding frequent monster meetings at Covent-garden Theatre, and thrusting its pioneers into the very heart of the agricultural districts.

For ourselves, there are few subjects discussed in the columns of the English papers, at present, which have more interest than the last we have mentioned.

Nor is the interest altogether confined to the state of the question at home. It is barely a year since our Australian neighbours were engaged in a contention whether the experiment of a corn-grower's protection should be tried among them; and, if we remember rightly, it was by a very small majority that the Legislative Council (after some very able debates, which would not have discredited the English House of Commons) decided against it. And in our opinion they decided wisely. Even such as were in favour of protection looked at it only as a means of relief from the temporary distress of the landed interest; and surely it would have been madness in order to cure a temporary evil to create another, which, after a few years' growth of vested interests, experience has taught us acquires a hold which can scarcely be shaken off.

It is contended by some that the question of protection assumes a different aspect in a colony from that which it bears in an old country; and the arguments used in support of this view are two. First, that many productions in the new country require fostering; and secondly, that protection (particularly in the matter of food) tends to keep capital in the colony.

As regards the first argument, we are willing to admit that there may be some few articles of production which, being very gradual in their progress to maturity, can scarcely be undertaken by parties possessed of the moderate capital ordinarily found in the hands of colonists, and which may nevertheless be perfectly adapted to form a staple of the country when arrived at maturity. Such is the production of wine, which, we believe, cannot be effected in less than six or seven years from the planting of the vineyard; such also is tea, which requires some years to come to perfection; during which period the limited capitalist will not be induced to forego his profits unless he has the prospect of something more than an ordinary return on his outlay. If protection is afforded in such a case, it must stand on the same ground as the legalized monopoly of patents; and we do not deny that cases might occur in which such a protection might be desirable in a new country, and, if we remember rightly, Adam Smith excepts them on his condemnation of the principle. It may, however, even in these cases, be doubted whether it is advisable to foster the growth of any particular trade by protection, when we remember that whatever protection is given to it is in fact so much of somebody else's capital applied in aid of it by the Legislature,—and, if it be a necessary of life, we may say *forcibly* applied. This capital thus abstracted would no doubt be profitably employed by its owner in some way or other, if the protection afforded to his neighbour's trade did not deprive him of it; and it should be the subject of grave consideration whether the future importance of the trade intended to be protected is such as to justify an interference with the natural employment of capital by its true owner.

As regards the other argument, that protection keeps capital in the colony, we cannot see the use of its doing so if that capital is only kept there to promote a trade which cannot (with reference to the permanent facility of obtaining foreign supplies) be profitably carried on, and from which it must after a few years be withdrawn, or the public continue to buy dear, to keep it in its forced channel, instead of buying cheap elsewhere. The real question is whether the protected commodity is one which the country can prospectively hope to grow cheaper than it can import. If it can, let it grow it, and, if protection be necessary for a little while, as in wine or tea, let it have it circumspectly. But, if the commodity is not such, then the protection can do no real good. It will merely induce capital into a channel where it would not flow without an unnatural inducement, and whence it will retire, leaving many a "scarfed bark" high and dry, the moment that inducement is withdrawn.

If a colony is not capable of producing the necessities of life as a continuing staple with reference to other markets, but is capable of producing some other staple which may be exchanged for them, it ought not to be founded without a sufficient supply of necessities brought from the home country, or of capital intended to be appropriated to their purchase from other countries. Such a course would at once place it on a sound footing. The capital beyond that appropriated to the purchase of necessities would at once find its proper channel, namely, production of the staple of the country; but whatever capital is forced or induced into unnatural channels will either remain in them at a continuing loss to the public, or will eventually be withdrawn to the monopolists' probable ruin.

Suppose that it was intended to found a colony in Australia, of which wool is the natural staple, but where corn cannot be grown for less than (say) twice the cost at which it can be imported from Valparaiso. The colonists start with a capital of £300,000. Whether will they turn it to most account if they invest £100,000 in the purchase of Valparaiso flour, while with the other £400,000 they are producing wool for future exchanges (which wool, being their natural staple, they will for ever produce and exchange at the best advantage); or if they only invest change at the best advantage; or if they must do so in £300,000 in wool and £300,000 (which they must do) in not in the latter case £100,000 for ever sunk and lost in corn, which might have been for ever growing and reaping, which might have been for ever growing and reaping? doubling itself in wool if the corn had been imported? What better is the colony for its being retained in it? No better than a man would be whose servants consumed more than they produced.



## REVIEW.

*The White Boy; a Story of Ireland, in 1822.* By Mrs. S. C. Hall. London: Chapman and Hall.

We conclude the extracts from this interesting work, which, from want of space, we were compelled to omit in our last number.

The stern fidelity of the portraiture of an Irish "middleman" will be recognised by all who have had an opportunity of studying a class characterized by Grattan as "a subordination of vultures":—

"Take Abel Richards as a specimen of the class—and, believe us, there have been many worse; a keen, cunning man—a steward's son, inheriting his father's earnings and his mother's vices—crawling about 'the big house' with a bland smile, a quick ear, a ready invention—a few pounds ever in his purse—to lend, when profit could be made—to buy, at every seizure for rent, either cow or pig, potato or kish, by which he could make a guinea, a shilling, or a penny—a bow and an obliging lie always at the service of his rich neighbour—a blow and a bite for his poor one. Not but that Abel shirked 'the ruffian' whenever he could, especially in his latter days; for he was not given to open strife—it did not answer his purpose. He knew that land—the bit of land—is the peasant's existence; he has, in nine cases out of ten, no regular employment to look too; he must have 'the bit of land,' no matter what he promises to pay for it; he must have it, or beg and starve; if ejected, he dare not seek for ground elsewhere, for if he eject another holder, his own doom is sealed. Richards knew this—he had grown up in the knowledge, and to the calculations which such knowledge brings: at first he got twenty or thirty acres of land into his possession, which he let, re-let, divided, subdivided, until it was said he made the district 'a place of poverty and potato-gardens.' Then he was only an under 'middleman';—the middleman of a middleman, who perhaps (the case was by no means rare) was a middleman under yet another middleman. The wretched beings who called him 'Master Abel' (that was his first public step) were subject to have their pig, and their bed if they had one, 'canted' by landlords—one, two, three, or more. But Abel never 'got on swimmingly' until he became a convert—turned his back upon his old faith, and adopted a new, under the fostering patronage of Mrs. Spencer. This, for a time, gave him a push—a lift with the gentry. All the ill-will his avarice and cruelty had earned, it was very convenient to attribute to 'his changed faith.' He had been so hated previously, that we may doubt if his 'turning coat' increased the ill-will; but he made people believe it did, and managed to obtain a considerable augmentation of land from an absentee landlord, who had some zeal—and much need of the money, which Mister Richards did not fail to procure.

"In due course he made some speeches at meetings in Dublin, which 'told' with those who have a sufficient quantity of charity to 'know' that all who believe as they believe must be saved, while those who believe otherwise will be—the contrary. While Dean Graves, and other of his acquaintances received his confessions, and professions, and tales of persecutions, with mistrust—in Dublin, he dined with titled ladies, learned to eat with a silver fork, obtained various presents of bitterly-worded tracts from those who had the reputation of sanctity among their own 'set'; while more timid votaries bestowed on him blue and pink book markers, embroidered with words, which, strange to say, were at decided variance with their practice—thus a lady who would not suffer a 'popish' domestic to enter her service, selected the motto, 'Charity suffereth long and is kind'; and another, the simple word 'peace,' worked in orange silk, as a token of her hatred of the green. At all the little 'tea-parties' got up by this mistaken body, Abel Richards was introduced with much ceremony as 'that suffering saint from the south.'

"He returned to the neighbourhood of Spencer-court with added interest in the eyes of his mistress; for there are persons in the world, who, seeing others 'get on,' take it for granted they deserve to prosper. Abel's system, under his improved fortunes, was that of the higher grade of middleman—the agent between the necessities of one class and the necessities and vices of another. Some three or four acres, or even one—never of course less; the tenant had to build his own dwelling; this in itself stamps the place in the poor cottier's affection—he has kneaded the clay with his hands and his spade; he has raised the stones; he has cut the sods; he has carried the wattles; and, if his roof be straw, he and his wife and children have borne it—perhaps as a free gift from a 'strong farmer'—on their shoulders, and wrought it into a shelter beneath which he is to spend, he hopes, his life. Few think of this natural love which all men have to the work of their own hands, when they read of an experiment, and the consequences which follow; but Abel Richards knew it, and understood it—and knew its value, when it was to be turned to account. There are some who joy to see the harrow passing over the freshly-tilled field; to whom the husbandman's whistle is sweeter than that of the wild bird; who pause in the fresh pure air to bless God that He permits them to hear the music of hopeful hearts; and to see the seed cast into the earth—a type of immortality. But Abel Richards would bite his lips with bitterness at the labourer's whistle, and inveigle the tenant who could pay and wished to pay, into his debt, that so he might have power to raise his rent or cast him forth."

Let us now extract part of a scene, aptly entitled "the Induction to Outrage." We shall not weaken its effect by a word of comment:—

"Some little time before his arrival at Macroom traces of the fatal disturbances he had heard of were but too distinctly visible. The blackened and still smouldering walls of a cabin, which had evidently been burnt by the military, arrested his attention. A ghastly-looking dog, of large size, wounded and bleeding, sat gasping at the ruins, perhaps the only survivor of the wretched household. Farther on was a still more distressing evidence of martial law; a group of women were wringing their hands, howling, and weeping most bitterly over the lifeless form of a man, who had evidently met with a violent death."

"Edward ordered the driver to stop. 'They mur-

dered him like a dog, without judge or jury, for nothing,' was the only explanation he could receive. 'They murdered him under the tree his father planted, and where his children played.' He inquired the cause, but could obtain no fact. 'They took him out of his bed and murdered him—in the sight of his wife; whose arms they untwisted from round his neck—with a bayonet.' He saw that this was desperately true; for though she was in a swoon on his body, her hands were cut and bleeding."

"It was a scene that made his senses reel, and his firm heart tremble. He collected himself sufficiently to inquire the name of the place, of the man, and at what hour, and by whom, the act of violence (he could not consider it an act of justice) had been committed, and noted them down; then, leaving the weepers some money, he ordered the postillion to drive fast—fast—into Macroom. It was really agonizing to recall this scene, and contrast it with the natural beauty of the country; Edward closed his eyes, as if to prevent external objects distracting his ideas, and endeavoured to collect his senses. That there must have been provocation, he entertained no doubt; but he felt indignant at the unnatural combination of justice and cruelty."

We now turn to the speech of an Orange magistrate, whose good heart more than counterbalanced his principles. He spoke when Aby Richards gave information against the half-brother of a lady who had saved him from the pursuit of the Whiteboys, and who had learned the secret of the young man's complicity while sheltered by the sister:—

"There's none of you gentlemen here but know my principles. I'd carry fire and sword—battle—blood—murder, and sudden death through the country—for the sake of my principles. I'm Saxon to the backbone, barring my name; and yet I am as proud of my name as I am of my principles. I'm no great speaker, and would rather any day knock a man down than argue with him. But there are some things I must speak. I knew that girl's mother.' He paused—he thrust his forefinger into the ample folds of his cravat, the muslin rent at once, and the swelling of his throat, now completely exposed, proved that some violent emotion was raging within him. 'I knew Annie Cumming,' and his voice sunk while he added, 'I never forgot her. I've checked my horse in many a day's courting, when she was dead and gone, to listen to the wild singing of her child, or to see her bright smile as she'd canter along the mountain road to my friend the dean's over there. I've looked in her face as she grew towards womanhood, until I dreamt her mother was before me. I've watched her charities, and blessed her for them, though she did them to Papists. Gentlemen, you, who know my principles, will understand how I feel to have Annie Cumming's child set by such a wretch as that. Now easy, boys, and stand from about me, to give me breath."

"I am certain," said Edward Spencer, "that it is a fabrication from first to last."

"No—no!" exclaimed half-a-dozen, and one continued, unmindful of his blunder, "Lawrence Macarty is well known—rebel blood has run in his veins three hundred years!"

"It's not that," returned Mr. O'Driscoll; "I don't care if his head was over the court house to-night, before to-morrow, just for his father's sake; but have'n't you the hearts of Irishmen in your bosoms, to feel what sick did? Why, that young Irish madden performed a deed of honour which you can't match in your college books. I see it all; every soul in that house would have sent him, crouching there, to blazes, if she had but raised her finger towards his hiding-hole. Yet she preferred endangering her own and her brother's life to a breach of hospitality, or a forfeiture of her word. Glory! is there no shout in yer throats for such a girl as that?"

"The electric spark kindled, and in that very room a wild hurrah and a clapping of hands was raised for her—so loud as to be heard by the people outside the gate. It was a burst of national generosity and gallantry sweeping away all petty feeling for the moment; it was the generous impulse of generous nature. The Master of Macroom called 'Order—order,' while he wiped his eyes, and vehemently reproved the temporary clerk, who had shouted louder than any, and who, caught in the irreverent fact, sat down to plunge his pen in the ink with greater diligence than ever."

"Altho' that," said O'Driscoll, quite comforted and calmed by an ebullition of feeling which might have caused the walls of a modern mansion to tremble as with an earthquake; "Altho' that, I'll tell Aby Richards what I think of him."

Our last extract shall be a description of Irish scenery; and we shall offer no observation on the general character of the work until we receive its conclusion:—

"It is pleasant to dwell upon rugged scenery, then upon rugged truths; the lion back his ear, the fox his den, and the eagle its eyry, and there can be little doubt that our nature partake through life of the character of our early associations. Thus should be borne in mind as an act of justice towards those we judge."

"Glen Fleck, as we have said, is, like many other Irish glens, noted for the ready refuge it has frequently afforded to outlaws; in truth, to all sorts of 'boys' who, for a time, or under peculiar circumstances, found the open plain a dangerous locality. The legendary landmark of the glen is the well-known *Phil a dháimh*, or the demon's cliff. It is a succession of precipitous rocks, feathered, rather than clothed, with foliage, with here and there a miraculously rooted tree, gaining nutriment you hardly know how, and yet throwing its branches far and wide over the grey rock from which it seems to spring. The succession of rocks forms the face of the Crohane mountain, where the valley opens, as it were, to admit the beautiful river, and give full scope to its graceful windings beneath banks, in some places high and picturesque, at others sloping to the water's brink. The old Keamere road runs between the Fleck and the base of the mountain. Half way up this dangerous, and in stormy weather almost inaccessible, ascent is shown an iden ation in the rock, called *Labbie Owen*, meaning 'the bed of Owen'; the said Owen having been a most notorious rapparee and freebooter in old times. It might be imagined that this spot, once so noted as a place of outlaw refuge, would be avoided by others as likely to excite attention; but, on the

contrary, the Crohane and Annemore mountains have always been the resort of such as were obliged to seek concealment; and any one who has passed a week of long summer days exploring such of the fastnesses as are attainable by lowland feet, would wonder how it is possible to discover those who seek mountain sanctuary, remembering that, no matter what the reward may be, every man, woman, and child would suffer death sooner than give up to the law any who had the least desire to escape from it; indeed, the bare fact of wishing to 'escape the law' is quite sufficient to call, not only Irish sympathy, but Irish ingenuity to the rescue. Owen the Outlaw was, it is said, betrayed by a man called Reardon, who sought, by this act, to gratify private revenge, and succeeded in 'murdering' his friend in the glens of Inveleary, to which he had enticed him. He also, with savage ferocity, beheaded his victim; and the reproach of this deed remains to his descendants, who are but little trusted, and are still reproachfully termed *Reardan na ocean*, 'Reardon of the head.' The whole district is full of traditions. A belief in fairy lore and witchcraft mingles with religious faith, and imparts a more than ordinary degree of wildness and superstition to the habits and feelings of the primitive residents. They know little of the worldly doings of their countrymen beyond the glens; and, as in the case almost uniformly with the peasant population of Ireland, place implicit reliance on the statements of their clergy—while exercising keen perceptions, with which they are amply endowed, in doubting and investigating whatever comes to them from any other source."

"A most commandingly placed wreck of the past—which must perpetually recall to the peasant the tales of former times—is still an object of interest to the stranger. Kollala Castle, an old fortalice of the O'Connells, was erected to guard this once important pass; and many a night had the treasure seeker spent in circling its walls, and hunting for the riches he imagined must be concealed in the immediate neighbourhood of the guard chamber, beneath which it is believed one of the race of Irish giants lies entombed. Every step through this romantic locality is full of beauty and interest, whether visited when the sun shines upon its lovely scenery, or when the storm adds its might to the majesty of the mountains; but the glensmen are grown of late so much like their neighbours that the imagination must go back to the excited Whiteboyism of our period to see them transformed into Irish Guerrillas—resolved to protect whoever sought shelter in their mountain fastnesses."

**THE REGISTRATION.**—The Anti-Corn-Law League have this week opened an office in this town, for the transaction of the business attendant upon the registration of voters in the Free-Trade interest, for North Lancashire.

**FREE-TRADE FREEHOLDERS.**—We beg respectfully to remind those who have qualified themselves as electors of the West Riding, by purchasing small freeholds, that they must state the fact in their income-tax schedule, or perhaps they may fall into trouble.—*Bradford Observer.*

**WHEATHAMSTEAD FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.**—The anniversary of the formation of the Wheathamstead Free-Trade Association will be celebrated on Wednesday next, June 25th, at the Swan Inn, Wheathamstead. Mr. C. H. Lattimore will take the chair.

**ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURES.**—HOUNSLOW.—Mr. Edvey delivered a lecture on the corn and provision laws, and the necessity of paying proper attention to the coming registration, in the lecture room at the Nag's Head, Hounslow, on Friday evening, the 13th instant. The lecture was well attended, and resolutions condemnatory of all monopolies, and expressing a determination to co-operate with the League in improving the parliamentary register, were carried unanimously, and with acclamation. The first resolution was moved by Mr. Leslie, and seconded by Mr. Marshall. The second was moved by Mr. Barnham, and seconded by Mr. Giffield.—Mr. Edvey lectured to a crowded auditory in the theatre, Rochester, on Tuesday evening, the 17th, Mr. Young in the chair. The theatre was crowded in all parts, and the very best feeling manifested in favour of Free Trade.

**THE LEAGUE versus the CORN LAWS.**—The enemies of the League often ask what good has that body done, and to what purpose have all its agitation and expenditure of money been carried on? We reply it has familiarised the public to the contemplation of this subject, and has compelled our leading parliamentary men to abandon all those hollow and selfish pretences by which agricultural protection was defended. It has thrown them back upon the real merits of the question, and compelled them to acknowledge that their opponents are theoretically right, and that the time and mode of effecting the desired change is the only point now to be taken into account. Thus, we contend, is a mighty victory, and has been achieved in a much shorter time than might have been anticipated; the great difficulty has been surmounted, for when a man is once brought to confess that such and such things ought to be done, it is a comparatively easy matter to make him see that delay is both criminal and dangerous.—*Kendal Mercury.*

**THE LATE THOMAS HOOD.**—We are informed that a local subscription was last week set on foot at Manchester, by a few private gentlemen in aid of the fund now raising for the family of this distinguished writer; and that upwards of £100 were collected in the first two days. Contributions are still flowing in with a rapidity that well attests the liberality of Manchester, and the estimation in which literary genius is there held. It is probable that, in the other great towns of Britain, subscriptions for this excellent object, if started with equal spirit by individuals, would be supported with similar liberality by the public.—*Times.*

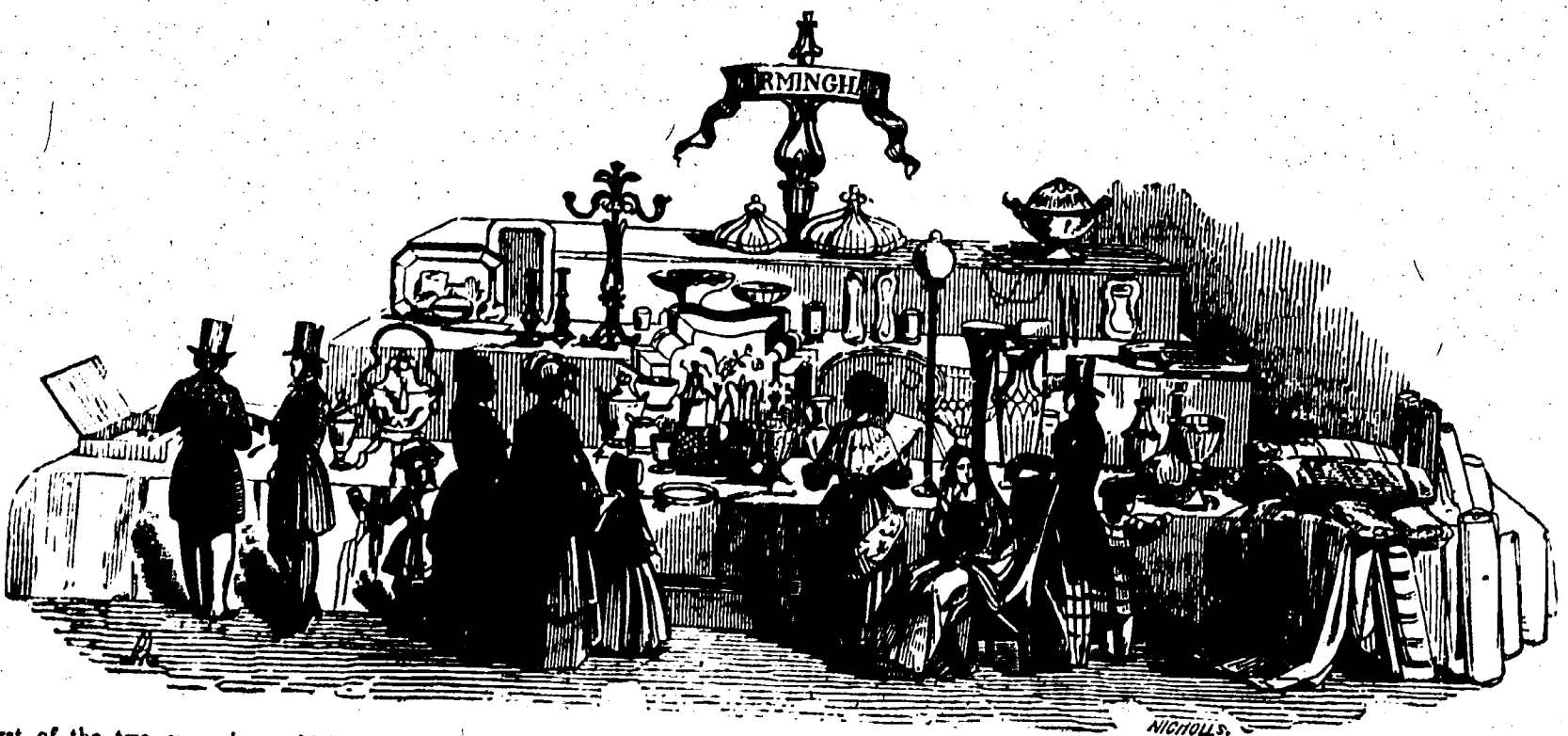
**ADVANCE OF WAGES.**—DINNER IN CELEBRATION OF THE EVENT.—On Saturday last the hands employed at the works of Messrs. Haslam and Cannon, Bolton, to the number of 120, dined together at the house of Mr. Nightingale, the Tipping's Arms Inn, Astley Bridge, in honour of the generous conduct of their employers, in advancing the rate of wages as soon as asked for. Some weeks ago, the operative cotton-spinners of Bolton and the neighbourhood applied to their employers for an advance of five per cent. upon their wages, in consequence of the improvement in trade, and the consequent demand for labour. This request was complied with by the mill-owners, but they required a fortnight's notice before making the advance. Messrs. Haslam and Cannon, however, gave the additional five per cent. forthwith.

## THE ART-UNION.

As already announced in the *LEAGUE*, the enterprising proprietor of this well-known journal intends furnishing

his readers, in the forthcoming July number, with an artistic description of the Bazaar, illustrated with numerous cuts of various objects which excited the interest or called forth the admiration of the visitors to this great

national exposition of British taste and skill. We have been favoured with a few specimen cuts, the first of which will be recognised as the Birmingham stall.



The first of the two engravings which follow is an elegant card—or visiting—ticket, plate; the second is a beautiful vase richly decorated, and admitted to possess great merit as a work of art.



## AGRICULTURE.

## A PECULIAR BURDEN ON LAND.

"SOCIAL AND MORAL RELATIONS HAVE GROWN UP BETWEEN LANDLORD AND TENANT UNDER THE CORN LAW AS IT HAS EXISTED, WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO OVERLOOK."—Sir Robert Peel on Mr. Villiers's Motion.

The oracular sentence of the Prime Minister which we have quoted above bears much of that double meaning for which the oracles of old were notorious; and when the reader has scanned the document we are about to present to his notice he will not hesitate to admit that there are "social and moral relations" between landlord and tenant "grown up" under the Corn Laws which it is indeed "impossible to overlook."

Whether the conclusion arrived at will not be just the reverse of that of the procrastinating Minister remains to be seen. We have never denied, nay, we have always strenuously asserted, that land in the hands of the tenant-farmers of this country is subject to peculiar and insupportable burdens; and we have constantly maintained that some prompt and efficient remedy is necessary. But, before the remedy can be applied, the nature and cause of the burdens must be thoroughly understood. We have said that those burdens are imposed by landowning legislation in Parliament, or by landlords' edicts upon their own estates. And the connexion of the two is not very remote.

Foremost amongst the farmers' peculiar burdens stands the game, which we all know could not exist a twelvemonth if landlords did that, which the First Lord of the Treasury affected to deprecate, namely, dealt with their land upon "commercial principles;" but under the protection of the Corn Law a system of tenure has "grown up," half feudal, half commercial, by which the tenant-farmer has, in too many instances, become not exactly a serf, a bailiff, or a capitalist who has contracted to receive the produce he can raise upon the land in consideration of a definite rent, but something partaking of the character of each. In many cases the serf and bailiff largely preponderate. It seems to be so upon the estate of Lord Dinorben, in South

Wales, as will be seen from the following imperious circular which has lately been addressed to his lordship's tenantry. The object of the circular is to secure the peace of his lordship's hares when fattening upon his tenants' crops. This is the landlord's edict:—

"Sir,—I feel I need make no apology for troubling you with this note, as it is the fourth or the fifth I have, without the least apparent effect, addressed to you on the same subject, viz., the disturbance of the game upon your farm by dogs.

"Lord Dinorben complains that few hares were found on your farm last coursing season, and this is in a great measure attributable to your having had your dogs going at large, or following your servants in and over the fields. It is not without great regret that his lordship, and indeed all parties interested in the preservation of game, feel themselves compelled to reiterate complaints of this kind year after year, and I again feel called upon to inform you that if the nuisance is not entirely abated by you, and that immediately, the most decided steps will be taken to have it put down in another way.

"I shall cause a survey of the estate to be made, in order to ascertain how many, and what kind, of dogs are kept upon each farm, and report to the surveyor of taxes accordingly, in order that they may be one and all taxed; and should this still fail of the desired effect, other steps still more decided will be had recourse to, to rid the estate of all such annoyance to the landlord, his friends, and those in charge of the game, and others interested in the peace and happiness of the estate; and do let me once more, in the name of your landlord, and in my own name, beseech you to attend to this letter, and save us all from further trouble in this matter.

"I remain, Sir, your sincere friend and well-wisher,  
"Kinmel Park, April 16, 1845." "J. MURRAY.

Can anything be more insolent than the tone of this circular? Can anything be more unfair and one-sided than its objects? "All interested in the preservation of the game" complain not that the game is destroyed—the poor subservient tenants are too spirit-broken for any such infraction of landlord private law—but that "dogs going at large or following" the farming servants disturb the game. We thought that genuine monopolist of Hertfordshire, the Marquis of Salisbury, stood alone in forbidding his tenants to keep dogs; but it seems Lord Dinorben competes with him as a protector of hares. Then, in what pathetic terms does Mr. "J. Murray" refer to the breach of the "peace and

happiness of the estate," which the loose dogs occasion by annoying "the landlord, his friends, and those in charge of the game"—that is, the gamekeepers! But it seems never to have entered into the mind of the "Kinmel Park" land-agent, that the peace and happiness of the estate could be at all affected by the losses the tenants might suffer from the game. The landlord feeds his hares upon the tenants' crops, which, as "a commercial speculation," they purchased the right to grow from the landlord. Lord Dinorben has pocketed a full "commercial" rent, yet not a thought is cast upon the tenants' interests in this matter of game. The landlord, his friends, the gamekeepers are all anxiously considered, although their "peace and happiness" consist in the undisturbed enjoyment of that to which they have no right, and which Lord Dinorben has expressly sold to the tenants; while the "peace and happiness" of the tenants, the existence and well-being of their families, their labour, their skill, and their industry, are sacrificed recklessly, wantonly, cruelly to the landlord's sport, and are not deemed worthy of consideration in an estimate of the "peace and happiness of the estate"!!!

Here, then, we have a peculiar burden upon land; here we see one of the causes which prevent, if any do prevent, British tenants from competing with the corn-growers of the whole world. Will the British people consent to be taxed in order to continue such burdens?

Now, although such atrocious documents as the "Kinmel" edict do not often come before the public, it by no means follows that notices of a similar character are rarely given to tenant-farmers. It is true that most land-agents, somewhat more shrewd, if not less despoils, than Mr. J. Murray, usually contrive to convey their lord's wishes verbally or in some other guarded way, yet the system which the above circular indicates is in full operation on most large estates. "Social and moral relations" have grown up between landlord and tenant, which are utterly inconsistent with the dependence of the tenant, and with a fair and equitable Let the landlords of this country put forth the real state of these relations, and the tenants will



have upon the value of their property. Do they believe that any man of spirit and enterprise would rent a farm under Lord Dinorben and others such as he is shown to be by his agent's letter? Men of capital and education—and a fair portion of each is required to farm land in the best manner—will not subject themselves to such insults as that contained in the circular. Hence it is that so many estates are occupied by farmers who, when the season is adverse or any new set of circumstances occurs, have no resource but to fall back upon the forbearance of their landlords. It is possible that some landlords may, as Mr. Villiers said, find it "more profitable to grow votes than wheat," may prefer a subservient and inferior tenantry to independent and substantial farmers; but will the public submit to the maintenance of the Corn Laws for such objects? There is now no longer any mystery left in the matter. The land of this country has been shown to be little more than half cultivated, and its more perfect cultivation is only prevented by the Corn Laws and the peculiar burdens imposed by landlords upon their tenants; the farmers' profits have been proved to be scanty and precarious from the same causes, and from those causes only; and the rents of the landowners are notoriously in peril only because they refuse to grant to their tenants complete possession and secure tenures, which are indispensable to the successful pursuit of farming as a business. The only pretences upon which the Corn Laws have been hitherto supported stand exposed to the derision of the whole world; and we put it to the landowners of this nation whether the power to issue such mandates as that of "Kinmel Park"—for we fully admit that tenants in a position to submit to such insults would not be found with a free trade in corn—be worth the hazards they are incurring in their present most vain and hopeless struggle to uphold monopoly?

#### SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

There are various roads to the now certain goal of Free Trade. Some go by the direct way which points to their injustice and impolicy, while others arrive there by the more circuitous route which shows that their maintenance is impossible or inexpedient. The real Free-Trade has gone by the first, the Whigs and the Ministerials by the latter way; and it would seem that some of the most furious monopolists are about to reach the same point by a sort of flying leap. Thus we find in the *New Farmers' Journal*, usually a passionate and unreasonable organ of the monopolists, the following concluding sentence to a tirade on Ministerial "treachery":—

"All things considered, if we are doomed to see the principles now adopted by Ministers ultimately and fully carried into action, perhaps the sooner the better I ought to be the cry of all concerned."

This has, in fact, long been the cry of a great body of the farmers who are convinced that the Corn Laws cannot be maintained for more than a very brief period. And there is really much practical good sense in it; for if Free Trade was fraught with all the danger to farmers which their political leaders once asserted, it would be far better to meet it and provide for it at once and for ever. But, in fact, there is no danger to occupiers of land from full and immediate Free Trade, while every hour of delay brings with it its own particular evils, and renders all calculations for the future uncertain and hazardous.

#### AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

##### EXPERIMENT IN WHEAT CULTURE.

We give the following letters addressed to Mr. Cobden, in the account of an experiment in the culture of wheat conducted by an intelligent agriculturist. It is evidence of the activity which exists amongst the superior farmers, which, when the "bane of protection" has been removed, will inevitably produce great results in agriculture. Perhaps the matter is somewhat speculative, but still the consideration of such plans will lead farmers to adopt improvements in many of their most ordinary processes. The general adoption of such a system as that of our correspondent is, of course, out of the question, for man wants meat as well as bread; but we believe that under a Free Trade, by admitting the inferior grains for stock to be imported and sold at a cheap rate, good crops of wheat might be grown more frequently on the same land than can be done under the existing system.

Yorkshire, April 23, 1845.

"Sir,—I take the liberty of sending to you a calculation of the cost of growing wheat successively on 400 acres of land, which I believe to be tolerably correct. The feasibility of accomplishing this desideratum is not yet quite proved, but I feel little doubt of its being ultimately brought about. If I am tolerably correct, wheat may be produced, according to this plan, in average years and on good fair land, at a cost of 30s. 2d. per quarter. You will observe that I have taken 50 acres extra, for the purpose of producing food for sixteen horses, necessary for the cultivation of the whole. My mode of calculation may not accord with the ideas of many; but it appears to me to be the correct method; that is, debiting the farm with all charges, and crediting it with the value of all produce, whether consumed on the farm or sold. Of these debits rent seems to form about one-sixth. I must confess that I do not see the justice of debiting the value of the produce consumed on the premises, and then saying the rent forms so large a proportion of the value of the after available produce. To a farmer I consider his rent forms an item of expense the same as any other expense incurred in the cultivation of his farm; and, according to my calculation, if the 450 acres were rent free,

it would only reduce the cost of production about 6s. 9d. per quarter, which is a much smaller amount than it is frequently stated to be."

Calculation of expense of cultivating 450 acres of land, of good average quality, on the following system: 50 acres being employed in producing food for 16 horses used on the farm, and the remaining 400 acres being appropriated to growing wheat successively; presuming that it may be accomplished by restoring to the land the constituents which each crop exhausts.

First Cost of the above-mentioned 50 Acres per Annum.

5 acres Pasture.—Rent 27s., tithes 6s., taxes and assessments 7s. 40s. £12 10  
Sundry other expenses, say 10s. 2 10

13 acres Meadow.—Rent, &c., as before 40s. 26 0

10 loads of farmyard manure per acre every other year; or five loads every year, at 7s. per load, or 35s. per acre 22 15  
Making hay, mowing, and stacking, per acre 12s. 7 16

8 acres Turnips (Swedes).—Rent, &c., as before 40s. 16 0

4 ploughings, dragging, harrowing, &c., at 12s. each 48s. 19 4  
Ridging and drilling, per acre 10s. 4 0  
Manure, guano, 2 cwt. per acre, or 16 cwt. 8s. £8 8  
Fold manure, 10 loads per acre, or 80 loads, 7s. 28 0

Seed, 2 lbs. per acre, or 16 lbs., at 1s. 6d. 1 4  
Two hoeings, at 5s. each 10s. 4 0  
Getting, leading, and storing 23s. 8 0

8 acres Oats.—Rent, &c., as before 40s. 16 0

Ploughing 7s., sowing 1s., harrowing, &c., 2s. per acre 10s. 4 0  
Seed, 4 bushels per acre, 3s. 4 16  
Harvesting 8s., leading and stacking 4s. 6d., thrashing 10s. 22s. 6. 9 0

8 acres Clover.—Rent, &c., as before 40s. 16 0

Seed, 14 lbs. per acre, 112 lbs. 91. 4 4  
Sowing, rolling, &c., per acre 2s. 6d. 1 0  
Twice mowing, leading, &c., per acre 20s. 8 0

8 acres Beans.—Rent, &c., as before 40s. 16 0

Seed, 3 bushels per acre, or 24 bushels 4s. 6d. 5 8  
Ploughing, sowing, &c., per acre 10s. 4 0  
Harvesting, as the oats 22s. 6d. 9 0

Manure—nitrate of potash, 1 cwt. at 26s. £21 6  
Salt, 5 cwt., at 2s. 0 10  
Lime, 2 tons, at 9s. 0 18

Per acre 21 12

50 acres £274 17

#### General Expenses.

Interest on capital at £8 per acre, or £400 at 5 per cent. £20 0

Wear and tear on implements, cost £600 for the whole farm at 10 per cent. per annum: say 1-9th to belong to the 50 acres 6 10

Proportion (say 1-9th) of carpenter and blacksmith's bill £100 11 2

Proportion (do.) of superintendence 72 8 0

Proportion (do.) of saddler's bill, sacks, &c. £140 15 10

Hedging, gripping, &c., per acre 5s. 12 10

(Cost about £7 per acre. Rent forming about 1-5th.)

Produce of the foregoing 50 Acres.

5 acres Pasture, used for turning out horses when resting, &c. 13 acres Meadow, at 12 ton of hay per acre, total 223 tons = 151 lbs. of hay for each horse per day during 200 days.

8 acres Turnips, at 16 tons per acre = 128 tons.

8 acres Oats, at 64 quarters per acre = 512 quarters of 23 stone each, or 3 lbs. of crushed oats for each horse during 365 days.

Straw, 14 ton per acre = 112 tons, affording 7 lbs. of chopped straw per day for each horse during 200 days.

8 acres Beans, at 54 quarters per acre = 44 quarters of 63 lbs. per bushel, or 32 lbs. of bean-meal per day for each horse for 365 days.

8 acres Clover, at 8 tons per acre, green food = 64 tons, or 4 stone per day for each horse during 165 days.

50 acres.

Winter Food per day for each Horse, 200 days.

Chopped hay 154 lbs. Green clover 56 lbs.

Chopped straw 7 lbs. Oat and bean meal 63 lbs.

Crushed oats 3 lbs.

Bean-meal 32 lbs. Total per day 622 lbs.

Turnips 38 lbs.

(or 40 tons for 16 horses in 300 days)

Total weight per day 674 lbs.

Cost of 16 Horses per Annum.

Food as above £318 9

Deduct 28 tons of turnips, at 10s., more than wanted for the horses 44 0

Cost of chopping and grinding food 301 9

Shoeing and farriery, 47s. per horse 32 0

Wear and tear on 16 horses, cost £20 each (£320), at 10 per cent. 32 0

Deduct value of manure £8 per horse 48 0

(Cost per horse per annum, £23. 3s.)

Cost of cultivating 400 Acres of Wheat, successively, on the same Land.

Rent 27s., tithes 6s., taxes and assessments 7s., total per acre, 40s. £800 0

Horse power, for one draught, ploughing, sowing, harrowing, &c., and for leading, as per previous account, 8-9ths of £370 9s. 339 6

Seed, 3 bushels per acre, or 24 bushels at 6s. 12s. 0d. 24 0

Manure, or acre, 14 cwt. of guano, at 8s. 11s. 0d. 8 0

Do., do., 3 cwt. of salt, at 1s. 6d. 3 0

Do., do., 1 cwt. of gypsum, at 2s. 2 0

Do., do., 4 ton of lime at 9s. 3 8

Per acre 19 8 £254 0

N.B.—The lime to be applied 4 ton every

Brought forward £1704 6  
other year, equal to 1 ton every year, immediately after the removal of the previous crop: the remainder of the articles to be applied 1-3rd when the wheat is sown, and 2-3rds in spring.

8 ploughmen or team-men at 12s. 6d. each, or £32. 10s. each per annum, or total £320 per annum, say 8-9ths 331 0

5 labourers, on an average throughout the year, besides harvest labourers, at 11s. per week each, or £28 12s. per annum 143 0

10 women, on an average throughout the year, or 30 for 4 months in the year, at 5s. 6d. per week, or £14. 6s. per annum 143 0

4 boys constantly employed, at 4s. per week, £10. 8s. per annum 41 12

Harvesting, mowing, and setting up, per acre 8s. £160 0

Stacking and thatching 2s. 40 0

Thrashing 10s. 300 0

(Leading included in cost of horses.) £2722 18

Sundry general Expenses.

Interest of capital £8 per acre, or £320 at 5 per cent. £160 0

Wear and tear of implements, cost £600, at 10 per cent. £60 8 10s. 53 10

Blacksmith and carpenter, 8-9ths of £100 89 0

Superintendence 8-9ths of £72 63 0

Saddler, sacks, &c. 8-9ths of £140 124 10

Contingencies (hedging and gripping included in labour) 100 0

(Cost about £8. 5s. 6d. per acre. Rent about 1-5th.) £3311 18

Produce per Annum.

400 acres of Wheat at 36 bushels per acre, or 14,400 bushels at 5s. 3d. £3780 0

(or 1800 quarters at 42s.)

Straw, at 14 ton, or 600 tons at 23s. per acre 600 0

Deduct cost 3311 18

Left for profit £1068 2

Memorandum.

Cost of production as per account £3311 18

Deduct value of straw 600 0

Cost of wheat, 1800 quarters £2711 18

(or 30s. 2d. per quarter.)

"Sir,—As you appear to have taken an interest in the calculation which I sent to you, on the cost of growing wheat successively on the same land, I now beg to follow it up by sending another, of the cost of probable profit on the cultivation of the same 400 acres, on the common four-course system of husbandry. If I am tolerably correct, you will perceive that the latter is only about one-half as profitable as the former, or, as £655 is to £1266. But in the latter (four course) I have been much at a loss at what price to credit the farm with the turnips, as it is a crop which has indirectly to be converted into money, at least most commonly so, inasmuch as that crop has to be consumed by stock on the premises. In situations near a large town, considerably more might be made of the turnips by selling them at once. Again, when a farmer sells his turnips to be eaten on the land, by sheep belonging to other parties, he often obtains for them only £3 or £4 per acre, the manure left by the sheep being estimated as of considerable value. As I debit the farm with manure for the turnips, I conceive that I am correct in crediting it with the straw produced; but whether I have estimated it at sufficient value is another question. At any rate the relative position of the two calculations, as setting one mode of culture in opposition to the other, remains pretty nearly the same. As to rent, it appears that on the rotation system the landlord gets as much, pretty nearly, as the tenant, or as £540 is to £655; but on the continuous growth of wheat the proportion is as £540 is to £1266. In estimating rent I always conceive that a calculation ought to be made of the cost (independent of rent) of cultivating a farm on the most approved principle, including wear and tear of implements and interest of capital; then take a fair estimate of the probable produce, and let the excess of value of the produce be divided by three—one-third to be considered as the landlord's share, and two-thirds the tenant's. I fear, however, that few farmers so cultivate their land as to make that proportionate share for themselves; and this is mainly owing more to their own want of energy than to their having to pay an exorbitant rent. Many farmers, I believe, now acknowledge the League as having been their best friend, by stirring them up, and forcing them to exert themselves. A great deal is now said about electro-culture, that is, attracting the electric fluid from the atmosphere, by means of suspended wires, and conducting it down to wires buried in the soil, which impart it to the growing plants; thus giving them more of the subtle fluid than they would otherwise be acted upon by. I feel a little dubious of its efficacy, nevertheless I am trying it on a small scale. A Mr. Foster, in Scotland, produced, last year, on a small plot of land, after the rate of 13 quarters of barley per acre, by this means—the remainder of the field producing only 5½ quarters per acre. But the process must not be supposed to afford any food to the plant, but merely to give the power of obtaining and assimilating food when presented to it, thereby rendering the application of manure more necessary. To insist upon the plant to grow, under this process, without applying manure, would be like a doctor administering tonic medicines to a patient, thereby giving him an appetite, and then placing an empty plate before him, and telling him to eat, drink, and be merry."

Calculation of cost of cultivating the same 400 Acres on the common Four-course system, or Rotation of Turnips, Barley, Clover, and Wheat.

Rent of 400 acres, as before 800 0

Keep and cost of 16 horses per annum 331 4

Labour 339 6

Sundry general expenses 400 0

100 acres Turnips (half Swedes and half whites) seed, 2 lbs. per acre, or 200 lbs. at 1s. 6d. 3 0

Manure, guano, 2 cwt. per acre, or 16 cwt. at 8s. 8 0

Fold manure, 10 loads, at 7s. 7 10

4 6 450 0 446 0 0

Brought forward	£2713 16 0
100 acres Barley.—Seed, 3½ bus. per acre, 350 bus., at 8s. 9d.	65 12 6
100 acres Clover.—Seed, 1 stone per acre, 100 stone, at 9s. 6d.	47 10 0
100 acres Wheat.—Seed, 2 bus. per acre, 200 bus., at 6s. 6d.	130 0 0
Time, 2 tons, at 200 tons, at 9s. 9d.	91 0 0
Salt 5 cwt., at 500 cwt., at 1s. 6d.	27 10 0
Harvesting, &c., 200 acres of wheat and barley, at 2s.	200 0 0
	£3214 8 6

Produce per Annum.		£	s.	d.
Turnips.—Sweden 50 acres, 1½ tons, or 800 tons at 12s.		480	0	0
White 50 "	20 "	88	40	0
Barley 100 "	5½ qrs., or 850 qrs., 30s.	825	0	0
Straw 100 "	1½ ton, or 150 tons, 2 s.	150	0	0
Clover 100 "	2½ (hay) or 250 "	750	0	0
Wheat 100 "	3½ bus., or 350 bus., 5s. 6d.	990	0	0
Straw 100 "	1½ ton, or 150 tons, 20s.	150	0	0
		3870	0	0
Cost (about £8 per acre, rent about 1-6th)		3214	8	6
Estimated profit		£655	11	6

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our attention has been drawn to an answer to correspondents given last week on the decision of the Court of Common Pleas, in the case of Galsby and Barrow—to qualify for a county by the occupation of premises at a rent of £5, under one landlord. It is suggested that we should explain that the property in the case was not a single house, but a large holding, and that the holding was in several persons in common, and then the holding from several persons would be good; which would, no doubt, be the case.

A Young Free-Presser, Manchester, writes:—I should be much obliged by your answering, through the medium of the LEAGUE, the following question: I am a lodger, paying upwards of £2 per annum for two rooms, which rooms are kept for my own use exclusively. I having a key of the outer door for ingress and egress at pleasure, if the foregoing is sufficient, I shall get my name placed on the register in the rate book. Your attention will oblige myself and many more occupying rooms at the same rate as myself. [The Court of Common Pleas, upon appeal in the case of "Pettit and Smith," and in the case of "W. New and Perkins," have decided that lodgers occupying apartments in a house where the landlord resides is not entitled to vote; but in the case of "Scott and Huggitt," a larger occupied room where there was a common street door for other inmates, who each had a key, and the landlord did not reside on the premises, held entitled to vote.]

"C. M. K." A lease of a house in a borough will not confer a county qualification.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Galsby, Newell's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

As the Parliamentary proceedings of the week have contained nothing of interest or importance to the Free-Trade public, we have, therefore, omitted our usual Post-script, in consequence of the great length to which our report of the speeches at the meeting in Covent Garden Theatre on Wednesday night has extended, and in order to have more space for matter that we were unable to insert in our last number.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—In the French Chamber of Deputies, on Monday, the principal business for the remainder of the session was arranged, and the following bills will be passed: The Paris and Strasbourg, the Tours and Nantes, the Dieppe and Fecamp, and the Avignon and Aix railway bills. Several others will be postponed, but all the great lines are to be commenced without delay.

The National states that the carpenters of Paris, to the number of 5000 or 10,000, had struck for an advance of wages. They demand an increase from four francs a day to five francs, and urge that, taking the year round, the pay of an able-bodied man did not average three francs, while all the necessaries of life were rising in price.

ALGERIA.—The *Moniteur Algerien* of the 10th inst. brings accounts of fresh razzias. At Dileten Marshal Bugeaud, with an overwhelming force under his command, "killed" 3000 head of cattle, killed fifteen of the enemy, and possessed himself of a large booty. On the 1st inst., at Ouled Bouchemmou, he succeeded in killing 150 men, and "killing" 1000 head of cattle. These are, however, only a few of the triumphs of a similar kind which have been achieved by the force under his command during the last month.

SPAIN.—Accounts from Madrid of the 10th inst. bring no news of the least interest. Senor Prato, the editor of the *Patriota*, was still confined in the barracks of the Body Guards. The *Castellano* describes a bull fight, which took place on the 9th, as having been one of the finest of the season; twenty-four horses were killed on the occasion. Another of the same kind will shortly be exhibited by M. Torcuato to his friends, at which several of the diplomatic body are to "assist." We read in a letter from Burgos of the 8th:—"On May 10 a dreadful event occurred near this town. Five young girls, of from 18 to 20 years of age, set out early in the morning for Vascos, their native village, to pass the fête of Pentecost. The same evening they were all found lying dead on a part of the road between Pineda and Vascos. Medical men having examined the bodies, declared that they had died of cold. It is supposed that they sat down when heated with their walk, and, having fallen asleep, were struck by the cold wind and perished."

BATUMI.—Accounts from Batumi of the 16th announce the resignation of all the Ministers. It appears that the elections, both in the capital and Antwerp, had gone decidedly against the Government candidates, and eleven Liberals had been returned. These unexpected results had such an effect upon several of the members of

the Cabinet, that a council was summoned, and, after some deliberation, all gave in their resignations. Baron D'Huart, Governor of Namur, and formerly Finance Minister, was immediately sent for, and intrusted with the formation of a new Ministry. The visit of the King and Queen to England has in consequence been deferred.

NAPLES.—A letter from Naples, June 7, says:—"From the 1st inst. our Government has lowered the postage of letters by one-half. This act, which was not anticipated, has been received with enthusiasm. It does not, however, extend to journals."

LISBON, June 9.—The last accounts from Madeira represent it as suffering greatly from the depressed state of its commerce. The treaty with the United States of America, from which so much was expected, has not led to any increase in the exportation of wine, the staple produce of that island. Doctor Kalley is still there, and has not met with any further molestation. At the instance of the new bishop, the Governor has issued an order against working on Sundays and holidays. The English brig Valiant, Dobson master, from the Mediterranean, homeward bound, put into Lisbon on the 25th ult., for a supply of fresh water, and though she was provided with a clean bill of health, and had been thirty-nine days at sea, without touching anywhere, or communicating with any other vessel, she was subjected to heavy quarantine charges, having been made to pay three days' fees, though she was only one day in the Tigris. It is a wonder that all trade has not disappeared from this inhospitable port!

GAZETTE.—Intelligence from Athens, of the 31st ult., gives a melancholy account of the anarchy which has been the result of the intrigues practised in that country. Colonel Strato, the commandant of the troops on the frontiers of western Greece, had been attacked by General Grivas, assailed by the brigands, and wounded. It appears from the narrative of General Grivas and his brother that the affair was a dastardly attempt to assassinate the former.

THE RUSSIAN AND CIRCASSIANS.—Letters from Odessa of the 22nd ult. bring accounts from Tiflis that the expedition against Shamyl Bey, led on by Count Woronzoff, has not been successful. The Russian troops were forced to retreat with great loss. Shamyl Bey has proclaimed that he will treat as enemies all the provinces of Circassia which do not take up arms against Russia. A chief of his nomination has been accepted by the Abas. In answer to the proclamation of Count Woronzoff, Shamyl Bey has circulated another in the Russian camps and quarters, in which he says:—"Shamyl Bey does not fear the 180,000 men sent against him by Russia, and hopes, with the help of God, to triumph over them. God has given to man the sword for conquest, and justice for his government. If Nicholas forgets to do justice, God has given to Shamyl the sword to punish him."

THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.—Accounts from St. Petersburg of the 31st ult. state that a Polish refugee, named Golezky, a native of Wollgum, had been arrested and allowed to return to his country. Andrew Anderson, the British sailor convicted of the murder of a pilot, had been publicly flogged at Riga, and was to be transported to Siberia, with a convoy of malefactors about to depart for the mines of that country. The Emperor had lately ordered that tracts of land belonging to the Crown should be assigned to the Israelites in the immediate neighbourhood of their residence, with the money necessary to enable them to purchase agricultural implements. The authorities, however, charged with the execution of the measure, throw all sorts of difficulties in the way of the Israelites who claimed the benefit of the Imperial ukase, and a complaint denouncing the ill-will of those functionaries, and signed by the heads of 150 families, had been addressed to the Emperor.

INDIA.—Letters and papers from Bombay to the 12th of May have been received. The intelligence is not of striking importance. The chief subject of interest is the continuation of the intrigues at Lahore. Ghoolab Singh was there a sort of state prisoner, for the troops were unwilling to murder him until he had disgorged the vast sums of money which he and his brother and nephew had purloined from the treasury of old Runjeet Singh. Watched by the Queen's party, lest he should find means of bribing all the Khalsa, he has been called on to give up his fortresses and his wealth. He vows that his wealth is concealed in places known only to himself, and that, unless he is allowed to return to his hill forts, he can only give a small sum.—Islam Khan, the only one of the robber chiefs who had escaped from being taken prisoner by Sir C. Napier, had returned to make a foray into Scinde, but he was attacked and beaten by the Murree tribe, by whom the British friendship is respected, and who killed two Banglee chiefs that joined him.

CHINA.—The news from China comes down to the end of March. The Emperor had received some favourable notices of Christianity, and was disposed to tolerate it. Lieutenant A. McDonald, of H.M.'s 98th Regiment, had been tried by a court-martial, for sending an insulting note to his superior officer. He was sentenced to be cashiered; but, on a revision, a milder punishment has been inflicted. The Government of Macao, whose suicidal measures have for some time past attracted attention, has at length made a bold and desperate effort at improvement; and by the establishment of new custom-house regulations, calculated to remove some of the impediments hitherto thrown in the way of trade, has sought to lure back the shipping to its well-nigh deserted port, and render the colony once more a lively and bustling resort of commerce.

WEST INDIES.—The Forth, Royal Mail steam-ship, arrived at Southampton from the West Indies on Thursday evening. The news brought by the Forth is of a rather meagre description. In Jamaica nearly the whole of the crops were in, and exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the planters. The fine season was much in their favour, and there is no doubt that the amount will be over 60,000 tons. The prospect for the future, too, it appears, is good. The island was generally healthy, but when the packer left on the 24th ult. the heavy rains had just commenced. The Bluebell, with 260 Hill Coolies, had arrived. Matters in Barbadoes are much the same; and there is little news of any consequence from the other islands. The Forth brings home 19 shipwrecked seamen from Fayal, who had abandoned the Chittam, of Liverpool, off St. George, in consequence of her foundering. The captain, thinking the vessel was likely to fill and go down, took to the boats, with the crew, about ten o'clock in the morning, and made for Fayal, at which place they arrived in safety. About sunset they observed their vessel, with all her sails set, running through the water at

great speed, and apparently in safety. Night coming on, however, they lost sight of her, and the ship has not been heard of since. The crew was in a very destitute condition, and the passengers of the Forth very humanely subscribed a liberal sum to relieve their necessities.

## DOMESTIC.

A frightful steam-boiler explosion occurred on Saturday last, at the foundry of Messrs. Nasmyth, Gaskell, and Co., at Patricroft, near Eccles, causing the death of the engineer, John Hurst, and inflicting such severe injuries on two others that they are considered to be in imminent danger. The buildings were dreadfully shattered by the force of the explosion. The accident is supposed to have been caused by a want of water in the boiler.

An alarming accident occurred on the Great Western Railway on Tuesday morning. The express train left Paddington for Exeter in the morning at three quarters past nine o'clock; the whole distance (191 miles), since this fast train has been established, being performed in four hours and a half. The train consisted of the engine and tender, a luggage-van, two second-class and two first-class carriages. Upon the arrival of the train at a point of the railway called Dog-kennel-bridge, the passengers experienced an extraordinary undulatory sort of motion, and before more than a few seconds had elapsed, the two first-class and one of the second-class carriages were thrown with fearful violence off the line down an embankment 12 or 15 feet in depth, with a most alarming and dreadful crash. Many of the passengers, about 30 in number, received severe contusions, but fortunately no life was lost.

On Saturday the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the grand Waterloo Barracks, opposite the north side of the White Tower, on the site of the grand store-house, or small armoury, destroyed by the great fire in 1841, was performed by the Duke of Wellington. The Barracks will be 288 feet in length, 61 in breadth, and 70 in height. The architecture will be in strict keeping with the style of the White Tower. It will be three stories high, the entrance to be between two octagon towers, surrounded by the royal arms and a clock.

On Friday night, the 13th inst., about 11 o'clock, the town and neighbourhood of Chatham were visited with a violent storm, the rain pouring down in torrents and flooding the streets. The storm was preceded by most vivid flashes of lightning, illuminating the country for miles, and accompanied by awful peals of thunder. The storm lasted about one hour. The lightning set fire to a granary and piggery on a farm in the parish of Tunstall; the buildings were burnt to the ground, and 40 quarters of wheat destroyed.

The adjourned inquest on Mr. Alexander Seton, shot in the late duel at Gosport, was again resumed, and terminated on Tuesday. Mrs. Hawkey, the wife of Lieutenant Hawkey, underwent a long examination; and from her evidence it appeared the duel originated in improper proposals made to her by the deceased. The jury brought in a verdict that the deceased came by his death in consequence of the operation which was rendered necessary by the wound he had received; and they found Lieutenant Hawkey and Lieutenant Pym guilty of wilful murder.

The total loss of life arising from the accident at Yarmouth is 79 (bodies found 77), and most providentially not one of that number had any person dependent on him or her. Only eight or ten of the deceased exceeded 21 years of age. Another bridge, on piles, has since been thrown over the river, near the site of the former suspension-bridge, the platform of this latter being used to form the roadway of the present.

The net revenue of the Post-office of the United Kingdom in the year ending 5th of January, 1839, amounted to £1,611,353; in the year ending 5th of January, 1844, to £2,237,711; and in the year ending 5th of January, 1845, to £2,610,721. It is hence manifest that the revenue of the Post-office department is gradually recovering from the discouragement given to it (for a time) by the reduction of the charge to a penny per letter. The lowest net revenue received since the adoption of the "penny" system was that received in the year ending 5th of January, 1841 (the first after the alteration), when it was as low as £1,102,028.

On Wednesday the Dutch steam-packet Batavier, Captain David Dunlop, arrived alongside the St. Katherine's Steam-packet Wharf from Rotterdam. She brought sixty-seven live oxen and cows, and upwards of 700 live ducks, geese, hens, &c. The influx of poultry from the Continent every week has considerably reduced its price in the markets.

By the returns kept by the authorities of the Fire Brigade of the conflagrations that daily occur in the metropolis, it appears that during this year, up to Wednesday evening, no fewer than 411 fires have happened in London and its suburbs.

Accounts from all parts of the kingdom represent the crops as in the most promising condition, owing to the continued warmth of the weather.

For many—very many—years (says the *Dublin Evening Mail*) there has not been such summer weather as we have enjoyed for the last few days. The heat has been intense, and never within the memory of man did the country or the crops present so glorious an appearance, or give promise of a more early and abundant harvest.

The Repeal Association met at the Conciliation Hall, Dublin, on Monday. The attendance, in the absence of Mr. O'Connell, was small. The business was not of any general importance. The week's rent amounted to £430. 10s. 10d.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

INCREASE OF COTTON, SILK, AND OTHER MILLS.—In his last report, dated the 16th ultimo, and just printed, Mr. Leonard Horner, the factory inspector for this district, states, that in the latter part of 1843 there were 1596 mills at work in his district; and that there are now 1830. So that there are 234 more mills working at present than there were a year and a half ago. Mr. Horner's district, we believe, comprises parts of Yorkshire, the whole of Lancashire, and parts of Wales.—*Manchester Guardian*.

EFFECT OF PUBLIC WORKS ON WAGES.—The immense public works now in progress in all parts of the empire are drawing great numbers of workmen from agriculture to the much better paid occupation of "unemployed labour." In South Lancashire, farm-labourers were never so scarce as they are at present, and in Durham the want of men is so great that they are endeavouring to obtain labour



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**THE GREAT BAZAAR AT COVENT GARDEN THEATRE THE ART-UNION MONTHLY JOURNAL.** OF THE FINE ARTS, THE ARTS DECORATIVE AND ORNAMENTAL, AND RECORD OF THE ARTS OF MANUFACTURE. Largely illustrated by Engravings on Wood, Steel, &c. Price One Shilling. The following is extracted from the Art-Union of the present Month—June.

It is our intention to publish, with our next number, an ample Report of the "Industrial Art" contained in this Exhibition; we design to issue it in the manner of these Parts of the Art-Union which we last year devoted to the Exposition in Paris, and which gave very general satisfaction; having proved indeed practically useful to several English manufacturers, by suggesting valuable hints for the improvement of their productions.

We shall largely illustrate this article, introducing into it Wood Engravings of all the principal objects which derive value from the influence they receive from Fine Art; and at the same time, we shall endeavour to render the Report interesting, by engraving several of the "Stalls" at which the more important of the manufactured productions were arranged and exhibited.

We shall then, we trust and believe, be pursuing that plan which, of all others, is the best calculated to advance the interests of the Fine Arts, by showing how continually and how effectually they may be made to advance the useful Arts, suggesting the value of manufactured articles sometimes a hundred fold.

The Article above referred to will be published in the Art-Union, No. 54, on the 1st of July. It will occupy 6 columns of that Journal, and be illustrated by between six and ten Wood Engravings, consisting of Drawings of the most prominent "Stalls," and the most striking and interesting objects exhibited on the occasion.

The Work (which should be ordered without delay) may be obtained of any Bookseller in town or country; or of the Publishers, Messrs. Chapman and Hall, 149, Strand, to whom all communications for "The Editor" are to be addressed.

**VOTES FOR THE MILLION.**—Every man may have a Freehold and a Vote, if he will. Read R. KERR'S Pamphlet on the ADVANTAGES to be derived from BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETIES. Sold by Kerr, 15, Prince's street, Red Lion-square. Sent post free for 10 postage stamps.

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LUCK, KENT, and CUMMING beg to inform the Nobility, Gentry, as well as their Friends and the Public, that the above Old Establishment will be CLOSED at MIDSUMMER NEXT, and that the Business will be REMOVED to their Long Established Houses, No. 4, Regent street (opposite Howell and James's), and 94, HATTON GARDEN, Holborn, where they trust that the patronage they so long have enjoyed will be continued. A large portion of their Stock of Carpets and other FURNITURE at CARPENTERS' HALL, to be SOLD at a GREAT REDUCTION.  
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**TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, by Mr. ABRAHAM STANFIELD,** on THURSDAY, the 25th day of JUNE, 1845, at the house of Mr. GEORGE ELLIS, the White Hart Inn, in Tottenham, at Seven o'Clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced—

Lot 1. All that ancient, substantial Messuage or Mansion house called Holebottom, situated in the township of Stanfield, in the parish of Halfpenny, in the county of York; together with six Cottages the spacious Barn, Stables, and other convenient Outbuildings, and the several Closes of Land thereto belonging, called or known by the several names of the Rough, the Bark off Rough or Little Rough, the Dursfield or Little Field, the Hottenshouse, the Coldwell End, to a Coldwell Hole, the Coldwell Field, the Croft (now divided into two closes), the New, or the Lower Meadow, or Jumps Hill (now divided into two closes), with the Woody Ground, Plantations, and Stone Quarries, containing altogether, by admeasurement, 75 acres, 1 rood, and 1 perch, or thereabouts; and now in the several occupations of Jeremiah Heyworth, John Stanfield, Samuel Mitchell, John Helliwell, John Crabtree, and Messrs. Hinchliffe, or their under-tenants.

This estate abounds with stone of a most excellent quality, the sound rock is of extraordinary depth, and may be very cheaply gotten; and there being a ready and near market for stone, these mines very much enhance the value of the estate. The Barn and Buildings are very substantial structures, and the Cottages are secure of good tenants from the Holebottom Mill hands. The estate abounds with good water, and a considerable part of the meadow ground is now available for building purposes; and the land is in a state of good cultivation.

Lot 2. All that Freehold Annual Ground Rent, or sum of £4 9s., payable in respect of certain buildings and land at Meadow Bottom, in Stanfield aforesaid, belonging to Mr. Thomas Thomas.

Lot 3. All that Freehold Annual Ground Rent, or sum of £1 12s., payable in respect of certain buildings situated at Meadow Bottom aforesaid, belonging to Mr. Abraham Stanfield.

Lot 4. All that spacious Cottage or Dwelling house, situated at Stoney-brink, in Walsden, with the rights and appurtenances to the same belonging, now in the occupation of James Newall. This Lot is Leasehold for the remainder of a term of 99 years, subject to a ground rent of 10s. 3d.

Lot 5. All those three substantial Cottages or Dwelling Houses, situated, tiled, and being in Knowlwood, near Todmorden, in the county of Lancaster, and generally called the Mansion house, with the back yard and appurtenances to the same belonging, as the same are now in the several occupations of William Jackson, John Nutcliffe, and David Hartley. This Lot is Leasehold for the remainder of a term of 99 years, subject to the annual ground rent of £1.

Lot 6. All those three substantial newly erected Cottages or Dwelling houses, situated at Knowlwood aforesaid, now in the occupations of Robert Nutcliffe, Thomas Jackson, and James Stevenson, with the stable, brewhouse, and slaughterhouse behind the same, now in the occupations of James Law and Jeremiah Heyworth. This Lot is Leasehold for the remainder of a term of 99 years, and will be sold subject to the appportioned ground rent of £2 9s.

Lot 7. All those eleven several Cottages or Dwelling houses at Knowlwood aforesaid, generally called the Loom Shop, with outbuildings, gardens, yards, and appurtenances thereto belonging, as the same are now in the several occupations of John Stevenson, Robert Marshall, Thomas Hord, William Stanfield, Joshua Fielden, William Farrer, James Law, Abraham Stanfield, Samuel Kershaw, and the said Nutcliffe, and one unoccupied. This Lot is also Leasehold for the remainder of a term of 99 years, and will be sold subject to the appportioned ground rent of £1 15s.

The above Cottages are all supplied with excellent Water, and are in the immediate neighbourhood of six canals and navigations.

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Lot 9. All those Two substantial Dwelling-houses, situated at Dobroyd, near Todmorden, with the commodious yard, outbuildings and appurtenances to the same belonging, now in the occupations of John Cockerell, Widow Cockerell, and Samuel Crier.

This Lot possesses a Privilege to the Turphie road of 34 feet, and extends in length from the road to the towing path of the Canal, 71 feet; is Freehold of inheritance, well supplied with Water, and from its commanding situation may be advantageously occupied either as shops, private dwellings, or for manufacturing purposes.

The respective Tenants will show the Premises and further particulars may be had on application to Mr. THOMAS THOMAS, of Todmorden; Mr. JAMES COCKERELL, of Leeds; or

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**THE QUEEN'S BAL COSTUME.**  
The public feel rather surprised, we presume, That we've not touched before on the Queen's "Bal Costume." But, patience, good readers! It is a little late To touch on a subject so recent in date; Don't think, for a moment, that MONSIEUR and SON Would leave such a part of their business undone. At once let us call The attention of all To a few plain remarks on the Queen's recent ball. No doubt the Fair Monarch of England turned up splendid, With ladies and noblemen proudly attended. The costly adornments of eyes gone by Mus have yielded a beautiful scene to the eye; The night could scarcely deem more to admire, If decked with the beauties of MOSKIE attire. The Queen's recent ball gives a hint, more or less, As regards the essential importance of dress. May the hint thus suggested be slightly by none; May it show the advantage of MONSIEUR and SON! Choice dress (as was seen at the Queen's "Bal Costume") Makes the wearer a different aspect assume; A person looks well, or a person looks bad; Just according (of course), to the manner he's clad. Let the hint thus suggested be slightly by none, Let it show the importance of MOSKIE and SON.

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A new work, entitled "The Levantine of Trade," with full directions for self-measurement, may be had on application, or forwarded post free. Mourning to any extent can be had at 6s. minutes' notice, at the following prices:—

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# THE LEAGUE.

No. 92.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1845.

[3d.]

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

### LEAGUE FUND.

All Subscribers of £1 and upwards to the LEAGUE FUND, will be entitled to, and receive, a copy weekly of this publication for twelve months from the date of receipt of their subscription.

Subscribers of half-a-crown, and under £1, will have forwarded to them a copy of THE LEAGUE, containing acknowledgment of their subscription; and it is requested that all subscribers will be kind enough to send their names and addresses to the Offices of THE LEAGUE, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, or 67, Fleet-street, London.

N.B. As there is considerable risk in the transmission of gold and silver by post, parties wishing to forward contributions to THE LEAGUE FUND are particularly requested to make their remittances by post-office orders.

The Council of the League would also suggest to their friends in the country, the importance of transmitting their copies of the LEAGUE newspaper, after parcel, to such parties (more especially farmers) as may be either hostile or indifferent to the question of Free Trade.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Glasgow and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that renewed subscriptions will be received at the chambers of the Glasgow Anti-Corn-Law Association, 92, Queen-street, Glasgow.

Subscribers to the League Fund, residing in Edinburgh and neighbourhood, are respectfully informed that Mr. Quinlan Dalrymple, bookseller, South Frederick-street, Edinburgh, has kindly undertaken, at the request of the Council, to receive renewed subscriptions to the Fund.

Subscribers to the League Fund residing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that Subscriptions may be paid by Free-Traders to Mr. Charles Geach, Midland Bank, Union-street, Birmingham, the local Treasurer.

By order of the Council,

JOSEPH HICKIN, Secretary.

## REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER!

The first step which requires to be taken is that of the claims for counties. The time for making these claims is from the 20th of June to the 20th of July, inclusive; any claim made after the latter date will be too late.

The county franchise is divided into four important classes of qualification:—

1st. Freehold, which includes the ancient 40s. freehold of inheritance for ever; and property held under a lease for lives, which should be described as freehold in the notice of claim.

2nd. Leasehold for a term of not less, originally, than 20 years, of £10 clear annual value; or (if for a term of not less than 20 years, of £50 clear annual value.

3rd. Copyhold of £10 annual value.

4th. Occupiers of land, or building and land under one roof, subject to a *bona fide* rent of £50 a year. In the first class, the owner of a 40s. freehold for ever must have been in possession from the 31st of January of the present year; and the same in the case of the leasehold for lives of 40s. a year, provided he be *bona fide* in the occupation of the property. If the owner of the lease for lives do not occupy, the property must be of the annual value of £10.

In the second class, the owner must have been in possession from the 31st of July, 1844.

And in the third class, the occupation must also be from the 31st of July, 1844.

It will be obvious that the first thing to be done by our friends is to ascertain how many Free-Traders there are in each parish possessing qualifications, and who are not registered; and this should be set about forthwith, that the notices of claim may be made in proper time.

There are various means of obtaining this information, for instance—

In all those districts where the purchasing of qualifications is recommended by the League, was taken up by the names of the names will have been kept by the names of the conveyances.

The poor-rate books may be examined carefully to ascertain the names of owners of property, and also £50 occupiers therein, who are not registered.

Assessors, and collectors of rates and income-tax; building and land agents, who are friendly, may be consulted for information.

In the neighbourhood of large towns, such as Manchester, Birmingham, &c., there are merchants, bankers, and others, who occupy large houses and farms in the suburbs at a rental of £50; these, if not

within the parliamentary borough, will be qualified, and, if not on the county register, should claim. Last year, on a careful examination of the rate-book of a township just over the boundary of the borough of Manchester, from forty to fifty occupiers of this description were found who were not then on the register for South Lancashire.

The next thing to be done is to take care that the claims are made out in proper form, and served in due time.

It is most convenient to use printed forms of notice; and these should be filled up with the greatest care, the following particulars being closely attended to:—

The name of the claimant to be written at full length.

The place of the claimant's abode (not the place where his business only is carried on).

The nature of the qualification must be correctly described in the third column. Any misdescription here will be fatal if the vote should be objected to. Leasehold or copyhold must not be described as freehold; or freehold as leasehold.

The situation of the qualification must also be accurately given as required in the fourth column. In cases of successive occupation, as, for instance, where the voter has removed from one farm to another since the 31st of last July, each set of premises must be set forth in the claim.

A correct copy of each claim must be kept, and the claim and the copy must each be signed by the claimant himself.

Should any of our friends desire to be furnished with further information on any particular point, they will please to address their inquiries to Mr. Paulton, League-office, 67, Fleet-street, or to Mr. Hickin, Secretary to the League, Manchester.

We beg to inform our subscribers that bound volumes of the LEAGUE newspaper, containing the whole of the first year's numbers, may be had on application at the Offices either in London or Manchester.

## CONSISTENCY.

"A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen."—RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

"I wish we could burn *Hansard*."—RICHARD COBDEN.

The parliamentary debates of the past few weeks—especially those on Lord John Russell's resolutions and Mr. Villiers's annual motion—have made it quite plain where the real difficulty lies. It is not Sir Robert Peel, nor the Whigs, nor the landlords that stand in our way. Ministers and ex-Ministers are all with us; and the landlords are too thoroughly cowed and dumfounded to make any head against us. Nobody believes in the sliding scale; and the "four, five, or six shillings" would find it difficult to muster four, five, or six senators to speak a kind word for them. We are not quite certain that genuine monopoly, of "the old sort," counts votes enough to make a House. There is now positively nothing between the country and Free Trade, except *Hansard* and "consistency." No man can doubt that, if Sir Robert Peel's speeches for the last dozen years were all fairly in the fire, the Corn Law would be repealed between now and the coming harvest.

But *Hansard* and "consistency" stop the way. Public men are frightened at the ghosts and shadows of their former selves. They live spell-bound by the letterpress which records their casual, careless, foolish, ignorant talk in bygone years. They dare not say, simply and plainly, "We are wiser than we were." They want to slide softly from error into truth, without being found out. They are afraid of saying what they know is true, and of doing what they know is right, because somebody may open a dusty book, and read absurd sentences out of rusty and forgotten speeches, to prove them "inconsistent." And so they talk of "caution" and "deliberation," and cautiously and deliberately leave their country to take its chance of a famine. They would have it thought that they are impervious to fact and argument. They make it a point of honour to seem to ignore experience. They cannot bear to have it imagined that they have learned anything during seven years.

We are great admirers of consistency in public men. The unity of a life begun, continued, and ended in the resolute assertion of a great and true principle, is a noble moral spectacle. We like to know where to find a man, and what to expect of him. We love to feel assured that what he means he will say, that what he says he will do, that his principles of action are stable and rooted in his convictions, and that his past gives a reliable pledge of his future. But this has nothing to do with the

pertinacious dulness that never changes an opinion. If frequent and sudden changes of opinion are a presumptive indication of intellectual infirmity, an obstinate resistance to the adoption of new opinions, as new facts come to light, is downright stupidity; and the attempt to hide or gloss over one's mental changes is a despicable moral poltroonery. We know not a meaner cowardice than that which makes a man ashamed of seeming wiser at fifty than he was at forty. The true consistency for a statesman is the consistency, not of this year's words with last year's words, but of this year's acts with this year's convictions. In fact, an honest man need never trouble himself about consistency at all. His honesty will ensure his consistency, so far as consistency is a fit virtue for fallible beings. Let any man keep a clear, open mind, and habits of frank speech—seeking the truth, and speaking the truth, from day to day, and from year to year—and though he live to the age of Methuselah, without once thinking about his consistency, his life will look consistent enough at last.

It so happens that *Hansard* cannot be burned. But we beg to assure our statesmen, that, if they have but the courage to defy this phantom, they will find its terrors purely imaginary. We cannot remember an instance of a distinct, deliberate, and openly avowed change of political opinion—accompanied by the obvious guarantees of sincerity and earnestness—which has had any other effect than to raise, in public esteem, the man who has so decisively signalized his honesty and courage. It is only when a politician wavers and shuffles, half avows his new convictions, and half hides them, says and unsays things in a breath, that he gets twitted with "inconsistency" and *Hansard*. The statesman who plainly and boldly says, "Whereas I was blind, now I see," will never hear a word about *Hansard*. Well was it urged by Mr Cobden, at the Covent-garden meeting of last week:—

"What I want to do is this—to open a door as wide as possible for the conversion—the avowed conversion—of our opponents. I wish we could burn '*Hansard*' and all the debates that have ever taken place, in order to let these statesmen be at liberty to adopt a new course of policy, dictated by their present convictions. But they are afraid of being taunted with having said something different before from what they are ready to say now. We have all said something different before from what we have said now. Have we not all grown wiser? Have we not all learned something by the discussions for seven years? I want to see these men get up in the House of Commons and avow that they have learned something by our discussions in that assembly. I set myself up to teach people years ago; I have been learning more than anybody else every day since; and why should not they make that frank and free admission? If they would face such an admission and make a clean breast, and confess that they did not know so much formerly as they do now, they would never be taunted afterwards."

Our unavowed parliamentary Free-Traders may assure themselves that Mr. Cobden here speaks the feeling, not of the Leaguers merely, but of the monopolists themselves: he speaks the honest English sense of the matter. "They never would be taunted afterwards." The sincerity and courage of this sort of avowal would be universally felt to be a new title to public respect, a new claim on public confidence. The very highest prize of honourable fame and enduring power is, at this moment, awaiting the grasp of the British statesman who shall be the first to say, in his place in Parliament, "To be sure, I did think so-and-so about the Corn Laws in such a year, but I think just the contrary now, and I shall do now what I now think ought to be done—and so, gentlemen, you may put *Hansard* back on the shelf again."

## THE SCHISM AMONG THE MONOPOLISTS.

The morning papers of Wednesday last told the world that, on the preceding evening, Sir John Tyrell, the ultra-monopolist representative of North Essex, moved the House of Commons, "that a new writ should be issued for the election of a member for the Western Division of the county of Suffolk, in the room of Colonel Rushbrooke, deceased."

Of course the morning papers cannot tell the world quite everything, even with the aid of supplements and double supplements. We may, therefore, without any disrespect to these public instructors, inform our readers, that the above, though a perfectly true, is an extremely incomplete, account of the transaction in question. Sir John Tyrell is not, speaking generally, a very distinguished orator, but he did, on the occasion alluded to, achieve that highest triumph of eloquence, which consists in conveying an infinite deal of meaning in the fewest and simplest words. When we explain



that it is customary, on a Parliamentary vacancy arising on the Government side of the House, for the new writ to be moved for by a Lord of the Treasury, or by a junior member of the Government,—and that on Tuesday evening the independent Essex baronet walked ostentatiously over to the Opposition side of the House to make his motion,—it will be understood that, though this can scarcely be called a "great fact," it is a little fact of great significance. The meaning of it is, that the monopolists of North Essex and West Suffolk are all at sixes and sevens; that Sir John Tyrell, and those who, in North Essex, West Suffolk, or elsewhere, are of Sir John Tyrell's way of thinking, have withdrawn their confidence from the Ministry; and—as political confidence and its opposite are usually reciprocal—that the friends and supporters of the Ministry have withdrawn their confidence from Sir John Tyrell and gentlemen of his cast of politics. The chasm which has for some time past existed between Sir Robert Peel and those who lifted him into office, is deepening and widening, and low-muttered discontents are rising into loud and open mutiny.

This quarrel is not, in itself considered, any particular concern of ours. But we cannot refrain from pointing out to our Free-Trade friends throughout the country, how powerfully every incident of this kind reinforces the advice and encouragement we have so urgently given them, to *strengthen themselves on the registries*. The anti-Ministerial feeling now existing in North Essex and West Suffolk prevails, more or less, and will prevail more and more—in every landlord-ridden county in England. The ultra-monopolists are everywhere quarrelling with the Government and its supporters—not to speak of their quarrels with one another. The party which triumphed in 1811 is everywhere splintering away in fragments, and with a force of repulsion that precludes all chance of a reunion. As the Ministerialists are going further and faster towards Free Trade, the landlords are going further and faster into opposition; and each helps the other. When the next election comes, it will find the monopolists without a leader able to save them from themselves, and Sir Robert Peel with less than half a party.

It is now for the Free-Traders to prepare themselves—there is but one way of doing so—for seizing and improving the splendid opportunity which will be theirs, when a Minister without a party asks the country to give him a parliamentary majority to go on with. In the present chaotic disruption and disorganization of all the old parties, the Free-Traders will, if they do their duty now, have the Ministry and the country in their own hands. Whoever or whatever the Ministry may be—Tory, Whig, *medium*, mixed, or nondescript—the party that is best organized, best compacted, and best instructed will rule the empire.

#### FALSE PHILANTHROPY.

We had in the *Times* of Friday morning a report of the meeting of a Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Labouring Classes. Such an object is exceedingly most laudable; but before we admit the claims of such a society to public support we must know something of the adaptation of its means to the end proposed; and in this respect the report of the secretary, and the speeches delivered at the meeting, are very unsatisfactory, not to say lamentably deficient. The improvements proposed by the society are allotments, ventilated dwellings, and loans. Now, we are at a loss to discover why a society should be formed, spending one-fourth of its money in the mere expenses of management, to accomplish any one, or even all, of these objects. The question of allotments is ultimately one of profit and loss; if land can be more profitably cultivated on such a system, yielding more produce to the tenant and more rent to the landlord, it is evident that self-interest will lead to a large extension of the allotment system without any necessity arising for the intervention of a society. But if the allotment system be one of waste and extravagance, in which the labourer derives disproportionate remuneration for his toil, that is, a return of profits lower than the amount of money wages which the same exertions would have elsewhere procured, then the efforts made to extend such a system by any voluntary association are positively mischievous. We do not decide on the economic merits of allotments, but we have just ground for complaint that none of the speakers who enlarged on the advantages to be derived from allotments said one syllable about the principle by which alone its utility can be determined.

Lord Ashley, as chairman, might have been fairly expected to have stated what were the circumstances in the condition of the labouring classes which required the formation of a society for their improvement; and his lordship's own county of Dorset would have supplied abundant evidence that in that locality the condition of the agricultural labourers is deplorable in the extreme. But his lordship's charity is of a very different character from that which has stood the test of experience: so

far from "beginning at home," it never approaches his domestic localities, but bounds over the misery and want of Dorset labourers to seek scope for its exercise in distant regions. We should like to have heard the success of experiments made to redeem the misery of the hovels around St. Giles's, in Dorset, as a test of the probable success of the plans for improving the sanitary state of St. Giles's in London?

We venerate charity, but there is a social element which we estimate still more highly—and that is justice. To proffer alms as a favour, when relief would be more effectually given by conceding a just and natural right, is simply to add insult to injury. Now, at the meeting of this very society, Mr. Green offered to show that the misery which his lordship and his compeers affected to compassionate was the result of a system which these very noblemen and gentlemen were combined to maintain; but he had scarcely begun to explain this proposition when the chairman dissolved the assembly under the pretence that there was no question before the meeting! It has now gone forth to the world, on Lord Ashley's authority, that securing for the labourer "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work" is a matter quite unconnected with the improvement of his condition; that the supply of food to the working population is a question beneath the notice of philanthropic societies; and that the taxation of the first necessities of life for the purpose of raising prices by artificial scarcity is a principle of so high a character that his lordship will not permit it to be questioned. Such fantastic folly, if it be not obstinate hypocrisy, needs no exposure; and we dismiss the meeting to the contempt it merits, rejoiced that its insignificance redeems it from the indignation it would otherwise have provoked.

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

THE FREE-TRADE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE SESSION 1815.

Nineteenth Week, ending Saturday, June 28.

Since the great debate on Mr. VILLIERS'S motion, nothing has occurred in Parliament having a direct bearing on FREE TRADE. On Friday week a combination of circumstances caused a favourable opportunity to be lost, the reason of which it is necessary to explain.

It will be recollected that before Easter, Sir Robert Peel, who was anxious to get the Customs Bill passed, by which the reductions effected by his Budget were made law, pledged himself to Mr. Ewart, and other members, that if they suffered certain motions to drop he would give them what is called a "government night" for their discussion. Accordingly, Friday week was set apart for that purpose; and it was expected that the question of the reduction of the duties on butter and cheese, on tallow, and other articles, would have afforded opportunity for an animated debate, and another exposure of the shabby and shallow pretences by which restrictions are kept up, preventing the great bulk of the people from free access to a free supply of the main articles of general consumption.

It so happened, however, that on the early part of the evening the "battle of the gauges" was fought. So many people are now directly or indirectly interested in railways, that we do not suppose it is necessary we should explain the meaning of this somewhat singular phrase. Two great railway companies had each a "line" projected, to link Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton to London. The line proposed by the Great Western Company had necessarily a "broad" gauge; the line proposed by the London and Birmingham had, of course, a "narrow" gauge. The Board of Trade had reported in favour of the London and Birmingham; the committee on the bill in favour of the Great Western. Here, then, was practically raised the question whether, in all future railways, a "broad" or a "narrow" gauge should be patronized; and this question raised others of great pecuniary and even social importance. Intense was the interest felt on the Stock Exchange, which poured down its troops to fill the strangers' gallery. The body of the House was crowded with members all as eagerly intent as if every one was a director of the Birmingham or the Great Western, and had thousands pending on the issue. Epsom or Newmarket could not be more exciting.

Mr. COMBES "led the van," by proposing an amendment, which, if carried, would have pledged the Government to appoint a commission of inquiry into the practicability and expediency of establishing a uniform railway gauge, on all railways made and to be made. The sensible and practical speech by which he supported his motion carried the House with him. But those who were willing to support the motion as a substantive proposition declined to do so when the effect of it, as an amendment, would be the delay of a railway in favour of which a committee of the House had reported. Mr. COMBES has since brought forward this motion substantively, and the Government acceding to it, a commission of inquiry will be appointed, the House voting in favour of it unanimously. The member for Stockport has therefore the merit of accomplishing what will prove to be a great public benefit. But on Friday week, so long as the matter

was in incertitude, the House was in a state of tumultuous uneasiness. No sooner, however, was the decision announced, which was in favour of the "broad-gauge" line, so far as the particular branch railway before the House was concerned, than members rushed off in crowds to dinner, the strangers' gallery was emptied, and a dead calm, and almost empty benches, succeeded the scene so exciting and amusing.

Under these circumstances, Mr. EWART was called on to bring on his motion for a reduction of the duties on butter and cheese; and he, naturally conceiving that his motion, practically of great importance, would be prejudiced by the want of support, declined to press it, hoping for a more favourable opportunity. He had scarcely spoken the words, when Mr. Villiers, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Milner Gibson, and other Free-Trade members entered the House. They had only been absent a few minutes. It is impossible to sit on a railway committee from ten till four, and in the House of Commons from four till twelve, without a restorative to exhausted nature. Accordingly, after the "battle of gauges," they had retreated, as Mr. Milner Gibson said, to get their "bread and cheese" up stairs, and then had hurried down to plead for the "butter and cheese" of the community. But the fatal words had been pronounced. Sir Robert Peel thought it would be a "bad precedent" to permit a motion withdrawn a moment before to be brought on. So the opportunity for the time was lost. We understand, however, that Mr. Ewart has renewed his notice of motion for an early day in July.

#### MEETINGS.

##### WHEATHAMSTEAD FREE-TRADE CLUB. DISTRIBUTION OF BEDS TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

The anniversary of the Wheathamstead Free Trade Association was celebrated at the Swan Inn, Wheathamstead, on Wednesday last. Mr. C. H. Lattimore, the Chairman of the Association, presided, and was supported on his right by Robert R. Moore, Esq.; and on his left by — Lattimore, Esq., Mr. Burton, &c. The speaker was occupied by the Rev. Mr. Gilbert. Between forty and fifty farmers sat down to dinner, and the attendance of this class would have been much larger had not the haymaking imperatively detained them on their farms. Many who had intended to be present, and had purchased tickets for the dinner, were prevented from attending by this cause.

Dinner, which consisted of an abundance and variety of seasonable viands, was served up in a tent in the yard of the Swan Inn, and the arrangements altogether were exceedingly creditable to the worthy host, Mr. Henson.

After the cloth had been removed, and the usual course of etiquette given,

The CHAIRMAN proposed, "Prosperity to the Wheathamstead Free-Trade Association," and in speaking out at much length said,—Perhaps, in the first place, you will allow me to glance for a moment at the place in which we are assembled,—the population of the village, and their usual occupation. It is impossible to find any where a population more completely rural than exists here. There are between 6000 and 7000 acres of land, the population is about 2000, and I don't know any description of manufacture that is carried on here, or any machine that exists for the purpose of any manufacture, even to the extent of a spinning-jenny. (Hear.) It, therefore, my place can be isolated from manufactures it is this. Perhaps a more perfect antithesis to the city of Manchester cannot be found; and yet it is the opinion of persons here that this place would be as much benefited by Free Trade as even Manchester itself, and this association has been formed to demonstrate this conviction that the principle of Free Trade would be equally as beneficial to this rural village as to the manufacturing districts. (Loud cheer.) Nothing can possibly show more plainly the truth and beauty of this principle, and its universality, than the fact that districts between which there is such great contrast in point of occupation should agree to unite upon this principle; no greater proof of the truth of Free Trade can be given than that a population like that of Wheathamstead should unite with Manchester in its favour. (Cheers.) The Chairman next proposed "The Anti-Corn-Law League, the only true farmers' and labourers' friend." (Drunk with great applause.)

ROBERT R. MOORE, Esq., responded to the toast in a long and eloquent speech, in which he dwelt forcibly on the necessity of attending to the registration, and suggested that the farmers should choose a representative of their own class, who would sympathize with their wants and attend to their true interests.

At the conclusion of Mr. Moore's speech, the curtain at the back of the chairman was withdrawn, and we then observed the yard thronged with the peasantry of the district, who had come for the purpose of receiving the tickets for the beds awarded. The majority of the assembled multitude were women, whose husbands were unable to attend, in consequence of being engaged in getting in the hay harvest.

Tickets for the following articles:—30 beds, 30 counterpanes, 80 pairs of sheets, and 50 ditto children's sheets were distributed to 210 of the most necessitous and deserving labourers.

The CHAIRMAN in rising to propose "Thanks to the Council of the Anti-Corn-Law League for the munificent present which they had made," turned round to the peasantry and addressed them to the following effect:—You are assembled here to receive a gift in the shape of beds and sheets, which we find it impossible to distribute to you this night. You, however, to whom the various presents have been awarded, will receive them, and the beds will be distributed this night week at six o'clock. You don't know much about Free Trade except from mere report. You are aware that population increases and employment does not; and you sometimes look at your children and ask yourselves how they can be brought up humanely. I speak to a labourer the other day, who said that he did not know what would become of his children, but he

God would help him to bring them up honestly. That was a good feeling; it is your duty to bring up your children honestly, and neither they nor you can be happy unless you do so. You have no capital but your labour, and for that there is not now sufficient demand for employment. We advocate that which will give you more employment, and also cheap food. We give you more beds and other things, not as a charity—not to degrade you. We want to elevate you. But we know your necessity, and we give you that which you want—not to depress you—not ostentatiously—but to do you good; and we are very happy to be able to assist you in this way. We shall distribute the goods without favour or affection, or regard to sex, class, or creed. All we require is, whether you are honest and industrious. We ask you to endeavour to promote the happiness of your families. There is a gentleman named Grantley Berkeley, who says that all the labourers are poachers. (Cries of "No, no.") Now, I say, that is not true; I tell him from this place that that is not the case. You are actuated by a better spirit. You are not only interested in your own happiness, but also in that of others. We have to work for all we eat or wear, and whoever lives in idleness or dishonesty takes away that which another man works for. And be you sure that, if every man lived by honesty and industry, more food would be grown, and more of everything that you want made, and all of you would have a larger share. The Anti-Corn-Law League wishes to see you better clothed and better fed. Consider this. People who never saw you, living hundreds of miles away, and having only heard of you by report, take an interest in you. They are Free-Traders: I believe that Free Trade is necessary to your happiness. I could live without it; but I don't believe the rising generation will be able to do so. Whenever you look upon those articles which will be distributed to you, let them remind you of what is the object of those who sympathize with your situation.

At the suggestion of the Chairman the multitude, as an expression of their thanks, then gave three vociferous cheers for the Anti-Corn-Law League; after which, Mr. Moore addressed them to the following effect:—  
"None of the League, I am pleased to tell you how glad I am that we are able to make you this small present. Our wish is that every agricultural labourer in the kingdom should have a comfortable bed. We don't send you a charity, but as an earnest of what you will be able to get yourselves, if there were no Corn Law. We believe that you deserve them, and that you will let them yourselves if you could. We are convinced that we are working for the good of the landlord, the farmer, the labourer, and every one in the country. We say that labour does not get its own; that men work hard and don't get fairly paid. But this is not the farmer's fault, but that of the laws. He can't make a profit out of farming, and so he can't pay you as he would wish to do. But if farming were profitable he could pay you better."

The Rev. Mr. GILBERT, Independent minister of Walsingham, then addressed the labourers as follows:—  
"My friends, I know most of you. I have sympathized with and endeavoured to alleviate your distresses. You have brought together to-night, and have heard of each other so clear and practical that you must have been cheered by them. You will believe that what has been said has come from the heart. I have been told by many I am out of the path of duty in taking part in the Corn Laws. Now, I do not advocate the repeal of them as a political but as a religious measure. I believe the Bible condemns him 'who holds back the corn.' If we want to get rid of the Corn Laws we must do so in a peaceable way. We shall never get rid of them by other means. My friends, I hope you will sleep peacefully upon the beds which have been given to you."  
L. LUTHERMORE, Esq., proposed the health of C. H. Edridge, the chairman, which was drunk with enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks in an able and eloquent speech, in which he showed that monopoly taxes were working men to the extent of 2s. per week, a sum which accumulated till his fiftieth year, would save him from the degradation and misery of a workhouse. The meeting then quietly separated, highly pleased with the novel and interesting scene they had witnessed, and there is no doubt, has left a deep and permanent impression upon the minds of all classes in the neighbourhood.

#### MAIDSTONE FREE-TRADE MEETING.

Mr. FALVEY addressed a numerous and influential meeting in the County Assembly Rooms, Maidstone, on Thursday evening.

RICHARD NEELMS, Esq., occupied the chair; and after the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Corn and Provision Laws are unjust; that they pervert the free action of the beneficent laws of nature in restricting the supply of food to the people, diminish the demand for labour, and deprive industry of its due reward; and this meeting, therefore, most earnestly recommends the electors of the borough not to vote for any candidate at the next election but such as will vote for a total repeal of those laws."

Mr. FALVEY, in the course of his address, mentioned that on that very day a discussion had taken place in Maidstone among the county magistrates on the propriety of erecting a new prison, when it was fully proved by the opponents of the measure, that as food had become dearer crime had proportionally decreased. Their arguments were unanswerable, and a resolution against building the prison was carried by a majority of 62 to 5. The statement was received by the meeting with loud cheers.

#### AVEBURY: ANTI-CORN-LAW LECTURE.

On Tuesday last a lecture on the Impolicy and Injustice of the Corn and Provision Laws, was delivered at the Red Lion, Avebury, by Mr. FALVEY, from the National Anti-Corn-Law League. Mr. Falvey delivered a lecture on the same subject, and at the same place, in December last, when Mr. Geo. Brown, the chairman of the "Wiltshire Agricultural Protection Society," attended, and, in a vain attempt to prevent its delivery, he admitted the soundness of Mr. Falvey's views, to which, after the lecture, he was invited to do so, he said he had no objection to urge. The appearance, therefore, of the "Pro-

tection Society's Report," to which Mr. Brown's name, as chairman, was attached, and in which it was stated that that society had "met the efforts of the League by corresponding exertions," "resisting its aggressive efforts," and by "arguments addressed to the understanding of the community were disabusing the public mind of erroneous impressions as to the effect of the Corn Laws;" in short, that by its exertions the Anti-Corn-Law League had been silenced and extinguished, caused no small surprise, and it was determined to test the truth of the report. The utmost publicity was given to the meeting, care being taken that Mr. Brown should not be ignorant of it. But so unanswerable does Mr. Brown consider the arguments of the Free-Traders, that he not only did not dare to attempt their refutation, but he was afraid to let his labourers hear them lest they should learn the true character of monopoly and the real meaning of "protection;" and to that end he, most unworthily, threatened his men with loss of work, and the tradesmen of the parish with the withdrawal of his custom, if they attended the lecture. Notwithstanding his threats, and the circumstance that the labourers are now fully employed in the hayfields, between four and five hundred of the villagers assembled to hear the lecture, and their hearty laughter at the discretion of Mr. Brown, and their ready appreciation of the arguments of Mr. Falvey, showed that the protectionists must look out for other headquarters than Avebury. A more unanimous meeting was never held, and the cheers for Free-Trade and for the Anti-Corn-Law League were given with a good will rarely equalled and never exceeded.

HENRY GALE, Esq., of Malmesbury, after a few remarks, proposed that John Edridge, Esq., of Bath, be their chairman—a gentleman well known in the county—having been a candidate for its representation—possessed of considerable landed property—and than whom a kinder-hearted and higher-principled man did not exist.

C. DAY, Esq., of Marlborough, seconded the nomination of Mr. Edridge.

Mr. EDRIDGE, having taken the chair, congratulated the industrious men of North Wilts upon their perseverance, year after year, in continuing to meet to make their distress known to the Legislature; these meetings also gave them a clearer insight into the causes of that distress. The causes were many, but in the few remarks a chairman ought to confine himself to, he should allude chiefly to the Corn Law. A law to prevent corn being brought into the country led to lazy, slovenly farming at home, and the most was not made of the land. In this changeable climate we suffered much when we had a bad harvest; for, from the want of a regular trade, foreigners were not prepared to supply us. The Chairman, having concluded a brief address, introduced Mr. Falvey, who delivered an able and convincing speech, which was attentively listened to and frequently applauded.

Thanks to Mr. Falvey were unanimously passed, and three hearty cheers given for the League.

Mr. FALVEY moved the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Edridge for his kindness in presiding.

Mr. DAY seconded the motion, and said he hoped the time would come when Mr. Edridge would be elected member of Parliament for the Northern Division of the county of Wilts (cheers); for it was not merely by talking about the Corn Laws, by the circulation of tracts, nor by meetings, that Free Trade was to be obtained; but by taking care to send such men to Parliament as would vote for their repeal.

Three cheers were given for Mr. Edridge, and three for Mr. Gale, Mr. Day, and other friends from a distance, and the meeting concluded.—*Abridged from the Wiltshire Independent.*

PLYMOUTH FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION.—On Friday evening, the 13th inst., the second lecture on Free Trade and Equitable Taxation was delivered by C. B. Cabot, Esq., of Langdon-hall, before the members and friends of this association, at the Mechanics' Institution. The attendance was highly respectable, though, owing, perhaps, in part to the extreme closeness of the weather, and to the advance of the season, it was not so numerous as on some former occasions. The lecture was the last for the session, and Admiral Phillips presided. The Chairman, in opening the business of the meeting, said, he had unexpectedly been called upon to take the chair on this occasion, and, thinking it was a good cause for which they were met, he could not refuse. Before commencing the immediate business, he would make one observation. He had been asked that day, what good had the Free-Trade Association done? He would call attention to the fact, that the association had been in existence about two years. When it was formed, Mr. Villiers annually brought forward, which he still continued to do, a motion for the repeal of the Corn Laws. In 1843, when he brought forward this motion, their members voted against it; in 1844, they walked out of the House and did not vote at all; and now, in 1845, they had voted for Mr. Villiers's motion. Now, was not that a great point gained? And, in order to convince them more fully of the fact, he would read Lord Ebrington's speech on the last occasion of bringing forward the motion. The gallant Admiral then read the noble lord's speech from the *Morning Chronicle*, as follows:—"He had never before supported the motions of the hon. member for Wolverhampton. He had refused to vote for him in former years, even when he had received a threat from his constituents; he had received none this year, and he now came without any pressure from without to an earlier consideration of this question. He had hitherto opposed the hon. member lest he might render impossible a compromise between the two great parties, whose interests were identical. But when the question was declared to be between a repeal and the continuance of the present monstrous anomaly, such a compromise was impossible, and he no longer hesitated which side he should take, and would support his hon. friend." (Cheers.) Therefore they had gained two members to their cause since the association had been formed; and two votes in favour, and the loss of two against, was equivalent to four votes, which he thought was a very great gain. (Cheers.)—Mr. Calmady then proceeded to give the second part of his lecture, in which, having recapitulated the main points of his first lecture, he examined at much length the connexion which exists between commerce and the burdens which may be equitably placed thereon as well as upon other property. The lecture, which comprised many valuable details, was repeatedly applauded, and when concluded a discussion took place

on some of the principles advanced by Mr. Calmady. Thanks to the lecturer and chairman having been unanimously adopted, the meeting separated.—*Abridged from the Plymouth Journal.*

FREE-TRADE MOVEMENT AT DARLINGTON.—A Free-Trade meeting was recently held at Darlington. It was got up principally by individuals of the working classes. It was appropriately held in a large room in a wool warehouse belonging to Henry Pease, Esq., which was handsomely decorated for the purpose with evergreens, flags, and mottoes. A highly respectable company of about 400 sat down to tea, which was provided in excellent style, and appeared to be duly appreciated. Almost immediately after tea, the chair was taken, and the proceedings commenced. The audience was all attention, and the addresses were characterized by a deep sense of the truth of the principles laid down, and the importance of that movement which has for its object Free Trade with all the world. The respective speeches embraced a great variety of topics, which were presented in different points of view, and were sustained by different arguments, yet they formed together a complete and harmonious whole. The peculiar condition of our country in regard to its population, its wants, its resources, and its laws, was ably discussed. It was shown that of necessity this must be a manufacturing and commercial country. The evils of monopoly and class legislation were forcibly dwelt upon; the advantages of Free Trade, in relation to our domestic and political economy, were anticipated, and the means explained by which the object in view is to be attained. One feeling of deep interest, cordial good will, and firm resolve appeared to pervade the whole assembly. Obtuse, indeed, must have been the mind that could listen without instruction and delight, and cold must have been the heart which could retire unmoved from such a meeting. A second, and scarcely less interesting, tea party and meeting were held in the same room on the following evening, when the cause was again ably advocated. Altogether an impression has been made which will not easily be effaced, nor will it be allowed to end in mere feeling without corresponding action.—*Leeds Mercury.*

FREE-TRADE LECTURES AT RIVINGTON.—On Thursday and Friday evenings, the 19th and 20th inst., two lectures were delivered on the above subject, by Mr. J. J. Finnigan, of Manchester, at the Blackmoor's Head, Rivington, to crowded audiences. The lecturer, on this occasion, visited the furthest corner of the Bolton and Wigan polling districts, his audience being made up of the inhabitants of Horwich, Rivington, Anglezarke, and the neighbourhood, none of which places are nearer than six or seven miles from a market town; and he had the satisfaction of witnessing a unanimous expression of opinion in favour of Free Trade by two numerous and enthusiastic meetings.

#### MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION.

On Monday evening a meeting of Free-Traders resident in the Hammersmith polling district was held at the King's Arms Tavern, Kensington, at which a deputation from the League attended. Local committees were appointed for the various parishes in the district, and arrangements made for an immediate canvass, for the purpose of placing every qualified Free-Trader on the register. The meeting adjourned to Monday evening next, at the Commercial rooms, Chelsea.

#### FOREIGN BUTTER AND CHEESE.

On the lowest description of cheese the duty is 100 per cent., whilst on the finer descriptions it only varies from 20 to 25 per cent.; and on the lowest description of butter the duty is 50 per cent., on the finer kinds 20 per cent.; the effect of which is a prohibition in a great degree to the importation of the inferior sorts; whereas, at a 10s. duty, the quantity now destroyed by tar for grease purposes would be used as butter, as the trade is usually without this common description during the winter months—50,000 firkins might be consumed at steady remunerating prices, from 6d. to 8d. per pound. The result of high prices leads to the use of unwholesome substitutes, such as common animal fat, rancid lard, and other grease, boiled potatoes, and boiled pease, coloured to represent butter; these ingredients are extensively used in common pastry for the poor in the low neighbourhoods in and about London; and, to show the extent of this trade, some individuals engaged in it make 20,000 to 30,000 pies per week. Yet, in the face of this, in Liverpool, that part of the butter now in stock from the United States will have to be "tarred," in consequence of the quality not being good enough to enable the importers to pay the 20s. duty. The effect of the improvement in the trade of the manufacturing districts is shown, as regards importation and consumption, by comparing the stock on hand the past two years. The stock of butter in London, on the 7th of April, 1844, was 23,480 firkins; do. do. 1845, 5,620 do.

So that, from this time to May and June (termed by the trade the end of the season), the price of butter will be 20 to 30 per cent. above the usual price at that period of the year.

The following is an abstract of the return to an order of the House of Commons, moved by Mr. Ewart, of the quantity of butter destroyed in the United Kingdom, by the admixture of tar, the past four years:—

	Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1841 .. .. .	8,461	1	27
1842 .. .. .	3,373	0	25
1843 .. .. .	5,641	0	17
1844 .. .. .	2,305	1	13

Total .. .. . 19,781 0 26

And, calculating the average as above for the period of ten years, the loss to the revenue will amount to £15,000, being the difference of duty as paid on tarred butter to pure grease, instead of the original article butter.

PROSPEROUS STATE OF HAWICK.—Trade is still continuing good. The mills are fully employed, and no person is idle who is able and willing to work. Many of our manufacturers are gradually extending their business, and more goods are made at present than at any former period. The population is of course increasing, and were a stranger with a family to arrive here at present, they would find it difficult to get a house to live in.—*Scots Chronicle.*

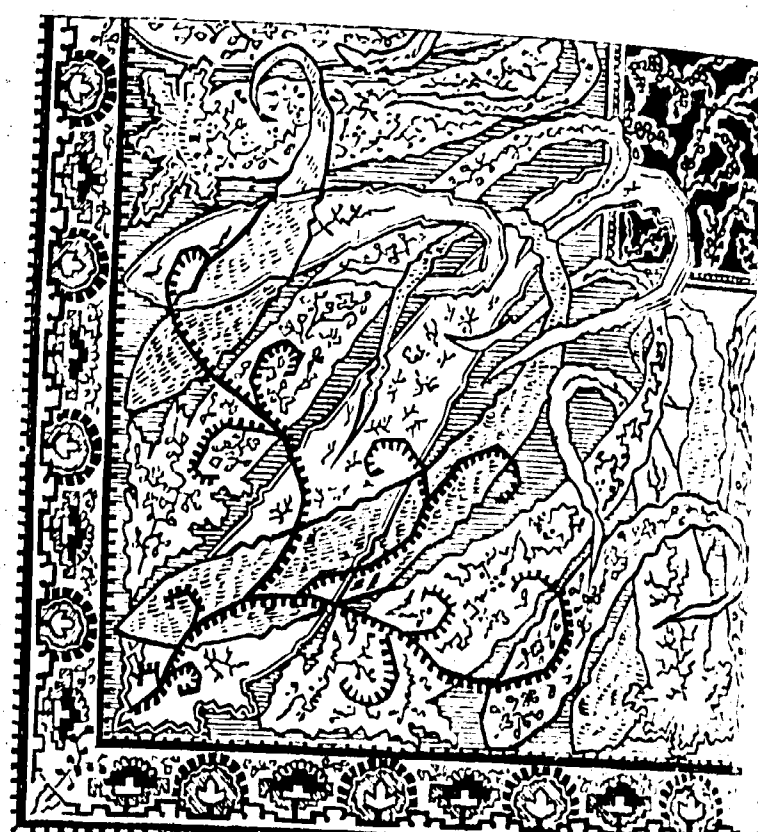
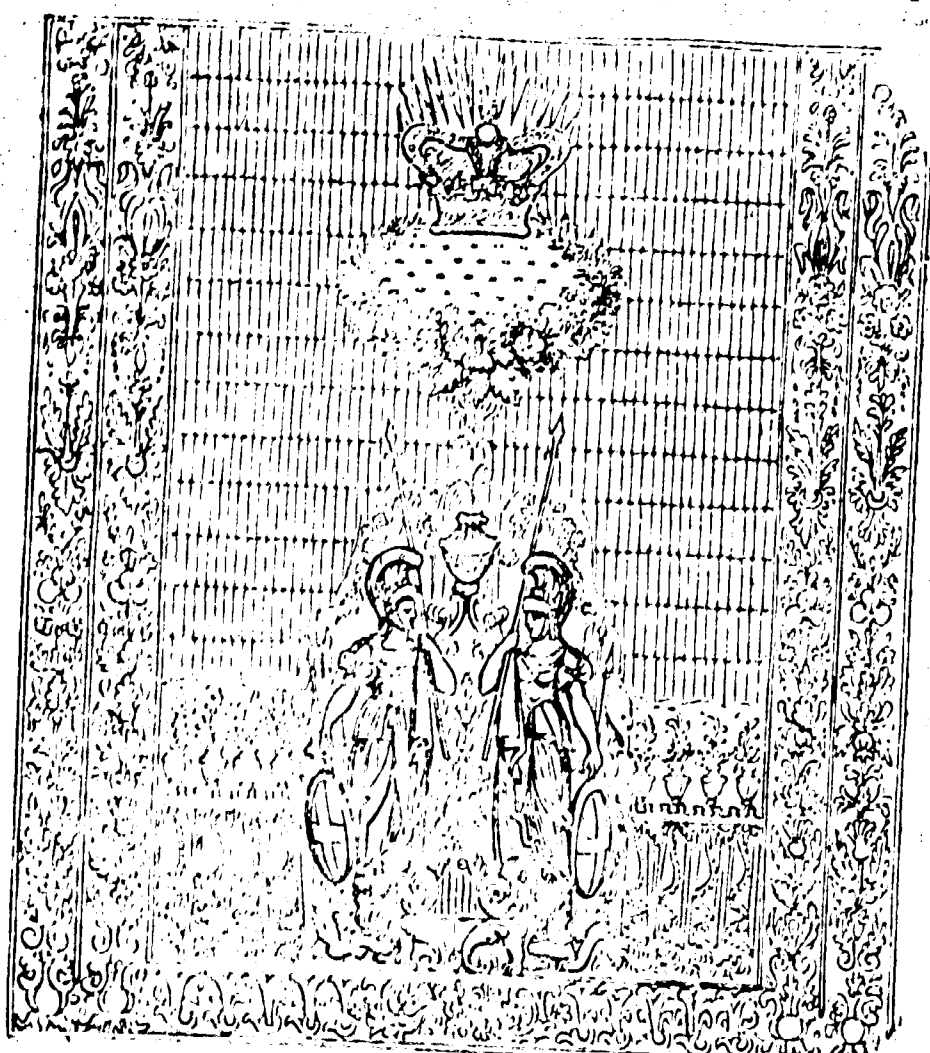


## THE ART-UNION.

With the permission of the proprietor we present our readers with a few more of the engravings designed to illustrate the "Art-Union's" description of the Bazaar

in the forthcoming July number, which will be one of the most attractive and costly that that journal has yet given to its readers, if we may judge from the great variety and richness of the engravings.

The first of the annexed cuts represents the Queen's apron, wrought of a new material, and exhibited at the Halifax stall; the second is a beautiful pattern of a lady's shawl, from the works of Mr. Swaisland, of Crayford.



The first of the remaining three cuts represents the pattern of a printed net; the second a printed drugget; and the third a beautiful vase.



## PREPARE FOR FREE TRADE.

(From the *Sherburne Journal*.)

It is a useless endeavour to seek to avert impending danger by closing our eyes to it, and it is worse than useless to induce others to blind themselves by the same means. Lull a man into a state of perfect security, and he will be but ill prepared when danger comes upon him suddenly. Warn him of coming events, and he will "up and be doing." It is true that, in order to set him on the alert, you are often called upon to communicate disagreeable intelligence, but what reasonable man would choose to be left in the bliss of his ignorance rather than hear an unpleasant truth? We have frequently, in the course of our editorial experience, had to choose between blinding our readers, and announcing to them something extremely disagreeable; but we have never hesitated to take the latter course—at times, we may add, to our own pecuniary injury. We are again placed in this unenviable and delicate position. The debate on the Corn Laws must elicit from us some remarks for our many agricultural readers, and, if we chose to act as some of our contemporaries do, we should bid them "sleep on" in security. "But," to use the words of a great authority in these matters—the *Mark-lane Express*—"persons must be instructed with the most wilful blindness who do not at once admit that the question of the repeal of the Corn Laws has made some way." Let such persons turn to the recent debate, and their eyes will be opened. Not only have we Lord John Russell, who in former years supported the Government against Mr. Villiers's motion, now voting with Mr. Villiers, but we have Sir James Graham and Sir Robert Peel both intimating that the question of the repeal of the Corn Law is in truth but a question of time. Sir James thinks "that the interests of the people at large will not be promoted by a sudden removal of all protection, but by gradually and cautiously bringing the Corn Laws into a nearer relation to the sound principles which regulate commercial policy in other matters;" and Sir Robert Peel said the same thing, only more clearly, when "he confessed his inability to contend that agriculture

ought not to be subjected to the gradual application of principles that have been applied to the other interests of the country." What are those "sound principles?" Why, the principle of Free Trade, acting upon which Sir Robert very lately admitted into this country, duty free, eight hundred articles, which had previously paid duty. If Lord John will support Free Trade when out of office, he will do so as a Minister, for he is a statesman of sincerity; and if Sir Robert has confessed that he cannot see why agriculturists should not have Free Trade as well as manufacturers, rely upon it that, if he is in office long enough, they will have it. So that neither to the present Tory Premier nor to the future Liberal leader must agriculturists look for protection. "Prepare, then, for Free Trade," say we. Do not believe the landlord who tells you that you will yet have 60s. a quarter for your wheat. Calculate the maximum of wheat at 45s. when you take farms, and get them, if you can, at a corn-rent. Believe no longer that there are such beings in Parliament as "farmers' friends." Try to return your own men at the next election (if Free Trade is not in operation before that), and then you will be somewhat prepared for what, in our opinion, is inevitable; and in this opinion we are not singular, for some of the most staunch friends of the farmers among the press express the same sentiments. The present Corn Laws may linger on a little longer, until the demands of the manufacturers grow louder; but a little while, we are firmly convinced, will see the sweeping measure of Free Trade carried by the very men who, a few years back, were loud in condemning it.

## THE FINANCES OF MONOPOLY AND FREE TRADE.

(From the *Bradford Observer*.)

We find the following announcement in the papers:—"The South Derbyshire Agricultural Society met in Derby, on Friday (15th instant), twelve members present, and resolved that, as the society could not go on for want of funds, it be forthwith dissolved."

Turning over the leaf we find this corresponding, or rather contrasting, statement:—

"The following was stated to be a summary of the League Fund from the commencement of the £100,000 in 1841, independent of the past £50,000:

Dec. 31, 1844.—Amount received to	£	s.	d.
this date, as per advertised statement	86,000	7	3
Jan. 17, 1845.—Receipts to this date,			
as per ledger	5,632	5	2
Bazaar receipts, as per statement	25,046	0	11

Total .. .. £116,687 13 4"

This statement was made in Covent-garden Theatre on the 18th instant, at the time the duke and his capans were holding their Waterloo orgies—slaying the slain for the thirtieth time. Instead of only twelve members being present, as at the Derby meeting, the theatre was crowded to the roof; and it was intimated in the course of the evening, that the "fragments" of the Bazaar were quite sufficient to set off another bazaar more magnificent than any bazaar that has ever been set off in England, the Covent-garden Bazaar alone excepted!

So much for the comparative finances of Monopoly and Free Trade.

But, though the old swindler is bankrupt, in cash and in sense, it is still rich in the possession of an adamantine doggedness and stupidity. It is evidently possessed of "the fixed intellect of the country." It dreams that it lives in the England of King John; or, at the least, in the era of the Stuarts, and cannot bring itself to believe that England yet holds a people as distinguished from a nobility. Hence its gibbering about its "marriage settlements" and "social status."

But, after all, the English people deserve to be well whipped by their nobility. For, like the sycophants of the old, they have been ready enough to shout, "It is the voice of a god, and not of a man!" The English people have mistaken their nobility, and the English nobility have treated their English people as English dogs in all times and countries have treated theirs. "The English

could not "blind the sweet influences of the sun," they could not forbid the sun to shine, and the sun and dew to fall; but they could set up the Moloch of famine in the land, and they did it.

The contrast between the stock of reason and argument in the respective exchequers of these mortal combatants bears a striking proportion to their money stock. In the resource monopoly is absolutely bankrupt; while the Free-Trade exchequer overflows. Monopoly is bankrupt; and, taking advantage of what in Scotland they call *bonorum*, it has fled for sanctuary to Parliamentary protection, cunningly keeping them between it and those who would have it, common sense and common justice.

It is also worthy of note, that monopoly is treated with little respect, while clinging to the horns of this altar. They are the horns of a dilemma to the poor old bankrupt. In fact, the priests who preside at this shrine have given it notice to quit. The great high priest, Peel, has prophesied that he will deliver up the fugitive some of these days, and his assistant, Graham, says, "serve it right."

It is some consolation to reflect, that the English people are beginning to call in question the divinity of their nobility. They are beginning to find out that if they are gods they are not of the most merciful sort. It is now pretty certain that Parliamentary votes—its last refuge—will not long save the Moloch monopoly from the storm which has been long gathering against it; and when we reflect upon the sacrifices which have been offered to this goddess, upon the amount of wealth, and toil, and blood which it has cost, and will yet cost, to cast him down from his bad eminence, there is some comfort in the reflection, that the remembrance of all this will remain in the public mind, a fixed idea, a sure guarantee, that never more will that slavish reverence for a landed aristocracy, which made Corn Laws possible, gain a lodgment there.

#### FREE TRADE THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

(From the "British Quarterly Review.")

The parallelism or coincidence of economical truth and practical Christianity, is especially manifest in the theory of commercial freedom to the preservation of the peace of the world. The cause of Free Trade is the cause of peace. The international morality of monopoly, jealousy, suspicion, and self-isolation; "independence of foreigners," for fear of war; reciprocal infliction of injuries provocative of war. Its peace is, at the best, "armed peace," which is a sort of war. Free Trade is that mutual dependence of nation on nation which creates and cements interests and habits incompatible with war. Well says the Secretary of our Board of Trade: "The greater the commercial relations between nations, the more disastrous would be the consequences of a war which would interrupt their reciprocity of interests, in proportion as this commercial and reciprocal trade has been of long standing and of great extent, the more would be the securities for the maintenance of peace." And again: "A war of material interests, or, properly speaking, of material injuries—that is, a war of custom-houses or fiscal forts, with their garrisons of revenue officers and servants, has long been declared against us between most European nations. This

war of interests, or injuries, has not ceased with the war of bloodshed; and if we may ever expect security against a recurrence of the calamities attendant on, and consequent to, the latter, it will be in destroying the elements of the former—in short, by the extension of Free Trade between all nations." (Macgregor's "Commercial Statistics.") We earnestly commend these thoughts to the consideration of the Christian public of Great Britain. The securities for the maintenance of peace are just what the world's great want. It is a painful reflection—how often have arisen, and may arise again, to render our alarming and fearful one—that we have neglected to secure our peaceful relations with those two countries, both to our own national weal, and to the general interests of civilization and humanity. No nations of the earth offer us more inviting natural facilities to a more conservative of peace, than France and the United States; yet with none is our commerce more checked and obstructed by artificial restrictions, with none we have more harassing and irritating diplomatic quarrels. That we still have trade enough with the United States to render war a tremendous calamity to ourselves, is, in the present temper of a large portion of their people, our chief safeguard against being seized into wholesale and organized fratricide about the miserable Oregon or Texas question, which, were it not that it might be according to the obvious arguments of nature and Providence, would immediately result in insignificant harmlessness. We have societies for the Promotion of Permanent and Universal Peace; the most efficient Peace Society were the wide brotherhood of nations, knit together in the beneficent relations of wants mutually relieved by superfluities mutually exchanged. These are negotiators capable of attaining to a prompt and honourable termination, the worst diplomatic quarrel that ever menaced the peace of the world.

#### THE SUGAR DODGE AGAIN.—MORE NEWS FOR LORD SANDON.

(From the *Liverpool Mercury*.)

There seems no end to the complication of absurdity and self-contradiction in which we have entangled ourselves by the hypocrisies of the new fiscal morality, that we have grown tobacco, drinks slave-grown coffee, and we are doing nothing to do with slave-grown sugar—except paying, selling, and getting gain by it. One slave-holding nation starts up after another, with a "most favoured nation" clause in its hands, to mock the philanthropy of a section of the British public, and pour contempt on the simulated scrupulousness of the Ministry and Legislature. First, it was Venezuela, then, the United States; and now, it is Spain, Cuba and Porto Rico, actually slave-holding and slave-trading Cuba and Porto Rico,—islands which produced, last year, more than nine-tenths of the quantity of sugar that we imported from all our possessions in East and West,—claim to have a share in sweetening the tea of a people who are so horrified at the bare thought of doing anything with slavery sugar (making a little money by it always excepted), that they have started

a new principle of fiscal law for the express purpose of keeping it at a distance.

The nature and grounds of this claim, which, as appears from Sir Robert Peel's statement in the House of Commons, has been formally advanced by the Spanish Minister, are already sufficiently known to the public. By treaties now in force between Great Britain and Spain (that of Utrecht in particular), and whose validity we have ourselves recognised so lately as the year 1837, by demanding and accepting advantages under them, Spain is one of our "most favoured" nations. Our commercial relations with that country are precisely the same with those in which we stand towards Venezuela and the United States. We must—unless the ingenuity of our diplomatists should save the credit and consistency of our fiscal moralists, by discovering some unexpected legal hitch—take the "goods and merchandises" of Spain, and of her "lands, seas, and territories," at precisely the same rates of duty which we put on those of China and Java, or any other country that our prudish and sharp-scented morality has been pleased to pronounce worthy of the honour of trading with us. We had not discovered the science of "moral botany"—nor did we learn religion out of wooden bibles—in the days of the treaty of Utrecht.

Surely, the authors and abettors of this absurdity must, by this time, be heartily ashamed of it and themselves. The thing is coming now to be too ridiculous. We take most particular and extraordinary pains to keep out slavery sugar; and it really seems as if we could get nothing else. We cry with might and main, "Out, damn'd spot! out, I say!"—but the spot will not out. "Yet here's a spot," and another, and another; and the more we rub and rub, the worse it is. And for this ludicrously abortive experiment in fiscal legislation—this despicable piece of Phariseism—we pay the enormous cost of the sacrifice of the second-best market for our manufactures.

#### THE SUGAR MARKET.

The position of the sugar market is one of considerable interest, and the following illustration of it, from the *Public Ledger*, will, doubtless, be considered well timed:—

The total quantity of duty-paid sugar, including foreign, in London, Liverpool, and Bristol, up to the 17th of June, is 94,000 tons; during the same period last year, it was 68,000 tons, showing an increase of one-third, and we assume this rate of increase will be continued; if so, then we shall deliver 270,000 tons this year, as the duty paid in 1844 was on 207,000 tons.

The highest estimate of the importations for the present year (1845) presented to the House by Sir Robert Peel, was:—

From the West Indies .. ..	140,000 tons,
— Mauritius .. ..	40,000 "
— British East Indies .. ..	70,000 "
	250,000

The importations last year were:—

From the West Indies .. ..	122,000 tons.
— Mauritius .. ..	27,000 "
— East Indies B. P. .. ..	55,000 "
	204,000

and, we think, if our readers "adopt the estimate of 250,000 tons, they will not find the importations exceeded it."

#### HARVEST PROSPECTS AND THE CORN TRADE.

At one period of the week the weather assumed rather a threatening aspect; during two entire days there was but little sunshine and much heavy rain in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, whilst a material fall took place in the temperature; on Thursday, however, the clouds dispersed, and we have since had a clear sky, with brisk drying breezes. Had the rain continued, it would probably have done some injury; but, under the circumstances named, the crops have unquestionably been greatly benefited by the seasonable supply of moisture. The wet having been immediately followed by the required degree of warmth, vegetation has been forced rapidly forward, and we hear from all quarters that the wheat has come into ear very regularly. Thus far nothing has occurred to mar our prospects as to the future; and the reports respecting the appearance of the different grain crops are of a much more favourable character than was the case in the early part of the month. We have now, however, arrived at a critical period of the year, and a few weeks, or even days, might change the position of affairs materially: holders of wheat have, consequently, manifested a disposition to temporise; and, as they consider it perfectly possible that the article may later in the year become much more valuable, whilst there exists little chance of prices falling to any extent below their present level, they have not been very eager to sell. Buyers have, on the other hand, shown a decided unwillingness to add largely to their stocks; and what with the timidity displayed by the one party, and the extreme caution which has characterized the operations of the other, the trade has been kept in a very languid state. In point of price scarcely any change has taken place, merely purchasers having been under the necessity of paying nearly previous rates at all the principal provincial markets held since our last. —*Mark Lane Express*, Monday.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—Ever prone to grumble, some two months ago most of us were ready to "take our Bible oath" that there would be no hay, and that everything in the vegetable world would be extraordinarily late. But what is now the fact? Why, that there is plenty of hay, that the wheat never looked finer, and that the whole face of the country is beautiful in the extreme. Let the past, then, be a lesson to us, for the future, to trust our bountiful Benefactor where we cannot trace Him, and let us be thankful that "His thoughts are not as our thoughts." We were lately visited by a brief but heavy storm of lightning, thunder, and rain, which doubtless impeded the hay harvest, now in full operation in our locality, but it was too transient, we hope, to injure either the hay or the grain crops. Light showers had also occasionally fallen during the previous day or two. With our present prospects, wheat, before Christmas, will be under 40s. per quarter, and yet the farmers have been led by their "friends" to believe that Sir Robert will keep it at 56s. —*Worcester Chronicle*.—The reports of the various provincial papers all bear testimony to the rapid improvement which has taken place in the state of the

crops since the fine weather has set in, affording every prospect, under Providence, of an abundant harvest.

THE SUPPLY OF CORN.—Attempts have been made in some quarters to cause an advance of corn by representing the prospect for the harvest as being gloomy. We think it right to caution our readers against such statements, which, if generally believed, would be successful in their object to the great detriment of the poorer classes. Undoubtedly injury has been sustained by the wheat both from cold and wire-worm, and in some instances, on poor land, the seed has failed to vegetate. With such favourable weather, however, as we are now experiencing, it is yet too soon to say that there will not be an average crop. At the same time, the laws which prevent any deficiency here from being freely supplied from abroad, ought to be treated with unceasing reprobation. Should such a deficiency occur, it appears that little can be expected from Russia, while in Belgium, the import duty has been suspended on account of the price, and foreign corn lying in bond in London, through the duty, now 20s., has, within the last few days, been carried over to that country. —*Whitehaven Herald*.

STATE OF THE CROPS IN IRELAND.—The accounts of the state of the crops in all parts of the country are most cheering, and warrant us in anticipating the richest harvest for many years. Already whole fields of fully shot wheat are to be found in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, and everywhere this stock is in an unusually flourishing condition. Barley and oats promise much more than the ordinary average return. As the weather is warm, and likely to continue fine, we may calculate upon an early harvest. Potatoes, it is said, are not rich in proportion with the other farming produce, but no complaints are made. The natural consequence of the state of the crops is, that old corn has fallen considerably in price, and large quantities are on hand here and in Cork. In Cork it is computed there are 30,000 barrels of wheat in the hands of the dealers, who cannot sell unless at a serious sacrifice. —*Standard Correspondent*.

THE CROPS IN BELGIUM.—We are now enabled to assert, that the severity of the winter and the cold rains that prevailed in May have not produced the injurious effects that were so much feared. It even appears that the approaching harvest presents the most favourable appearances. The rye is very fine in all our districts; the wheat has, here and there, suffered a little, but in a great number of localities it is magnificent. The cold winds of the spring have been rather favourable than injurious to these grains, inasmuch as they have contributed to strengthen the roots and give a fuller development to the plants. Besides, according to the Old Flemish proverb, "A May cold and wet brings corn to the sack." The oats and barley present a most promising appearance. The forage at first, failed, but at the present moment there is no cause for complaint. The clover is tolerably thick. The flax promises much, and a productive harvest of this plant may be expected. The hops will, in all probability, fully answer the expectations of the cultivators in the neighbourhood of Alost and Poperinghe, localities where this precious plant is almost exclusively cultivated. To resume, if the approaching harvest promises less than that of 1844, the difference will be so trifling that it will be hardly perceptible. The most exaggerated apprehensions have been entertained on this subject. —*Brussels Gazette*, June 22.

#### IMPORTATION OF INDIA CORN.

(From the *Birmingham Journal*.)

Sir,—The suggestion in your paper of Saturday last, respecting the introduction of Indian corn (duty free) into this kingdom for the purpose of feeding cattle, pigs, &c., ought not to be lost sight of. It would be a great advantage to feeders of stock in general, having all these nutritious and fattening qualities represented. About twenty-seven years ago, I purchased a quantity of Indian corn, the price being then low, some of which I sent to a neighbouring miller to be ground. He was naturally curious to know something about the new grain, never having seen anything of the kind before, and when informed of the use for which it was intended, he said, "Depend on it, friend, it will never do, it's all a mistake; you have made but a poor bargain." I was not surprised at the reception of the honest miller, and trusted to time and the result of my experiment to change his opinion and remove his prejudice. He ground the corn, after many admonitory strokes of his head, and, on it coming home, I mixed it with steamed potatoes in the usual way as other flour is for pig feeding, and in about a month my swine were as firm and as fat as could be desired. The miller, calling one day, could scarcely believe the evidence of his senses, and, still doubting, he observed to me, "Ay, neighbour, but it was the potatoes that did it." From that time, however, he commenced feeding his own swine with it, and recommended it to his customers and friends for the same purpose, who were equally delighted at what they considered a new discovery in the mode of feeding. I had also an opportunity of testing its fattening properties on poultry, having a large number in my yard at the time, and they thrived amazingly upon the same sort of food. It would be well if our legislators would allow its being imported (duty free) for home consumption. The crops of it are most abundant in America, and hundreds of acres are left to rot and spoil on the land, on account of its great cheapness compared with the price of labour. What a lamentable consideration to think that the bounties of Heaven should be so wasted and neglected from nothing more than the perverseness and selfishness of men who study too little the happiness and comfort of those whose well-doing would be their gain! The advantage of its introduction, untaxed, would prove of great service to the labouring class, who too often feed their swine at an enormous expense and great domestic privation. It is hoped this subject will be generally considered, and not lost sight of, and means adopted to carry out the suggestion.

June 9, 1845.

A STAFFORDSHIRE FARMER.

#### THE "MORNING POST" AND THE LANDOWNERS.

(From the *Manchester Guardian*.)

Sir Robert Peel having effectually demolished the grand fallacy of the monopolists, that wages rise and fall with the price of food, the *Morning Post* next comes forward, and demonstrates, in the most conclusive manner, that the landowners have no need of protection, as it is not to impossible that their rents can ever be permanently



affected by any change which may be made in our protective system. In the debate on Mr. Villiers's motion, the Premier laid very great stress on the difference between landowners and manufacturers, and the reluctance of the former class to let their land to the highest bidder. If one might believe the right hon. baronet, the main consideration with the landlords of Great Britain is, to make their tenants comfortable and happy without much reference to their own personal or pecuniary interest. On the other hand, however, when we turn to the *Morning Post*, which has always been considered the exclusive and unscrupulous advocate of the landed aristocracy, we find nothing which would lead us to believe that it looks upon the majority of the owners of the soil as being a whit less selfish than any other class of the community. A short time ago, the *Post*, under the impression that the abolition of the Corn Laws would be followed by the total annihilation of rent, and the consequent ruin of our territorial aristocracy, endeavoured to awaken that class to a sense of their imminent danger, and to the necessity of adopting prompt and vigorous measures to repel the assaults of the Free-Traders. Falling in its efforts to excite the landowners to rebellion against Sir Robert Peel and his commercial policy, the *Post* now contends that their apathy is owing to selfishness, and to the conviction, fast spreading among them, that rents are secure whatever may happen:—

"If protection were of vital importance to the incomes of persons of large fortune," says the *Post*, "then we apprehend that protection would have been better supported than it has been. But the owners of land have far less interest in the protection of British agriculture than the tillers of land, and protection is therefore neglected. Population increases rapidly, while the land remains limited to its former extent. The natural course of things, under such circumstances, will be additional application of labour to the land, leading to increased productivity. This would be a diminishing of the proportionate interest of the owner in his land, and an increase of the interest of the labourer; that is, the owner's interest remaining the same, the cultivator's would increase. But the owner's interest remaining only the same, while the liabilities of fixed property are always greater in proportion to the increase of population, it really is not the landowner's interest (regarding him in the light of a purely selfish being) to encourage that system of cultivation and protection of cultivation which is the best for the labourer. The merely selfish landlord will prefer keeping rents as they are, and limiting the application of labour to the land. He will prefer driving the population to settle down into those masses of sin, suffering, and brutal intelligence, which compose towns. With the land limited as it is in England, and with the increased competition for its possession, in order to devote it further purposes than that of tillage, there is little fear of rents descending below their present level."

Sir James Graham's great fact, that the population has increased at the rate of 250,000 per annum "since the present Ministry came into office," appears to have made a deep and lasting impression upon the *Post*. It is now fully aware of the great difficulty in the way of those who would cripple trade, in their blind desire to benefit agriculture. "Population increases rapidly, while the land remains limited to its former extent." That being the case, is it not clear to every mind unbiassed by prejudice, that the first duty of Government is to remove every obstruction to the free employment of industry and capital, in order that work may be found for the thousands who are daily crowding into the labour market?

The *Post*, although it begins to understand the rent question rather better than it did, still continues to harp upon the wickedness and misery of the manufacturing population. The "merely selfish landlords," we are told, instead of making the labourers comfortable on the land, "prefer driving them to settle down into those masses of sin, suffering, and brutal intelligence, which compose towns." Now, had as the condition of a large portion of the inhabitants of towns unquestionably is, owing to want of education, imperfect sanitary arrangements, and other remediable evils, it is still far superior in general to that of the great mass of the agricultural labourers. It is, no doubt, true that the "brutal intelligence" of the dwellers in towns frequently leads them to buy their worst grievances before the public; but he must be a very superficial reasoner who would therefore conclude that the comparative silence of the unintelligent, and therefore apathetic, rural population arises from their being more comfortable. The late Mr. Coleridge, whom the *Post* is in the habit of quoting as a first rate authority on such questions, takes a very just and sensible view of the comparative merits of town and rustic life, in the following passage, which we would recommend to the special attention of our London contemporary:—

"I am convinced," says Mr. Coleridge, "that, for the human soul to prosper in rustic life, a certain vantage-ground is requisite. It is not every man that is likely to be improved by a country life, or by country labours. Education, or original sensibility, or both, must pre-exist, if the changes, forms, and incidents of nature are to prove a sufficient stimulant. And where these are not sufficient, the mind contracts and hardens by want of stimulus; and the man becomes selfish, sensual, gross, and hard-hearted. Let the management of the poor laws in Liverpool, Manchester, or Bristol be compared with the ordinary dispensation of the poor-rates in agricultural villages, where the farmers are the overseers and guardians of the poor. If my own experience have not been particularly unfortunate, as well as that of the many respectable country clergyman with whom I have conversed on the subject, the result would engender more than scepticism concerning the desirable influences of low and rustic life in and for itself."

This is certainly not quite so romantic a description of the charms of rustic life as we find in some writers, but we believe it to be very true, so far as it goes, and one which deserves to be more widely diffused among our practical philanthropists, many of whom are too apt, in looking at the vice and misery which they find concentrated in the manufacturing districts, to fancy, because the air of the country is so much more pure and wholesome than that of the town, that the moral atmosphere in the rural districts will partake of the same character.

#### EMIGRATION.

The extent of emigration from the United Kingdom, and the direction in which it flows, vary amazingly. They depend, of course, on several circumstances, but chiefly on the greater or less amount of distress at home,

and the less or more inviting condition of the colonies or foreign countries which afford an opening:—

Average Annual Number of Emigrants.		
In the 4 years ending 1828	..	22,500
" 6 years ending 1831	..	69,000
" 5 years ending 1839	..	57,500
" 3 years ending 1842	..	112,500
1843 and 1844	..	61,000

The three years of dearth and depression ending with 1842 gave a tremendous impulse to emigration, almost doubling the annual amount for the preceding five years; while the two last years of cheap corn and improved trade have again reduced it in nearly the same proportion.—*Scotsman*.

#### THE AMERICAN PRESS.

##### THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

(From the *Portsmouth (New Hampshire) Gazette*.)

Soon after the successful issue of the Presidential election was known, we alluded to the "great result" as the mandate of the people, in regard to the important democratic measures presented to them in that great contest, and more particularly the promotion of the great principles of Free Trade, so far as concerned the reduction of the tariff to a strict accordance with the revenue principle. The point of annexation seems mainly settled: that was a great measure, which could not with safety be postponed; but, that being now disposed of, the regulation of the system of taxation for the support of Government is certainly not of less importance.

It must now be the settled policy of the Democratic party to equalize the burden of taxation; and this can only be done by discarding all considerations not connected with the sole legitimate object of a tariff, which, by the constitution, is limited to the raising of revenue "to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare." Let the Government confine itself strictly to this object, levying duties on imports so as to invite rather than to prohibit importation, thereby producing from every article the greatest amount of revenue than is requisite for an economical administration of the Government, reduce the *ratio* on every article in a corresponding proportion, until the requisite amount only is realized. Then, if a protection to the home productions be incidentally or accidentally derived from a tariff so regulated, be it so. As the old merchants of France said to Colbert, when he asked what he could do for them and for the advantage of their trade and commercial transactions, "Laissez nous faire,"—"let us alone,"—so, if our wise legislators will just let trade and commerce alone, doing nothing more than to protect a Free Trade and intercourse with all nations, and between man and man, the mass of the people will be benefited; trade will take better care of itself than legislators can do by their attempts to nurse it; the taxes will then be equalized, and the whole country will prosper, instead of particular interests.

But if, as we have heretofore said, the efforts of the people to bring about this equalization of the public burdens are to fail,—if, after having declared so plainly, as they have in the recent Presidential election, that a revenue tariff is the word,—if, after all, "this unequal system of

taxes for protection is to be thus fastened upon us, we intend to go for the abandonment of import duties altogether, and advocate a resort to direct taxation for the support of Government." The tariffites may be assured it will come to this, if they do not desert from their claims for protection. The people will be brought to understand, that it is not for their interests to be taxed to enable manufacturers, or other producers, to obtain greater profits. They will soon begin to learn that in a system of direct taxation they will pay in proportion to their property only, and not in proportion to the amount of dutiable articles they consume. They will look about them and see large numbers of their rich neighbours, possessing their tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, and may be millions, who pay no more towards the support of Government than the man of ordinary circumstances, or even the poorer sort; they will see that he who labours from day to day often consumes as much of dutiable articles in his family, and wears out as many clothes, as the richest, and, consequently, pays as large a share of the public taxes. They will begin to inquire if this be right. They will begin to calculate what amount of dutiable articles they now annually consume; they will estimate the amount of taxes on these articles, and hence judge of the annual amount of money they pay into the treasury, and will find, as a general remark, that the rich pay no more than the poor, and often not so much.

A Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald*, in treating of this unequal mode of taxes, alludes for example to John Jacob Astor, of New York, who, with a property of twenty-five millions of dollars, pays no more of the public expenditure than any ordinary citizen. The mass of the people will finally ascertain what no one who has given any attention to the subject denies, that this import tax is a most unequal mode of collecting the public revenue at best; and to be obliged to submit to an increase of such taxes for the express purpose of protection, or, in other words, to enable manufacturers to tax higher for their goods, is to submit to extortion; they will find that a poor man often pays twenty-five, fifty, or maybe a hundred dollars, per annum, on goods which his family consumes; when, if property were taxed, he might pay five, and a large portion would pay only perhaps a poll tax.

Then, too, in the event of war, who are to take the field to defend the property from invasion? There can be but one answer to this—the mass must do the fighting, and, under the present system of taxation, the mass must pay the expenses. What, then, will the people do when they come to make this matter a subject of serious reflection, and become familiar with it in all its bearings? Will they not rise in their might and throw off a system of taxation which has been so much abused through the insidious croaking about "protection of American industry?"

We warn these protectionists, who have been taxing the people that they may reap their 20 and 30 per cent. dividends, to be quiet and peaceable, and suffer the rates of duties to be equalized, and brought to a revenue standard, or the system of taxation by impost will be overthrown and demolished. They may think for the present that their house stands strong: they may think the idea of Free-Trade a mere theory, an abstraction, not susceptible

of any practical application; that their "American system" is too strongly hedged about, to apprehend any serious inroads upon it; but so they once thought of a United States Bank; yet they have seen that institution abolished, and the hope of its renewal has become an "obsolete idea," and, if the friends of protection will not become reasonable men, the system of taxation by impost will be also reckoned among the things that have passed away.

#### DOES SPECIAL PROTECTION TO THE MANUFACTURER BENEFIT THE OPERATIVE?

(From the *Baltimore Patriot*.)

The Whig orators always contend, while advocating a high and partial tariff system, that the wages of labour depend wholly upon the fatness of the dividends upon manufacturing stocks. They say to the operative, "We look to the tariff to sustain us, and expect your vote and co-operation, that we may be able to give you better wages." The dependent is, of course led to believe that, with a prosperous season, his wages will be augmented, and that they will rise or fall in proportion as the tariff upon foreign manufactures is increased or diminished. But the promises of these electioneering Whigs are very seldom made good after they have gained the votes of their labourers. So far from the wages of operatives having been increased in proportion when high tariffs have been imposed, we venture to say they have almost invariably been reduced under the operation of high duties. Since the passage of the existing Tariff Act, in 1842, the wages of a large portion of the operatives in this city have been reduced, or additional labour has been exacted of them, without a corresponding remuneration, through a "reduction of the speed," and by various other expedients having a tendency to task the energies of labour for the sole benefit of capital. The wages of others have remained *in statu quo*, while those of a very small class have been increased, where it was absolutely necessary to retain them in opposition to competition from abroad.

A few weeks since we stated that in one of our large establishments the wages of a portion of the labourers had been reduced materially, while at the same time the stocks of the company were advancing in the market, and its managers were extending their facilities for production. This has served to direct the attention of our contemporaries in manufacturing communities to the subject, and we find that this forced tribute of the hard head of toil to the wealthy capitalist is a wrong which, at the present moment of manufacturing prosperity, is not confined to this city: the same process has been pursued elsewhere; which shows up the worthlessness and gross hypocrisy of the promises of Whig orators, and demonstrates pretty clearly that exclusive protection to capital does not necessarily afford corresponding protection to labour.

The *Springfield (Massachusetts) Post*—a very ably conducted paper, situated in the vicinity of extensive manufacturing establishments—comments with a good degree of truth and vigour upon this point. We quote a couple of paragraphs from a recent number of that paper:—

"It is a part of wisdom and justice that the wealth of the country should contribute to the support of the Government. It is as much the subject of protection as life itself, and should, therefore, bear its due proportion of the burdens of the protecting arm. Yet towards the maintenance of the Government of the country, the capital invested in manufacturing corporations does not contribute a tittle. It claims and receives greater protection than any other interest, but gives no support to the protecting power in return. The operative, whose sweat and blood and sinews are his capital, is laid under contribution every moment of his life. On almost every thing he eats, or drinks, or wears, he pays a tax to the Government. He does this, and does it cheerfully, in return for the protection it affords him of his life and limbs and family. These are all he has to be protected, and he pays liberally and cheerfully for the service. The rich capitalist does the same, but he does nothing more. For his life, his person, and his family he requires the same protection as the poor man, and for these he pays the same; but for his capital, for that which enables him to live at ease, to roll in luxury, and snap his fingers at care and want, he does not pay a cent—not a farthing. The bodily strength of the operative is his capital, and he submits to be taxed for it; the money of the manufacturer is his capital, and for that he claims exemption from taxation."

"Nay, more. The operative asks only to be protected from wrong while in the honest pursuit of his calling. The capitalist claims not only the same sort of protection as the operative, but insists on the enactment of special laws to enable him to increase his capital. For his person and family he enjoys the same protection as the poor man; his capital is exempt from a tax which is really exacted of the other, at the same time that it receives peculiar and exclusive protection. Why is this? On what ground is this gross inequality justified? Why, simply and wholly on the ground that the manufacturer is expected to atone in some way or other to the rest of the community for the exclusive exemptions and privileges conferred upon him. He says to the operative—'It is true I have twice as much to stake as you, for which I pay the same—it is true that laws are passed for my special and exclusive benefit, giving me a great advantage over you—but still these extraordinary privileges conferred upon me will enable me to confer others on you. The greater my gains the greater, of course, will be your direct protection to me is indirect protection to you, or, in other words, protection to the manufacturer is protection to the labourer.' But yet, when, through the instrumentality of these superior advantages, wealth is pouring in upon the manufacturer from a thousand avenues, we hear nothing of corresponding gains to the operative. As the dividends of the former increase, we seldom hear of an increase in the wages of the latter. While the first realizes real, certain, and substantial benefits from the system, the promised good to the last usually turns out to be a mere matter of moonshine. Prosperity makes the rich more obdurate. It stacks their hearts to the obligations of justice and humanity. An increase of their wealth produces a proportionate increase of their rapacity; and when the manufacturer's profits accumulate largely, his operatives may deem themselves fortunate if they do not find their side of the same growing light in the same proportion."

THE AMERICAN MONOPOLIST MANUFACTURERS.—We agree with the opinion expressed by the *New Yorker Palladium*, that it is due to the great agricultural class

**LEGENDARY FIRE.**—On the morning of the 12th, a smoke out in an outhouse, containing a thrashing-machine, on the farm of Mr. Jackson, of Blackenstone, Oregon, which destroyed the machine, several drills, other agricultural implements, and communicating barn, destroyed it also and its contents, about four bushels of wheat. A stable and two shippens were also destroyed. The fire was discovered raging at two o'clock in the morning, and, by great exertions on the part of Mr. Jackson's family and his neighbours, it was prevented from extending to the dwelling-house. It is firmly believed by Mr. Jackson that the fire was the work of an enemy, as no lights were ever allowed or used on that premises where the fire occurred.—*Western*



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### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEAGUE FUND.

Subscriptions received during the week ending Wednesday, June 25, 1845.

N.B. As the subscription list is made up from Wednesday to Wednesday, contributions received on Thursdays and Fridays are not published in the LEAGUE of the Saturday immediately succeeding, but are included in the list of the week following.

Birmingham.	*Fry, R. W. Handsworth, near	210	0	0
	*Davis, Dr. Birt, Newhall-street	2	2	0
	Whitfield, T. D. Church-street	2	0	0
	*Ross, T., sen., 3, Prospect-row	1	1	0
	Ross, T., jun., ditto	1	1	0
	Workmen of Ross and Son	1	1	0
	Collins, J., 179, Hockley-place	1	0	0
	*Gibson, John, Weaman-street	1	0	0
	Six Children	0	10	6
Glasgow.	*Fleming, W. and J., and Co., Stirling-square	3	0	0
	*Anderson, D. and J., South Hanover-street	2	0	0
	*Dow, Andrew, 10, India-street	1	0	0
	*Smith, Peter, Blackfriars-street	1	0	0
	*A Friend	1	0	0
	Inglis, Thomas, 649, Gallowgate	0	10	0
R. R., Ardwick, Manchester		2	10	0
*Tweedale, William, Ashton-under-Lyne		1	1	0
*Rowe, Richard, Princess-street, Bristol		1	1	0
Waterall, George, Wirksworth, Derbyshire		1	0	0
*Langdon, A. N., Old Market-street, Bristol		1	0	0
*Lawrence, William, Chorley		1	0	0
*Lewins, R. C., Liverpool		1	0	0
*Thomas, John, Brazier-buildings, Drury-lane, Liverpool		1	0	0
Cunningham, William, Montreal		1	0	0
*Frisby and Chawner, Leicester		5	0	0
*Morrison, James, 26, St. Mary-at-Hill		2	2	0
*Holden, Mr., Church-street, Preston		2	0	0
Stanning, James, 87, Long-acre		2	0	0
Engall, Thomas, 67, Newman-street, Oxford-street		1	1	0
*Roeling, Alfred, Southwark-bridge-wharf		1	1	0
*Tomkins, Benjamin A., 85, High-street, Southwark		1	1	0
*Dont, George, 55, Blackman-street, do.		1	1	0
*Casper, Wm., and Co., 65, Stoneard, do.		1	1	0
A. Y. Z.		1	1	0
*Burkitt, H. C., Stanley Cottage, Richmond-hill		1	1	0
T. C. B.		1	1	0
*Walton, William, 6 A, Lodge-road, St. John's wood		1	1	0
*Ashen, John, 10, Blackman-street, Southwark		1	1	0
*Rundleton, Luke, 49, Park-street, do.		1	1	0
*Dunn, Robert, M.D., Priory, Old Aberdeen		1	0	0
*Britton and Henson, Frouse		1	0	0
Hill, J. S., Bartholomew-lane, Bank of England		1	0	0
Sutcliffe, Mr., Froggate, Preston		1	0	0
Hewdell, Thos., 10, Spring-gardens, Manchester		1	0	0
*Hatch, Mr., Southwark-square		1	0	0
*Rushy, Wm., Stone-yard, Bankside, Southwark		1	0	0
Howard, Wm., Lamb-street, do.		0	2	6
Cole, Mr., City-road Anti-Corn-Law Association, per Mr. Const.		0	2	6
Miller, James, do., per do.		0	2	6

\* Those names marked with an asterisk are renewed subscriptions.

### Contributions TO THE BAZAAR.

Net proceeds of sale of a cargo of coals contributed to the Bazaar from Livery, in Gloucestershire	125	5	0
Balance of cash from the Ladies' Committee at Coventry	6	18	0
Duke, George, St. Leonard-on-Sea; proceeds of sale of a small oak tree, contributed by him to the Bazaar	1	17	6
Butterworth, Robert, and Sons, Huddersfield	10	0	0
Benson, H., per Miss Satterthwaite, Manchester	0	10	0
Westbrook, William, Wile-street	0	5	0
A Friend, per Mr. Hollins	0	5	0
Kendall, James, Hutton-road	0	2	6
Carrington, William, Shaw-leath	0	2	6
Sutton, Alfred N., Grosvenor-street	0	2	6
Hellon, Charles, do.	0	2	6
Walkden, Richard, Cule-green	0	1	6
Dixon, Thomas, Edward-street	0	1	0
Hutton J.	0	0	6

### BEDS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

Burford, Ephraim, jun., Stratford, Essex	£0	5	0
Roid, H. S.	0	10	0
Temple, R.	0	5	0
Pross, H.	0	5	0
Shaw, F.	0	5	0
Simson, D.	0	5	0
Simson, R.	0	5	0
Roid, L.	0	5	0
Rogers	0	5	0
McKillop, A. L.	0	5	0
Macfarlane, Hugh, jun., Paisley	0	5	0

### ERRATUM.

In LEAGUE No. 91, in list of Contributions for Beds for Agricultural Labourers, for Josiah Merryweather, read Joseph Merryweather.

**PATRIOTISM.** When any natural propensity is consecrated into a virtue, the greatest evils ensue. Patriotism is an instance of this. We are naturally led to give undue importance to ourselves—this, when the individual is clearly the object of his own feeling, is called selfishness. But when, under the name of patriotism, each individual indulges himself in vanity, in pride, in ambition, in oratory—and yet does it as an Englishman, as a Frenchman, as a Spaniard—all these vices are reckoned virtues.—*J. Blanco White.*

### LETTERS ON AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

#### LETTER V.

"It is a melancholy fact that, without any particular acts of oppression on the part of the farmers, or of dissoluteness on the part of the poor, the labourers of many parts of this country, and of the south-east district in particular, may be truly said to be at this time in a wretched condition. The dearthness of provisions; the scarcity of fuel, and above all the failure of spinning work for the women and children, have put it almost out of the power of the village poor to live by their industry; and have unfortunately broken that independent spirit which in a very peculiar degree formerly kept the Wiltshire labourers from the parish-books. The farmers complain, and with reason, that the labourers do less work than formerly, when, in fact, the labourers are not able to work as they did when they lived better."—*Cooke's Topographical and Statistical Description of the County of Wilts.* (Edition 1817.)

The foregoing extract is from a book published about two years and a half after the time when John Benett, Esq., of Pyt-house, M.P. for South Wilts, gave evidence before a parliamentary committee, that 90s. per quarter for wheat would only be a fair price; and that less than 80s. per quarter would be a losing price—a price at which land would go out of cultivation and labourers out of employment.

The Corn Law of 1815 followed upon the evidence which Mr. Benett and others gave; and it was effectual in the years of deficient harvests—1816 and 1817—in keeping up prices.

But how fared the labourers for whose especial benefit high prices were said to be desirable; and how acted the farmers who employed the labourers? "Without any particular acts of oppression on the part of the farmers, or of dissoluteness on the part of the poor, the labourers in many parts of this county may be truly said to be in a wretched condition. The dearthness of provisions [the 'farmers' friends' of the present day would make this read 'the cheapness of provisions'] have put it almost out of the power of the village poor to live by their own industry."

On a recent occasion the Hon. Sidney Herbert, the parliamentary colleague of Mr. Benett in the representation of South Wilts, said that he did not understand the Free-Traders; that there was no fixing them to any one argument; that on one occasion they alleged this, and on another occasion they alleged that: he really did not know what they wanted.

Yes, the Free-Traders do use different arguments on different occasions; and for this weighty reason, that the pernicious effects of monopoly are so variously distributed, so universally felt, that no single occasion serves to collect them into one statement.

In the passage extracted above we have in one sentence, "the dearthness of provisions, the scarcity of fuel, and, above all, the failure of spinning work for the women and children," given as reasons why the farm-labourers could not, in 1817, live by their own labour. In more recent years the same has been said of the working population of other counties. And it has been the practice of such men as Sidney Herbert to say that the "failure of spinning" is the cause of distress—that it is the distress itself; and that it fails because there has been too much yarn spun—much more than is wanted. And men more exalted in the Cabinet, and more distinguished for smartness in debate than even he is, have said the same thing. "It is all over-production," said Lord Stanley.

But the Free-Traders whom Sidney Herbert finds using more arguments than one,—vexing him because they do not stick to one argument; vexing him more because he is not able to answer their arguments,—they say that "the failure of spinning" is not a primary, but a secondary, cause of distress. The "dearthness of provisions" is that cause which produces "failure in spinning." The stomach must be filled before the body is clothed or adorned. If all the money that a Wiltshire labourer earned in 1816—himself upon one of the Wilton farms, and his wife and two of his children spinning for a Wilton manufacturer—was expended on dear provisions, it is quite clear that they could not add to their stock of clothes nor to their furniture; that they could not pay the shoemaker, nor tailor; nor deal with the draper as usual, nor yet with the grocer to the same extent, as when provisions were not so dear; and that in their turn the tailor did less with the draper, the shoemaker less with both, and all of them less with one another, until the Wilton manufacturer (like all other manufacturers in the kingdom) found that as he could not sell he must not weave, and as he could not weave he must not spin; and that, therefore, he must not give out any more wool to the woman whose husband worked on one of the Wilton farms, and whose two children assisted her in spinning. In short, the manufacturer felt that there was already an "over-production" of clothing, of fancy waistcoatings, or carpets, or blankets, or whatever his branch of the then Wilton trade might be,—not, however, as regarded the requirements of the wearers of clothes: he would see then in Wilton, as we are now in this blessed year 1845, that it is a great struggle on the part of the working people of that place and neighbourhood to get clothes even of the meanest and scantiest kind; but he would estimate the over-production by his inability to sell arising from the people's inability to buy, and would accordingly produce less.

Hence we have the "Statistical Description of Wiltshire," informing us in 1817, the second year of excessive prices, that

"The dearthness of provisions, the scarcity of fuel, and, above all, the failure of spinning work for the women

and children, have put it almost out of the power of the village poor to live by their industry."

What occurred to the manufacturing sections of Wiltshire then, in consequence of dearthness, has occurred to every manufacturing district of England since, on every occasion of dearthness and scarcity; and, by a natural revulsion, upon other sections of society and upon other interests.

These are trite arguments, and so well known to the readers of the LEAGUE that I almost regret to occupy any space with them in this paper. But I am not without hope that we may even get Mr. Herbert to read and understand and believe, though he may not at once confess that he reads, understands, and believes, that the various positions taken by the advocates of Free Trade are not taken to escape from him, or from others who argue on his present side of the question, but are taken to meet and expose to view the evil which the thing called "protection" does at every point where it makes itself felt upon society. And its inroads upon our social and political well-being are so numerous and so various, so full of evil, so deficient of good, that we must meet them by numerous and various arguments.

The "Statistical Description of Wilts," from which I have quoted, bears throughout a tone of respectful partiality for the high churchmen and landed gentry in the county; therefore it is an authority not to be questioned by them. I have produced its testimony to show that dearthness of provisions is allied with scarcity of work; that wages do not rise with the price of provisions; and that dearthness and scarcity revert with evil effect upon everybody. Witness the last sentence in the quotation with which I set out:—"The farmers complain, and with reason, that the labourers do less work than formerly, when, in fact, the labourers are not able to work as they did when they lived better."

At the meeting of 1000 labourers at a village in this county, three weeks ago, one of them named Berley said—"The farmers tell us we be lazy when they think us be doing too little work; but it be potatoes and salt makes a man lazy; or what looks like lazy—weak and not able to do a day's work;" to which several labourers called out, "That be true enough."

Sidney Herbert would here say—judging from what he has already said—"What do you Free-Traders want? You allege that the labourers are poorly paid and fed now when provisions are cheap; and you quote the 'Statistical Description of Wilts' to show us that they were ill fed and ill employed when provisions were dear; what is it you want, dear provisions, or cheap provisions?"

The answer to this is, that mere price neither indicates cheapness nor dearthness. We must take into account the ability of the consumers of provisions to buy enough, or more than enough; or their inability to get enough. In Wiltshire there are more people than can get employment. In Wilton itself the people are undergoing a process of reduction, as fast as Mr. Herbert can root them out, by purchasing up the houses and pulling them down. This may reduce the population of Wilton. But the people leaving it go elsewhere and increase the competition for work, and add, by their migration, to the general and very extensive increase of population. If they be unable to buy enough of food at any price, it matters little to them what the price of it is. What the Free-Traders seek is to extend employment, and thus add to the working man's wages; and they seek to do this by removing the causes of little employment and low wages. The chief of these causes is the excessive dearthness and scarcity which from time paralyze the population and freeze up the industrial resources of this country.

#### LETTER VI.

Another position which the Free-Traders take, perhaps to the bewilderment of Mr. Sidney Herbert, is, that the Corn Law does deep injury to the farmers. And, for their own sakes, I regret to say that the Wilton tenants have suffered severely this present year.

I was upon one of the farms the other day, where the tenant had been paying £20 a week for hay to a flock of sheep for two months; a lesser sum for two other months. The price of the hay was £6 and 10s. per ton. Other farmers had been paying £7 per ton. This high price of hay may appear to some to be a benefit to farmers; and if high prices were always a benefit to them, this would have been so. But if farmers buy from farmers, it is clear that there is no gain even at high prices, to them, as a class. The price of hay this year proves it. That price being excessive, no more was purchased than what barely kept the sheep and cattle alive. The result is that all flocks have suffered, and many have been dropping to the ground by disease, induced by starvation. Up to the time that I write, some flocks not many miles from Wilton, which have seen, are still pining in disease, the abundant grass of the generous summer being inefficacious to recover them.

All over the middle district of Hampshire, and through South Wilts, particularly on Salisbury Plains, the shepherds have told me within the last fortnight that the wool this year is neither so good nor so heavy, owing to the scarcity of winter feeding for the sheep, as in ordinary years. Neither have the ewes been so prolific of lambs. Nor the lambs in such good condition. I have been on a farm where 20 out of every 100 sheep had been reduced to as little as the fifth part of what they would have sold for in the summer of 1844; reduced thus by famine and

disease, even though the farmer had been buying hay for them.

Now, all this has occurred while the farmers have been prevented by their own Corn Law from getting provender better and cheaper than hay. Where £200 have been paid for barely as much hay as kept the stock upon a farm alive, £100 expended in the purchase of the beans of Egypt, the maize, barley, oats, &c., to have been added to such hay and straw and turnips as each farmer had of his own in the autumn and winter of 1844, would have had the stock in good condition—that intended to be fat would have been fat, that intended for breeding stock would have been in health, and the farmer would have now had profit in his pocket instead of barren loss; a loss that he will not overcome for the next two years let the seasons be in the highest degree favourable. The stock is deteriorated; and with many of the poorer farmers—the poorest farmers not being always those who occupy least land—cattle and sheep have died, and are still dying.

The "North Wilts Agricultural Report," dated 5th June, published in the *Devizes Gazette*, and republished in other farmers' newspapers, has the following:—

"Keep is not very plentiful, in consequence of every one trying to mow as much as possible, as there is no stock of old hay left. We have not heard of so many casualties among stock as we expected from their low condition when turned to grass. Vetches and other kind of sheep food are in many places very bad, and many stocks will turn out of their coats in a sad plight, and the clip of wool will be very light and of inferior quality."

To what extent the agricultural reporter expected casualties to occur to the starved stock when turned to grass, does not appear. But from what I have seen and been told, by personal visits to the farms where stock was in low condition, I know that the casualties have been, and are now, most lamentable. And as to the loss upon wool, through starvation, and that at a time when the demand of the manufacturers for English wool increases as the supply of foreign wool increases, we have the direct testimony of the local agricultural reporter, that "many flocks will turn out (they have turned out) of their coats in a sad plight; and the clip of wool will be (it is) very light and of inferior quality."

A few weeks ago a petition from some farmers attending Salisbury market was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Cobden. Seven of the farmers who signed it are stated to occupy upwards of 5000 acres of land. The petition shows the necessity of a change in those restrictive laws which strike the country, the people, the land, the very farm-yards with periodical famine. The petition has appeared in the *LEAGUE* already; but, as the present number of the *LEAGUE* will be put into the hands of some parties who may not have seen all the previous numbers, I take leave to reprint the petition. It comes from practical men, and illustrates and enforces the argument which I have been addressing—I may state it fairly—pointedly addressing to Mr. Herbert and Mr. Bennett, the representatives of monopoly and farm-yard famine in South Wilts.

"The humble Petition of the undersigned Farmers, frequenting the market at Salisbury, in the county of Wilts.

"Humbly sheweth,

"That, in the district in which your petitioners dwell, food and provender for cattle, now and for some months past, have been so scarce and expensive that the cost of maintaining stock during the present year has, in many instances, been greater than its actual value.

"That, owing to such scarcity and dearness of provender, cattle and stock are stinted in food, and thereby not only rendered liable to disease, but much diminished in value both as regards their flesh and their manure.

"That, whilst your honourable House has reduced the protective duties on the importation of cattle, and thus exposed your petitioners to foreign competition in that respect, no steps have been taken to enable your petitioners to feed and fatten their stock at the same cheap rate as the foreigner is enabled to do.

"Your petitioners, therefore, pray your honourable House at once to repeal the duties payable upon the importation of foreign beans and oats, and other articles consumed by cattle, and which said duties, owing to the present scarcity of provender, are now actually paid by your petitioners, and others similarly circumstanced, out of their own pockets."

I have marked some words in *italic*. They introduce an important branch of the subject which I have not yet touched upon—the non-production of manure for the re-production of crops whereby to grow corn and feed sheep and cattle this year.

These are some of the varied positions which the Free-Traders occupy to the be-puzzlement of the Hon. Sidney Herbert. He says he does not know where to find them—where to grapple with them—they take so many different positions. If the hon. gentleman would open his eyes upon the Wilton property, upon it alone; if he would open his eyes there, and inquire and judge for himself, he would see that the opponents of restrictive laws upon industry—the opponents of feudal injustice and impolicy—have grounds to occupy which as yet they have almost neglected.

Saying this, justice constrains me to say also, that as a gentleman Mr. Herbert has the local reputation of being open-hearted, open-handed, generous, and far above all selfishness. He is young, rich—very rich, talented, and ambitious of distinction. There is much to hope for in such a follower of Sir Robert Peel.

ONE WHO HAS WHISTLED AT THE PLOUGH.

TRUTH.—Let truth and falsehood grapple; who ever knew truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?

## REVIEW.

### Proceedings of the British Association at Cambridge.

#### SECTION F—STATISTICS.

The following paper, by Mr. G. S. Kenrick, on the Statistics of Merthyr Tydvil, appears to us so important that we have resolved to insert it in place of our usual reviews:—

"It is our duty, while we enjoy superior advantages of station or condition, to strive to do something for our less fortunate brethren. To do anything for them with effect we must make ourselves acquainted with them, with the circumstances by which they are surrounded, and the effects which these are calculated to produce on them, both morally and physically. With this view I have been led, however imperfectly, to make an inquiry into the statistics of Merthyr Tydvil—the condition of its inhabitants, its means of education, of religious instruction, and the result of these as seen in the manners and habits of the people.

"The mass of the population of Merthyr has been called into life and brought into this wild district by the establishment of large iron works belonging to Messrs. Crawshaw, Guest, Hill, and Thompson. The greater part of the people are supported by their daily labour at these works; and the remainder of the population consists of persons who supply them with food, clothing, furniture, beer, physic, law, and divinity. There are very few persons who reside in the black-looking village of Merthyr who are not either directly or indirectly interested in the iron works, in one of the modes mentioned above.

An Analysis of the Population of Merthyr during the spring of 1841 (exclusive of Coedcymmer, hamlet of Vayhor, Tall, and Cymon, and Forrest-hill).

Total Population	32,968	
Houses	6,145	5½ persons to a house nearly.
Sleeping-rooms	10,835	Three persons to a room.
Children under three years of age	3,203	
Children from three to twelve years	6,857	Age for education, 4-8th, or full one-fifth of the population.
Lodgers	6,140	One for each house, 5-3rds of the population.
English people	4,181	18 per cent. of the population.
Welsh	27,802	84 do. do.
Irish	985	3 do. do.
Persons who cannot speak English intelligibly	10,917	
Children who go to day-schools, by report of their parents	1,272	Less than a fifth of those who ought to go.
Ditto by report of teachers	1,313	
Pupils attending nineteen Sunday-schools at Dissenting chapels	4,581	Average attendance.
Ditto at Church Sunday-schools	350	
Cause read	11,774	
Can write	5,709	
Persons among the labouring classes who have other books beside religious books	445	
Do not go to a place of worship	11,739	
Workmen occasionally intoxicated	2,587	Or a thirteenth of population.
Workmen who have houses being their own property	91	
Lodging-houses	59	
Children working and living with their parents	2,910	
Females working	404	
Churches 2, will contain Chapels, 26	15,182	

"In proceeding to notice in detail the result of our census, we find, in the first place, that there are 5½ persons on an average to each house, which shows that there is more accommodation in this respect than the population to the east of the coal basin enjoys.

"The number of persons to each sleeping-room is three, being perhaps as little crowded as the generality of manufacturing towns. In some parts of the village there are houses, however, which contain far too many inmates, and where lodging-houses of a mean description are crowded with persons of different professions, including vagrants, gamblers, and men leading dissolute lives.

"In consequence of the number of unmarried men who come from Cardiganshire, Pembrokehire, and other adjoining counties, to take advantage of the high wages which are given at the iron works, the usual proportion of males to females is reversed in this parish, and the males much exceed the females; the former being in the ratio of 6 to 5 of the latter. This influx of single men from the surrounding country accounts for the great number of lodgers, viz., 6140, whom we find located in Merthyr, being one-fifth of the population, and amounting to one lodger for every house in the parish.

"It is surprising that a large village so near the boundary of an English county as Merthyr is, and having such frequent communication with it, should have so small a number of Saxons, as the English are called, among the population—only about 4000 out of a population of 33,000; and there are 11,000, or one-third, who cannot speak English intelligibly, and would not understand an English sermon. The consequence is, that the service at the chapels is generally conducted in Welsh.

"In all towns, whether large or small, there is a portion inhabited by persons in easy circumstances, which contrasts strongly with the district occupied by the poor; there is also a part where the decencies of life are generally observed, and another where these observances are not kept up: men will fix their abode and associate with those who resemble them in character and condition in life; aided to which, the effect of example is great in producing a level in moral attributes as well as in personal and domestic habits. It will be necessary, therefore, that we should visit all parts of the town, and give as faithful a picture as we can of the inhabitants—their wants, their temptations, their comforts or destitution, their virtues and their vices—that corresponding efforts may be made to encourage what is praiseworthy, and to remove what is injurious or vicious.

"It is remarkable how often crowded and uncomfortable dwellings, with unpaved and almost impassable streets, are inhabited by persons who appear to be degraded and demoralized by the unfavourable circumstances in which they are placed. We will begin with Dowlais, which does not captivate a stranger by its cleanliness or neatness, particularly in the back streets, and Longtown is one of the dirtiest streets in Dowlais. The houses consist of only one room on the ground floor, which is used for all purposes. In one of these houses were stowed ten human beings, viz., a man, his wife, and five children, with three grown-up lodgers; the beds were in a corner of the room separated from the other part by a curtain. The furniture in this street and Twyn of Wagan is of a miserable description: the people are very poor; very few of them attend a place of worship, and almost every house is visited by that scourge of the working classes—intemperance. Eighteen adjoining houses in this district contain 96 persons, and only 22 of these go to a place of worship. Two houses at the back of Bethanias-street consist of one small room each, to which there is no access except by walking up a deal plank to these miserable abodes. The one house is inhabited by nine persons, the other by seven. There is scarcely any furniture in these houses, and only one small bed at the corner of the room for all the family; the children must, therefore, be littered on the floor. In a house in an adjoining street there was little furniture, yet the house was neatly kept; but the poor woman complained that her husband was almost always drunk—that he went off on this errand a week ago and was not yet returned. Two of her children were dead; and she wished, for its own sake, the other was dead also. She seemed broken-hearted by the misconduct of her husband. These houses of one room each are said to belong to the Dowlais Company; the rent is about 1s. 6d. a week exclusive of coal.

"Adkins-row: people poor—dirty—drunken. At one house the woman said she had no Bible now; she had a valuable one some time ago, and lent it to a neighbour who pawned it for gin.

"Street No. 21. The habitations dirty and poor; there were twelve drunkards in one house, who were not at all ashamed to own it. Only two persons out of the thirteen who lived in this house went to a place of worship.

"Street No. 4. At one of these houses lives a pudler, getting 35s. a week; but he spends most of his money in drink, and his wife and five children are in a pitiable condition; she would have died for want of food during her last confinement, but for the charity of her neighbours.

"Pullythead.—A large proportion of the people are poor immoral and drunken, and not more than one-half of them attend a place of worship. One woman said four of her children under 12 years of age were working in the coal-pit, and she complained that poverty obliged the younger ones to go, at the cost of their health, because her husband was a drunkard.

"Before we leave Dowlais, and proceed to the lower part of the parish, we must make a few general observations. There are a number of houses about the Dowlais Iron Works occupied by 285 families, who mainly derive their support from those works, and we have noted their condition as follows:—

Families bearing the appearance of comfort	129
Ditto, poor	137
Ditto, miserably poor	11

Ten of these houses are used for the sale of beer, or one beer-house to 27 houses. This fact explains the cause of the poverty of the people, as one-third of the earnings of the workmen is devoted to the purchase of intoxicating drink. In two streets near this locality are 85 houses, and eight of them are used for the sale of malt liquor. These streets are filthy, the houses dirty and crowded, the inhabitants are addicted to drunkenness and immorality, and many of them never attend a place of worship. In passing through Dowlais on a Sunday morning, between seven and eight o'clock, without turning out of the main street, 62 drunken people were counted; several of them were sitting on the steps of the beer-shops waiting for the doors to be opened that they might renew the practices of the previous night.

"In proceeding to the houses in the neighbourhood of the Pendarran Iron Works there are three streets near to each other. Respecting the first we must remark, that the people appeared rather poor and dirty, and there was great complaint of drunkenness. Of the next we must report that the people seemed very poor, and intemperance existed in almost every house. In the third street the houses were poor and filthy, and there are several instances of great wretchedness and distress through intemperance. When the love of strong drink becomes prevalent it is not confined to the male population, but spreads to the females. In a house in this neighbourhood, and elsewhere in this parish, we saw five or six women, at eleven o'clock in the morning, drinking tea with rum in it. Where women follow this practice of taking spirits while their husbands are at work, their houses and families are untidy and neglected.

Unfortunately, a working man cannot be wasteful or extravagant without making others suffer besides himself. His family suffers in many ways, but not least in the children being taken at a very tender age to work underground, before they have gained sufficient strength to support the fatigue and exposure to which they are subjected. We believe that there are many children at Pendarran, whose fathers, being colliers, carry them on their backs into the colliery, where they remain all day, and some of these children are under five years of age. A boy of seven years of age was taken to work in the coal-pit by his father, and very soon a cold fixed in his limbs, and he has been for several months, and still continues, a great sufferer. No. 53, 22, 100.—Child caught cold by attending an air-door, and the lungs of these children are seriously affected. No. 19, 41, 45 bear similar testimony to the evils arising from this practice. At Twyn Rhodyn are 80 children of tender age who are at work, and there are several cases of ill health from this cause.

"Street No. 10, Cabin Twyld.—These are miserable huts, they lie low and are damp, filthy, and unhealthy; the people are ignorant and drunken. Guarawar.—The houses are ill-furnished and very dirty; and there is much drinking among the people.

"It is pleasant to turn from this dark catalogue to Street No. 9 and Llwynvigor, which were formerly remarkable for drunkenness. Persons in private houses had been selling beer without a license, when two sober families removed to this place, and there was speedily a reformation in the characters of their neighbours, many of whom are now respectable in conduct,



Now, the obvious remark on this passage is, what system of protection will "insure wheat at 4'15 a bushel," or 7s. 6d. a bushel? It is plain the present system will not do it, for wheat is now, and has for some time been, about 2s. a bushel less than the "insured" price. Neither did the late Corn Law—that of 1824—for under that law, in 1834, 1835, and 1836, wheat was less than 5s. a bushel. Nor was the previous law of 1815 more successful. But though the "system of protection" did not "insure" the promised price, it caused rents, tithes, &c., to be fixed according to that price, and it led farmers

—amongst the rest the writer on whose advocacy of monopoly we are commenting—to calculate upon profit from small produce in the expectation of receiving the high “protection” price. What has been the consequence? Why, that from one end of the country to the other there is a cry of agricultural distress.

This is the so-called protectionist table:—

TABLE I.—PROTECTION.—WHEAT £15 PER LOAD.

Receipts.	
50 acres of wheat, at 6 sacks per acre, deducting 1 for seed .. ..	£ 375
25 acres of barley (peas or beans in a similar proportion), 5 quarters per acre, deducting 1 sack for seed, 36s. per quarter .. ..	202
25 acres of oats, at 6 quarters per acre, deducting 1 sack for seed, half consumed on farm, the other half, deducting the 1 sack per acre, sold at 24s. per quarter .. ..	85
50 acres of upland grass or tares, feed hay and seed consumed at home .. ..	..
50 acres of turnips consumed ditto .. ..	..
Profit on 250 sheep, winter kept .. ..	120
Ditto on 100 ditto, summer ditto .. ..	30
Cows and pigs .. ..	50
<b>Total receipts</b> .. ..	<b>862</b>
<b>Omitting pound fractions</b> .. ..	<b>716</b>
<b>Balance profit</b> .. ..	<b>£146</b>

Expenditure.	
2 threshers, 2 ploughmen, 1 shepherd, 1 odd man, at 12s. per week .. ..	£ 187
2 boys at 5s. per week .. ..	26
Dairywoman .. ..	12
Harvesting and hoeing .. ..	50
Thatching, hurdles, sacks, &c. .. ..	26
Women hay-making .. ..	5
Rates and tithes at 8s. per acre .. ..	80
Master's time and superintendence .. ..	40
Interest on capital (£1500), at 4 per cent. .. ..	60
Rent, 20s. per acre .. ..	200
Blacksmith, carpenter, and collar-maker .. ..	30
<b>Omitting pound fractions</b> .. ..	<b>£716</b>

If this is what the writer calls spirited farming, we should like to know what he would designate as ordinary farming. The land is assumed to be good, or what is termed “useful” land, for the rent and tithe together are at least 25s. an acre, and yet this “spirited” protectionist grows only *twenty-four bushels of wheat to the acre*, out of which he uses four bushels for seed!! Then on 200 acres of arable land he only employs a capital of £1500, which is one-fourth less than the lowest amount with which that extent of land can be advantageously farmed. Nor does he employ labour enough to make farming profitable: two men and a boy to each 100 acres of arable land (for the “shepherd” and “odd man” are of course fully engaged with the flock and stock) form but a scanty force for “farming with spirit.” That many farmers “drag on” in very much such a course of husbandry as that indicated by the above table we know, but that is only because they are yearly tenants, over-ridden by game, trammelled by restrictive stipulations, injured by hedgerows and timber, and, above all, hindered by rents calculated according to prices they do not obtain. Free Trade would at once relieve them from these evils, for the landlords desirous to maintain their rentals would offer to their tenants terms and tenures which would make their business a safe and a steady one.

But can any man who understands the productive powers of land seriously contemplate giving 25s. an acre as rent, and then growing only 24 bushels of wheat to the acre once in four years? And that by sowing four bushels to the acre? We do not hesitate to say that there is no land worth 25s. an acre which might not be made, by moderately good farming, to produce at least 32 bushels to the acre, and by spirited farming 40 bushels. Nor is more than two bushels of seed an acre necessary with any kind of management which deserves the name of farming. Here, then, we find that on the wheat crop, taking the most moderate estimate, a real farmer ought to save two and grow eight bushels an acre more—making a difference of 10 bushels—than this protectionist writer assumes to be the usual crop. And let it be observed that the same expense is incurred for ploughing, &c., and for rent, tithes, taxes, rates, &c., to grow the small as to grow the large crop: the difference, therefore, would be, supposing wheat to sell at 5s. a bushel, a clear gain of £125. This is just the sum which the writer, as will be seen from his so-called Free-Trade table, assumes will be lost on wheat by the abrogation of the Corn Laws.

TABLE II.—FREE-TRADE WHEAT, £10 PER LOAD.

Receipts.	
50 acres of wheat as above .. ..	£ 400
25 acres of barley as ditto, at 24s. per qr. .. ..	230
25 acres of oats as ditto, at 16s. ditto per ditto .. ..	133
50 acres of grass consumed at home .. ..	56
50 acres of turnips ditto .. ..	..
Profit on 250 sheep falling one-third .. ..	80
Ditto on 100 ditto .. ..	20
Cows and pigs .. ..	33
<b>Omitting pound fractions</b> .. ..	<b>578</b>
<b>Balance profit</b> .. ..	<b>£10</b>

Expenditure.	
Farming men at 9s. per week .. ..	£140
Two boys at 4s. ditto .. ..	20
Dairywoman .. ..	9
Harvesting and hoeing .. ..	40
Women, hay harvest .. ..	4
Thatching, hurdles, sacks, &c. .. ..	20
Rates and tithes at 7s. per acre .. ..	70
Master's time .. ..	40
Capital, £1500 at 4 per cent. .. ..	60
Blacksmith, carpenter, and collar-maker .. ..	25
Rent, falling one-third .. ..	134
<b>Total</b> .. ..	<b>£562</b>

We have confined our remarks to wheat, for the sake of simplicity in illustration; but the same thing applies to other grain, though not perhaps to quite the same extent; yet, by moderately good farming, much larger crops of barley and oats than those stated by the writer would be grown.

Next take the profit on the stock of a farm of 200 arable acres. The writer gives, as the protectionist profit of wintering 250 sheep at £120, something less than 10s. a head, and, under a Free Trade, he reduces that profit one-third, or to £80. On what conceivable ground the profit on sheep is to be reduced by reason of free trade in corn we cannot imagine. Assuming the sheep to be fed entirely from the produce of the farm, the profit must at all events remain the same, but in truth it would be increased from the greater demand for mutton which would arise from the better and steadier state of the markets in the trading districts, and the improved condition of the labouring classes generally. But, assuming the sheep to be fed to any extent on purchased corn, the lower prices of inferior grain, which would be one of the direct consequences of Free Trade, must at once increase the profit on sheep. Our own calculation is, that the profits on keeping stock of all kinds will be increased fully one-third by a free trade in corn, supposing no more stock to be kept than at present; but, in fact, much more will be kept. The monopolist writer's estimate of a profit of only £120 on wintering 250, shows the low style of farming into which he has been deluded by protection. Nor can his turnip crops have been very heavy. Mr. Pusey tells us, in his article on Lincolnshire farming, that on Lincoln-henth, originally a rabbit-warren, worth scarcely 2s. an acre, one acre of turnips will winter from ten to twelve large Lincoln sheep—double the number wintered by the monopolist. On land such as the writer mentions being, even under his system of farming, worth 25s. per acre, at all events seven sheep to an acre ought to be wintered. And if they are well wintered, independently of the profit on the sheep, a good crop of grain is insured from the manure. What the profits on the sheep may be will be shown by two instances which have this spring fallen within our own observation.

A farmer, last autumn, bought a lot of Leicester wether lambs, at 18s. a head, and having wintered them very well on corn and turnips, he sold them fat during the past spring at an average of 45s. a piece, having cut 8s. worth of wool from each, making together 53s. Now, if each sheep consumed 10s. worth of corn, which, at even the high price of oats last winter, is above the mark, there was a profit of 25s. a head.

Another farmer bought, in the autumn, a number of Southdown ewes at 21s. each, which lambed in February. He had just entered upon a farm thoroughly worked out by a preceding tenant, on which there were no turnips or other feed except some poor meadows; with the exception of a few acres of turnips purchased, and the meadows, ewes and lambs were fed entirely on corn, and both having become fat, are now weekly being slaughtered by the butcher, and each couple sells for 55s., the ewe having been shorn of 4s. worth of wool—together 69s. These sheep, therefore, allowing each couple to have consumed four bushels of oats at 12s., have returned a profit of 36s. each. Both these are instances of a good, but not very extraordinary, profit. But supposing the monopolist writer, instead of keeping his 250 sheep lingering through the winter, merely growing into a small profit of 5s. a head exclusive of their wool, had kept seven sheep to each acre of his 50 acres of turnip, or 350 sheep, and had made a profit of only 15s. by each sheep, instead of £120 profit on sheep wintered, he would have had an item of £262 10s. A free trade in corn would certainly increase the profit 5s. a head, or £47 10s.; so that his profit on wintered sheep in the Free-Trade table should have been £350 in the place of £200. The same kind of calculations are applicable to cattle and pigs, on which the profit entered in the first table is too small; and it would assuredly increase, not diminish, on the abolition of the Corn Laws.

We invite the attention of farmers to these remarks, and ask them to apply them to their own transactions, and in so doing we are satisfied they will see that they have everything to hope and nothing to fear from free trade in corn. We have carefully confined our estimates to such crops and management as would be perfectly within the means of a tenant farming 200 acres of arable land with a capital of £1500, assuming him to be a person of skill and intelligence, and to have a rational lease,

and no game preserve on his farm. But by high farming, that is with a capital of from £12 to £15 per acre, the advantages would be much more decided. More stock highly fed would so increase the fertility of the soil, that year by year larger and larger crops of corn might be grown at a proportionably diminished cost. On many soils wheat, the most money-making crop, might be grown every other year, if the farmer could always purchase cheaply his required quantity of oats, pulse, Indian corn, &c.; and this will be largely done on clay land as soon as the incubus of “protection” has been removed from agriculture.

#### WORKING OF THE AGRICULTURAL MIND.

It is plain that the agricultural mind is just now, to use a provincial phrase, “all of a work,” and, like the beer-barrel under fermentation, though discharging occasionally some feculent and offensive matter, is undoubtedly undergoing a refining and wholesome change. This is exactly illustrated by the occurrences at the meeting of the *West Suffolk Agricultural Association*, lately held at Bury St. Edmund's. And it also bears out the accuracy of Mr. Villiers's remark—that, whenever the farmers assemble without the landed grandees, useful practical remarks are made, which, whether so intended or not by the speakers, plainly show the uselessness or the evils of protection. In the present instance it was clear the majority present still cling to the Corn Laws, and therefore, if any part of the proceedings which met with their approval make against monopoly, it has all the value of unwilling testimony. The first topic introduced worth noticing was that of the value of Australian corn as seed, of which Mr. Bevan said:—

“That a few weeks ago one of his neighbours said to him, ‘I think there is more to be done in farming, by the introduction of foreign seed corn (hisses), than by any of the new fangled methods we have heard of for promoting agriculture.’ This was said by a very excellent man, known to a great many of them—Mr. Thomas Fison, of Birmingham. (Hisses.) The subject was quite new to him (Mr. Bevan), but he was very willing to listen to it, as to anything which promised good to himself and his neighbours; and he asked Mr. Fison to state more particulars. Mr. Fison told him that many years ago his father introduced Moldavian barley into this country, and when it was first tried by him he grew 17 coombs per acre.”

We know not wherefore the monopolists should have received the name of Mr. Fison with disapprobation, except that so long since as 1836 he gave before the committee of that year most distinct evidence against the Corn Laws, on the ground that they did not benefit farmers. He said:—

“As a gardener, he knew from experience, that, when flower seeds were brought fresh from a foreign country, the flowers showed better colours and were of finer growth than those which we had had several years in this country, and had grown from seeds raised in our own hothouses. The climate which was best adapted to any particular vegetable produced better seed, from which the best result would be produced. To show this he had brought with him that day the samples of Australian wheat which had been landed about the room. They might be surprised to hear that, even within a fortnight, that wheat had produced 59s., 60s., 61s., and 62s. per quarter. He did not think any wheat in this country could grow so high a price, and it appeared to him that, if seed obtained from a better climate would grow more strongly and produce a better result than their own native seed, they could not do better than join together in obtaining a cargo of Australian wheat, to be landed at Ipswich, and to be distributed throughout the whole of this country. (Cries of ‘No, no.’) He thought it highly necessary at first to try it in a very small way.”

And Mr. Bevan, who, we believe, is a country banker, proceeded in this way to expatiate on the advantages of foreign seed corn, not fully comprehending the extreme sensitiveness of the agricultural mind. This called up Mr. Overman, who, in the true style of the “Central Protection Society,” of which he is one of the lesser lights, thus denounced the luckless Mr. Bevan:—

“He would attempt to find an antidote for the poison which he thought that gentleman was anxious to instil into many of their minds.”

He then said:—

“He thought he could prove that an intentional deception had been practised on Mr. Bevan, and that he had allowed his kind feelings to be misled thereby. He had first stated to them that when Moldavian barley was first introduced 17 coombs per acre were grown. He did not doubt this at all, but, at the same time, he would ask what proof Mr. Bevan had that it came from Moldavia? They all knew the Spalding wheat; did it take its origin from Spalding, in Lincolnshire, or from a person of that name? Did the Chevalier barley come from Chevallier, or was it introduced by a doctor of the name of Chevallier? They had heard of the large amount produced by Moldavian barley, but he put it to the company whether they had ever seen 17 coombs produced as the general produce of a farm? He had seen 17 coombs grown on one acre; but he never saw it on 30, or 40, or 50 acres.”

Now, this really went to prove the reverse of what this rampant monopolist intended to prove, for it showed that carefully selected seed was of great importance, and that by high cultivation on one acre a vast crop could be grown; and, the question occurs, why not cultivate thirty, or forty, or fifty acres in the same way? He then said:—

“There was another point which he wished to press upon the minds of those who heard him: they saw in what an insidious way foreign corn was to be introduced into this country. It was to be admitted for seed; but if



was nothing to them what it was admitted for, so long as it was admitted. It would be giving an opportunity for the Legislature to throw this sort of language at them—when the farmers told their grievances, they would be stopped by the question, 'Do you not do it yourselves?' He did not expect that Mr. Bevan, as the first to introduce subjects of discussion, would have introduced the subject of bringing in foreign grain. It was a fundamental rule of the society that no one should start politics, and when they came to the subject of foreign grain, he would say that it ought not to be introduced."

Now, it is clearly the monopolist, not the agricultural mind that is thus sensitive; for a more decided anti-agricultural speech it has never been our lot to read. The chairman and Mr. Bevan cried *peccavimus*, and repeated the monopolist creed with the due devotion of suspected heretics to monopoly. Afterwards, Mr. Gedney said:—

"When a good tenant got land and farmed it well, if he had not got a lease, some shabby fellow in the neighbourhood (and they were not scarce) would go and offer for it probably more rent, and the landlord would say to the tenant, 'Bless my heart, I must have more rent of you, for the land is worth more.' 'Very true,' the tenant would say, 'it is worth more, because I made it so.' (Cheers.) But the secret of the whole matter was, that property was burdened too much, and the temptation to get higher rents was too great for many to cut asunder: many a supposed landlord must say to himself, 'I must have money, my property is mortgaged—it is no use being delicate about it—money I want, and money I must have;' and perhaps there would be a lawyer in the receipt of the rents. (Cheers.)"

Here the farmers had got upon topics about which they knew something, and they cheered vociferously. He then referred to Mr. Bevan's speech:—

"He very much admired his speech, because there was a vast deal of nice comfort in it. He bought foreign corn for seed and paid 20s. duty, but shortly we shall have it free both for seed and bread. Really to him that was delightful! (Cheers.) And now for the Suffolk farmers. He would tell them how he was going to let farms, so that they might understand how to hire theirs. He meant to let his farms (he called them his, though he was only an agent) to men of capital to begin with (cheers); and he meant to have the poor employed (cheers); and he meant also to give the tenant means to employ his capital. (Loud cheers.) He would not let the land unless he could give security to the tenant farming it. (Cheers.) He had not come yet to the idea that a corn-rent was the best rent—he was rather inclined to have a valuation of the capability of the soil, valuing the tenant in at a fair rental according to the quality of the land, and they would find little difficulty; but he would have security for both parties."

There is no doubt that fair money-rents might easily be fixed if the trade in corn was free; but till then the farmer may rightfully demand of his landlord a corn-rent.

"Mr. Murrell said, as to importing Australian wheat for seed, he would observe that he generally put in eighty acres, at two bushels per acre; this was more than his labourers eat. Now, if he imported for seed, and others did the same, it would do a vast deal of harm to the country."

This is sadly erroneous. Suppose Mr. Murrell and others bought better or cheaper corn from abroad to sow, they must plainly be gainers by all the difference in quality or price. But the monopolist mind starts at shadows, or more unreal fancies, to the injury of the monopolist pocket.

Again, Mr. Overman proceeded to eulogize the virtues of malt for feeding cattle, which he had not tried, and to question the scientific analyses of Playfair and Liebig! This reminds us of an anecdote told of Robert Hall, who, hearing a gentleman questioning the critical acumen of one of the old divines, called him "a house on the wing of an archangel." Mr. Overman then said:—

"Lord Howick told them to use Egyptian corn and maize, but how could they know that these were not wrong, or that they alone would produce benefit? They might give beasts 20lbs. of oil-cake, and they would eat it, but they would not do without hay, just as folks must eat potatoes with meat, and salt with bread."

This is sheer stupidity or worse, for who ever said Egyptian corn, or maize, or oil-cake was to be given alone? Mr. R. B. Harvey, on the subject of seed corn, said:—

"Now, he fancied they had at home the opportunity of improving their own seed corn, and they should endeavour to improve it as much as they possibly could before they went to a distant country for the article. He had paid considerable attention to this point, and he had always found that 'like produces like'—that what applied to animals applied also to corn—a large animal produced a large animal, and fine seed produces fine corn. He thought the Spalding and the Ryburgh wheat and the Chevallier barley were found very profitable, three or four years after their introduction, because the stock from which they were produced had had something like a garden culture, and the berries were larger. He could state from his own experience, that if they went to a field of Swede turnips, and found one weighing ten pounds and another five pounds (and gathered the seed of each separately and sowed it, the result would be that there would be larger roots from the seed of the ten-pound turnip than from the five-pound one. He thought that, if farmers, instead of going to Australia for seed corn, allowed a small quantity of land, say an acre, for raising it themselves, giving a thin seed, sowing plenty of manure, and paying attention to it, they would find the berries larger and more productive."

Now, this is like telling a man to make his own shoes, lothes, and furniture, when he could get them cheaper and better from the shoemaker, the tailor, or the cabinet-maker. One would not have supposed that such ignorance lurked even in the agricultural districts of Suffolk. If "large berries" produced by garden cultivation be

good for seed, why should not "large berries" produced by warmth of climate be as good or better? The best speech of the evening was that of Mr. F. Denton, who, after speaking sensibly on draining and some other matters, said:—

"He confessed he had yet to be convinced that it would be wise for us to purchase colonial corn for the purpose of encouraging the emigration of our labourers, feeling convinced, after 35 years' experience, that, under a judicious management of their estates by the landlords, an abundance of employment would be found for all the labourers that could be produced for many many years to come. By dividing their best lands into occupations of from 100 to 200 acres; their second best from 200 to 300 acres; their third quality from 300 to 500 acres; and their inferior lands from 500 to 1000 acres; and by letting such farms, not to the men who would give the most money for them, but to tenants judiciously chosen for ability, in point of capital, intellect, industry, and disposition to improve both the landlords' and their own property, at equitably adjusted rents, on leases of not less than sixteen years' duration; and at the expiration of twelve years, if the landlord and tenant suited each other, not letting the tenant run his farm out in the last four years in uncertainty, but then giving him an extension of his term, when it would rarely be found that he would be unwilling to pay an increased rent for the landlord's property, improved by his own skill, capital, and industry, through having had security for the outlay thereon; by such management as this, and by taking up the poor lands of this country, he did not hesitate to say that abundant employment might be found for our increasing population. (Applause.) Let the poor pastures be converted into arable, and the waste lands be brought into cultivation, of both of which thousands of acres still remained unprofitable to landlords, tenants, and labourers; and let emigration be only adopted as a last resource. (Cheers.)"

But such management is impossible so long as the Corn Law lasts. Mr. Denton then referred to game, saying:—

"But there was another subject to which he must beg leave to allude—a subject of great grief and of great discouragement to the agriculturists of this country—the excessive preservation of game—(loud cheering)—than which, he firmly believed, taking it in all its bearings, a greater evil could not afflict an agricultural country like this. (Renewed cheers.) It was alike injurious to landlord, tenant, and labourer: to the landlord, by the destruction of his growing timber; to the tenant, by the destruction of his crops, all of which he had covenanted to receive in return for the employment of his skill, capital, and industry; and to the labourer, by abridging the means of the tenant to employ him, and, worse than all, by the demoralization of his character. (Great applause.) He spoke from the experience of 35 years spent in the neighbourhood of game preserves, and would say that on that land one half the amount of the rent which had been paid had been sacrificed to game. (Hear, hear, and great cheering.)"

Now, barring Mr. Overman's absurdities, and he said nothing of Canada corn bills and tariffs, this meeting shows that the agricultural mind is working itself out of the bewilderment in which the monopolists and political tricksters have involved it. Heaven send it a good deliverance, and that speedily!

#### LAUDING THE LABOURERS.

At the East Sussex Agricultural Association there was a large muster of lords, squires, and clergymen, to distribute amongst the labourers who had been recommended certain prizes for long service and so forth; and also to adjudge other rewards to the best shearers of sheep. Shearing is undoubtedly an operation in which both land and title owners must have taken much interest. The following is the local report of the meeting:—

"By about one o'clock, at which period the Earl of Chichester, accompanied by his noble guest the Duke of Richmond, had returned, the ground presented a very animated appearance, for, in addition to the large party of gentlemen, clergy, and agriculturists who had congregated, the scene was graced with the presence of the Countess of Chichester, accompanied by the youthful Lord Pelham and his sister, while the ladies of the Rev. C. Hutchinson and the Rev. E. B. Ellman were also present. Amongst the members and visitors present upon the ground we observed the Hon. Viscount Gage, the Hon. General Trevor, Sir Henry Shilliner, Bart.; the Rev. C. D. Charlton, G. P. Crofts, W. De St. Croix, W. Courthope, E. B. Ellman, G. Hall, C. Hutchinson, H. Proun, J. C. Russell, G. Shilliner, G. Shilliner, jun., J. Sampson, W. B. Stavelay, R. W. Blencowe, Esq., H. Blackman, Esq., F. Bar-chard, Esq., Walter Burrell, Esq., John Ellman, Esq., J. Fuller, Esq., J. Hoper, Esq., W. C. Mabbott, Esq., T. Haire, Esq., M.D., George Molineux, Esq., W. Nash, Esq., J. Smith, Esq., R. Trotter, Esq., Messrs. G. Baker, C. Beard, S. Beard, G. Bacon, — Berry, E. Cane, W. Catt, H. Catt, T. Cosham, Geo. Ellman, H. Ellman, G. Farncomb, — Gorrings (Sel-meston), Stephen Grantham, — Grantham, jun., H. Hart, J. King, T. Knight, S. Lowdell, — Peachey, — Rogers, C. Saxby, W. Stace, — Tompsett, — Tompsett, jun., J. S. Turner, W. Verrall, — Withers, — Wood-man, Rowland Wood, &c. &c. The sheep selected for the occasion were from the flock of Mr. Thomas Ellman, and it was a matter of general remark, that, considering the very unfavourable season, they were in very good condition. There were sixteen competitors, and the judges appointed were Messrs. A. Denman, J. S. Turner, and R. Woodman."

Sundry prizes from 5s. to £3 were then awarded to the shearers, and the party went to dinner. The grand feature of the affair was that the labourers who had been rewarded were invited to dine with the duke, lords, and squires; and the gratitude they ought to feel for such an honour formed the staple of the after-dinner speeches of the grandees. We have often said that farmers look upon most cattle shows and such exhibitions as mere

landlords' playthings; but these labourer-rewarding meetings betray much ignorance and cant.

We do not deny that it might be useful for the rural classes of all grades, from the landed magnate to the labourer, to meet together, could they do so on anything like common ground; but to render the inviting a few labourers to an agricultural feast the theme of such self-glorification as that adopted in Sussex is worse than useless.

The Chairman, Lord Chichester, in presenting the premiums in form to the labourers, used the following preachment:—

"You observe that, amongst other subjects of reward, one of the most prominent—the first indeed in order—is given to those who have brought up the largest family in habits of industry, and without parochial relief. That is one of those premiums which we have great difficulty in awarding according to the real merits of the candidate, but I am bound to say that I believe it has very seldom happened that that reward has been received by an undeserving man; and I can confidently say this, that it has been very often received by most deserving, most honest, most admirable men. I do think, then, that our society would have done no small good if it had only been the means of telling those of our most excellent countrymen that they are deserving of encouragement, and, at the same time, of calling upon their neighbours to look up to them as examples. I should be detaining you a great deal too long if I was to go through the different classes of premiums, and make similar remarks upon them, but the same object runs through them all,—that of endeavouring to encourage the labourers to be industrious workmen, to be faithful and honest servants, and, above all, to be good and Christian men. It would be very presumptuous in us if we were to reward you for good conduct as such; but what we do say is this, that we do not think a man can be a good man, or a valuable member of society, unless he is a consistent servant of God; and we make it a test—a condition of all our premiums—not only of those for long service, but those for skill in husbandry—we make it a condition that each competitor shall produce a certificate of regular attendance at some place of worship. Now, my friends, you are all aware that, with the premiums you receive, are given to you printed cards, in which are your names and the subject of the premiums, put in an oak frame, in order that you may keep it as a means of instructing and encouraging the younger members of your families—those of you who are parents, at least—and that you may thus hand down to your children and to your grandchildren the record of your own industry; and I hope I may add, without any presumption on the part of the shareholders, of handing down also some grateful recollection of your masters and friends, who have felt it their duty to present it to you. My friends, I believe that many circumstances may arise in the course of the lives of some of the younger part of you, when it may be of great use to produce this kind of certificate of good conduct."

This is a sad mixture of twaddle and cant. The certificate "in the oak frame" seems to be an idea emanating from the mind of aristocratic, which often deems a bauble or a blue ribbon a sufficient compensation for surrendering the reputation of a lifetime. As motives to good conduct in labourers such things are ludicrous. Of course the inflated Duke of Richmond came in for his share of fulsome panegyric. It would have been as uncivil to have deprived him of his dose of wine as of his dose of adulation. The Chairman, in proposing his health, said:—

"I think that these associations, and the districts over which they extend, are more deeply indebted to him than to any man living. We have followed his example, perhaps I ought to say—at least he would tell me I ought to say—the example of the kindred association over which he presides in the west of Sussex,—we have followed the example of that society in many respects, especially in inviting the successful labourers to dine with us, as on this occasion. My noble friend first pointed out that plan for our adoption, and I, for one, have never regretted the experiment. If any of you had been at Goodwood, and had seen their meetings there, which are held like our own, and one of which takes place next week,—if you had seen that meeting as I have, you would have understood why the farmers and the labourers, why, indeed, all classes respect and esteem my noble friend as they do."

There was nothing here said about the low wages and cold water, which came out at the duke's meeting some months since. In returning thanks the duke showed unconsciously, no doubt, how the grandees look at themselves as the centre of the system, to whom and for whom all must bow and work.

"I ask you, then, whether as an Englishman, and as one who feels deeply interested in the welfare of his country, may I not be convinced of the great importance of the labouring classes? Gentlemen, we may have men ourselves, men who, for the sake of weekly wages, do their duty to us, but I ask you whether, when we had men who did it for love, whether we were not much better served? I say to you, then, that the farmers of West Sussex do show a good example when they ask the meritorious labourers to meet them at their festival, but I claim no other credit on that account than having been chairman of the committee which carried out that resolution. For the last seven or eight years, I have every year had the satisfaction of meeting, in West Sussex, at their dinner, nearly 100 of the labouring classes, to whom we annually give premiums. I say—to their credit be it spoken—that on not one occasion have they ever disgraced themselves after dining there. I know that they would not; I know that we had the men there who had gained the premiums; that they would feel grateful to those who gave them; and that they would know that they could not show their gratitude better than by showing they were worthy of receiving them. I will not trouble you with saying more than that I feel it to be my duty as the Lord Lieutenant of this county to attend as many of the meetings for the reward of the meritorious labourers as I possibly can do."

In giving the toast of the "Bishop and Clergy" the Chairman said:—



"I can assure you all that, without the cordial support we have received from the clergy, it would have been quite impossible for this system of giving premiums to go on. We depend very much upon them for assisting the employers of the labourers to look out the most deserving men, and, in fact, the farmers here present will confirm my assertion, that the most laborious part of the duty in preparing these certificates usually falls on the clergy."

Now, it implies no disrespect to the clergy to say, that there are no persons less fit to decide on the merits of rural labourers, or who are so likely to be misled by favouritism. They have usually little personal knowledge of them; and the most plausible person who caps the parson and goes to church will be in their eyes the most moral and deserving farm-servant. Something of this sort is shadowed forth by the Rev. Mr. Hutchinson, who called on the clergy to contribute to the association, because it "strengthened the hands of the clergy." He said:—

"They surely cannot consider the benefits of this association, and how it strengthens the hands of the clergy; for I agree with Lord Chichester, that this association is not altogether and entirely formed with the view of improving the mechanical skill of the husbandman, but also to raise and ennoble his religious feelings, to give him a higher moral character, and thus to elevate him in the social scale; and I do say that the characteristics of this association do lend a powerful aid to all the clergy in effecting these great objects. There is one thing in the association which gives the clergy great satisfaction, which is, that it looks very much in distributing rewards to the moral conduct of the labourer. It affords a practical commentary on those phrases of Scripture, that 'the race is not always to the strong, nor the battle to the swift;' for we know here that, however skilful a man may be either in using the plough, or in shearing, or in attending the sheep, or in any other thing, yet, unless he brings a certificate of his moral conduct, he will not even be allowed to stand a chance of the prize."

Now, we yield to none in our desire for the promotion of morality and religion amongst the farm-labourers; but if the sheepshearer or other competitor for a prize for rural skill must bring a certificate of his moral conduct from the parson of his parish, it ceases altogether to be a question of skill: it becomes a mere bit of clerical and squirearchical patronage; and this, in truth, is the light in which the labourers regard these things. Lord Gage said:—

"After what has been said to our good and industrious friends at the middle table, I will only add one word more of advice to them. A good deal has been said of moral conduct being its own reward, and we are all well aware that in the end it is so, but still we are all mortal and human, and, somehow or other, we like the world to know our good qualities; and it is very hard that a man should work and toil all his life for the public good, and that nobody should take any notice of it."

Gentlemen, they feel with pleasure, the notice of their superiors by their superiors. I mean those placed above them by the accident of fortune, and by nothing else—but they look up to you, gentlemen, and they naturally like to see that you regard their conduct, and take notice of it when good; and, though the value of these premiums may be trifling, still, however trifling they may be, they are rendered of ten times the value to them, because they are a proof that they, too, are not disregarded."

And he ended with this reference to the only true political friends the industrious agriculturists ever had, the Leaguers:—

"And I hope every body will induce their friends to support this institution, that we may have more prizes and larger ones, and extend their benefits over a wider range of this county. Let it spread like wild fire over the county, and bring all classes together; and then, indeed, we shall be able to make a head against those enemies who are now endeavouring to separate us."

In other words, his lordship called on the labourers and farmers to support such associations, to keep down wages and keep up rents!

And, after all, we suspect their prizes did not produce any very superior show of work, for Mr. Denman, one of the judges, on being appealed by the chairman as to the quality of the work, gave this qualified answer:—

"Readily admitting the improvement that has decidedly taken place, I dare say many present have seen better shearing than that of to-day. I beg, however, in saying this, that I may not be misunderstood: I do not, by this remark, mean to imply that there is the less credit due to the competitors; under all the circumstances, they have done their work most creditably; but I know I shall be borne out in saying that the sheep have shorn very badly, which is to be attributed to the peculiar effect of the season, &c.—in fact, to the wool not being sufficiently 'up,' nor presenting 'ground' to work upon."

Mr. Morris, one of the judges of ploughing, was also appealed to by the chairman, and he, like a 'cautious man,' gave the following conditional response:—

"Mr. Morris thought that a great deal depended upon the land. If they went upon light land, a certain description of ploughmen would, he thought, carry away prizes, who would fail in doing so on heavy land; but ploughing, generally speaking, had certainly been improved."

Success at these matches is a very uncertain test of the mode in which a farm-servant performs his work. The worst ploughman, and worst manager of his horses, we ever had in our service, was a young man who had been eminently successful at several ploughing-matches. The truth is, ploughing on bits of selected ground may be done well enough by men who are utterly ineffective when put upon land of a different or more difficult kind.

#### AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE.

##### WHEAT SOWING.

The stalks of wheat which our correspondent has sent

to us with the following note fully bear out his description. The straw is very large, of great length, and remarkably strong. The ear is also of great size, and well formed. Thin sowing of wheat is unquestionably advantageous, but it is most important that such sowing should be very regular. Indeed dibbling or planting wheat seems to be by far the most effective means of saving seed and ensuring an even plant; and the best mode of dibbling is by means of a machine for that purpose which delivers into each hole the exact number of seeds required. It at the same time presses the land, which is invariably advantageous to the wheat crop.

##### To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

1, Grove-villas, Camberwell-grove, June 21.

SIR,—Three days since, I was in company with several highly respectable and intelligent farmers at Royston, in Cambridgeshire; and in the course of conversation we discussed the question as to the saving of seed which might be effected in the present mode of sowing wheat; and it was generally agreed that a lesser quantity might be beneficially used than that which it has hitherto been the custom to sow, and, as an illustration of what might be done, I was informed that Mr. Thomas Sutton, of Bas-singbourne, near Royston, had sown a small field of wheat with somewhat more than a peck of seed to the acre, and that the present appearance of the plants was very promising.

Wishing to ascertain the facts of the case, I went the following day accompanied by a friend, who holds a farm in the same parish in which Mr. Sutton resides, and asked permission of the latter to see his field, with which he at once complied, and accompanied us to the same. The report I had heard was fully borne out, and the general appearance of the crop was superior to anything in the surrounding district. Mr. Sutton informed me that the seed was sown during the last week in SEPTEMBER, being dibbled in squares of seven inches. The size of the field is 1 acre 3 rods, and the total quantity of seed used was 18½ pints. I herewith send you some of the stalks as a sample, in order that you may judge of its present appearance.

Knowing full well the interest you take in all matters relative to the improvement of agriculture, I take the liberty of addressing this note to you, hoping that its contents may prove of some little service in the cause you have at heart.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

WM. CLARK.

##### A FREE-TRADER'S FARM.

The following letter from a correspondent, gives his impressions on inspecting the admirably cultivated farm of that intelligent Free-Trader, Mr. C. H. Lattimore. We can bear testimony to the strict accuracy of the description:—

##### "To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

"SIR,—Much and frequent discussion arises in this neighbourhood as to the relative merits of the farming of those who still cling to the 'dear falsehold' of protection, and those, on the other hand, who have unlearned the huge impostor, and are devoting their energies to its entire destruction. Being of the latter class myself, I do not pretend to hold the balance with strict impartiality, but I will pledge myself to the truth of the following statement:—I went the other day over a farm of 272 acres, of which 61 acres consist of wheat, which I found to be universally good; 63 acres of barley in a most forward and promising condition; 23 of oats, 7 of peas, and 5 of lucerne, all excellent—indeed I will venture to say, that of the lucerne there will be two loads to an acre; there are 26 acres of clover, 20 of grass, and 11 of tares—48 acres lying fallow. The trees, which are exceedingly clean and good—none better—are now being eaten off by sheep in a high state of feeding. The entire farm is deserving of the inspection and of the graphic pen of 'One who has Whistled at the Plough.' It has been wrought up to this state of perfection by judicious outlay and experienced skill. Originally it was of the worst quality of land imaginable, and was let 35 years ago for 8s. an acre. Where the land was hottest and most gravelly, the present farmer has so clayed, chalked, and subsoiled it that you may easily run a common walking-stick a foot into the ground! I challenge any protectionist farmer in this neighbourhood, nay, in the county itself, to produce a parallel case. The landlord (and I mention him with pride) is Viscount Melbourne; the tenant-farmer your old friend Charles Lattimore."

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"AN OLD FARMER,

AND AN OLD ENEMY OF THE CORN LAWS.

"Wheatthamstead, June 17, 1845.

##### A NOTE ON THE GAME EDICT.

The following letter has been addressed to us upon the subject of the Kinnel Park circular we published last week, and our comments thereon:—

##### "To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Liverpool, June 23.

"SIR,—In your paper of the 21st appears a copy of what is termed a 'circular,' addressed by Mr. J. Murray, of Kinnel Park, to a tenant upon the estate of Lord Dinorben, and to which are appended some very severe strictures upon Mr. Murray, Lord Dinorben, and the system of game-preserving. I quite concur in your condemnation of the game laws; but, having the pleasure of knowing Mr. Murray, I must say that he is the last person to whom your censure, and the very indelicate and improper epithets you have used, will apply. Without knowing anything of the circumstances which called forth the 'circular,' I think it is just possible that Lord Dinorben's arrangements with his tenants may entitle him to require the preservation of game upon their farms, for he is well-known as a most liberal landlord—at all events you appear to have judged upon a one-sided story. Mr. Murray is a gentleman of the highest character, is greatly esteemed for his kind and considerate conduct, and is utterly incapable of any harsh or unjust proceeding. The writer of the article in question is evidently as misinformed on this head as he is regarding the topography of Kinnel Park."

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

"SAMUEL TOMKINSON."

We received no information with the circular, and our

remarks were founded solely on that which appeared upon its face. We have no reason to suppose that Lord Dinorben is better or worse than other game-preserving landlords, or that Mr. Murray, his agent, is not all that our correspondent states; but the vice is in the system which has insensibly led landlords, who are said to be "liberal," and agents, who are deemed "considerate," to issue such edicts as that we published. For the sake of landlords, tenants, and the rural community at large we expose and denounce that system, which, next to the Corn Laws and in connexion with the Corn Laws, has driven men of education, enterprise, and capital from the pursuit of agriculture. At this moment we know many men who would give at least as much rent as is asked for farms, which would suit them in every respect, could they be free from the nuisance of game-preservers. In one respect we bow to our correspondent's correction. North Wales has the happiness of being the locality in which this circular was issued. Happy the farmers who are subject to such paternal feudalism!!

##### To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

Moone Mills, Ballitore, June 23.

SIR,—I could scarcely believe my eyes, when, on looking over an old *Mark-lane Express*, dated October 7, 1839, I met the enclosed moreau, which I instantly cut out, to send to you. It settles in a few words the whole matter.

Respectfully, your friend,

EDENKERR SHACKLETON.

"Now, what every calm and thinking man must own to be the greatest fault at the present day in the English agriculturist, is looking to and trusting to Government rather than each man to his own brains. We would assure our brethren of the plough that it is not in the power of any Government, be it Conservative or be it Radical, to bolster up the state of agriculture. A wise and good Government will not enact laws prejudicial to any part of the community, nor will it seek to break down the safeguards which our forefathers have built up; but they may be assured that it is not *forcing* wheat to be sold at a sovereign the bushel, or meat at 5s. per pound, that will ever make the agriculture of the country prosperous, or the farmer rich. Look at Manchester. Is it by the manufacturer selling his prints at a sovereign per yard that enormous fortunes have been amassed? No; it is the greatest quantity produced at the cheapest rate that will ever make a prosperous trade. If wheat is low in price, the farmer must bestir himself. Instead of sitting whole evenings (as many an English farmer does) soaking over a drop of cider or a little home-brewed, while he grumbles and spells the columns of an old newspaper, and abuses the Parliament for the 'great cry and little wool,' in the way of helping 'agricultural distress,' let him toss aside the speeches of our would-be patriots, and let him to his fields, and see if all be right there. Let him remember that, if he can but grow one or two quarters more per acre, he will be in a better position, even with the low price, than he was before."—*Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.*

##### To the Editor of the LEAGUE.

DEAR SIR,—In your paper of June 7, "An Old Farmer" lays down certain propositions with respect to manuring, and among others, that "No animal or vegetable substance, after it has been petrifaction or otherwise chemically changed, is any longer capable of supporting either plants or animals, and therefore it is no longer a manure." Will he or any other correspondent explain how it is, that immediately after you manure with *wind ashes*, which I take to be charred or a *vegetable substance chemically changed*, you have a growth of clover?

I ask because this fact appears to contradict his theory; and also for information as a very YOUNG FARMER.

##### LOUGHBOROUGH.

(From a Correspondent.)

The members of the Loughborough Agricultural Association have lately held quarterly meetings, at which some particular subject connected with the agricultural interest has been discussed. One of these quarterly meetings was held on Thursday, the 19th instant, when the discussion was "On the best and cheapest method of harvesting Hay and Corn." Amongst those who took part in the discussion was Mr. Kirby, a good practical farmer, of North Leicestershire. He recommended that wheat should be mowed, and, after pointing out the advantages of his plan, glanced at its disadvantages. One of these was that it was detrimental to sportsmen, there being no stubble for the game to shelter in. Mr. Kirby added, "If I was situated as some farmers are, I would ask my landlord to allow me to mow my wheat on that account. It keeps off things I would rather not see on." This remark was received with cheers. S. B. Wilde, Esq., vice-president of the association, who presided on this occasion, also recommended that wheat should be mowed, adding, "though it does spoil a little sport; but I sincerely think no sport should interfere with the interests of the country, and I would throw my gun aside rather than let it."

Is there not a change taking place in this part of the country which might be turned to good account?

MOROCCO WHEAT.—At a recent meeting of the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, Sir Arthur de Capell Brooke, Bart., of Oakley-hall, near Kettering, presented to the society a supply of Barbary wheat, grown fourteen years ago in Morocco, and brought by himself from that part of Africa. The cultivation of it on his return to England has been tried by his tenants in Northamptonshire, but whether owing to the unsuitableness of the soil, or an unfavourable season, it came to nothing. Thinking that some portion of the wheat might still be found good, and that on further trial its cultivation might be attended with better success, he took the opportunity of laying it before the council accordingly. Sir Arthur stated that the attention of travellers had often been attracted to the "Matamores," or granaries of Morocco, on account of their simplicity and efficacy, being merely pits dug in the ground and lined with straw at the sides and bottom; and that in these receptacles, owing to the nature of the soil and the dryness of the climate, grain was preserved uninjured for many years.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Advocate for Free Trade."—A leasehold, in a city or borough, of a house, &c., of the value of £10, will not confer a county vote.  
Knabbin, of Knaresborough, may rely upon his suggestion being attended to.

## TO COUNTRY SUBSCRIBERS.

Any person forwarding 3s. 3d. by Post-office order to the Publisher, 67, Fleet-street, London, will have one quarter's copies of the LEAGUE forwarded by post on the days of publication. Subscriptions for the paper may also be left with J. Galsby, Newall's-buildings, Manchester; and the LEAGUE may be had by order of any news-agent in town or country. Subscribers who receive coloured envelopes on their papers must bear in mind that their subscriptions are due.

## POSTSCRIPT.

LONDON, Saturday Morning, June 28, 1845.

In another part of our paper will be found an abstract of the proceedings of a meeting at Wheat-hamstead, in Hertfordshire, held, among other objects, for the purpose of distributing 80 beds to the most distressed and deserving families of agricultural labourers in that locality. The condition of Hertfordshire, so far from being worse than that of the other agricultural counties, is rather above the average, and yet, in the limited district for which the meeting was held, it was found that 200 claimants presented themselves to compete for these beds, and that the shades of difference in their misery, as well as the shades of difference in their merit, were so slight as to render the task of selection a matter of the most painful difficulty. Here, then, is the result of agricultural protection after an existence of 30 years. The English labourer is ground down to such a state of social wretchedness that a bed is sought for as a luxury in eager and anxious competition. No wonder that the monopolists should have resisted Mr. Cobden's motion for an inquiry into the effect of protection on the condition of the agricultural labourer, even though this resistance implied the humiliating confession of the falsehood and hypocrisy of their hackneyed pretence, that the Corn Laws were proposed for the benefit of the labourer! No wonder that the Commissioners sent to investigate the condition of the agricultural districts were placed under limits and restrictions which rendered a full and fair inquiry absolutely impossible! In Hertfordshire, a fertile county one from which no serious complaints are heard, and for which no appeals have been made either to humane or sentimental philanthropy—within a limited and not over-crowded district, there are found two hundred families, literally littered like cattle, destitute of the means by which the decencies of life can be maintained, and compelled to adopt the worst barbarism of savage life in the midst of civilization. This is a fact calculated to make us ashamed of our country and our age. We live in a land where Philanthropy blows its trumpet and proclaims its universality; where appeals are daily made for voluntary subscriptions to support any and every scheme of improvement which can afford a salary to a secretary, and popular fame to a legislator; and yet, in this very land and time our peasants are in a state approaching that of the Russian serf or the Brazilian slave. Whatever the serf or slave may suffer, he is not mocked by hollow professions of sympathy; no Boyer preaches over societies for the improvement of the working classes, after having previously bound himself to the perpetration of their degradation; no Brazilian demands the elevation of the negroes on his neighbour's estate, while he continues their degradation on his own. Such spectacles of revolting inconsistency are reserved for moral England—for the land of Corn Laws imposed to pay the mortgages of the extravagance, or to save from honest industry the children of the improvident, the luxurious, and the idle.

"Can such things be,  
An eye-evil as like a sunny cloud,  
Without an spear of wonder?"

But this is a state of things which cannot continue; the labourers have long been conscious of their sufferings, but it is only of late that they have begun to investigate the cause. It will be found every day a more difficult task, to dupe them into the absurdity of believing, that as consumers of food they have an interest in maintaining dearth and scarcity, or that as sellers of labour they should lessen the demand for it by restricting the amount of employment in the country. The labourer has learned that it was not for him that—

"Food is made so dear,  
And flesh and blood so cheap."

The condition of the agricultural labourer cannot be longer neglected with impunity; to him, as to us, charity is not needed but, justice; and though pretended philanthropy may not deem the agricultural labourer worthy of a boon, the instinct of self-protection will enforce attention to his righteous demand.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The Paris papers of Monday state that the body of carpenters who struck for higher wages yet hold out to the threatened interruption of the business of various other trades, and the consequent imposition of suffering upon the working classes. The *Débats* proposes, as a remedy against the return of such evils, the further extension of the system of *Prud'hommes*; to whose arbitration the differences between masters and workmen might be referred, before they assumed a too angry appearance. The Minister of War had received a despatch from Marshal Bugeaud, dated Algiers, 15th instant. The Marshal describes the expedition against the Ourenserris as successful, all the tribes having submitted, but admits that on the right bank of the Chelif affairs are not quite so far advanced. The Marshal bestows a high eulogium on the zeal and fidelity of the Arab troops, who have deserted from Abdel Kader and entered the service of the French.

The carpenters still persisting in their strike for wages, we gather from the *Débats* that Government have resolved upon permitting soldiers to be employed in their place. We need hardly remind our readers that according to the conscription men of all trades are to be found in the French army.

Yesterday morning a man, between 25 and 30 years of age, in a state of intoxication, laid a wager that he would swim across the Seine between the Pont-au Clouge and that of Notre Dame. After stripping, he jumped in to perform the feat, but, the current running very strong, he was carried under water and drowned. All attempts to recover the body were fruitless.—*Galignani* of Tuesday.

THE NEW SCHISM IN GERMANY.—The *Journal des Débats* states that "the internal divisions amongst the Dissenting Catholics in Germany assume every day a more serious character. The two chiefs of the religious movement, M. Ronge and M. Czerski, have commenced an open war. Formal proposals have been made to M. Czerski, the reformer of Schneidemühl, to declare schismatic all those who have declared for the Council of Leipzig, and in the first rank M. Ronge himself, as the representative of that council. We may observe, by the way, that the Council of Leipzig is in direct opposition with the Court of Rome, whilst the reformer of Schneidemühl does not wish to separate entirely. For this reason, Czerski's followers, in place of styling themselves simply German Catholics, have prepared to adopt the title of German Apostolic Catholics. A most dangerous rival to M. Ronge and Czerski has arisen in the person of M. Prihl, chief of a new sect of Catholic German Protestants. The entire body of German Catholics who protested against the confession of faith published by the Catholics of Berlin, are comprised under the latter name. The Catholic Protestants are more allied to the dogmas of the ancient Catholic Church than any of the other sects which divide the Dissenting Catholics; they have already replaced the crucifix on the altar, and the mitre on the head of their chief."

DR. STIGER.—Letters from Zurich of the 20th inst. announce the escape of Dr. Stiger from his prison at Lucerne, and his arrival in Zurich on that day. He remained in Zurich a few hours, after which he set out for Frauenfeld, in Thurgovie. He is said to have escaped with the aid and privacy of the three sons of a dame who professed to guard him, in the uniform of one of their body.

A letter from Zurich, of June 22, states that the escape of Dr. Stiger has caused general satisfaction, and deputations from different parts have waited upon him to offer him their congratulations. At Lutzburgh a salute of 41 guns was fired, and at Aarau the rejoicings were kept up during the whole night.

ARMY, June 7.—The Ministry begins at length to be alarmed at the fearful progress of brigandage, and Colletti has applied to the Chamber for extraordinary powers to enable him to put it down. The commander of the troops on the eastern frontier has found it necessary to arm the whole population, in order to keep the brigands in check; and the officer in command of the frontier-guard in Acronia, finding his present force insufficient to repress their audacity, has applied for reinforcements, and for full powers to act according to his own discretion, and take such measures, under the circumstances, as he may think expedient. In many places the agents of the Government have assumed these extraordinary powers, and have subjected the unhappy peasantry, men and women, to cruel tortures whenever they have been suspected, even upon the slightest grounds, of complicity with the brigands, or of knowing and refusing to disclose their lurking places. The town of Missolinghi is so closely beset that no one ventures out alone after sunset, nor in company even, unless well armed. The evil has extended to the Morea, and several acts of brigandage have lately been committed in the neighbourhood of Patras.

CONVULSIONS, June 4.—Last week a fearful tragedy took place on board the Austrian commercial steamer *Imperatrice*, on her way from Trebisonde to this port. She touched in coming down at Samson and Synope, and at the latter place wrecked, on Thursday night, amongst other passengers, two Cindabar dervishes, brothers, who had been expelled from Trebisonde and Samson by the local authorities, on account of their bad reputation. The day following, between two and three o'clock in the afternoon, after these individuals had allowed, it is said, a copious dose of khashkhash, or some other meddlesome drug, they said their prayers, and then arose, shouting in a tone of delirium "Hool! Hool!" (the cry of dervishes in allusion to the name of the deity). One drew forth a pistol and discharged it into the back of a Greek in the cookhouse; and both, dagger in hand, began roaming about the deck like demons, killing or wounding all who fell in their way. The firer of the pistol being seized by one of the crew, Captain Otellan, who commanded the steamer, went up to disarm him, when the brother of the fellow made a lunge at him from behind with his dagger, which fortunately passed between his left arm and his body, cutting his clothes without touching his person. The captain on this recoiled, but as arms had in the meantime been brought on deck, he seized a musket and instantly traversed one of the dervishes through the neck, whilst the other was killed by the deck by a blow from a water bucket which had been snatched up by a sturdy six feet stoker. The crew, now armed, came up, and the wretched dervishes were quickly despatched, but unfortunately rather too late, for they had already killed one man and wounded seven others, of whom two are since dead, whilst others lie in the greatest

danger. Among the victims mortally wounded was Mr. Marinovich, agent of the steamers at Trebisonde, a gentleman well known here, highly esteemed, and universally regretted.

Another letter from Constantinople of the 4th instant mentions that a sanguinary battle had taken place in Syria, on the 16th, between the Druses and Maronites.

DREADFUL FIRE IN QUEBEC.—News reached Liverpool on Tuesday evening, by the packet ship Cambridge, of a dreadful fire which took place at Quebec, on the 28th of May. It originated in a tannery, and spread with fearful rapidity. "From eleven in the morning till midnight," says a letter in the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, "did this dread fire hold uninterrupted sway, until its career was arrested in St. Charles-street—nearly one mile from the place of its outbreak!—at the broadest point the breadth of the burnt district is about one-third of a mile. Between 1500 and 2000 houses are supposed to have been consumed, and it is calculated that 12,000 persons (one-third of the population) are this day houseless. Most of these people have lost their all, the rapid advance and sudden capricious direction taken by the flames not only rendering it impossible to save any portion of the property in the dwellings, but in a vast number of instances barely allowing the inmates sufficient time to escape." The loss of property is said to be immense, and several lives fell a sacrifice to the flames or in the falling ruins. "One painful incident was the destruction of the hospital, to which, as being considered entirely out of the reach of the conflagration, numbers of sick persons of all classes were carried, when, melancholy to relate, the building became ignited by the flakes of fire carried from the distance by the wind; the unfortunate inmates, unable to help themselves, perished miserably. The total loss has been variously estimated at from 1,600,000 dollars to 3,000,000 dollars." Large subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers had been contributed.

UNITED STATES.—The Great Western steamer from New York has arrived, bringing papers to the 14th inst., which are ten days later than those previously received. The news from Texas is interesting. President Jones is endeavouring to recede from the policy which he has been so quietly pursuing for some time past in reference to Mexico, and in conjunction with the agents of France and England. He has issued a proclamation authorizing an election of deputies to a Convention to be held on the 4th of July next, to which is to be submitted the proposition of annexation.

## DOMESTIC.

The health of Sir William Follett, which for some time past has been declining, has rapidly given way during the past week or two, and he now lies in a condition so precarious that his ultimate recovery is despaired of.

On Saturday afternoon, about 30 feet in length of a wall, bounding the premises of Mr. Davies, an emery manufacturer, in Richardson-street, Bermondsey, was thrown down, in consequence of 100 tons of emery stones being piled against it. The wall was 10 feet in height, and nine inches in thickness. Several children were playing near the spot, and one, named George Beauchamp, was crushed to death, while three others received severe injury.

Mr. Smith, the proprietor of the shooting gallery in Holborn, expired on Thursday evening from an abscess caused by the wound in his back. It may be remembered he was shot last July by the Hon. Mr. Tuckey, who was tried and acquitted on the ground of insanity.

The mayor of Leeds has instituted a long proceedings against the canine race of that town. No fewer than 130 dogs were destroyed by his orders last week. Seventy were killed in one afternoon by prussic acid.

During the year 1844, 2637 lost children were found and restored to their parents by the Manchester police; and in the same length of time the police saved 22 lives.

The defendants in the Spa-fields burial-ground case have consented to plead guilty to one of the charges in the indictment against them, with a reference to Mr. Brannell, who is to direct in what manner the burial-ground is to be in future conducted. Judgment of the court is to be respited for one year, and if the directions of Mr. Brannell are complied with, no further proceedings will be taken—no costs on either side, no arrest of judgment, or writ of error. The costs of arbitration to be paid by the prosecutors and defendants, each a moiety.

George Smith, a lad of 18, residing at Rednal-green, in trying experiments in hanging, has actually killed himself. The youth was an acquaintance of Topping's, saw him executed, and had since been very curious in ascertaining what hanging was like.

Hay-making is now very general in Devonshire, and particularly near Tiverton, Exeter, and Totness, where many large mows have been made without having a drop of rain on them. The crops are so heavy that good hay is now 20s. per ton lower than it was a few weeks ago. Large quantities of old hay is shipped every week from Bridgewater to the Welsh coast.

Some fine samples of flax, grown in the neighbourhood of Northallerton, have recently been shown in the market at that place, and purchases made of it by the linen manufacturers in that vicinity.

A new bill, introduced a few nights since by Messrs. Wyse and Ewart, "for legalising art-unions" enacts, after a lengthy preamble, referring to recent circumstances connected with these institutions, that all voluntary associations, such as art-unions, for the purchase of paintings and drawings, &c., to be afterwards allotted and distributed by chance, now constituted, or which may be hereafter constituted, shall be deemed and taken to be lawful associations, provided always that a royal charter shall have been first obtained for the incorporation of such associations, &c.

Last week, an agricultural labourer, of the name of Richard Wilkins, died at Malvern Wells, of apoplexy, induced by congestion of the brain from having drunk a quantity of cider, the common drink of labourers in that district, which had been conveyed in leaden pipes from the older-house to the place where it was drawn for use. The coroner intimated that, after a fatal occurrence like this, every farmer and publican using such pipes would be subject to a verdict of manslaughter or murder, in the event of a similar catastrophe.

Mr. Joseph Somes, M.P. for Dartmouth, died on Wednesday evening, at his residence, New Grove, Mils End, after a brief illness. His death, of course, occasions a vacancy for the above-named borough.

On Thursday night a fire took place at Bunting's house, farm, Stapan, near Buntingford. There was a good supply of water and no lack of appliances, in consequence of which,

Y. HAY, Leith, merchant—J. and J. STENHOUSE, Dun-  
dine, brewers—A. WHAMOND, Dundee, grocer.



TO LADIES.  
OWLAND'S KALYDO.  
PATRONISED BY  
THE SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS AND COURTS OF EUROPE,  
Oriental Botanical Discovery, and perfectly free from all danger  
ous. It exerts the most accurate, certain, cooling, and healthy  
on the skin; and by its agency on the pores of the skin,  
most effectually dissipates all HUMORS, CHILBLAINS, CHAPS,  
CHUMES, SPOTS, FRECKLES, CHILBLAINS, CHILBLAINS, CHILBLAINS,  
ous Visitation. The radiant bloom it imparts to the  
lines and delicacy it induces on the HANDS, AND  
is indispensable to every toilet.  
woman, after shaving, will find it alloy all blemishes  
skin, and render it pure, smooth, and radiant.  
per bottle, duty included.

CAUTION.  
are of IMITATIONS of the most dangerous  
mineral extractions, strictly refused by the  
most accurate and preserving health.  
"DOR" are on the wrapper, and  
den, engraved (by authority) on the  
on the Government Stamp  
and by the Pharmacopoeia of the  
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1840.

ASSOCIATION. Real Estate, Insurance, etc. - (Lancaster, Pa.) - Secretary.

LIFE and Fire Insurance Company, King-street.

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